

Public Document Pack

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To: Cllr Richard Jones (Chair)

Councillors: Bill Crease, Ron Davies, Chris Dolphin, Alasdair Ibbotson,
Allan Marshall, Mike Peers, Vicky Perfect, Jason Shallcross, Kevin Rush,
Sam Swash and Linda Thomas

16 September 2022

Dear Sir/Madam

NOTICE OF HYBRID MEETING
CORPORATE RESOURCES OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
FRIDAY, 23RD SEPTEMBER, 2022 at 10.00 AM

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 5 - 20)

Purpose: To confirm as a correct record the minutes of the meetings held on 7 July and 28 July 2022.

4 **ACTION TRACKING** (Pages 21 - 26)

Report of Democratic Services Manager -

Purpose: To inform the Committee of progress against actions from previous meetings.

5 **FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME** (Pages 27 - 36)

Report of Democratic Services Manager -

Purpose: To consider the Forward Work Programme of the Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee.

6 **ASSET MANAGEMENT PLAN 2022 - 2027** (Pages 37 - 68)

Report of Corporate Manager – Capital Programme & Assets - Cabinet Member for Governance and Corporate Services including Health and Safety and Human Resources

Purpose: To present the Asset Management Plan 2022 - 2027 for review.

7 **MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY AND BUDGET 2023/24** (Pages 69 - 78)

Report of Corporate Finance Manager, Chief Executive - Cabinet Member for Finance, Inclusion, Resilient Communities including Social Value and Procurement

Purpose: To update on the budget estimates and strategy for the setting of the 2023/24 budget.

8 REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING 2022/23 (MONTH 4) AND CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2022/23 (MONTH 4) (Pages 79 - 126)

Report of Corporate Finance Manager - Cabinet Member for Finance, Inclusion, Resilient Communities including Social Value and Procurement

Purpose: The purpose of this report is to provide Members with the Revenue Budget Monitoring 2022/23 (Month 4) Report and the Capital Programme 2022/23 (Month 4) Report, and Significant Variances.

9 COUNCIL PLAN 2022/23 TIMELINE REVIEW (Pages 127 - 140)

Report of Chief Executive - Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Education, Welsh Language, Culture and Leisure

Purpose: To review timelines for Council Plan 22/23 following request from County Council in July.

10 FOR INFORMATION - BUSINESS AND FINANCIAL PLANNING CYCLE (Pages 141 - 142)

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) 14 of Part 4 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).

The report contains information relating to contracts to be let and the public interest in withholding those details outweigh the public interest in revealing them until the contracts are let.

11 THEATR CLWYD PROJECT - UPDATE (Pages 143 - 158)

Report of Corporate Manager – Capital Programme & Assets - Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Education, Welsh Language, Culture and Leisure

Purpose: That the Committee support the Council share of the projected increase in costs for the capital refurbishment of the Theatre provided Welsh Government also agrees to bear its share of the extra costs in line with the proportions previously agreed.

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

CORPORATE RESOURCES OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE **7 JULY 2022**

Minutes of the Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee of Flintshire County Council held as a hybrid meeting on Thursday, 7 July 2022

PRESENT: Councillor Richard Jones (Chairman)

Councillors: Bill Crease, Ron Davies, Alasdair Ibbotson, Allan Marshall, Vicky Perfect, Kevin Rush, Jason Shallcross, Sam Swash and Linda Thomas

APOLOGY: Councillor Arnold Woolley

CONTRIBUTORS: Councillor Paul Johnson - Cabinet Member for Finance, Inclusion & Resilient Communities, Billy Mullin - Deputy Leader (Governance) and Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets, Chief Executive, Chief Officer (Governance) and Strategic Finance Managers

Councillor Ian Roberts - Leader and Cabinet Member for Education, Welsh Language, Culture and Leisure (for minute numbers 6-10)

IN ATTENDANCE: Democratic Services Manager and team

6. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

7. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 9 June 2022 were approved, as moved and seconded by Councillors Vicky Perfect and Kevin Rush.

RESOLVED:

That the minutes be approved as a correct record.

8. FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

The Overview & Scrutiny Facilitator presented the current forward work programme which had been updated to include Members' requests. She confirmed that an item on the development of the Council Plan for 2023-28 would be considered in September and that a Member briefing session on performance reporting would be arranged.

As requested by the Chairman, items on the business and financial planning cycle and risk management would be scheduled. The Chief Executive agreed that the delivery plan currently in development would be shared with Members prior to September.

The Chairman also suggested an item to explore the financial benefits of outsourcing or sharing some Council services, and requested an update on the current level of outstanding debt on joint-funded care packages with the local Health Board. Both items would be scheduled for future meetings.

On that basis, the recommendations were moved and seconded by Councillors Vicky Perfect and Bill Crease.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the Forward Work Programme, as amended, be noted; and
- (b) That the Democratic Services Manager, in consultation with the Chair of the Committee, be authorised to vary the Forward Work Programme between meetings, as the need arises.

9. TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Overview & Scrutiny Facilitator presented a report on proposed amendments to the Committee's terms of reference to align with changes to portfolio service areas. The proposals were to include the Capital Programme and Assets, together with NEWydd Catering & Cleaning, within the Committee's remit, noting that this would provide Members with oversight of the complete Community Asset Programme.

The recommendation was moved and seconded by Councillors Ron Davies and Jason Shallcross.

RESOLVED:

That the Committee supports the proposed amendments to its terms of reference as set out in Appendix 2 to the report.

10. BUDGET 2023/24 MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY

The Chief Executive and Strategic Finance Manager (Strategy and Insurance) presented a report on the first stage of the Medium Term Financial Strategy and the budget requirement for 2023/24. The report set out the revised forecast prior to cost pressures and efficiency proposals being reviewed by Overview & Scrutiny committees and Member workshops during the Autumn.

The updated forecast indicated a minimum budget requirement of an additional £16.503m of revenue resources for 2023/24, which excluded the impact of the outcome of the pay modelling exercise to be undertaken in 2022/23. Whilst indicative funding figures for 2023/24 and 2024/25 had been provided as part of the 2022/23 Local Government Settlement, these were at a considerably lower level than the previous two years and would increase the amount to be met from other sources. There were significant challenges in the economic outlook, with inflation estimates on energy and fuel highlighted as a key risk likely to increase

the forecast. Other cost pressures related to changing service demands mainly within Education & Youth and Social Services.

A further risk remained around the outcome of national pay awards for 2022/23 where any increases above the budgeted 3.5% uplift would mean utilising reserves in year, and would also add an additional pressure to the forecast for 2023/24.

The cost pressures were categorised in section 1.04 of the report and Members were advised that figures were likely to change over the Summer as further information was received and reviews continued.

The Chief Executive said that the report summarised work undertaken to date on presenting the first forecast for the budget requirement for 2023/24. He said that the volatility of the current economic situation created more challenges in financial planning and that officers were continuing to work through the detail to refine the forecast.

Councillor Paul Johnson spoke about significant risks on the impact of inflationary and energy increases on which the Council had no control. In highlighting the need to consider the impact of decisions on future years, he reiterated core principles in decision-making ensuring that the Council continued to meet its statutory duties and upheld quality standards.

As one of the main risks, Councillor Ian Roberts referred to the potential unfunded impacts of nationally agreed pay awards for teachers and non-teachers in 2023/24. He spoke about challenges in Social Services including out of county placements where the Council was working to re-establish itself as a provider of direct care and exploring regional options.

In raising a number of questions, Councillor Alasdair Ibbotson pointed out that not all the pressures included a range of variances. The Strategic Finance Manager explained that as work was continuing, an update on all the variances would be shared at the September workshop. In answer to the question regarding a new post in Streetscene Enforcement shown on the appendix to the Cabinet report, it was confirmed that this was due to a new post approved as part of the budget in 2022/23 part of which was time limited.

In response to Councillor Ibbotson's query about the lack of medium-term forecasted financial pressures on carbon reduction, the Chief Executive explained that this would be reflected in the development of the Capital Programme on which work was underway, as well as the Asset Management Plan which was due to be considered in September.

On the summary of pressures, the Chairman considered the national resolution pressures, national funding requirements and strategic decisions to be key risks as they were generally outside the control of the Council. He suggested reiterating to Welsh Government (WG) that councils should not be expected to increase Council Tax to address pressures involving national decisions.

When asked about predictions for low/medium/high variances to the forecast, the Chief Executive said there was no certainty at this stage due to volatility and that even a small percentage increase could greatly affect the budget position. The Strategic Finance Manager agreed and gave assurance that more detail on all cost pressures would be provided to Overview & Scrutiny committees. As requested by the Chairman, she would provide a summary of movements of the forecast since the report to County Council in February.

The Chairman asked about service reform changes referenced in the report and was advised that the outcome of a review across portfolios would be shared at the Member workshop in September.

The recommendation was moved and seconded by Councillors Richard Jones and Jason Shallcross.

RESOLVED:

That having considered the Medium Term Financial Strategy and Budget 2023/24 report, the Committee confirms that there are no specific matters to be reported back to Cabinet when it considers the report on 12 July.

11. REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING 2021/22 (OUTTURN) AND CAPITAL PROGRAMME MONITORING 2021/22 (OUTTURN)

The Strategic Finance Managers (Corporate Finance) presented reports on the 2021/22 final outturn for the revenue budget monitoring for the Council Fund and Housing Revenue Account (HRA) and the Capital Programme, prior to consideration by Cabinet.

Revenue Budget Monitoring

On the Council Fund, the projected year-end position was an operating surplus of £5.711m reflecting a favourable movement of £1.107m from month 10 and leaving a year-end contingency reserve balance of £7.098m. The variances from month 10 were shown in the report including details of significant movements. The report highlighted the significant impact of the Welsh Government (WG) Hardship Fund and income loss funding streams on the overall outturn position in addition to one-off WG grants into eligible service areas. An overview of in-year risks included positive movement on the collection of Council Tax and the impact of WG additional funding for Social Care and Health. An improved position was also reported on planned in-year efficiencies achieved in 2021/22 and emergency reserves set aside following an increase in the local government settlement for 2021/22. Additional information in the report clarified the changing position on operating surplus and contingency reserves over the past five years.

On the HRA, a projected overspend of £1.404m would leave a closing un-earmarked balance of £3.616m, which was well above the recommended guidelines on spend.

As requested by the Chairman, officers agreed to provide a summary of the position at Month 10 for comparison purposes.

Capital Programme

The revised programme for 2021/22 was £71.442m taking into account all carry forward sums and savings transferred back to the programme. Changes during the last quarter were mainly due to the introduction of grant funding streams and budget re-profiling. Actual expenditure for the year totalled £67.907m which was 95.05% of the budget, leaving a £3.535m underspend recommended to be carried forward for the completion of schemes in 2022/23. Additional allocations identified in the final quarter would be funded from the additional General Capital Grant awarded by WG in February 2022. Total savings of £0.370m were identified and the final outturn position had resulted in a revised opening funding position surplus of £2.068m, prior to the realisation of additional capital receipts and/or other funding sources.

The first recommendation was moved and seconded by Councillors Vicky Perfect and Bill Crease. The second recommendation was moved and seconded by Councillors Ron Davies and Linda Thomas.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That having considered the Revenue Budget Monitoring 2021/22 (final outturn) report, the Committee confirms that there are no specific matters to be raised with Cabinet; and
- (b) That having considered the Capital Programme Monitoring 2021/22 (final outturn) report, the Committee confirms that there are no specific matters to be raised with Cabinet.

12. REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING 2022/23 (INTERIM)

The Strategic Finance Manager (Corporate Finance) presented a report on the interim in-year budget monitoring position for 2022/23 for the Council Fund and Housing Revenue Account (HRA). This was an exception report on potential significant variances which may impact on the financial position in 2022/23 and progress in achieving planned efficiencies against targets set for the year.

Based on high level assumptions set out in the report, the potential variations to budget identified by portfolios at this stage equated to a minimum net additional expenditure requirement of around £0.300m. As reported in the previous item, the remaining £2.066m from the Covid-19 emergency ring-fenced fund, topped up with £3.250m provided for in the 2022/23 approved budget, had raised the total to £5.316m. Covid-related claims from across portfolios were being reviewed to determine eligibility for those reserves, given the cessation of the Welsh Government (WG) Hardship Fund. Work was continuing to review progress on emerging risks and unachieved efficiencies which could impact on the 2023/24 budget. An overview of the in-year position included a number of cost pressures in Children's Services and Streetscene & Transportation with the

increase in fuel prices emerging as a corporate pressure. A number of open risks had been identified at this stage and would be subject to continued monitoring.

Councillor Alasdair Ibbotson asked about the potential for WG to extend Covid funding arrangements and whether the additional £3.250m top-up to the Council's emergency reserves would still be required. The Strategic Finance Manager advised that aside from the additional funding on the Covid-19 Statutory Sick Pay enhancement scheme, there was no indication from WG that previous Covid-related funding would continue and that work was ongoing to collate and review internal claims. When asked about the Council's topped up emergency reserves, there was uncertainty at this early stage as to what level would be required.

In response to a question on financial arrangements for Parc Adfer, the Chief Officer (Governance) provided a brief overview of the model associated with the contract and asked that specific details be requested separately. The Chairman asked that Councillor Ibbotson direct the question through the Facilitator with the response to be shared with the full Committee.

In thanking officers for the report, Councillor Paul Johnson paid tribute to the robust budget monitoring process adopted by the Council.

His comments were endorsed by the Chairman who sought clarification on the £0.275m variance on Resources and Regulated Services. The Strategic Finance Manager agreed to circulate a more detailed response.

The recommendation was moved and seconded by Councillors Richard Jones and Bill Crease.

RESOLVED:

That having considered the Revenue Budget Monitoring 2022/23 (Interim) report, the Committee confirms that there are no specific issues which it wishes to raise with Cabinet.

13. RESULTS OF THE CONSULTATION ON THE DIGITAL STRATEGY

The Chief Officer (Governance) presented a report on the outcome of consultation on the Digital Strategy 2021-26 where the majority of the respondents had indicated support for the strategic aims and ambitions of the Council. The proposed response to the consultation was also appended for consideration.

An overview was given of the four main areas of focus from the 179 responses as detailed in the report and reflected in the revised Strategy. Additional wording would also provide clarity on responsibilities in respect of digital services at schools. The development of an action plan, including project costs, would assist with financial planning.

In response to a question from Councillor Bill Crease, the Chief Officer said that whilst most of the Council's website was accessible on a mobile device, work was ongoing to convert PDF documents into a more appropriate format.

In response to a query, Councillor Sam Swash was advised that the consultation had been publicised internally as well as externally, as the vast majority of the workforce were Flintshire residents.

Following comments by Councillor Allan Marshall, the Chief Officer would ask Niall Waller to provide Councillor Allan Marshall with relevant contact details in relation to increasing community broadband speeds. The Chairman also requested that relevant contact details within the North Wales Economic Ambition Board also be shared.

On questions from the Chairman, it was confirmed that consultation had taken place prior to implementing the new planning software and that project costs would form part of the resource plan for the entire Digital Strategy to link with the Medium Term Financial Strategy.

The recommendations were moved and seconded by Councillors Vicky Perfect and Allan Marshall.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the consultation results are welcomed, and that the Committee believes that the appropriate response is being taken to the issues raised as part of the consultation; and
- (b) That the refreshed Digital Strategy for 2021-2026 is approved with the additional amendments suggested in this report.

14. END OF YEAR PERFORMANCE MONITORING

The Chief Executive presented the monitoring report to review year-end progress against Council Plan priorities identified for 2021/22. Overall this was a positive report given the challenges from the emergency situation, with 73% of performance indicators (PIs) relevant to the Committee having met or exceeded their targets (green) and none showing under-performance against target (red).

In referring to red PIs outside the remit of this Committee, Councillor Alasdair Ibbotson queried progress with social housing completion. On private rented sector actions, he suggested that delays in recruiting to the team to support private sector tenants should have a red status and that options to involve the third sector or tenant representative bodies could be explored. Under Environment, he observed that the amount of red PIs compared to green appeared to be misleading as there was evidence of good progress.

The Chairman suggested that the 11 red PIs under the remit of other Overview & Scrutiny committees be referred appropriately.

In responding to the points raised by Councillor Ibbotson, the Chief Executive confirmed that the Community, Housing and Assets Overview & Scrutiny Committee had recently considered the housing PIs and he agreed to provide a separate update on the current position with recruitment to the private sector team.

The Chairman suggested a review of targets on some measures to ensure they were both challenging and achievable, for example the average days to process change in circumstances for housing benefit and Council Tax reduction (Income Poverty) and usage statistics of online resources for children and young people (Child Poverty). He queried the outcome on the number registered on the Digital Champions Scheme (digital Poverty) and the presentation of chart data on performance measures for Affordable and Accessible Housing. On Town Centre Regeneration actions, he said it was important that the design of a town formed part of 'improving the environment in town centres'.

The recommendations were moved and seconded by Councillors Ron Davies and Jason Shallcross.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the Committee supports levels of progress and confidence in the achievement of priorities within 2021/22 Council Plan;
- (b) That the Committee supports overall performance against 2021/22 Council Plan performance indicators; and
- (c) That the Committee is assured by explanations given for those areas of underperformance.

15. MEMBERS OF THE PRESS IN ATTENDANCE

None.

(The meeting started at 10am and ended at 12.15pm)

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Chairman

CORPORATE RESOURCES OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

28 JULY 2022

Minutes of the meeting of the Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee of Flintshire County Council held remotely on Thursday 28 July, 2022

PRESENT: Councillor Richard Jones (Chair)

Councillors: Bill Crease, Chris Dolphin, Alasdair Ibbotson, Vicky Perfect, Kevin Rush, Jason Shallcross, Sam Swash and Linda Thomas

SUBSTITUTIONS: Councillor Bernie Attridge (for Councillor Mike Peers) and Councillor Ryan McKeown (for Councillor Ron Davies)

ALSO PRESENT:

Councillor Debbie Owen (as an initiator of the call in)

Councillors: Dave Hughes (Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Streetscene and the Regional Transport Strategy) and Christine Jones (Deputy Leader - Partnerships - and Cabinet Member for Social Services) were in attendance as observers

CONTRIBUTORS: Councillor Ian Roberts (Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Education, Welsh Language, Culture and Leisure), Chief Executive, Chief Officer (Governance), Corporate Finance Manager, Strategic Executive Officer and Strategic Finance Manager - Financial Strategy and Insurance

IN ATTENDANCE: Team Leader – Democratic Services

16. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

17. CONSIDERATION OF A MATTER REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE PURSUANT TO THE CALL IN ARRANGEMENTS

The Chief Officer (Governance) explained the procedure for the call in of a Cabinet decision as detailed in the supporting document. The Cabinet had considered a report on 'Annual Review of Fees and Charges 2022' at its meeting on 12 July 2022. The decision (Record of Decision 3991) had been called in by Councillors Bernie Attridge, Helen Brown, Bill Crease, Richard Jones and Debbie Owen. Copies of the Cabinet report, the Record of Decision and Endorsement of Call in, which identified three reasons for the call in, were included in the agenda pack.

18. ANNUAL REVIEW OF FEES AND CHARGES 2022

Representations from call in signatories

Councillor Bernie Attridge commented on the reasons given for the call-in, which he said was very broad, and outlined the questions he had as follows:-

1. Could officers confirm the differences between versions 2 and 3 of the Income Generation Policy (IGP).
2. Does the Cabinet Member think it is acceptable to increase fees and charges for cemetery services by 6% when there is no proposed increase to fees and charges for civil parking enforcement?
3. Why have the fees and charges relating to Marriage celebrations increased considerably?
4. The IGP requires consideration of the impact of fees and charges on communities. Does the Cabinet Member believe the impact of the increased fees and charges was acceptable?
5. Which Members sit on the Programme Board, that considers the proposed changes to fees and charges, as outlined in the IGP; and
6. Where are the comments made by the Programme Board, in relation to the proposed increases to fees and charges?

Councillor Attridge referred to reason 1 for the call in which related to a rent increase of 88% to a community group which was felt would have devastating consequences and if replicated across Flintshire would cause social implications for other community Groups. He raised concerns around the proposed increase, which he believed had been proposed due to the rent not being reviewed by the Council for a number of years and did not feel that the community group should be penalised for this. He said that this was simply not acceptable.

Councillor Bill Crease felt that the proposed 88% rent increase for a community group was an example of what could go wrong when trying to apply a standard measure across the board. He said that the group affected had spent a great deal of time improving, without measure, a resource for the community and had run many sessions which had benefited the immediate and wider community. He felt that due to a failure of the Council in managing its leasing policy properly and to apply rent reviews in a standard way, this community group were faced with an 88% increase for renting a resource which the Council, Ranger Service and Wepre Park did not have to provide any financial contribution towards.

The Chairman, as a signatory of the call-in, commented on room hire within the list of fees and charges which had not been increased and the youth and community services room hire which had increased by 6% and asked why there was this disparity. In relation to the IGP, he commented on the statement within the Policy that services should be prepared to provide supporting information to demonstrate full cost recovery or market rate comparison was being achieved, where permitted, and suggested that the Committee, at a future meeting, be provided with the full costs in order to compare to market rates. He also commented on the statement within the Policy that intelligence would be gathered to understand the ability of customers to pay. He asked the Cabinet Member whether when discussing fees and charges, was the Programme Board provided with evidence that customers had the ability to pay.

Responses from the decision makers

The Chief Executive explained that the proposed 88% increase in rent to a community group related to a lease and did not fall within the remit of the IGP and was not included in the list of fees and charges report presented to Cabinet.

He advised that leases were negotiated individually and that the lease raised by the signatories was currently being negotiated and correspondence had been sent to the community group, without a response received. This was a live matter with further conversations to take place. In relation to leases, there was a different delegation, bespoke to the relevant proper officer for property, as set out in the Constitution, which covers granting of leases or the renewal or restructuring of leases.

In response to the concerns around the community group not being given notice of the increase, the Chief Executive explained that when a lease was coming to an end or a lease was being reviewed there was discussion on-going with the community group affected. He said that he would expect that discussion to continue over a period of time, so there was scope for negotiation on a lease. In terms of lease review dates, this also fell within the delegated function of the proper officer. Lease reviews are undertaken regularly, and, for clarification, the lease of the community group raised by the signatories had expired, therefore it was necessary to review the lease and hold discussion on whether they would like to continue with a new lease or hand over to another organisation. He felt that this was a fair and equitable position for everyone who had a lease with the Council.

In response to the lack of discussion at Scrutiny, the Chief Executive explained that through delegation to Chief Officers, they have the delegation to determine, through discussions, the levels being set within fees and charges, as set out within the Constitution.

In response to the question around marriage celebrations, the Chief Officer (Governance) explained the differences between statutory and discretionary fees. Where a fee was described as statutory, they were set and no change could be made to these, whereas, where a fee was described as discretionary, there was discretion to the fees set, but this did not mean the Council could set any amount it wanted. The Registrars Service fell under discretionary fees, but the Council was required to break even on the cost of the service over a 3 year period and Members would see that some fees had increased with others being decreased, which related to the need to balance out across the market. The Customer Contact Service Manager, before proposing changes to the fees, carries out complex calculations and this information maybe something the Committee would wish to view at a future meeting.

In relation to how the Council set the inflation rate, the Strategic Executive Officer explained that there were 3 inflation rates that could be used, and when looking at the normative, that was the consumer prices index with housing costs, and it would normally be taken from the year in which the annual review was taking place, as outlined within the IGP. The first version of the IGP was dated October 2017 with the first annual review being undertaken in 2019. During the review, there was a need to make the Policy more robust in terms of process and those changes were reported to Scrutiny and Cabinet in 2019 which allowed for the IGP to be updated to highlight the inflation indexes used. There was recognition that there were some competing and contrasting principles set out within the Policy and they related to the achievement of full cost recovery and balancing that against the other principles contained in the IGP.

In relation to changes between versions 2 and 3 of the IGP, the Strategic Executive Officer explained that there had been minimal changes which related to clarifying some roles and responsibilities so that they were consistent and clear throughout the IGP. In response to the question on the role of the Programme Board, the Strategic Executive Officer advised that the role of each portfolio Programme Board was to monitor income generation including fees and charges, as outlined in the IGP. The annual review starts in April of each year, where the inflation rate is considered prior to liaising with each service area responsible for fees and charges.

The Corporate Finance Manager clarified the process undertaken by the finance team, explaining that the role of the team was to co-ordinate the application of the agreed IGP. Firstly, there was a need to agree what the annual uplift would be, and based on the IGP, at the end of March this was agreed at 6%. Following this, a 6% uplift was applied to all applicable fees and charges, as per the schedule, before being shared with all Chief Officer colleagues, who in turn, following our professional opinion and principles within the policy, decided whether to recommend the 6% uplift or an alternative to the relevant Cabinet Member. The changes to fees and charges would come into effect from 1st October 2022, so subject to approval, there would be time to advise customers of the intended increases.

In response to a question on the budget impact, the Corporate Finance Manager advised that all recommended uplifts to fees and charges equated to around a £50,000 contribution to the budget in-year. This would be rolled forward into next year as an efficiency net income target which would still have to be achieved in the budget.

In response to the question around civil parking enforcement, the Chief Officer (Governance) advised that this had a slightly different statutory regime. All monies collected from car parking charges should be accounted for, and whilst the Council could increase charges for the cost of civil parking enforcement, the money collected could only be spent on certain things, such as, traffic management, public realm improvements within car parks and public transport.

The Leader of the Council, Councillor Ian Roberts gave apologies for the Cabinet Member who had been unable to attend the meeting and commented that the impact of Council decisions on communities was at the forefront of all decision-making processes and that there was consideration for people's ability to pay for any increases to the cost of services. He also spoke of fairness, which he said was another consideration at the forefront of decision making. In relation to civil parking enforcement charges, Councillor Roberts said that if the Committee wanted to increase the charges, then this should be referred to Cabinet to consider. He said that when he became Leader he was surprised that leases were not reviewed more frequently and that together with fees and charges these were being reviewed and that the impact of community groups were taken into account, but as the Chief Executive had already advised, a response was being awaited from the community group referred to by the signatories of the call-in, and whilst the impact on communities was important, there had to be a level of charge for the level of service being provided.

In response to the comments made by Councillor Roberts, the Chairman asked if the ability of customers to pay increased fees and charges was also considered as he was concerned that there were some who would not have this ability. Councillor Roberts referred the Chairman to decisions taken by the Council during the pandemic and the support provided to people who were facing financial difficulties. The Chief Executive advised that there were concessions, as outlined within the IGP.

In response to comments made by the Chairman around the increase of civil parking enforcement charges to compensate for other increases, such as, cemeteries and room hire, Councillor Roberts clarified that if the Committee wished to increase fees and charges on civil parking enforcement by 6% this would need to be a recommendation from the Committee.

The Chief Executive in clarifying the comments made by Councillor Roberts around tenancies and reviews. He explained that it was not possible to apply a simple logic to tenancies that had rent reviews (and review dates) set out within the legal framework of the lease agreement. When reviews are undertaken the rent currently being charged would need to be considered in light of the current market rate as part of that review or catch up as part of the renewal of that lease.

The Chairman suggested that the Committee may wish to consider asking Cabinet to consider increasing fees and charges for civil parking enforcement in order to bring down fees and charges on cemeteries and youth and community room hire. The Strategic Executive Officer referred to previous comments made by the Chief Officer (Governance) and said that the Committee should be mindful that some fees and charges would be set by legislation and would have legislative requirements and it may not be possible to over cost recover in one area to support another. Where there were statutory requirements with fees and charges, this superseded the IGP in a way.

The Strategic Finance Manager (Financial Strategy and Insurance) clarified that it was not proposed to increase fees and charges for youth and community room hire and that the fee would remain the same in 2022 as it had been in 2021.

Questions from Committee Members

Councillor Sam Swash said that there was no item shown in the schedule of fees and charges that contained an increase of 88%. He raised concern that the call-in gave Members of the Committee no details in which to make an informed decision and that a number of new issues had been raised during the meeting, which had not been referenced in the call-in notice. He said that he could see no good reason why details of what was being challenged would be withheld from the Committee until the meeting itself and felt that this denied Members the opportunity to undertake their role on the Committee and scrutinise the decision fully.

Councillor Chris Dolphin, whilst praising the Chairman for his knowledge, questioned whether the vice-chair should have chaired the meeting given that he was a signatory of the call-in. The Chief Officer (Governance) explained that he

had provided the Chairman with advice prior to the meeting and had advised that if the Chair is present at a meeting, then they must proceed as Chair, as set out in the Constitution.

Councillor Alasdair Ibbotson raised concern that information on cemeteries and civil parking enforcement had not been shared with the Committee in advance to form a view. He commented on the rent increase of 88% to a community group, as outlined in the call-in notice and said that whilst this was a significant year on year increase, no evidence had been provided by the signatories of the call-in that the policy relating to evaluation had not been complied with at this time. He questioned whether the contract had operated under the proper rate previously and whether this could have been a breach of the policy, where there could be a credible argument of favouritism from other community groups. He said that whilst no increase in rent during the pandemic was understandable, he questioned who had authorised the rent level prior to the pandemic, and whether one group in one community had been favoured over others.

The Chairman said that the signatories accepted that reason 1 shown in the call-in notice should not have been included and as a result lease agreements would not be discussed at the meeting.

Councillor Dolphin sought further information on the role of the Programme Board, as he felt Councillor Attridge's question around this had not been addressed. Councillor Attridge asked whether decisions on fees and charges were made by the Programme Board or delegated to the relevant officer. The Chief Executive advised that Programme Boards do not make decisions. As part of the Programme Board meetings, there would be active discussions with the Cabinet Member on fees and charges, but the decision was ultimately delegated to the Chief Officer to put forward proposals to Cabinet for a final decision.

The Chairman thanked Members of the Committee for their contribution and said that all Members were minded to get the best deal for the people of Flintshire and felt that an increase in fees and charges for civil parking enforcement should be considered by officers in order to compensate for other fees and charges shown in the schedule.

The Chief Officer (Governance) reminded the Committee of options for decision-making as detailed in item 3 of the agenda.

Councillor Attridge moved Option 3, and this was seconded by Councillor Crease.

The Chairman sought clarification that the proposal put forward by Councillor Attridge included that Cabinet be asked to consider increasing fees and charges for civil parking enforcement in order to reduce fees and charges shown in the schedule, such as, cemeteries. Councillor Attridge confirmed that this was included within the recommendation.

Councillor Ibbotson proposed an amendment to the proposal put forward by Councillor Attridge, that the number 3 be amended to number 1 in the

proposal. The Chairman sought advice on whether this was an amendment, as he felt this was different recommendation.

The Chief Officer (Governance) advised that the Committee vote on the proposal put forward by Councillor Attridge and if the unsuccessful then Councillor Ibbotson could propose that the Committee support Option 1.

The Chair invited the initiators of the call in to sum up.

Councillor Attridge commented that he had nothing further to add and felt that the position of the signatories of the call-in had been laid out clearly for the Committee.

The Chief Executive commented that the call-in should not have been a call-in today as the issues were relating to a lease and they did not relate to the fees and charges and IGP. The issues around fees and charges have been debated with the points raised having been fully answered.

The Chairman said that the call-in had been accepted and therefore it was appropriate for it to be considered.

Following advice from the Chief Officer (Governance), it was conformed that Councillor Ibbotson could speak to the proposal, prior to a vote being taken by the Committee.

Councillor Ibbotson said that the Committee had not had the opportunity to consider the issues raised by the signatories of the call-in in advance and this did not allow Members to do their job in scrutinising the issues properly. He spoke on the proposal around fees and charges for civil parking enforcement and the advice given by officers that revenue for these charges should be ringfenced for highway issues. He was concerned that if the proposal to support Option 3 was supported, that the Committee would be asking Cabinet to put the Council in an un-lawful position.

The Chairman said that this was an opportunity for the Committee to ask Cabinet to address the discrepancies in the fees and charges. He challenged that the decision would be unlawful and said that it would only be unlawful if the money being collected was greater than the service provided.

The Chair asked Members of the Committee to vote on Option 3. When put to the vote the proposal was lost.

Councillor Ibbotson moved Option 1, and this was seconded by Councillor Swash.

The Chair asked Members of the Committee to vote on Option 1. When put to the vote the proposal was carried.

The Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance and contributions.

RESOLVED:

That having considered the decision, the Committee was satisfied with the explanations received and therefore the decision may now be implemented.

19. MEMBERS OF THE PRESS IN ATTENDANCE

There were no members of the press in attendance.

(The meeting started at 10.00am and ended at 11.30am)

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Chairman



CORPORATE RESOURCES OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Date of Meeting	Friday 23 rd September, 2022
Report Subject	Action Tracking
Report Author	Democratic Services Manager
Type of Report	Operational

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The report shows the action points from previous meetings of the Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee and the progress made in completing them. All requested actions have been completed.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1	That the committee notes the progress which has been made.
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REPORT DETAILS

1.00	EXPLAINING THE ACTION TRACKING REPORT
1.01	In previous meetings, requests for information, reports or actions have been made. These have been summarised as action points. Following the meeting of the committee in July 2018, it was recognised that there was a need to formalise such reporting back, as 'Matters Arising' is not an item which can feature on an agenda.
1.02	This paper summarises those points and where appropriate provides an update on the actions resulting from them. The Action Tracking details are attached in appendix A.

2.00	RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS
2.01	The creation of the Action Tracking report increases work flow but should provide greater understanding and efficiency.

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	Not applicable.

5.00	APPENDICES
5.01	Appendix A – CRO&SC Action Points.

6.00	LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS
6.01	Minutes of previous meetings of the committee as identified in the report. Contact Officer: Steven Goodrum, Democratic Services Manager Telephone: 01352 702320 E-mail: steven.goodrum@flintshire.gov.uk

7.00	GLOSSARY OF TERMS
7.01	None.

ACTION TRACKING FOR THE CORPORATE RESOURCES OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Meeting Date	Agenda item	Action Required	Action Officer(s)	Action taken	Timescale
07.07.2022	4. Forward Work Programme	The Chairman requested items on the business and financial planning cycle and risk management be scheduled onto the FWP. The Chief Executive agreed that the delivery plan currently in development would be shared with Members prior to September.	Neal Cockerton / Gary Ferguson / Ceri Shotton	Information on the Business and Financial Planning Cycle included on Committee Agenda for 23.09.2022.	Completed.
		The Chairman suggested that an item to explore the financial benefits of outsourcing or sharing some Council services be considered at a future meeting.	Neal Cockerton	Item added to FWP as 'Item to be scheduled' awaiting allocation to a specific date.	Completed.
		The Chairman requested that the Committee receive an update on the current level of outstanding debt on joint-funded care packages with the local Health Board, at a future meeting.	Neil Ayling / Ceri Shotton	Item added to Agenda for CROSC meeting scheduled for 13 th October.	Completed.
07.07.2022	6. Budget 2023/24 Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS)	In response to a question raised by Cllr Alasdair Ibbotson, Sara Dulson agreed to circulate more detail on the forecasted pressure for a new post in Streetscene Enforcement which was time limited.	Sara Dulson	Information circulated to Committee Members via e-mail on 10.08.2022	Completed.

		Following a question raised by the Chairman, Sara Dulson agreed to provide a summary of movements since the report to County Council in February, following the meeting.	Sara Dulson	Information circulated to Committee Members via e-mail on 10.08.2022	Completed.
07.07.2022	7. Revenue Budget Monitoring 2021/22 (Outturn) and Capital Programme Monitoring 2021/22 (Outturn)	The Chairman requested that a summary of the position at Month 10 be circulated to the Committee following the meeting, for comparison purposes.	Sara Dulson / Ceri Shotton	Copy of Revenue Budget Monitoring 2021/22 (Month 10) report presented to Cabinet on 15.03.2022 circulated to Committee Members via e-mail on 28.07.2022.	Completed.
07.07.2022	8. Revenue Budget Monitoring 2022/23 (Interim)	The Chairman sought clarification on the £0.275m variance on Resources and Regulated Services. Dave Ledsham agreed to circulate a more detailed response following the meeting.	Dave Ledsham	Response provided by Dave Ledsham circulated to Committee Members via e-mail on 27.07.2022.	Completed.
07.07.2022	9. Results of Consultation on the Digital Strategy	Following comments made by Cllr Allan Marshall, the Chief Officer (Governance) said that he would Niall Waller to provide Cllr Marshall with relevant contact details in relation to increasing community broadband speeds. The Chairman also requested that relevant contact details within the North	Gareth Owens	Contact details sent to Cllr Allan Marshall.	Completed.

		Wales Economic Ambition Board also be shared with Cllr Marshall.			
28.07.2022	3. Consideration of a matter referred to the Committee pursuant to the Call-In arrangements – Annual Fees and Charges 2022	In response to a question around the increase of fees and charges for marriage celebrations, the Chief Officer (Governance) explained that the Customer Contact Service Manager, before proposing changes to the fees, carried out complex calculations and suggested that this information be shared with the Committee.	Gareth Owens / Rebecca Jones	Information on calculations and also North Wales comparisons for 2022-23 shared with Members of the Committee and call-in signatories on 09.09.2022.	Completed.

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CORPORATE RESOURCES OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Date of Meeting	Friday 23 September, 2022
Report Subject	Forward Work Programme
Report Author	Democratic Services Manager
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 Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee.

RECOMMENDATIONS

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

REPORT DETAILS

1.00	EXPLAINING THE FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME
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?
2.00	RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS
2.01	None as a result of this report.
3.00	CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED / CARRIED OUT
3.01	Publication of this report constitutes consultation.
4.00	RISK MANAGEMENT
4.01	None as a result of this report.
5.00	APPENDICES
5.01	Appendix 1 – Draft Forward Work Programme.
6.00	LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS
6.01	<p>None.</p> <p>Contact Officer: Steven Goodrum Democratic Services Manager</p> <p>Telephone: 01352 702320</p> <p>E-mail: steven.goodrum@flintshire.gov.uk</p>

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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CORPORATE RESOURCES OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME
CURRENT FWP

Date of meeting	Subject	Purpose of Report	Report Author
<p>Thursday 13th October, 2022</p> <p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">Page 31</p>	<p>Joint Funded Care Packages</p>	<p>To update Members on the current situation on the long term debt with the Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board since the last report was received.</p>	<p>Chief Officer (Social Services)</p>
	<p>Revenue Budget Monitoring 2022/23 (Month 5)</p>	<p>To provide the latest revenue budget monitoring position for 2022/23 for the Council Fund and Housing Revenue Account.</p>	<p>Corporate Finance Manager</p>
	<p>Work of the Coroner's Office</p>	<p>To receive a presentation from John Gittins on the work of the Coroner's Office.</p>	<p>Chief Officer (Governance)</p>
	<p>Employment and Workforce Quarterly Update</p> <p>Council Plan Development 2023/24</p>	<p>This report covers strategic updates in addition to the quarterly workforce statistics and their analysis.</p> <p>To contribute to the development of the Council Plan.</p>	<p>Corporate Manager, People and Organisational Development</p> <p>Chief Executive</p>
<p>Thursday 17th November, 2022</p>	<p>Revenue Budget Monitoring 2022/23 (Month 6)</p>	<p>To provide the latest revenue budget monitoring position for 2022/23 for the Council Fund and Housing Revenue Account.</p>	<p>Corporate Finance Manager</p>
	<p>Joint Procurement Service Annual Report 2021/22</p>	<p>To receive a performance update report on the Joint Procurement Service with Denbighshire County Council.</p>	<p>Chief Officer (Governance)</p>

CORPORATE RESOURCES OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

	<p>Capital Programme Monitoring 2022/23 (Month 6)</p> <p>Capital Strategy Including Prudential Indicators 2023/24 to 2025/26</p> <p>Capital Programme 2023/24 – 2025/26</p>	<p>To present the Capital Programme Monitoring report (Month 6) for 2022/23.</p> <p>To present the Capital Strategy 2023/24 - 2025/26 for review.</p> <p>To present the Capital Programme 2023/24 - 2025/26 for review.</p>	<p>Corporate Finance Manager</p> <p>Corporate Finance Manager</p> <p>Corporate Finance Manager</p>
<p>Thursday 15th December, 2022</p> <p>Page 32</p>	<p>Revenue Budget Monitoring 2022/23 (Month 7)</p> <p>Council Plan 2022-23 Mid-Year Performance Reporting</p>	<p>To provide the latest revenue budget monitoring position for 2022/23 for the Council Fund and Housing Revenue Account.</p> <p>To review the levels of progress in the achievement of activities and performance levels identified in the Council Plan.</p>	<p>Corporate Finance Manager</p> <p>Chief Executive</p>
<p>Thursday 12th January, 2023</p>	<p>Revenue Budget Monitoring 2022/23 (Month 8)</p> <p>Employment and Workforce Quarterly Update</p>	<p>To provide the latest revenue budget monitoring position for 2022/23 for the Council Fund and Housing Revenue Account.</p> <p>This report covers strategic updates in addition to the quarterly workforce statistics and their analysis</p>	<p>Corporate Finance Manager</p> <p>Corporate Manager, People and Organisational Development</p>
<p>Thursday 9th February, 2023</p>	<p>Revenue Budget Monitoring 2022/23 (Month 9)</p>	<p>To provide Members with the Revenue Budget Monitoring 2022/23 (Month 9) Report and the</p>	<p>Corporate Finance Manager</p>

CORPORATE RESOURCES OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

	<p>9) and Capital Programme Monitoring 2022/23 (month 9)</p> <p>Public Services Ombudsman for Wales (PSOW) Annual Letter 2020-21 and Complaints against Flintshire County Council during the first half of 2021-22</p>	<p>Capital Programme 2022/23 (Month 9) Report and Significant Variances.</p> <p>To share the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales Annual Letter 2021-22 and Complaints made against Flintshire County Council Services in the first half of 2022-23 (April-September 2022).</p>	<p>Chief Officer (Governance)</p>
<p>Thursday 9th March, 2023</p> <p>Page 3</p>	<p>Revenue budget monitoring 2022/23 (month 10)</p>	<p>To provide the latest revenue budget monitoring position for 2022/23 for the Council Fund and Housing Revenue Account.</p>	<p>Corporate Finance Manager</p>
<p>Thursday 20th April, 2023</p> <p>Page 3</p>	<p>Revenue budget monitoring 2022/23 (month 11)</p> <p>Employment and Workforce Quarterly Update</p>	<p>To provide the latest revenue budget monitoring position for 2022/23 for the Council Fund and Housing Revenue Account.</p> <p>This report covers strategic updates in addition to the quarterly workforce statistics and their analysis</p>	<p>Corporate Finance Manager</p> <p>Corporate Manager, People and Organisational Development</p>
<p>Thursday 18th May, 2023</p>	<p>Revenue Budget Monitoring 2022/23 (Outturn) and Capital Programme Monitoring 2022/23 (Outturn)</p>	<p>To present the Revenue Budget Monitoring (Outturn) and Capital Programme Monitoring (Outturn) for 2022/23.</p>	<p>Corporate Finance Manager</p>

CORPORATE RESOURCES OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

Thursday 15th June, 2023	Revenue budget monitoring 2023/24 (month 1)	To provide the latest revenue budget monitoring position for 2023/24 for the Council Fund and Housing Revenue Account.	Corporate Finance Manager
	Council Plan 2022-23 Year-End Performance	To review the levels of progress in the achievement of activities and performance levels identified in the Council Plan.	Chief Executive
Thursday 13th July, 2023	Revenue budget monitoring 2023/24 (month 2)	To provide the latest revenue budget monitoring position for 2023/24 for the Council Fund and Housing Revenue Account.	Corporate Finance Manager

Items to be scheduled

Item to explore the financial benefits of outsourcing or sharing some Council services – **as agreed during the July, 2022 meeting**

REGULAR ITEMS

Month	Item	Purpose of Report	Responsible / Contact Officer
Quarterly / Annual	Performance Reporting	To consider performance outturns for improvement targets against directorate indicators.	Chief Executive
Monthly	Revenue Budget Monitoring	To provide the latest revenue budget monitoring position for 2021/22 for the Council Fund and Housing Revenue Account.	Corporate Finance Manager
Quarterly	Employment and Workforce Quarterly Update	This report covers strategic updates in addition to the quarterly workforce statistics and their analysis.	Corporate Manager, People and Organisational Development

CORPORATE RESOURCES OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

Month	Item	Purpose of Report	Responsible / Contact Officer
Annually	Public Services Ombudsman for Wales (PSOW) Annual Letter and Complaints against Flintshire County Council	To share the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales Annual Letter and Complaints made against Flintshire County Council Services	Chief Officer (Governance)

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CORPORATE RESOURCES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Date of Meeting	Friday, 23 September 2022
Report Subject	Asset Management Plan 2022 – 2027
Portfolio Holder	Cabinet Member for Governance and Corporate Services including Health and Safety and Human Resources
Report Author	Corporate Manager, Capital Programme and Assets
Strategic / Operational	Strategic

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report introduces the refreshed Corporate Asset Management Plan 2022 - 2027 which replaces the previous plan which ran from 2019 to 2026.

The primary reasons for updating the previous plan is the Welsh Government Policy for Net zero carbon Public Sector by 2030, the Welsh Government's Future Generation Act and as a consequence the Council's Climate Change strategy which was adopted by the Council in February 2022.

As with the previous plan, it sets the Council's medium term strategy for managing its assets and moving towards an optimal portfolio of assets. The report explains the need for the Plan, its purpose, objectives, key aims, and content.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1	To review the Asset Management Plan 2022 – 2027 for comment and observations, in order that it can be adopted as the principal document for managing the Council's corporate property and land resource assets.
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REPORT DETAILS

1.00	EXPLAINING THE ASSET MANAGEMENT PLAN 2022 - 2027
	Introduction
1.01	<p>The Council's assets, primarily land and property, are a significant and valued resource with a value of circa £780.553m at March 2022. Over the last three years in excess £3.8m of capital receipts have been generated through the sale and disposal of surplus land and property.</p>
1.02	<p>There is a need for a comprehensive and structured strategy which sets out the Council's framework for asset management planning. The objective of strategy is to set out the optimal asset portfolio the Council requires in the medium term to deliver its corporate objectives, the services it is responsible for providing, the statutory functions it is responsible for fulfilling, efficiently and taking into account overall value for money.</p>
1.03	<p>The key aims of the Strategy are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide a clear context within which proposals for capital expenditure are evaluated to ensure all capital investment is targeted to deliver the Council's priorities as set out in the Council Plan. • Sets out how the Council identifies and prioritises capital requirements and proposals arising from various strategies including Council Plan, Portfolio Business Plans, and other corporate strategies and how they will be managed within the limited capital resources available. • Contribute to the Welsh Government's Net Zero Public Sector by 2030 and manage assets to adapt to the changing climate as well as fulfilling our duties to enhance biodiversity and resilience of ecosystems. • Challenge our current estate, continue with the programme of asset rationalisation, ensuring that assets retained are effective, efficient and sustainable to deliver services. • Maximise capital receipts, whilst balancing the need for land retention for carbon sequestration purposes. • Identify and consider options available to fund capital expenditure that minimises the ongoing revenue implications of historic capital expenditure and of any new investments. • Use partnerships, both public and private, more effectively to support our overall strategy. • Establish effective arrangements for managing capital projects including assessment of outcomes and achievement of value for money.

1.04	The document, which is in final draft is structured into a number of sections which are briefly explained below.
1.05	<u>The key facts</u> Section explains the types of assets the Council has, how many and asset condition information.
1.06	<u>The bigger picture</u> Section explains how asset management planning fits in with national strategic context, regional strategic context and the local strategic context. Including how the Strategy ties in with the Council Plan, Portfolio Business Plans, the Capital Programme, and the Medium Term Financial Strategy.
1.07	<u>Where we want to be</u> Section explains what the Council's optimal portfolio of assets is. It seeks to identify what we want our capital resources to deliver over the medium term. This high level strategic document makes reference to the more detailed asset management plans developed within portfolios for example; Schools modernisation, Highways Asset Management Plan, Housing Asset Management Plan, Corporate Property, Industrial Estate, Agricultural Estate and the Digital Strategy.
1.08	<u>The Challenges</u> Section explains the challenges that we face in delivering the optimal portfolio of assets identified.

2.00	RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS
2.01	Implications for assets and financial implications as set out within the report. Other resource implications include Officer time in delivering the Strategy and associated capital programme which is not considered to be a significant change.

3.00	IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND RISK MANAGEMENT
3.01	Decisions made which involve the Council's assets and its Capital Programme often have very large and long term financial implications. The purpose of the Capital Strategy and Asset Management Plan is to set a clear framework within which such decisions can be made mitigating the risks involved.

3.02

Ways of Working (Sustainable Development) Principles Impact

Long-term	Positive in that it supports the delivery of modernised and efficient assets.
Prevention	Creates sustainable and energy efficient assets
Integration	Integrates developments within local communities to create and support the sustainable and resilient communities agenda
Collaboration	Positive in that it supports other public sector and community based organisations deliver services through shared space.
Involvement	Through the engagement and consultation with our communities in our assets their development and the role they play within our communities.

Well-being Goals Impact

Prosperous Wales	Contributing to the wealth and prosperity of Wales through the programmes of work attached to the capital programme developing the skills to deliver locally.
Resilient Wales	Creating a skills base within the construction industry and wider to develop increased resilience.
Healthier Wales	Quality accommodation and facilities to support a healthier Wales.
More equal Wales	Provision of spaces and environments that respond positively to equality and gender.
Cohesive Wales	The transfer of assets to our communities to create resilience and develop knowledge and skills in the management of such assets.
Vibrant Wales	Activity which stimulates the local economy and builds upon and adds to the Welsh economy.

	Globally responsible Wales	The development of carbon neutral environments and decarbonisation of our existing estate where practicable.
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4.00	CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED / CARRIED OUT
4.01	Any feedback or observations from CROSC will be reported into Cabinet for consideration.

5.00	APPENDICES
5.01	Appendix 1 – Draft Asset Management Plan 2022 – 2027.

6.00	LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS
6.01	None

7.00	CONTACT OFFICER DETAILS
7.01	<p>Contact Officer: Damian Hughes, Corporate Manager, Capital Programme and Assets</p> <p>Telephone: 01352 704135</p> <p>E-mail: damian.hughes@flintshire.gov.uk</p>

8.00	GLOSSARY OF TERMS
8.01	<p>Asset Management Plan - A plan maintained by an authority of the condition and suitability of its assets, updated regularly and utilised to assess future capital needs</p> <p>Capital Expenditure - Expenditure on the acquisition of Non-current Assets or expenditure that extends the life or value of an existing asset</p> <p>Capital Programme - The Council’s financial plan covering capital schemes and expenditure proposals for the current year and a number of future years. It also includes estimates of the capital resources available to finance the programme</p> <p>Capital Receipt - Receipts (in excess of £10,000) from the disposal of an asset</p>

<p>Capital Scheme - An individual capital project which is monitored and managed in isolation. The aggregate of all schemes comprises the Capital Programme</p> <p>Capital Strategy - A corporate document providing clear strategic guidance about an authority's objectives, priorities and spending plans, demonstrating the link to key corporate and service objectives. May be combined with the Asset Management Plan (AMP) to form a single document</p> <p>Disposal - The decommissioning or transfer of an asset to another party</p> <p>Financing - The process of allocating resources to meet the cost of capital expenditure, which can be done on a project, asset or whole programme basis. This contrasts with making the invoice payments relating to capital expenditure, which should be managed within the authority's overall treasury management policy</p> <p>Non-current Asset - A resource controlled (but not necessarily owned) by an authority, from which economic benefits or service potential are expected to flow to the authority for more than 12 months</p> <p>Whole Life Costs - The costs of acquiring or creating an asset, operating it, maintaining it over its useful life and finally any costs of disposal (i.e. the total cost of ownership)</p>
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Corporate Asset Management Plan



2022 - 2027

Contents

Foreword

1. Introduction
2. Achievements to date
3. Asset Management Planning in Flintshire – the key facts
4. Asset Management Strategy – the bigger picture
5. Regional Strategic context
6. Local Strategic context
7. Medium Term Financial Strategy
8. Asset Management Planning - Where we want to be
9. The challenges we face in delivering

Foreword

The Council's assets are vital to the effective delivery of our priorities and services. The provision of the right asset in the right place at the right time is a fundamental core principle of effective asset management planning.

The unprecedented and sustained financial constraints, which all Local Authorities and other public sector partners continue to experience means that innovation and the efficient use of resources are at the forefront of our thinking to ensure effective and resilient service delivery.

Through our previous plans, we have made significant progress in collaboration and partnership working, rationalisation of the estate and have continued to protect front line services whilst maintaining service delivery to our customers whilst using fewer buildings, more efficiently.

This modernised document sets out an integrated plan for the future management of the Council's assets. As with previous versions, it interfaces with the Council's business planning process, facilitates effective management of our assets and capital resources and contributes to the Capital Strategy to ensure that the provision of resources and future investments are prioritised appropriately and effectively.

The revised plan also links to the Welsh Government Policy for Net zero carbon Public Sector by 2030 and with the Welsh Government's Future Generation Act. As a consequence the Council's Climate Change strategy was adopted by the Council in February 2022. As a Council, we have already invested in energy reduction measures and renewable energy schemes for a number of years, and by working collectively through the strategic goals we will make a positive contribution to tackling climate change and support Welsh Government's aim to be a net zero carbon nation by 2050.

We will continue to seek and utilise technological advancements as and when they become available and we will continue to work flexibly to complement the ever changing customer service landscape.

This evolving landscape provides both opportunities and challenges within our property and land estates requiring us to constantly review the basis for holding assets in the locations they are in, seeking new opportunities to partner with other public sector organisations and to increase the pace, scale, ambition and the way we deliver services both now and in the future.

Cllr Billy Mullins
Cabinet Member

1. Introduction

Key Aims and Principles

The Council's Asset Management Plan is a fundamental component in the effective delivery of our corporate priorities and strategies. The provision of the right asset in the right place at the right time will ensure the effective and efficient delivery of a comprehensive range of high quality public services.

The unprecedented financial constraints, which all Local Authorities and other public sector partners continue to experience means that we have to be ever more efficient in the use of our scarce resources. This involves developing a culture of innovation and co-operation. We have made significant progress already and we have demonstrated that a reduction in the running costs of our assets and the provision of enhanced customer service is achievable and we will continue to develop this approach. Ultimately our overarching aim is to use fewer buildings but use these far more efficiently and in partnership where possible. This document sets out an integrated plan for the future management of the Council's assets and its capital programme. It facilitates a seamless interface between business planning within the Council and the management of our assets and capital resources. This will ensure that the provision of resources and future investment are prioritised and targeted into areas of greatest need or where our assets will bring the greatest benefit to our communities and citizens. It is a key document which runs alongside the Council Plan and Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) and provides the framework for ensuring the effective and affordable management of our assets.

The document also ensures appropriate linkages to the Welsh Government's ambition for Net Zero carbon Public Sector by 2030, the Welsh Government's Future Generation Act and the Council's Climate Change strategy.

Key Aims

- Provide a clear context within which proposals for capital expenditure are evaluated to ensure all capital investment is targeted to deliver the Council's priorities as set out in the Council Plan.
- Sets out how the Council identifies and prioritises capital requirements and proposals arising from various strategies including Council Plan, Portfolio Business Plans, and other corporate strategies and how they will be managed within the limited capital resources available.
- To contribute to the Welsh Government's Net Zero Public Sector by 2030 and manage assets to adapt to the changing climate as well as fulfilling our duties to enhance biodiversity and resilience of ecosystems.
- Critically challenge our current estate, continue with the programme of asset rationalisation, ensuring that assets retained are effective, efficient and sustainable to deliver services.
- Maximise capital receipts, whilst balancing the need for land retention for our own carbon sequestration purposes.
- Identify and consider options available to fund capital expenditure that minimises the ongoing revenue implications of historic capital expenditure and of any new investments.
- Use partnerships, both public and private, more effectively to support our overall strategy.
- Build on our arrangements for managing capital projects including assessment of outcomes and achievement of value for money.

Principles

- The basic principle for managing our assets is to ensure that the right asset is in the right place to support Council priorities and enable efficient service delivery. In so doing we will identify and seek to dispose of surplus assets and those where retention provides no economic benefit to the Council.
- By understanding our future requirements and our current asset base we can map out a strategy for delivery. This will inform our capital programme for the medium term which is split into three sections; a reduced core programme of schemes that are regulatory / statutory in nature, a retained asset programme to improve or enhance the life of existing assets, and a larger investment programme in schemes linked to the Council's strategic priorities.
- To decarbonise assets, by designing and constructing new buildings to low carbon and investing in an infrastructure first strategy for existing buildings to reduce energy use.
- Set a capital programme split into three sections; a reduced core programme of schemes that are regulatory / statutory in nature, a retained asset programme to improve or enhance the life of existing assets, and a larger investment programme in schemes linked to the Council's strategic priorities.
- Schemes included in our investment programme will be subject to completion of a business case to include a thorough appraisal of options, sensitivity analysis and carbon reduction assessment, with the schemes that generate efficiencies for the MTFS being favoured.

- Whole life analysis and Net Present Value (NPV) calculations will be applied to major schemes in the investment programme linked through to the MTFS.
- With Capital and Revenue resources under pressure innovative and creative solutions to procuring capital assets will be sought.
- Assets surplus to requirements will be disposed of when appropriate in order to generate the maximum capital receipt for the Council.

2. Achievements to Date

We have achieved many of the objectives we set out in the previous asset management plan including:

- We have progressed our office rationalisation programme and reduced the occupied space in County Hall by 50% and have moved staff to our newly refurbished office in Ewloe. In doing so have made efficiencies in building costs, utilities, maintenance as well as reducing the rateable value.
- We have demolished phases 3 and 4 of county hall and propose to move forward with the redevelopment of the campus when market conditions dictate.
- Implemented the regeneration of Flint Town Centre by utilising our land and property to facilitate the development of a new Extra Care scheme and Medical Centre.
- The Council has significantly increased the provision of affordable housing. Our Housing investment programme has provided 149 new homes through the SHARP programme, 173 affordable homes, through a combination of SHARP and NEW Homes.
- We have progressed our programme of Community Asset Transfers. Since embarking on the programme five years ago we have transferred 17 assets which has resulted in revenue savings for the council.
- Flintshire County Council is committed to providing high quality services for adults with a Learning Disability. To support this commitment, the Council has delivered a new £4 million learning disability community hub (Hwb Cyfle) This flagship facility provides the highest quality environment for day care support and activities. The 'Hwb' specialises in social care services for vulnerable adults and aims to provide improved health and well-being for people supported, helping them to achieve outcomes by developing skills and supporting them to live more independently
- The Council is committed to reduction of CO2 emissions from energy use across our buildings. Energy reduction schemes across these assets over the last five years has included: installation of mounted solar photovoltaics (PV) on ten of our buildings including eight schools, LED lighting refurbishment in twenty four of our buildings, Air Conditioning upgrades, and installation of pool covers in two pavilions. We have also utilised land to develop four Solar Farms across the county with potential energy generation of 4mWh based on 85% generation. These measures have seen an estimated 1.3million kWh p/a reduction in energy use, saving approx. £377,425 and 311,376 KgCO2e per kWh saving.
- Extension to Residential Care Home, Marleyfield – Buckley - This capital investment project was developed through a joint Integrated Care Fund (ICF) budget arrangement with Betsi Cadwalder University Health Board (BCUHB) and has provided additional services, beds (increased from 32 to 64) and multidisciplinary support in a community setting. The facility provides permanent residential beds, as well as beds which prevent hospital admissions, expedites hospital discharges and allows appropriate assessment to reduce care packages to support people in the long term.
- Childcare Programme – The Welsh Government made capital grants available to councils for the purposes of childcare provision across Wales. The objectives of the programme is to provide 30 hours of government-funded early education and childcare for up to 48 weeks of the year to all three and four year olds of eligible working parents. The programme includes different capital funding packages to maximise investment in a number of school sites and is formed from the following funding streams; WG Childcare Grant, WG Welsh Medium Grant, 21st Century schools, Flying Start and Flintshire County Council's own capital funding. Twelve projects are being progressed within the programme, which will all be complete in 2022/23 financial year.

- The Council has been successful in securing grant funding for both revenue and capital projects. It has an ambitious programme valued at £85m for the sustainable communities programme (Band B). It has secured funding through the Small and Rural Schools Grant, Infant Class Size Grant, Welsh Medium and Childcare grants. Together with Council funded contributions forms the core of the capital investment strategy for schools.
- The Council currently has an estimated Repair & Maintenance (R&M) backlog of approximately £12m (1st April 2022) in the Schools portfolio, this is a substantial improvement from the £35m backlog reported back in 2010.

Sustainable Communities Programme (2019-2025)

The Welsh Government have rebranded the former 21st Century Schools Programme to Sustainable Communities Programme. The Council submitted its Strategic Outline Programme (SOP) to Welsh Government in 2017 and secured an in principle funding envelope of £85m. The programme is subject to both Council approval and Welsh Government Business case submission on an individual project basis and is intrinsically linked to the Council's Plan, MTFS and the Council's recently adopted Climate Change Strategy. However the Council also use other external and internal funding streams to optimise strategic investment in the schools portfolio, to date the following progress has been made:-

Connahs Quay High School – Phase 2

The £4.3m investment, followed on from Phase 1 in Band A and was completed in late 2019. The project provided new administration area, demolished the former administration block, new cladding to sports hall and main façade upgrades, improved car park and existing access road works, kitchen and dining alterations, provided general refurbishment/remodeling/new windows and also encompassed additional IT and accessibility compliance works.

Queensferry Campus Project

The Campus project was in excess of £11m was completed in spring 2022 and provided a remodelled and refurbished 3-11 primary school for up to 180 full time, removal of split site Pupil Referral Unit provision and new build Pupil Referral Unit (Plas Derwen) for up to 111 vulnerable learners from 4-16 who experience difficulty accessing mainstream education and require specialist intervention for their behavioural, social and emotional challenges. It also delivered provision of a new community hub (Ty Calon) with funding from the WG Community Learning Grant, Flying Start and a contribution from the Welsh Rugby Union.

Ysgol Glan Aber, Bagillt

The Council obtained a £1.3m grant for Ysgol Glan Aber, Bagillt under the WG infant class size fund, which was added to the £997k investment agreed in the Councils Capital programme. This enabled a larger £2.7m extension and refurbishment project to proceed and completed during Spring 2020 .

Ysgol Castell Alun, Hope

The £7.6m project to construct a new build three storey Art, Design Technology (DT) & classroom block was completed and occupied at the start of September 2021 as planned, external works for which refurbishment and resurfacing of existing All Weather Pitch followed.

Ysgol Glanrafon, Mold

The project at Ysgol Glanrafon was funded primarily via external Welsh Government funding through the Childcare and Welsh Medium Grants with the balance secured through the Council's Repair and Maintenance allocations, S106 contributions and a small amount of Salix finance through the Council's energy team to support energy efficiency measures. Construction of the £4.2m project commenced on site November 2020 and was completed in late spring 2022.

Ysgol Brynffordd

This is a council funded project for extension and remodelling of the existing school with an investment of circa £1.090m in the school which was completed earlier than anticipated in January 2022. The project has delivered an extension to the school hall, community room and storage, a new reception/nursery class, library and staffroom, and toilet provision. The project has also reconfigured existing space to form a new Head's room and Additional Learning Needs space.

Agricultural Estate

Following a review of our Agricultural Estate in 2011 we have continued to dispose of our farms and small holdings in line with our disposal policy as and when they become vacant and have in the past five years generated in excess of £7m in capital receipts from such disposals. However there are emerging national discussions in relation to the Agriculture Bill Wales, which may impact on our current strategy. Therefore, this situation will be monitored and if the Bill is brought forward, by Welsh Government, the Council will need to review its future policy and disposal considerations.

3. Asset Management Planning in Flintshire - The Key Facts

Property Asset Management

Flintshire County Council (FCC) manages a property portfolio of over 7,845, of which 7,315 are homes managed through its Housing team portfolio and 530 properties, managed through its Valuation and Estates team which consists of two distinct property types:

Operational Properties

Operational properties are those that are used to directly support Council service delivery such as schools, service centres and depots together with those operated by partner organisations such as AURA Leisure and Libraries. There are currently 161 operational property assets.

Non - Operational Properties

Non - Operational Properties are those used to enable the council to support local business space and economic development, indirectly support corporate/community planning objectives and provide the council with a revenue stream.

The Council is committed to managing property assets efficiently and effectively to support the delivery of services and priorities. Property Maintenance Services compile and monitor the following indicators to assist in the management of the property portfolio.

A rolling programme of maintenance has been produced based on initial condition surveys which will be reviewed cyclically not less than every 5 years.

Buildings are categorised according to their condition with priority levels in accordance with the WG performance indicators.

Condition Categories

A	B	C	D
Good	Satisfactory	Poor	Very Poor

Priority Categories

Priority 1	Priority 2	Priority 3
Urgent – Prevent Closure	Essential – Work required in 2 years	Desirable – work required in 5 years

Operational Property

Property Use/Type	Sites	Condition				Priority 1 Urgent	Priority 2 Essential	Priority 3 Desirable	Total Priority 1 - 3
		A	B	C	D				
Behavior Unit	3	2	1	0	0	£1,259	£4,450	£0	£5,709
Community Centre / Youth Centre	16	0	11	5	0	£65,355	£342,878	£291,456	£699,689
Libraries (Partnership)	6	0	3	3	0	£65,665	£103,447	£82,185	£251,297
Sports Pavilions	7	0	6	1	0	£0	£70,722	£15,858	£86,580
Leisure Centres & Swimming Baths (Partnership)	4	0	4	0	0	£0	£802,508	£533,559	£1,336,067
Primary Schools	65	4	54	7	0	£119,154	£3,580,657	£4,187,722	£7,887,533
Secondary Schools	11	1	8	2	0	£122,650	£1,498,246	£1,506,649	£3,127,545
Special (Other) Facilities	5	4	1	0	0	£5,900	£4,450	£202,217	£212,567
Offices and Admin Buildings	6	0	6	0	0	£17,691	£544,604	£5,578,260	£6,140,555
Depots	1	0	1	0	0	£0	£10,503	£0	£10,503
Theatres	1	0	0	1	0	£328,900	£3,596,110	£4,635,661	£8,560,671
Residential Care Homes	3	2	1	0	0	£16,003	£9,085	£113,300	£138,388
Adult Learning Centre	7	2	5	0	0	£16,695	£278,249	£271,823	£566,767
Environment	8	0	5	3	0	£70,928	£328,635	£306,309	£705,872
Farms	16	6	9	1	0	£3,948	£300,772	£173,539	£478,259
Property Holdings	2	0	1	1	0	£0	£111,959	£22,659	£134,618
Total	161	21	116	24	0	£834,148	£11,587,275	£17,921,197	£30,342,620

Summary Asset Data (PI CAM Status Report) as at 01 Apr 2022

Operational Property

Summary Asset Data (CAM Status Report) as at May 2022 The Council has a diverse range of operational assets as listed in the table below:

Property Type	Number
Schools	81
Pupil Referral Unit	1
Caretakers Houses	3
Misc Property	31
Libraries	6
Youth Centre	9
Community Centres	13
Community Centres - Other	1
Swimming Baths	3
Work Opp Centre	1

Day Centres	2
Residential Homes	3
Public Conveniences	6
Cemeteries	13
Civic Amenity Sites	7
Depot	1
Council Offices	9
Misc Operational	2
Children's Residential Homes	3
Markets	1
Educational Establishments	8
Leisure Sports Centre	7
Sports Grounds/Club	19
Parks and Open Space	5
Playing Fields /Recreational land	72
Play Areas	159
Amenity Space	46
Allotments	13
Ancient Monuments	11
Bowling Greens/Clubs	23

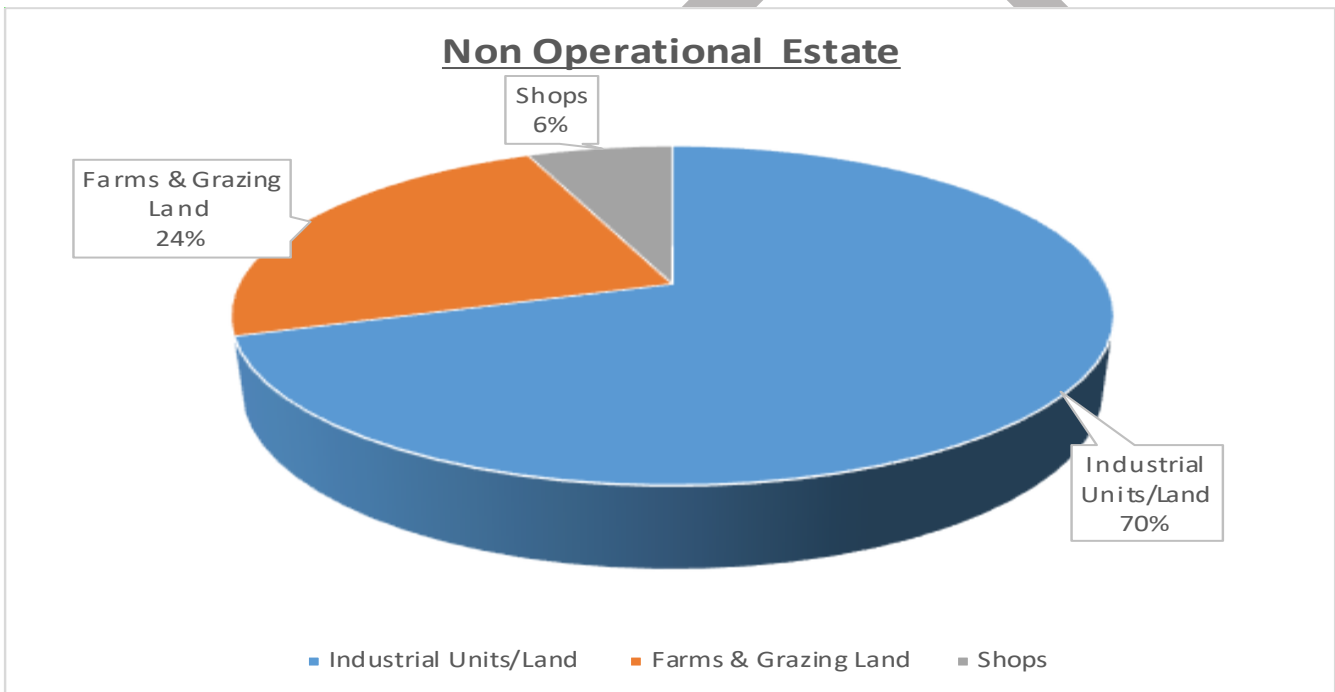
With regard to our schools the Council has an up to date Asset Management system and data from the system which is used as a tool to assist in determining priorities for capital investment in the schools network.

Condition Surveys are undertaken through a framework agreement with the private sector and condition surveys are undertaken by RICS qualified surveyors on a rolling five year cycle. Welsh Government have recently introduced standardised methodology, Flintshire will introduce this into its rolling cycle.

All asset information is shared and verified with individual schools. In the future, the aspiration is that this will be through a Cloud based Asset Management System, when the existing system is modernised.

Non-operational Estate

The Council also holds a significant commercial portfolio as detailed below.



These non-operational properties currently provide an annual income of circa £1.5 million. We will be undertaking a detailed review of our industrial portfolio, which will assist in determining the most economically beneficial strategy for each of the estates. This review will be completed in the 2023/2024 financial year.

Capital Receipts

The Council seeks to dispose of surplus assets to generate capital receipts. Over the last four years we have sold assets totaling almost £9 million. In addition, we have used our Council land to invest and develop new social and affordable housing delivered through the SHARP programme.

2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
(2,099,329.91)	(2,921,427.20)	(2,296,013.34)	(1,618,000.00)	(1,292,616.00)	(894,000.00)

4. Assets Strategy - The Bigger Picture

National strategic context

The Welsh Government has set out its programme of well-being objectives which are set out in the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.

In 2019, the Welsh Government declared a Climate Emergency in Wales, setting plans for the public sector to be carbon neutral by 2030. 'Prosperity for All: A Low Carbon Wales' sets out the Welsh Government's approach to cutting carbon emissions from this sector. The Climate Change (Wales) Regulations 2021 proposes further ambitious climate targets for Wales becoming a net zero nation by 2050. In terms of biodiversity, the Council continues to comply with its Section 6 duty of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016, by maintaining and enhancing biodiversity and promoting the resilience of ecosystems. This also links with the Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 maximising contributions to the Well-being goals. Other national policies and plans include the National Nature Recovery Action Plan, Action Plan for Pollinators and Climate and Nature emergency declarations. These Regulations and Acts will need to be considered along with other factors when we review and consider land use.

From an asset management perspective the Welsh Government has established Ystydau Cymru (formerly National Assets Working Group) which encourages excellence in active management of the Welsh public sector estate by the promotion and facilitation of strategic opportunities across geographical and organisational boundaries.

The impact of Brexit and the pandemic has brought significant challenges to the our investment programme, with labour, supply chain issues and unprecedented inflationary issues in construction costs. However, despite these challenges the Council continues to deliver its planned investment plans.

Financial Context

The ongoing and challenging financial environment continues to create issues for the Council. The revenue budget remains under significant pressure and in the context of the Capital programme, the ability to generate capital receipts through the disposal of Council land and property assets is constrained as opportunity to dispose of its own land reduces. This scenario creates issues for the delivery of any programme and requires a case by case review of the projects contained in the programme to determine the availability of capital resources or whether other funding mechanisms should be actively pursued, such as Prudential Borrowing.

5. Regional Strategic Context

Corporate Joint Committees

The Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 created the framework for a consistent mechanism for regional collaboration between local government, namely Corporate Joint Committee's (CJC's) . The Act provides for the establishment of CJs through Regulations.

Regulations creating four CJs in Wales ("the Establishment Regulations") were made on 17 March 2021 and CJs were established on 1 April 2021, based on the geographical areas requested by local government and reflecting existing regional collaborative arrangements.

Each region in Wales now has a CJC, The North Wales Corporate Joint Committee is made up of the following LA's; Anglesey, Gwynedd, Conwy, Denbighshire, Flintshire & Wrexham. The CJS is a mechanism for doing things differently with a regional focus in the designated areas of Transport, Strategic Planning and Economy. It offers opportunities to streamline existing collaboration arrangements, such as those under Growth deals.

The model also enables the separate regional arrangements that had been proposed for Strategic Development Planning and Regional Transport Planning to be brought under a single model - aligning economic development, transport, and land use planning approaches to develop successful regional economies and encourage local growth.

Ambition North Wales and the North Wales Economic Ambition Board

The Economic Ambition Board was established by local authority partners as a joint committee in 2019 and is the decision-making body for the North Wales Growth Deal, as well as holding responsibility for leading on regional economic collaboration. In November 2021 a new brand called Ambition North Wales was launched to represent the board's work.

The Final Deal is the contract between the UK Government, Welsh Government and the Economic Ambition Board for the delivery of the £1bn Growth Deal and was secured on the basis of a Portfolio Business Case and five Programme Business Cases securing the total investment of £240m (£120m by UK Government and £120m by Welsh Government).

Having secured the Final Deal, the partners agreed to enter into a second Governance Agreement which supports the partnership through the implementation phase of the Growth Deal's projects and further development of the Growth Vision for North Wales.

Information about progress on all of the Growth Deal's projects can be found [here](#)

Regional Capital Projects

Joint Archive Facility, Flintshire and Denbighshire Councils:

This proposed scheme recognises and responds to the need and demand of the two local authorities archive services. Both services occupy old buildings, unfit for purpose. They lack suitable public spaces and appropriate storage, are too full to accept new collections and are listed buildings lacking scope for adaptation, requiring expensive maintenance. The proposal is to construct a new building on the County Hall campus, creating a cultural hub, to house both the physical archives and the new service operations.

6. Local strategic context

Council's Climate Change Strategy 2022- 2030

The Climate Change strategy was adopted by Council in February 2022. The strategy sets the commitment to become a Net Zero Carbon Council by 2030. To achieve this, the Council must reduce the amount of carbon it emits and increase the amount of carbon it absorbs (sequesters). Our assets play a major contribution to this due to the carbon emissions from energy we use to heat and power our buildings, and the opportunities to utilise land for both renewable energy and planting to offset the carbon emissions we can not remove. The effects of climate change are internationally recognised, and therefore we also need to plan our assets for the changing climate – utilising natural heating and cooling, place based design of residential and town centres, and access for all to green spaces. The strategy looks to further manage and improve land for biodiversity net gain while incorporating natural flood risk mitigation.

The Climate Change strategy seeks to:

- Reduce the amount of carbon being emitted from its buildings through electricity, gas, oil, LPG, biomass and water. This can be achieved by improving the energy efficiency of our current buildings and converting buildings to low carbon heat solutions and rainwater harvesting. We can design and construct all new buildings to low carbon in operation standard while adapting to future climates, and ensure embodied carbon is also low to minimise impact on supply chain. Rationalisation of underused buildings can also support this.
- Increase the amount of energy that can be generated through renewable technologies both within its building and land assets with preference to schemes where our buildings can benefit from the generated energy.
- Increase carbon sequestration from land the Council owns and operates through additional planting to existing land and acquisition of new sites where necessary. This can be achieved by reviewing the decision making process when land is being rationalised to the benefit of larger scale planting schemes, flood risk management and biodiversity net gain.

Flintshire Local Development Plan (LDP) 2015-2030

The Council published its Deposit LDP for consultation in the autumn of 2019 and following consideration of the comments the plan remained unchanged and was submitted for Public Examination by the Council in October 2020. The 20 Examination hearing sessions took place between April and May 2021 with two further specific follow up sessions in September and November 2021 to deal with a large site at Warren Hall Broughton, and the issue of Phosphates. A delay has been caused to the LDP by the new issue of the need to reduce the levels phosphates from new development entering special Area of Conservation protected rivers which in Flintshire's case is the River Dee, via its tributary the River Alyn. The Council resolved these Matters with the Inspector by February 2022 but then had to await the Local Government Elections before progressing to the final stage of the Plan.

The Council published final changes to the LDP known as Matters Arising Changes (MACs) resulting from the Examination process, for public consultation between the 17th June and 29th July 2022. The responses received will be sent to the Inspector for her consideration during August 2022. Following this it is anticipated that the Council will receive the inspector's report on the Examination in September 2022 and it then has 8 weeks within which to consider the report and adopt the plan. The Inspector's report is binding on the Council. The plan should therefore finally be adopted by the end of October 2022 and will then replace the UDP and set the context for how and where development takes place, and form the basis of decisions at Planning Committee.

Council Plan (2023 – 2028)

Which is currently being developed, in summary, will set out the Council's priorities for the duration of the plan and highlight what we aim to achieve. As with previous plans, it will use key themes with specific objectives and actions where we aim to make an impact.

Flintshire Housing Strategy & Action Plan (2019 -2024)

Our Housing Strategy sets out how we intend to achieve this through working collaboratively with our strategic partners in an intelligent and innovative way to deliver our ambition. The Strategy details our key priorities and actions for delivery going forward as well as acknowledging our progress to date.

Schools Modernisation Strategy

The Council has a responsibility to review and modernise all school provision, to ensure that we are providing the best possible opportunities for learners, so that they can achieve their full potential.

Therefore, we need to review our school provision to:

- ensure our education provision is both high quality and sustainable;
- improve the quality of school buildings and facilities; and
- provide the right number of school places, of the right type, in the right locations.

Key Drivers for Schools Modernisation:-

- Educational improvement
- Resilient School Leadership
- Suitable Buildings
- Unfilled places
- Diminishing Resources

Digital Strategy

Is an ambitious plan which sets out how we will improve and simplify our services. Its not just about making more services available online, it about changing the way we deliver our services to provide the best experiences for everyone

People and Organisational Development Strategy (2022-2025)

Whilst, the Asset Management Plan, is a document which really relates to Land and buildings, we should reference the People and Organisational Development Strategy, as our employees are our single biggest asset (and cost) and without whom we are unable to deliver services to communities. The Council flexible and agile work policies directly impact areas like the council's accommodation strategy, also promoting the Council as a great place to work and assisting in both recruitment and retention of staff.

Urban Tree and Woodland Plan

The Urban Tree and Woodland Plan sets a target of achieving an urban canopy cover of 18% by 2033 from the current 14.5% (2013), the seventh lowest in Wales. Trees are emblematic of the natural world because of the critical role they play in mitigating climate change, habitat creation and increasing biodiversity. From a human perspective it is widely accepted that trees have a positive effect on our mental and physical health, particularly in urban areas. Actions in the Section 6 Biodiversity Plan directly support targets within the Urban Tree and Woodland Plan. **Section 6 Biodiversity Plan** "[Supporting Nature in Flintshire](#)" is Flintshire County Council's second biodiversity duty plan which outlines how, as an organisation, we plan to address our biodiversity duty under the Environment (Wales) Act 2016. All major threats to nature including climate change, over-exploitation, habitat loss, and invasive species, can be addressed by living more sustainably which is at the heart of the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act. This is why all actions within the Plan are in line with the sustainable development principles also known as the "5 ways of working" outlined in the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act. This plan impacts on how we consider land use within the Council.

Economic Development Strategy

An Economic Development Strategy is currently being developed which supports Business Sector Growth and Regeneration, it is hoped that this will be complete by March 2023.

Highways Asset Management Plan

The Council's strategy for the management and maintenance of the highway asset is based on the "Well-Managed Highway Infrastructure" code of practice, which was published by the UK Roads Liaison Group (UKRLG) in October 2016, which was commissioned by the Department for Transport (DfT).

Highway assets that are considered in this process include carriageways, footways, structures, street lighting, traffic management systems and road-markings. The focus is primarily on those elements that are considered to be of high value or risk. These principles are followed as part of the Highway Asset Management Plan (HAMP) and monthly meetings are held to agree strategies for investment in highway asset groups, and ensure improved highway asset management and best value for highways investment is achieved.

Portfolio Business Plans

Chief Officers as part of business planning at Portfolio level will include medium term capital and asset requirements – this will provide a clear link mapping out and supporting strategic thinking and identifying specific areas where there will be capital requirements or asset related issues to consider. Including capital and asset implications in Portfolio business plans will involve services giving much earlier consideration to their requirements which can then be considered on a Council wide priority basis, clearly linked to portfolio business plans, the Council Plan and other strategic plans over a medium term time frame.

Cross Portfolio Working

A Capital planning group is in place and meets regularly, it is made up of representatives from Council portfolios, this ensures an appropriate strategic corporate overview and also enables sharing of information which maximises the efficiency of strategic investment to both individual projects and areas.

Capital Programme

There is a great deal of overlap between asset planning and capital planning, at both the strategic and the operational level. Capital planning is about capital investment or expenditure, as distinct from revenue expenditure or running costs. Capital expenditure can be defined as expenditure on assets that will provide a benefit to the organisation beyond the current financial year. This includes expenditure on:

- purchase of new assets
- creation of new assets
- enhancing and/or extending the useful life of existing assets.

The way in which assets are managed on a day-to-day basis can have significant implications for the capital programme. Inadequate levels of routine maintenance and capital investment can increase the revenue cost of reactive maintenance which is expensive and the capital expenditure that is required in the long run. A good example of this is highways maintenance, where cutting capital budgets tends to result in increased revenue expenditure on filling potholes. Inadequate levels of routine maintenance and capital investment also reduce the value of capital receipts that can be achieved from the disposal of assets. Asset Management Plan's should therefore be based on an integrated approach to the day-to-day management of assets and the longer term plans for those assets based on the asset strategy. An asset may be in good condition, but no longer suited to the purpose for which it exists. For example, a school might be in good condition, but it may have multiple classrooms of unsuitable size and shape and or accommodation deficits when compared to the relevant school building bulletin guidance, making it an unsuitable environment for 21st century education provision.

7. Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS)

The MTFS forecasts funding levels and resource requirements over the medium term, identifies the gap between the two, and enables specific actions to be identified to balance the budget and manage resources.

Any asset investment plan that results in a capital project will have consequences for the revenue budget, both positive and negative. These may be savings to running costs, schemes that generate income or resultant revenue costs of servicing any borrowing associated with the scheme. It is therefore essential that the capital and revenue budget cycles are aligned to ensure that these revenue implications are properly costed and fed into the MTFS.

Capital and Assets Programme Board

The Capital and Assets Programme Board comprises a group of senior officers from each Chief Officer portfolio who have an interest, proactive approach and enthusiasm around the development and management of work streams relating to the councils capital programme and wider asset base. The Board will manage and oversee the following activities:-

- Capital Receipt Planning (manage the delivery of capital receipts to maximise resources for the capital programme);
- Capital programme forward planning (to provide a forward look and anticipate likely work items for future capital programmes and to understand the potential revenue implications)
- Principal capital programme management (to ensure key principal programme items run to plan and deliver the Councils Core Programme and other agreed programmes of work – Portfolio Business Planning and Investment Plans);
- Consider reports to Cabinet, Council, or Scrutiny Committees regarding capital programme delivery;
- Capital and Asset Management Strategies (to develop and maintain the strategy ensuring strategic linkage into the MTFS);
- Public sector shared asset planning (develop partnership solutions to strategic asset delivery through shared resources);
- Estate depreciation planning and management (effective management of assets, retention, disposal strategies and plans)
- Section 106 planning agreement strategy and management and any other contributions to capital schemes
- Regeneration and market stimulation (by considering proposals for wider regeneration, linkages to SHARP and the contribution the Councils land and property makes to this activity acting as a catalyst or lever).
- Creative capital funding solutions (regularly explore opportunities for innovative funding solutions which reduce the burden of interest charges and revenue impact);
- Prepare reports for consideration relating to land disposals, acquisitions and lettings;
- Contribute proactively to the delivery of the Councils Community Asset Transfer strategy and where applicable Alternative Delivery Model strategies

8. Asset Management Planning in Flintshire - Where we want to be

The aim of our long-term corporate Asset Strategy is to move towards an optimal portfolio of assets and to maximise income. To achieve an optimal portfolio of assets we have considered what assets we need to deliver the Council's corporate objectives efficiently. This Asset Strategy directly relates to the Council's purposes: the services we are responsible for providing and the statutory functions we are responsible for fulfilling. It links the assets we require in order to provide services and fulfil our functions.

The optimal portfolio is not simply the assets that the Council would ideally like to have if resources were unlimited, but those assets that best enable corporate objectives to be delivered, taking into account overall value for money and the needs of our local communities.

This high level strategic document makes reference to the more detailed asset management plans developed within portfolios for example; Climate Change Strategy, Schools modernisation, Highways Asset Management Plan, Housing Business Plan, Corporate Property, Industrial Estate, Agricultural Estate and the Digital Strategy.

At a high level for the varying categories of assets the strategy includes our plans for:

- Low carbon in operation and increased carbon sequestration across our assets
- purchasing and constructing new assets to low carbon or net zero carbon standards and as a vehicle to increase carbon sequestration and reduce our energy costs.
- investing in and replacing existing assets.
- transferring assets to other organisations. I.e. Community Asset Transfers.
- disposing of assets that are surplus to requirements.
- Sets out the long term modifications required to the Council's portfolio of assets to deliver efficient services in the future.
- Links with various other Council strategies including the Council Plan, Portfolio Business Plans and other corporate strategies to identify changes required to the Council's portfolio of assets.
- In conjunction with the Capital Strategy manage the levels of investment required within the limited capital resources available.
- Determine what assets are required for effective service delivery.
- Seek to maximise opportunities to generate sustainable income levels, through rent for example, whilst reducing the Council's liabilities.
- Critically challenge our current estate, continue with the programme of asset rationalisation, ensuring that assets retained are effective, efficient and sustainable to deliver services.

Key Aims

Following consultation with service areas and consideration of requirements within the context of the capital strategy, the following potential projects have been identified.

These schemes contribute directly to identified priorities within the Council Plan (2023- 2028)

Local Development Plan (LDP)

The Flintshire Local Development Plan (2015-2030) is approaching the end of the Examination process following the consultation on Matters Arising Changes. It is anticipated subject to the Inspector in issuing the binding Report, the Plan can be adopted in Autumn 2022.

The LDP provides a total of 124.97 hectares of employment land and potentially some 8-10,000 jobs. It makes provision for 7870 new dwellings in order to deliver the housing requirement of 6,950 dwellings, through a built-in flexibility allowance. In the first 5 years of the Plan period a total of 2,609 dwellings have already been completed, and the Plan is on track in terms of housing delivery. The remaining housing will be delivered through a mix of housing commitments (sites with planning permission), allowances for unidentified small site and large site windfalls, the strategic mixed use allocation at Northern Gateway and a further 11 non-strategic housing allocations. Both the Northern Gateway and the 11 non-strategic sites have developer interest ensuring that they are capable of being delivered within the Plan period in accordance with the Plans housing trajectory. The Plan also has a second strategic allocation at Warren Hall Broughton, which seeks to deliver a high quality B1 and B2 business park with hotel.

The Plan's provision for growth is accompanied by a framework of policies which seeks to ensure appropriate and necessary infrastructure improvements are secured alongside new development. Policies also seek to protect the natural environment and bring about improvements, particularly through the provision of green infrastructure in connection with new housing development.

Sustainable Communities for Learning (formerly the WG 21st Century Schools investment programme)

The current iteration of Sustainable Communities for Learning programme (Band B) is due to end by 2024/25. As each of the remaining schemes is proposed for approval, a decision will need to be made taking into account its affordability in the context of the position on the MTFS. The Flintshire funding element of the Sustainable Communities for Learning will need to be funded from Prudential Borrowing.

Welsh Government had approved the Council's submission of its Strategic Outline Programme (SOP) for the Sustainable Communities for Learning programme (Band B) in principle in 2017, in doing so agreed a funding envelope. The programme is currently funded with an agreed WG/council intervention rate. The WG intervention rate for the Sustainable Communities for Learning programme is currently as follows:

- Community schools WG 65%/Council 35%
- ALN/PRU 75%/Council 25%
- Voluntary Aided Schools WG 85%/15% Governors and finally
- Mutual Investment Model (MIM) a revenue based, lifecycled product, WG 81%/Council 19%.

Currently the Council is progressing with the following school investment projects:-

Ysgol Croes Atti, Glannau Dyfrdwy site - This proposed project is funded through the Welsh Government Childcare Grant and Welsh Government 21st Century school investment programme. It forms part of an extended work package which will see an investment of circa £1.1m in the Glannau Dyfrdwy site, improving provision for Welsh medium education in the Shotton area - an important strand of the Council's Welsh in Education Strategy. The construction commenced on site in January 2022 with the anticipated completion in Autumn 2022.

Ysgol Croes Atti, Flint - This proposed project replaces the existing school on a new site in Flint. The Project will cater for 240 pupils, will include early years provision and wraparound. The Project will be constructed to Net Zero Carbon and will also be Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) rated A and Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method (BREEAM) excellent. This will be the Council's first new build Welsh Medium School provision.

Buckley/Mynydd Isa Area - The Council have successfully submitted an expression of interest for additional Welsh Government Welsh Medium (WM) Capital and Revenue funding. The submission highlighted the need for new Welsh Medium start up provision within Buckley/Mynydd Isa area, as identified within the Council's Welsh Education Strategic Plan (WESP). This will now be progressed accordingly.

Mynydd Isa – 3-16 Campus, Mynydd Isa - The proposed project replaces Mynydd Isa Argoed High School and Mynydd Isa C.P. which is the last remaining primary provision operating on splits sites (separate infants and junior provision). This is Wales's first Mutual Investment Model (MIM) and is also a Welsh Government pathfinder project. The Project will be the Council's first Net Zero Carbon (NZC) school in both construction and in operation. The new campus will also be lifecycled for a 25 year period, again a Council and Wales first. It is anticipated that the new campus will be operational by September 2024.

Drury C.P. - The proposed project removes mobile classrooms and deals with suitability issues by extending and modernising the existing school to cater for an increased capacity of 180 pupils.

Penyffordd C.P. - A new primary school was constructed to replace the former infant and junior school with the school taking occupation of the new facility in September 2019. The original planning approval for the new school at Penyffordd included a planned two classroom extension which would increase the capacity of the school to 375 pupils. This project is now being brought forward due to local demand and is funded in the main from a combination of Section 106 developer contributions to education and topped up by the Council's own capital programme.

Buckley Elfed - This investment project has been identified in the Sustainable Communities for Learning Strategic Outline Programme to Welsh Government and also in the Council's MTFS and will progress should funding be available.

Other projects included in the Sustainable Communities for learning included in the Council's SOP (Band B) to Welsh Government are Hawarden High school, Flint High School and Mold Alun High School. However, information suggests that the Welsh Government are moving away from prescriptive timing on it's onward investment programme as Local Authorities and Further Education Institutes in Wales have made differing progress in their schools and college investment programmes. Instead Local Authorities and Further Education Institutes in Wales will be asked to bring forward their five year investment programmes based on local timing and funding. The intervention rates for the WG onward investment programme is currently unknown.

High level Strategic feasibility studies have been undertaken on masterplanning the current primary and secondary mainstream and Additional Learning Needs (ALN) sites in Flint, encompassing, Flint High School, Ysgol Maes Hyfryd, Flint Gwynedd and Ysgol Pen Coch. This study also considers, the changing ALN demographics, possible integration of Moderate Learning Difficulty (MLD) unit and accommodation suitability and condition issues identified with the schools as part of a site wide investment strategy.

Social Services Investment Programme

The care sector in Flintshire is working within an increasingly challenging environment as a result of a range of factors, including the complexity of need, an ageing population, rising costs, increasing expectations, regulation and difficulties with recruitment and retention of high quality staff. As a result of these pressures there is limited resilience and Flintshire is particularly challenged with only a small number of independent providers who are part of a reducing and fragile market. As a Council we are taking a positive approach to rebalancing the care home provision, creating resilience, taking a lead as a local authority to develop care homes that value older people and provide good quality support that places the Council in a good position for the future.

Croes Atti, Flint Residential Care Home - A proposed project which replaces and extends care provision in Flint to meet the needs of the increasing client base and the regulatory standards for care provision is included in the Council's capital investment programme. The proposed new facility will be located on the former the old cottage hospital site, located in Flint and is in the early stages of design development.

Llys Gwenffrwd, Holywell Care Home Review - The Holywell locality has the fewest number of care home placements available and is not fit for purpose, therefore would benefit from a new build facility on a more accessible site - this will require further consideration. As a very popular care home the bed placement position remains a challenge for the health and social care economy. It is therefore an aspiration that a capital investment project for modernisation of the care home provision in the Holywell area forms part of the Council capital programme in the future.

Ty Nyth Children's Assessment Centre - This is a Flintshire and Wrexham collaborative project that is redeveloping the purchased Ty Nyth property, and other buildings on the site in Mold. This will provide a new bespoke children's accommodation and assessment centre for north east Wales. The main Ty Nyth building will provide options for self-contained short term supported accommodation, emergency beds for young persons at risk to avoid inappropriate hospital admissions to the paediatric ward, or for short term parent and child assessment placements. There is potential to have a separate registered provision in the semi-detached properties which could be used as long term placements and/or for parent and child assessment provision. Welsh Government Integration Care Funding (ICF Capital) of £1.751m has been secured by Flintshire and Wrexhams Council's to deliver the project.

Maes Gwern, Mold - This proposed capital development will provide a centrally located integrated service hub in Mold, Flintshire to provide sustainable and high quality day services for people with learning disabilities. This will enable the relocation of an existing day services base at Tri Ffordd in Bretton to a new build bespoke hub. Social Services will work closely with service delivery partner Hft to design and develop the new hub. BCUHB Health colleagues will support the provision of integrated social care and health services. There are also plans for Mental Health Services team to support the use of volunteers in day service provision.

Levelling Up Fund

The UK Government Levelling Up Fund Round Two opened in May 2022. In line with the bid strategy agreed at Cabinet in January 2022, the Council submitted a bid on behalf of each parliamentary constituency as follows:

Delyn - A bid for £14.64m has been submitted to the UK Government for the development of new industrial units at Greenfield Business Park, the demolition of two derelict units, and the refurbishment of one unit..

Alyn and Deeside - A bid for £10.52m has been submitted to UK Government which includes the following proposals:-

1. the redevelopment of Connah's Quay Docks;
2. construction of a new centre for the Sea Cadets at Connah's Quay Docks;
3. improving sports and community facilities at the former Corus Social Club site Shotton; and
4. renovating the Clocktower in Sealand.

In addition, Transport for Wales has submitted a strategic transport bid on behalf of the Council and the wider region for improvements on the Wrexham to Bidston railway line. The bid includes goods siding improvements to facilitate an increased service frequency on the line for passenger trains and a new station to serve Deeside Industrial Park.

The Shared Prosperity Fund

The Shared Prosperity Fund will deliver £2.5bn of investment until March 2025 across the UK. The aim of the programme is "to build pride in place and increase life chances". UK Government have allocated £126m to North Wales to deliver the programme between 2022/2023 and 2024/2025, with £10.8m allocated to Flintshire for the core programme which can cover both revenue and capital costs.

The programme is to be managed by local government across the UK. Funding is allocated to local government and no competitive bids are expected. A regional Investment Strategy setting out the approach to delivering the programme was required order to release the funding and was submitted in early August with approval estimated for October 2022.

The programme will be managed regionally, in line with UK Government expectations, but with local authorities retaining responsibility for approving funding from their allocations. Local government is expected, in developing the programme, to engage stakeholders including from the third sector and business community and to provide opportunities for organisations to secure resources from the programme to deliver against its priorities. The expectation is that most of the programme funding will be allocated through open calls for project proposals and a transparent selection process. However, due to the timescale of the programme it is expected that the bulk of the funding available in 2022/23 will be allocated by the Council through direct award.

Further work is now required to develop the regional and local governance for the programme and the criteria and processes by which projects will be selected.

County Hall Campus

The requirement to take forward the redevelopment of the site so to address the future needs of the Council and other public sector partners; to provide a range of options and an integrated approach around the Courts, Theatr Clwyd and joint Archive service together with a wider site development.

Industrial Estates

The council has a wide ranging portfolio of industrial units and land which produces a rental income of circa £1.5 million per year. However, the built estate is ageing and has received little investment. To this end, a review programme has commenced which will look at the future viability of each estate.

The initial review has focused on the council holdings in Greenfield and Flint within the context of potential access to the Levelling Up Fund.

Thereafter, there is a need to continue reviews, on a site by site basis to enable a detailed strategy which considers each sites viability, whether to invest or dispose and or seek an alternative use.

Highways Asset Management Plan

The core Capital Programme includes £1m per annum for the HAMP. In 2021/22, as in previous years, this has been supplemented by additional WG grant. It has been estimated that the investment required to maintain current network performance is £3.2m per annum, an increase of £2.2m per annum. The Council received confirmation from WG that the Public Highways Refurbishment Grant will not continue from the 2022/23 financial year onwards. The Council received confirmation of additional General Capital Grant in February 2022, of which a proportion of this has been allocated to replace the loss of grant income for 2022/23.

Digital Strategy

Our Digital Strategy champions the use of digital technologies in order to deliver better, simpler, and more cost effective services to residents, businesses and visitors. The programme contains eight main themes and a planned programme of projects which are prioritised and reported against at corporate management meetings and via the Digital Strategy Board.

One of the themes is Digital Delivery and its aim is to *“deliver the secure, reliable, resilient and cost effective digital infrastructure and systems required to underpin delivery of the other workstreams and facilitate organisational change”*. The capital programme is used to provide this digital infrastructure used to facilitate the delivery of IT systems. It also funds the technologies and devices required to access those business systems whether they are hosted at Flintshire or in the Cloud.

Theatr Clwyd Redevelopment

The Theatr Clwyd building is at the end of its life and needs updating to ensure it is safe for public and employment use. Funding from the Arts Council of Wales has been used to complete a feasibility study into the potential for future capital development.

The outcome of the feasibility study indicated that the main two theatres work extremely well and are the right size for audiences, however, the infrastructure supporting the building is in need of replacement and without this the Theatr is not sustainable. The scope of the project has been reduced in line with agreed key business plan objectives and will deliver the following:-

- The complete strip-out and refurbishment of the existing buildings and the new build construction of a timber foyer extension and carpentry workshop.
- The much needed refurbishment of Theatr Clwyd will revitalise the theatre for the next generation. It will provide a new home for the local community and prevent the much loved building from possible closure.
- A new timber extension at the front of the building provides a new, welcoming foyer space at three floors and contains a new double height restaurant, bar and café, as well as a meeting room and Green Room. Largely glazed, the foyer provides improved views out over the landscape of the surrounding hills, and is shaded by a large timber canopy to the south side.
- Two new rehearsal rooms are provided, including a full height room that can take a rehearsal for the Anthony Hopkins Theatre stage, the Clwyd Room is refurbished with the floor raised to all one level, and a series of designated flexible rooms for community groups are created for creative engagement, kids play and Health and Wellbeing. A sensory garden and kids play area are provided on the east elevation.
- Auditoriums are improved technically, with minor improvements to seating planning and control rooms.
- Backstage areas are refurbished and internal layouts rearranged where necessary to meet requirements of different departments. A new workshop extension at the back of the site provides a facility that is currently offsite, allowing all departments to be located at the theatre. A viewing gallery is created to allow the public to view backstage facilities.
- Accessibility will be improved throughout, with level access to all front of house areas, 5 new passenger lifts, accessible toilets throughout the building and showers in back of house areas, and new wheelchair positions in auditoriums.
- The thermal envelope of the building will be improved, and renewable energy sources including PV panels and air source heat pumps utilised to improve energy consumption. All services and theatre equipment are replaced throughout the building.

The Council will receive significant levels of external funding for the construction stage of the scheme, with £22m awarded from WG, £5m from the Arts Council of Wales (ACW) and £5m from Theatr Clwyd. Without this significant investment the Theatre building is unsustainable

Leisure Centres

Deeside Leisure Centre (DLC) is 50 years old and reaching the end of its economic useful life. It is the largest sports facility in the County at 15,000m² and is of strategic importance regionally and locally in terms of sports participation and health and wellbeing. It is an ageing building occupying too large a footprint with inefficient energy systems. The building is not sustainable beyond the medium term.

The Council, and its strategic partner Aura, has undertaken a feasibility study and business case of options for the leisure centre going forward, and will review the impact this may have on the Capital Programme and any future potential revenue savings.

SHARP Programme

The Council have aligned with the Welsh Procurement Alliance for the next phases of our development programme in order to secure even greater impact of our investment in new social housing for training and jobs in Wales through the supply chains and direct and indirect contractors.

The Welsh Government (WG) have embarked upon an ambitious programme of social housing development for the next five years. The aim is to build 20,000 new social rented homes across Wales to zero carbon emissions standards. A revised Welsh Development Quality Requirements (WDQR) standard has been adopted from October 2021. A new Social Housing Grant (SHG) has been implemented with variable grant rates dependent on scheme viability. The funding for new homes has been vastly increased. To illustrate this for Flintshire the allocation of funds has increased from around £4 million in 2020/21 to over £10 million in 2021/22. Significantly for the Council SHG is now available to Local Authorities as well as RSL's (Registered Social Landlords).

The Council will develop a SHARP 2 programme to cover and monitor the next phase of our development programme.

Homelessness – Young Persons Hub

Responding to the needs of young people and particularly those who maybe at a risk of homelessness is a key focus for the Council. Consideration needs to be given to not only accommodation needs but also support to assist young people with the key life skills needed to live independently and reduce risks of homelessness. When looking at best practice in this area of work, there are a number of examples of positive practice which seek to not only provide accommodation, but also co-ordinate support and service delivery.

Over the next twelve months the Housing & Prevention Service is to consider opportunities for the development of a Young Persons Hub which will seek to provide a number of units of self-contained accommodation with support onsite. This could potentially extend to provision of housing and homelessness advice and support and offered local facilities for colocation of services within a "housing hub". A feasibility study will be considered to inform this approach which may provide office and community space to ensure a joined up approach within a multidisciplinary team model.

Subject to the outcome of feasibility works, capital funding may be required to deliver on this agenda. External funding streams will also be considered in order to maximise opportunities to develop the Young Persons Hub.

Homelessness - Hub

In late 2019, the Council undertook work to develop an Emergency Bed provision for people who are homeless and may otherwise face the prospect of sleeping rough. Significant works were completed within the Glanrafon Resource Centre in Queensferry to transform the building into a Night Shelter offering up to 12 Emergency Beds. The Council, as the owner of the building, completed refurbishment works and then partnered with The Wallich, to deliver the support required to safely operate the Night Shelter.

The Glanrafon hub was always seen as a medium term solution for those who were homeless with other approaches to be developed in future years with a commitment to provide a wider range of support.

The Standard Industrial Estate Waste Transfer Station (WTS), Buckley

This receives all of the kerbside recycled material from every residence in Flintshire and is now operating at its maximum capacity. It lacks the space and equipment to be able to take in more material or any additional recycling streams required for processing. The WTS also operates across two sites in the same location and on separate sides of a public access road to the industrial estate, which can cause logistical difficulties with collection vehicles, on site plant and haulage vehicles. At peak times of the year, the site already struggles to cope in terms of space and room

for processing, depositing and storage of materials. Without further development of the facility, there is a risk that the rise in the quantity of the materials collected will start to compromise the quality of the recycled product. Consequently, the facility is at a critical point and further investment in infrastructure is required to ensure the continued viability of the site and accommodate future growth in processing capacity.

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10. Asset Management Planning in Flintshire - The Challenges

Climate Change - Carbon Reduction & Sequestration

The Welsh Government's mandate for a net zero Public Sector includes the decarbonisation of buildings. There is a newly mandated requirement for new build schools, extensions and refurbishments to be built to net zero standard, and the expectation that extension and refurbishments of assets, will also obtain good environmental and energy ratings. However, guidance around a set standard for existing buildings has not yet been determined, therefore, in the interim, the Council will look to best practice from elsewhere in the sector to ascertain the most effective method to decarbonise these assets. The implementation of low carbon methodologies/technologies, both within new build and retrofit, can cause significant increases in cost. This increase will need to be analysed against the benefit over longer term both in terms of financial savings and carbon-related gains.

The Welsh Government's mandate also requires us to consider our land assets for larger renewable energy schemes and carbon sequestration planting schemes. This requirement may conflict with other priorities around land management and disposal of assets for financial gain, and therefore a clear decision making process must be adopted so that the most appropriate options are taken for both existing land assets and those we procure.

Construction Market

There has been significant materials price escalation since May 2020. Price increases started to be seen in 2021 due to a combination of factors, including:

- Commodity price increases were seen as industry around the world has restarted following lockdowns during the pandemic
- Major economies saw increases in demand as they tried to revive their economies e.g. timber (USA), steel (China), which contributed to shortages and price inflation.
- Lockdowns saw a dramatic increase in demand for DIY and garden project materials across most G7 countries
- COVID-19 cases caused operating restrictions and interruptions where workers needed to self-isolate
- Shortages in shipping containers driving up shipping prices and a widespread shortage of HGV drivers has increased delivery costs and extended delivery times
- With a shift to renewable energy and electric vehicles there is increased demand for materials such as copper and aluminium.
- Labour Shortages – Brexit Impact
- Ukrainian War.

As well as price increases there have been issues with the availability of materials and products and extended lead-in times which are also adding to the continuing pressures on construction projects.

Agricultural Bill

The Government has recently consulted on a proposed new Agriculture Act. The proposals include preventing local authorities disposing of any farms or smallholdings in their ownership. In accordance with our Farm Disposal Policy we have sold 13 farms and realised £7m+ in the last 5 years. If we were to be prevented from selling any more this would also have an impact on the funds available in the capital programme.

Modern Energy Efficiency Standards

The Government has introduced legislation which prevents commercial properties being let or re-let to the same tenant if their EPC grade is below E. This will be widened from 1 April 2023 to capture all let properties even if there has been no change in tenant, and it is proposed minimum requirements will increase to grade B by 2030. This may have implications on the income we receive, may influence our disposal strategy and there may also be investment required to bring the properties up to standard.

Funding

The Council has limited capital resources from Welsh Government to support Council priorities, needs and liabilities; however, it has the powers to fund Capital schemes by borrowing, but this is temporary and ultimately the cost and repayment of any borrowing is charged to the Council's revenue budget. Schemes funded by borrowing are carefully considered due to the long term impacts on the Council's revenue budget.

Economic Impacts

In recent years much of the Council's programme has been funded from capital receipts. However, the Council's ability to generate significant capital receipts is more challenging and is almost exhausted. Although the Council will wherever possible seek to identify assets for sale (as appropriate) to fund the Capital Programme. However, this needs to be balanced against the need for Land use for carbon sequestration.



CORPORATE RESOURCES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Date of Meeting	Friday, 23 September 2022
Report Subject	Medium Term Financial Strategy and Budget 2023/24
Cabinet Member	Cabinet Member for Finance, Inclusion, Resilient Communities including Social Value and Procurement
Report Author	Corporate Finance Manager and Chief Executive
Type of Report	Strategic

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to provide Members with an update of the additional budget requirement for 2023/24 in advance of the specific Member briefings and Scrutiny meetings to be held in the Autumn.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1	That the committee considers and comments on the Medium Term Financial Strategy and Budget 2023/24 report. Any specific matters for attention will be noted and reported back to the Cabinet when it considers the report.
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REPORT DETAILS

1.00	EXPLAINING THE MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY AND BUDGET POSITION 2023/24
1.01	The Medium Term Financial Strategy and Budget 2023/24 report will be presented to Cabinet on Tuesday 20 th September 2022. A copy of the report is attached as Appendix A to this report.

2.00	RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS
2.01	As set out in Appendix A; Medium Term Financial Strategy and Budget 2023/24 report.
3.00	IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND RISK MANAGEMENT
3.01	As set out in Appendix A; Medium Term Financial Strategy and Budget 2023/24 report.
4.00	CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT
4.01	As set out in Appendix A; Medium Term Financial Strategy and Budget 2023/24 report.
5.00	APPENDICES
5.01	Appendix A; Medium Term Financial Strategy and Budget 2023/24.
6.00	LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS
6.01	Medium Term Financial Strategy and Budget 2023/24 - Cabinet Report 12 July 2022.
7.00	CONTACT OFFICER DETAILS
7.01	Contact Officer: Gary Ferguson Corporate Finance Manager Telephone: 01352 702271 E-mail: gary.ferguson@flintshire.gov.uk
8.00	GLOSSARY OF TERMS
8.01	As set out in Appendix A.

CABINET

Date of Meeting	Monday 26 September 2022
Report Subject	Medium Term Financial Strategy and Budget 2023/24
Cabinet Member	Cabinet Member for Finance, Inclusion, Resilient Communities including Social Value and Procurement for Finance, Inclusion, Resilient Communities including Social Value & Procurement
Report Author	Corporate Finance Manager and Chief Executive
Type of Report	Strategic

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report provides an update to the additional budget requirement for the 2023/24 financial year in advance of the specific Member Briefings and Scrutiny meetings to be held in the Autumn.

An additional budget requirement of £16.503m for 2023/24 was reported to Cabinet and Corporate Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee in July. At that stage it was acknowledged that there was further work to be undertaken over the summer to reflect ever changing service demands and to assess the impacts of emerging pay awards and inflationary impacts such as utilities.

The current national employers pay offers for Teachers and NJC (Green Book) employees are now known and the significant financial impact has been included in the revised forecast. Latest intelligence on potential future increases on utility prices has also been built into the forecast - this is also significant.

The impact of pay and utilities, together with other changes to existing cost pressures and some new emerging pressures across Portfolios, have increased the minimum budget requirement to £24.348m as detailed in table 1 of the report.

The report also sets out the budget solutions and risks that will need to be urgently considered to enable the Council to set a legal and balanced budget in February.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1	To receive and note the revised additional budget requirement for the 2023/24 financial year.
2	To note the budget solutions and risks that will need to be urgently considered to enable the Council to set a legal and balanced budget in February.

REPORT DETAILS

1.00	EXPLAINING THE MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY AND BUDGET 2023/24
1.01	This report provides an update to the additional budget requirement for the 2023/24 financial year in advance of the specific Member Briefings and Scrutiny meetings to be held in the Autumn.
1.02	An additional budget requirement of £16.503m for 2023/24 was reported to Cabinet and Corporate Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee in July. At that stage it was acknowledged that there was further work to be undertaken over the summer to reflect ever changing service demands and to assess the impacts of emerging pay awards and inflationary impacts such as utilities.
	THE REVISED ADDITIONAL BUDGET REQUIREMENT
1.03	<p><u>Pay Awards – Update</u></p> <p>National negotiations have commenced between Employers and Trade Unions for the current year 2022/23. The Council has provided for an uplift of 3.5% for Teaching and Non-Teaching employees within this year's budget.</p> <p>The current pay offer for teachers is 5% for 2022/23 and 3.5% for 2023/24 and for NJC employees an offer of an £1,925 increase on all spinal column points has been made for 2022/23. This equates to an increase of 2.54% on the highest scale point to 10.5% on the lowest level.</p> <p>The in year impact of this increased pay offer will need to be met from reserves in 2022/23 and the budget requirement for 2023/24 will also increase due to the need to ensure the amounts are built into the base budget on a recurring basis.</p> <p>The additional impact for 2023/24 of the 2022 pay offer as it stands at the moment is £4.594m for NJC staff (including schools) and the additional cost for Teachers over and above the estimate already included is £1.144m.</p>

	<p>The teachers' pay offer included an increase of 3.5% for 2023/24. The 2023/24 pay award assumptions for Teachers and NJC have therefore been increased from 2.5% to 3.5% to bring them to this level which is considered reasonable at this time.</p>																														
1.04	<p><u>Utilities Inflation – Update</u></p> <p>Market volatility is continuing and forecasting likely increases in this market is extremely challenging. This has had a significant impact on UK energy prices causing steep cost rises across the wholesale utility markets.</p> <p>The revised forecast has been calculated with information from our energy suppliers on a range of scenarios taking account of new contracts to be purchased for both electricity and gas. As current markets are likely to remain volatile it is difficult to include any longer term forecasts beyond 2023/24.</p> <p>The revised forecast includes an increase of 75% for electricity and an increase of 291% on gas. The impact of these increases is affected by the current amount of energy already purchased by our suppliers.</p> <p>These inflationary impacts have increased the additional budget requirement by £1.050m for 2023/24.</p>																														
1.05	<p>The impact of pay and utilities, together with other changes to existing cost pressures and some new emerging pressures across Portfolios, have increased the additional budget requirement to £24.348m as detailed in table 1 below:</p>																														
1.06	<p><u>Table 1: Changes to the Additional Budget Requirement 2023/24</u></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th style="text-align: right;">£m</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>July Cabinet Report</td> <td style="text-align: right;">16.503</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Increases to Pressures:</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pay</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Impact of NJC Pay offer 2022</td> <td style="text-align: right;">4.594</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Impact of Teachers Pay offer 2022</td> <td style="text-align: right;">1.144</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Revised Projections for 2023 NJC</td> <td style="text-align: right;">1.366</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Revised Projections for 2023 Teachers</td> <td style="text-align: right;">0.482</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total Changes to Pay</td> <td style="text-align: right;">7.586</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Utility Cost Inflationary Increase</td> <td style="text-align: right;">1.050</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Fuel Cost Increase</td> <td style="text-align: right;">0.362</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pressure for Basware reprofiled from 25/26</td> <td style="text-align: right;">0.041</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Other Changes to Pressures</td> <td style="text-align: right;">1.453</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Reductions to Pressures</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Borrowing costs reprofiling</td> <td style="text-align: right;">(0.448)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		£m	July Cabinet Report	16.503	Increases to Pressures:		Pay		Impact of NJC Pay offer 2022	4.594	Impact of Teachers Pay offer 2022	1.144	Revised Projections for 2023 NJC	1.366	Revised Projections for 2023 Teachers	0.482	Total Changes to Pay	7.586	Utility Cost Inflationary Increase	1.050	Fuel Cost Increase	0.362	Pressure for Basware reprofiled from 25/26	0.041	Other Changes to Pressures	1.453	Reductions to Pressures		Borrowing costs reprofiling	(0.448)
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1.07	<p><u>ONGOING RISKS</u></p> <p>Despite the work undertaken over the summer there remains a number of risks that may change the additional budget requirement further as detailed below.</p>																
1.08	<p><u>Out of County Placements</u></p> <p>The position on Out of County Placements remains a risk with increasing numbers of placements in the current financial year which will need to be kept under review.</p>																
1.09	<p><u>Social Care Commissioning</u></p> <p>The Social Care Sector continues to experience significant demand and cost pressures and negotiations with care providers are ongoing.</p>																
1.10	<p><u>Pay Awards</u></p> <p>The pay awards for both Teachers and NJC are still not agreed and therefore there is a risk that they could be increased further.</p>																
1.11	<p><u>Inflation</u></p> <p>The forecast includes updated projections on energy and fuel inflation which are based on the latest intelligence from our suppliers at this time. The forecasts are particularly volatile and subject to change.</p>																
1.12	<p><u>External Partners</u></p> <p>Our external partners are also subject to the same cost pressures on pay and inflation which will present them with similar challenges to the Council. There is a risk and likelihood that additional contributions will be sought from the Council.</p>																
	<p>Budget Solutions</p>																
1.13	<p>The options available to the Council to meet this significant additional budget requirement are summarised in the table below, all will need to be progressed with urgency:</p>																

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1.14	<p><u>Government Funding - Aggregate External Finance (AEF)</u></p> <p>The 2022/23 local government settlement provided, for the first time in a number of years, indicative figures for future settlements of 3.5% for 2023/24 and 2.4% for 2024/25.</p> <p>These indicative allocations, though welcome at the time, are at a much lower level than those received over the last two years and were also set in a vastly different economic climate. By way of context an uplift on the Council's AEF of 3.5% equates to around £8m.</p> <p>Without a supplementary increase to our allocation the Council will have a serious and significant challenge to be able to meet its statutory responsibility of setting a legal and balanced budget for 2023/24 and future years.</p>																		
1.15	<p><u>Table 4 – Budget Timeline</u></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Date</th> <th>Event</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>September/October</td> <td>Member Briefings</td> </tr> <tr> <td>October/November</td> <td>Overview and Scrutiny Committees</td> </tr> <tr> <td>20 December 2022</td> <td>Cabinet</td> </tr> <tr> <td>20 December 2022</td> <td>Welsh Government Draft Budget</td> </tr> <tr> <td>21 December 2022</td> <td>Provisional Local Government Settlement</td> </tr> <tr> <td>17 January 2023</td> <td>Cabinet – Budget Review</td> </tr> <tr> <td>14 February 2023</td> <td>Cabinet and Council – Final Budget Setting</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1 March 2023</td> <td>Welsh Government Final Budget/Settlement</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Date	Event	September/October	Member Briefings	October/November	Overview and Scrutiny Committees	20 December 2022	Cabinet	20 December 2022	Welsh Government Draft Budget	21 December 2022	Provisional Local Government Settlement	17 January 2023	Cabinet – Budget Review	14 February 2023	Cabinet and Council – Final Budget Setting	1 March 2023	Welsh Government Final Budget/Settlement
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2.00	RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS
2.01	<p>Revenue: the revenue implications for the 2023/24 budget are set out in the report.</p> <p>Capital: the borrowing needs for the capital programme are built into the revenue estimates for 2023/24.</p>

3.00	IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND RISK MANAGEMENT	
3.01	Ways of Working (Sustainable Development) Principles Impact	
	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.
	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 encourage 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.

4.00	CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT
4.01	Consultation has taken place with Portfolio Management Teams and the Chief Officer Team, the Finance Team, Cabinet Members, Group Leaders and Scrutiny Committees. Further consultation will be undertaken through Member briefings and specific Scrutiny meetings during the Autumn.

5.00	APPENDICES
5.01	None to this report

6.00	LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS
6.01	Cabinet Report 12 July 2022

7.00	CONTACT OFFICER DETAILS
7.01	Contact Officer: Gary Ferguson Corporate Finance Manager Telephone: 01352 702271 E-mail: gary.ferguson@flintshire.gov.uk

8.00	GLOSSARY OF TERMS
8.01	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. 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.

Capital: Expenditure on the acquisition of **non-current assets** or expenditure which extends the useful life of an existing asset.

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.

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.

Specific Grants: An award of funding from a grant provider (e.g. Welsh Government) which must be used for a pre-defined purpose.

Welsh Local Government Association: the representative body for unitary councils, fire and rescue authorities and national parks authorities in Wales.

Financial Year: the period of 12 months commencing on 1 April.

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.

Aggregate External Finance (AEF): The support for local revenue spending from the Welsh Government and is made up of formula grant 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.



CORPORATE RESOURCES OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Date of Meeting	Friday 23 September, 2022
Report Subject	Revenue Budget Monitoring 2022/23 Month 4 and Capital Programme 2022/23 Month 4
Cabinet Member	Cabinet Member for Finance, Inclusion, Resilient Communities including Social Value and Procurement
Report Author	Corporate Finance Manager
Type of Report	Operational

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to provide Members with the Revenue Budget Monitoring 2022/23 (Month 4) Report and the Capital Programme 2022/23 (Month 4).

RECOMMENDATIONS

1	That the committee considers and comments on the Revenue Budget Monitoring 2022/23 (Month 4) report. Any specific matters for attention will be noted and reported back to the Cabinet when it considers the report.
2	That the committee considers and comments on the Capital Programme 2022/23 (Month 4) report. Any specific matters for attention will be noted and reported back to the Cabinet when it considers the report.

REPORT DETAILS

1.00	EXPLAINING THE REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING POSITION 2022/23 (MONTH 4), CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2022/23 (MONTH 4)
1.01	The Revenue Budget Monitoring 2022/23 (Month 4) report will be presented to Cabinet on Tuesday 20 th September, 2022. A copy of the report is attached as Appendix A to this report.
1.01	The Capital Programme 2022/23 (Month 4) report will be presented to Cabinet on Tuesday 20 th September, 2022. A copy of the report is attached as Appendix B to this report.
2.00	RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS
2.01	As set out in Appendix A; Revenue Budget Monitoring 2022/23 (Month 4); Capital Programme 2022/23 (Month 4).
3.00	IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND RISK MANAGEMENT
3.01	As set out in Appendix A; Revenue Budget Monitoring 2022/23 (Month 4); in Appendix B; Capital Programme 2022/23 (Month 4).
4.00	CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED / CARRIED OUT
4.01	None required.
5.00	APPENDICES
5.01	Appendix A; Revenue Budget Monitoring 2022/23 (Month 4) Appendix B; Capital Programme 2022/23 (Month 4)
6.00	LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS
6.01	None required.
7.00	CONTACT OFFICER DETAILS
7.01	Contact Officer: Dave Ledsham, Finance Manager Telephone: 01352 704503 E-mail: dave.ledsham@flintshire.gov.uk

8.00	GLOSSARY OF TERMS
8.01	<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>Capital Programme: The Council's financial plan covering capital schemes and expenditure proposals for the current year and a number of future years. It also includes estimates of the capital resources available to finance the programme.</p>

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CABINET

Date of Meeting	Monday, 26th September, 2022
Report Subject	Revenue Budget Monitoring Report 2022/23 (Month 4)
Cabinet Member	Cabinet Member for Finance, Inclusion, Resilient Communities including Social Value and Procurement
Report Author	Corporate Finance Manager
Type of Report	Operational

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

An interim budget monitoring report was presented to Cabinet in July. Based on high level assumptions at that time the potential variations to budget identified by Portfolios equated to a minimum net additional expenditure requirement of around £0.300m.

This report provides the first detailed overview of the budget monitoring position for the 2022/23 financial year.

The projected year end position is as follows:

Council Fund

- An operating deficit of £0.285m (excluding the impact of the pay award which will need to be met by reserves)
- A projected contingency reserve available balance as at 31 March 2023 of £6.911m (before the impact of final pay awards)

Housing Revenue Account

- Net in-year revenue expenditure forecast to be £0.188m higher than budget
- A projected closing balance as at 31st March, 2023 of £6.287m

Hardship Funding from Welsh Government helped secure £16m of direct financial help last year, and we continue to claim payments in 2022/23 for Self-isolation and Statutory Sick Pay Enhancement, along with Free School Meals direct payments.

A brought forward amount of £2.066m remains available from the original £3m emergency ring-fenced fund. The 2022/23 budget approved in February included a further top up of £3.250m to this Reserve to provide a prudent safeguard against any ongoing impacts of the pandemic. Early indications are that whilst the risks due to COVID-19 has diminished considerably, the inflationary risk has increased.

The position will be monitored closely over the coming months and any impacts reflected in future reports.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1	To note the report and the estimated financial impact on the 2022/23 budget.
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REPORT DETAILS

1.00	EXPLAINING THE REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING 2022/23																																
1.01	<p>An interim budget monitoring report was presented to Cabinet in July. Based on high level assumptions at that time the potential variations to budget identified by Portfolios equated to a minimum net additional expenditure requirement of £0.300m. The report provides the first detailed overview of the budget monitoring position for the 2022/23 financial year.</p> <p>The projected year end position is as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> An operating deficit of £0.285m (excluding the impact of the pay award which will need to be met by reserves) A projected contingency reserve available balance as at 31 March 2023 of £6.911m (before the impact of pay awards) 																																
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1.03	<p>Table 1. Projected Position by Portfolio</p> <p>The table below shows the projected position by portfolio:</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="background-color: #d9e1f2;">Portfolio/Service Area</th> <th style="background-color: #d9e1f2;">Approved Budget</th> <th style="background-color: #d9e1f2;">Projected Outturn</th> <th style="background-color: #d9e1f2;">In-Year Over / (Under) spend</th> </tr> <tr> <th></th> <th style="text-align: center;">£m</th> <th style="text-align: center;">£m</th> <th style="text-align: center;">£m</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Social Services</td> <td style="text-align: right;">77.969</td> <td style="text-align: right;">78.292</td> <td style="text-align: right;">0.323</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Out of County Placements</td> <td style="text-align: right;">15.101</td> <td style="text-align: right;">15.926</td> <td style="text-align: right;">0.825</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Education & Youth</td> <td style="text-align: right;">9.935</td> <td style="text-align: right;">9.644</td> <td style="text-align: right;">(0.290)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Schools</td> <td style="text-align: right;">108.420</td> <td style="text-align: right;">108.420</td> <td style="text-align: right;">0.000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Streetscene & Transportation</td> <td style="text-align: right;">38.466</td> <td style="text-align: right;">39.531</td> <td style="text-align: right;">1.064</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Planning Env & Economy</td> <td style="text-align: right;">6.797</td> <td style="text-align: right;">6.561</td> <td style="text-align: right;">(0.236)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Portfolio/Service Area	Approved Budget	Projected Outturn	In-Year Over / (Under) spend		£m	£m	£m	Social Services	77.969	78.292	0.323	Out of County Placements	15.101	15.926	0.825	Education & Youth	9.935	9.644	(0.290)	Schools	108.420	108.420	0.000	Streetscene & Transportation	38.466	39.531	1.064	Planning Env & Economy	6.797	6.561	(0.236)
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People & Resources	4.324	4.164	(0.160)
Governance	10.772	10.442	(0.330)
Strategic Programmes	6.116	6.096	(0.020)
Assets	0.312	0.266	(0.046)
Housing & Communities	14.662	14.145	(0.518)
Chief Executive	2.256	2.186	(0.071)
Central & Corporate Finance	31.552	31.295	(0.256)
Total	326.682	326.967	0.285

1.04 The reasons for the projected variances are summarised within Appendix 1 and shows the detail of all variances over £0.050m and a summary of minor variances for each portfolio.

Significant Variances to highlight this month

1.05 Social Services £0.323m

Localities (£0.612m)

Based on current activity (including Direct Payments) the commissioned Older People's domiciliary service is projected to underspend by (£0.747m).

The Residential Care budget is projected to overspend by £0.286m due to the current cost of placements net of income such as Free Nursing Care, Regional Integration Fund (RIF) funding and property income.

There is a projected underspend of (£0.020m) on the Minor Adaptations budget due to a reduction of in-year activity. The Localities staffing budget is projected to underspend by (£0.056m) taking into account current grades and anticipated recharges.

Day Care is expected to underspend by (£0.033m) and the Sensory SLA (Service Level Agreement) will be (£0.042m) underspent.

Resources & Regulated Services £0.249m

In-House residential care is projected to overspend by £0.286m due to staff and running costs. In-house homecare is estimated to underspend by (£0.003m), Extra Care by (£0.005m) and Day Care by (£0.029m). Built into projections is an assumption that we will receive £0.185m Winter Pressures funding from Welsh Government.

Mental Health Services £0.353m

The projection is based on the net costs of current commissioned care packages within the Mental Health service.

Children's Services Family Support £0.139m

Due to the current levels of activity there is a potential overspend of £0.139m within this service area.

	<p><u>Children's Services Legal & Third Party £0.516m</u></p> <p>There is a projected overspend on legal costs of £0.281m due to the number of cases going through the courts and the use of external legal professionals. Continuing high demand for Direct Payments is resulting in a £0.235m overspend.</p> <p><u>Children's Services Residential (£0.406m)</u></p> <p>The in-year opening of Children's Residential care facilities will result in some budget slippage in the first year of opening. In addition, some non-recurring grant funding has been made available to offset start-up costs.</p> <p><u>Children's Services Professional Support £0.178m</u></p> <p>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 minimised and additional temporary posts are sometimes required to be able to meet the challenges and demands of Children's Services. There is an assumption within the projected outturn that Welsh Government will allow for flexible use of Children's Services grants of £0.615m which will allow for most cost pressures to be offset.</p> <p><u>Liberty Protection Safeguards (LPS) (£0.210m)</u></p> <p>Welsh Government are continuing to consult with Local Government and partner organisations around the implementation of the updated Liberty Protection Safeguards. This has resulted in anticipated costs being delayed and there is therefore likely to be an in-year underspend position.</p>
1.06	<p>Out of County Placements £0.825m</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children's Services £1.189m • Education & Youth (£0.364m) <p>Continued high demand for support for children and young people that cannot be met from in house provision. There have been 40 new placements in the first four months, some of which are high cost residential placements for young people with high levels of need.</p>
1.07	<p>Education & Youth (£0.290m)</p> <p>The Early Entitlement service is projecting a surplus balance of (£0.132m) but this is still subject to change due to the confirmation of Education Improvement and Pupil Deprivation grants. The Council has, however, received notification of top-up funding so this uncertainty is mitigated.</p> <p>Pupil numbers are a primary factor within the service area, so is volatile in terms of outturn increasing/decreasing throughout the year.</p> <p>Cumulative minor variances across the Portfolio in Inclusion & Progression, Youth Justice, Business Change & Support, School Planning & Provision and Archives of under (£0.050m) for each account for the remainder of (£0.158m).</p>

1.08	<p>Streetscene & Transportation £1.064m</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Service Delivery £0.247m – 1) a recurring pressure of £0.100m for security costs due to vandalism at Household Recycling Centres (HRCs) 2) a shortfall of £0.070m in Street-lighting income from Town/Community Council's and 3) high sickness levels £0.080m • Highways Network £0.487m – rising fuel costs in Fleet of over £0.400m and £0.050m pressure for increased weed spraying. • Transportation £0.164m - increased costs and rising fuel prices incorporated in the provision of key service routes e.g. Bus Service 5, following the re-procurement exercise in 2021 which is in part mitigated by the utilisation of Bus Emergency Scheme (BES) Funding. • Impact of COVID-19 £0.190m – COVID-19 sickness levels have increased workforce costs and additional contractors providing traffic management and training to the workforce. These costs are subject to an internal claim against the COVID-19 Emergency Reserve. <p>Minor variances across the Portfolio account for the remainder (£0.024m).</p>
1.09	<p>Planning, Environment & Economy (£0.236m)</p> <p>The favourable variance in the main results from projected Planning Fee income levels following receipt of a 'one off' large planning application fee (£0.300m) in the first Quarter of the financial year within Development Management.</p> <p>The remainder of the variance results from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • savings from Vacant Posts across the Land Drainage Service (£0.080m) • fee income shortfalls in Licensing, Pest Control and Building Control £0.093m. <p>Cumulative minor variances account for the remainder of £0.051m.</p>
1.10	<p>Governance (£0.330m)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Democratic Services (£0.089m) – new rate of Allowance not implemented until May with lower than anticipated uptake of allowances • Customer Services (£0.116m) – savings from vacant posts and higher than anticipated level of fee income • Revenues (£0.113m) – potential surplus on the Council Tax Collection Fund <p>Minor variances across the Portfolio account for the remainder (£0.012m).</p>
1.11	<p>Assets (£0.046m)</p> <p>Variance results from projected underspend on caretaking and security salaries due to vacancy savings (£0.082m).</p>

	Minor variances across the Service account for the remainder of £0.036m.
1.12	<p>Housing & Communities (£0.518m)</p> <p><u>Benefits (£0.350m)</u> Projected underspend on the Council Tax Reduction Scheme (CTRS) of £0.640m offset by pressures relating to recovery of overpayments and subsequent increase to the Bad Debt Provision together with a shortfall against the income target, which has previously been compensated by the WG COVID-19 Hardship Fund.</p> <p><u>Housing Solutions (£0.163m)</u> Savings on salaries due to vacancies and ongoing recruitment challenges</p> <p>Minor variances across the Service account for the remainder of (£0.005m).</p>
1.13	<p>Corporate Services</p> <p><u>Chief Executive's (£0.071m)</u> A saving of £0.071m is forecast based mainly on projected vacancy savings.</p> <p><u>People & Resources (£0.160m)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Human Resources & Organisational Design (£0.133m) - staff vacancies based within the Occupational Health Service (£0.148m). Minor variances across the Service account for the remainder of £0.015m. • Corporate Finance (£0.027m) – savings from vacant posts.
1.14	<p>Central & Corporate Finance (£0.256m)</p> <p>Underspend of employer pension contributions based on the current level of contributions received during the year (£0.335m) mitigated by current shortfall in the Windfall Income Target of £0.098m.</p> <p>Minor variances account for the remainder of (£0.019m).</p>
1.15	<p>Tracking of In-Year Risks and Emerging Issues</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>
1.16	<p>Council Tax Income</p> <p>In 2021/22 the Council achieved an 'in-year' collection level of 97.73% - the second highest collection rate in Wales.</p> <p>For 2022/23 up to July, the 'in-year' collection level is 38.42%, compared to 38.58% in the previous year. The marginal fall in collection levels is mainly due to resources being diverted to administering the Cost of Living Support Scheme as well as the impact on households more generally of rising costs-of-living.</p>

1.17	<p>Pay Award (Teacher and Non-Teacher)</p> <p>National negotiations have commenced between Employers and Trade Unions. The Council has provided for an uplift of 3.5% for Teaching and Non-Teaching staff – any increase above this level would require the Council to utilise reserves to fund the difference in the current financial year and would add to the additional budget requirement for 2023/24.</p> <p>The current pay offer for teachers is 5% and there is an offer from the National employers for NJC employees of £1,925 on all spinal column points. This equates to an increase of 2.54% on the highest scale point to 10.5% on the lowest point.</p> <p>The impact on 2022/23 is as follows:</p> <p>Teachers pay - in year impact of an additional £0.674m for the period September to March (full year effect 2023/24 of £1.144m) over and above the budgeted level of 3.5%.</p> <p>NJC pay - in year impact of an additional £4.594m (Schools £1.637m and non-schools £2.957m) over and above the budgeted level of 3.5%.</p> <p>Additional amount needing to be met from reserves in 2022/23 based on the above is £5.268m.</p> <p>The above will also impact on the MTFs with the full year impact of the teachers' pay award increasing the impact for 2023/24 to £5.738m.</p> <p>The above pay offers are subject to agreement and out for consultation with the Trade Unions.</p>
1.18	<p>Other Tracked Risks</p> <p>In addition, there are a number of risks being tracked which may be subject to change and these are summarised below.</p>
1.19	<p>Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) Impact</p> <p>Cabinet considered the latest projection for the MTFs in July which showed an additional budget requirement of £16.503m. Further work is ongoing to consider emerging issues from increasing service pressures, the latest position on pay awards and revisions to reflect the impact on energy and fuel inflation which remains subject to constant change due to market volatility.</p> <p>All Portfolios consider their financial position, the risks within their service and the impacts on the Medium Term on a monthly basis as part of their Portfolio Management Team meetings.</p> <p>An update on the budget forecast for 2023/24 is also included on this agenda.</p>

1.20	<p>Out of County Placements</p> <p>The risks include continued high demand for placements where children and young people cannot be supported within in-house provision, and market supply limitation factors and inflationary pressures leading to higher placement costs.</p> <p>There is a projected overspend for the current cohort of placements of circa £0.825m, although with 8 months of the year remaining this is likely to increase and a contingency of £0.300m is currently built into the outturn position for this with £0.250m in for Children’s Services and £0.050m for Education placements.</p> <p>The service areas within this pooled budget will continue to do everything possible to manage these risks and additional investment has already been made to further develop in-house provision to help to mitigate against such financial pressures.</p>
1.21	<p>Benefits</p> <p>Council Tax Reduction Scheme (CTRS) – Based on current demand, costs are currently projected to be £0.640m below budget, although this will be monitored closely throughout the year due to the potential for growth.</p> <p>There is continued high demand across the whole of the Benefits service which is expected to remain the case for the foreseeable future. Although some WG Hardship Fund support continues up to the end of September in respect of Self-Isolation payments, other funding support received in the past two years for additional staffing costs has now ceased.</p> <p>The increased staffing levels are still required and those costs are now being met in full from the additional funding of £0.300m previously approved to provide the service with the additional flexibility needed to adapt to and meet the sustained increase in customer demand.</p>
1.22	<p>Homelessness</p> <p>The risk is a consequence of the cessation of funding support from the Welsh Government COVID-19 Hardship Fund at the end of 2021/22.</p> <p>Although, there is continued support via the new Homelessness – No One Left Out grant this still falls well below the amount of support we received via the Hardship Fund in 2020/21 and 2021/22.</p> <p>Although it has been possible to contain some of the expected pressure through prepaid accommodation to the end of September 2022, which has been funded by the COVID-19 Hardship Fund, the expected continued high demand for temporary accommodation including short term Bed & Breakfast provision will continue to present significant challenges.</p> <p>We continue to strategically use increased allocations of Housing Support Grant working with external partners, but there remains a risk that the costs of statutory provision of support for Homelessness may exceed existing funding provision from base budget and available grant funding.</p>

1.23	<p>Achievement of Planned In-Year Efficiencies</p> <p>The 2022/23 budget contains £1.341m of specific efficiencies which are tracked and monitored throughout the year. The Council aims to achieve a 95% rate in 2022/23 as reflected in the MTFs KPI's and fully achieved all efficiencies in the previous financial year</p> <p>It is projected that all efficiencies will be achieved in 2022/23 and further details can be seen in Appendix 2.</p>
1.24	<p>Unearmarked Reserves</p> <p>The final level of Council Fund Contingency Reserve brought forward into 2022/23 was £7.098m as detailed in the 2021/22 outturn report (subject to Audit). In addition, the Council has set-aside a further £3.250m to the carried forward £2.066m COVID-19 Emergency Reserve as a safeguard against the continuing impacts of the pandemic (additional costs and lost income).</p> <p>Internal claims for Quarter 1 have been made in 2022/23 and awaiting authorisation relating to additional costs in Schools and Streetscene & Transportation and for income losses within AURA.</p> <p>A projected contingency reserve available balance as at 31 March 2023 is anticipated of £6.911m (before the impact of final pay awards).</p>
1.25	<p>Earmarked Reserves</p> <p>A summary of earmarked reserves as at 1 April 2022 and an estimate of projected balances as at the end of the financial year will be included in the month 5 report.</p>
1.26	<p>Housing Revenue Account</p> <p>The 2021/22 Outturn Report to Cabinet on 12 July 2022 showed an un-earmarked closing balance at the end of 2021/22 of £3.616m and a closing balance of earmarked reserves of £1.622m.</p>
1.27	<p>The 2022/23 budget for the HRA is £38.119m which includes a movement of £2.858m to reserves.</p>
1.28	<p>The monitoring for the HRA is projecting in year expenditure to be £0.188m higher than budget and a closing un-earmarked balance as at 31 March 2023 of £6.287m, which at 17.9% of total expenditure satisfies the prudent approach of ensuring a minimum level of 3%. Appendix 4 attached refers.</p>
1.29	<p>The budget contribution towards capital expenditure (CERA) is £10.898m.</p>

2.00	RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS
2.01	As set out within the report.

3.00	IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND RISK MANAGEMENT
3.01	The financial impacts 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 – Budget Variances Appendix 2: Council Fund – Programme of Efficiencies Appendix 3: Council Fund – Movement on Un-earmarked Reserves Appendix 4: Housing Revenue Account Variances

6.00	LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS
6.01	Various budget records.

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

8.00	GLOSSARY OF TERMS
8.01	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. Council Fund: the fund to which all the Council's revenue expenditure is charged. Financial Year: the period of twelve months commencing on 1 April. 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.

Intermediate Care Fund: Funding provided by Welsh Government to encourage integrated working between local authorities, health and housing.

Projected Outturn: projection of the expenditure to the end of the financial year, made on the basis of actual expenditure incurred to date.

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.

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.

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.

Virement: the transfer of budget provision from one budget head to another. Virement decisions apply to both revenue and capital expenditure 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.

Budget Monitoring Report

Service	Approved Budget (£m)	Projected Outturn (£m)	Annual Variance (£m)	Impact of Covid-19 (£m)	Cause of Major Variances greater than £0.050m	Action Required
Social Services						
Older People						
Localities	20.679	20.066	-0.612		The commissioned Older Peoples domiciliary and Direct Payment budget is expected to underspend by £0.747m based on recent months activity. There are recruitment and retention challenges within this service which is limiting the amount of care purchased. The residential care budget is projecting a £0.286m overspend due to the cost of placements net of income such as Free Nursing Care, Regional Integration Fund contributions and property income. The Localities staffing budget is expected to underspend by £0.056m as not all staff are currently top of grade and some costs are to be recharged. There are also underspends on the Minor Adaptation budget of £0.020m, the Day Care budget of £0.033m and the Sensory service level agreements of £0.042m.	
Resources & Regulated Services	8.921	9.170	0.249		In-house residential care is expected to overspend by £0.286m due to staff and running costs. In-house homecare is estimated to underspend by £0.003m, the Extra Care budget by £0.005m, and Day Care by £0.029m. There is an assumption that we will receive £0.185m in Winter Pressures funding and this is built into these projections.	
Impact of Covid-19	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000		
Minor Variances	1.269	1.248	-0.021			
Adults of Working Age						
Resources & Regulated Services	29.525	29.624	0.098		The Physically Disabled and Sensory Impaired (PDSI) budget is showing a £0.108m overspend due to net costs of care packages. The in-house supported living service is £0.039m overspent but will likely increase if required recruitment is successful. The Learning Disability and Work Scheme budget is £0.067m overspent due in part to recent inflationary pressures. The care package costs for independently provided care for Learning Disability services is a £0.116m underspend.	
Children to Adult Transition Services	0.951	1.036	0.084		These are the estimated costs of young adults who have, in this financial year, transferred from Childrens Services.	
Residential Placements	1.956	2.309	0.353		This is based on the net costs of current commissioned care packages within the Mental Health service.	
Minor Variances	3.989	3.945	-0.044			
Children's Services						
Family Support	0.375	0.514	0.139		Costs are based upon the current activity levels over the last few months and projected forward for the year. Workforce costs, a large proportion of which are sessional staff, are the primary cost for this service.	
Legal & Third Party	0.232	0.748	0.516		Legal costs are overspent due to the number of cases going through the courts and some use of external legal professionals. Direct Payments also continue to increase in demand.	
Residential Placements	1.312	0.907	-0.406		The in-year opening of some Childrens Residential care settings will mean that there will be one off cost savings, in addition it is expected that one off, non-recurring grant from Welsh Government will be received for start-up costs.	

Budget Monitoring Report

Service	Approved Budget (£m)	Projected Outturn (£m)	Annual Variance (£m)	Impact of Covid-19 (£m)	Cause of Major Variances greater than £0.050m	Action Required
Professional Support	6.173	6.351	0.178		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 minimised and additional temporary posts are sometimes required to meet the challenges and demands of Children's Services. There is an assumption the Welsh Government will allow for flexible use of Children's Services grants which will allow for some cost pressures to be offset.	
Minor Variances	3.537	3.577	0.040			
Safeguarding & Commissioning						
Safeguarding Unit	1.291	1.081	-0.210		A consultation for the updated Liberty Protection Safeguard legislation continues to be undertaken. Due to the delay in implementing the legislation there will be an in-year saving.	
Impact of Covid-19	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000		
Minor Variances	-2.242	-2.283	-0.040			
Total Social Services (excl Out of County)	77.969	78.292	0.323	0.000		
Out of County						
Children's Services	10.097	11.286	1.189		The projected overspend reflects significant additional demands on the service in the year to date with 24 new placements having been made in the year to date - most of which are high cost residential placements - there is provision for a contingency sum of £0.250m, for net impacts of further new placements and other placement changes but this may not prove to be enough.	
Education & Youth	5.004	4.640	-0.364		The underspend reflects the current cohort of placements and there have been 16 new placements in the year to date with further new placements also likely to emerge as the year progresses.	
Total Out of County	15.101	15.926	0.825	0.000		
Education & Youth						
Inclusion & Progression	5.233	5.211	-0.021		Minor net savings mainly within the Pupil Referral Unit (PRU) service with some offsetting the pressure at Canolfan Enfys.	
School Improvement Systems	1.889	1.757	-0.132		Payments to Non-Maintained Settings (NMS) and Maintained Settings (MS) are projected similar to those of 2021/22. WG have announced continuation of top-up funding to £5/hr so provides the Early Entitlement (EE) budget increasing financial capacity. Alongside this, Recruit, Recover and Raise Standards (RRRS) Grant and Early Years pupil Development GRant (EYPDG) have had increases announced, allowing core budget to be released. Proposed efficiency savings currently under review.	
Minor Variances	2.813	2.676	-0.137		Cumulative minor variances of less than £0.050m across Youth Justice, Business Change & Support, School Planning & Provision and Archives.	
Total Education & Youth	9.935	9.644	-0.290	0.000		
Schools						
	108.420	108.420	-0.000			
Streetscene & Transportation						

Budget Monitoring Report

Service	Approved Budget (£m)	Projected Outturn (£m)	Annual Variance (£m)	Impact of Covid-19 (£m)	Cause of Major Variances greater than £0.050m	Action Required
Service Delivery	9.047	9.294	0.247		The service has a recurring pressure of £0.100m for security costs due to vandalism at the Household Recycling Centres. Street lighting is also incurring a £0.070m shortfall on the Community Council Income Budget. The remaining £0.080m is attributable to high sickness levels.	
Highways Network	8.096	8.583	0.487		Highways is incurring a pressure of £0.400m in Fleet services as a result of rising fuel costs. Also an additional £0.050m cost increase for weed spraying following a recommendation from Environment Scrutiny, which is not covered by the existing service budget.	
Transportation	10.031	10.195	0.164		Local Bus Service Budget is incurring additional overspend of £0.100m due to the Park and Ride Service and Service 5 re-procurement. School Transport is incurring a pressure of £0.090m, due to additional pressure on the budget for 3 school days because of Easter timelines in this financial year. Minor positive variances account for the remainder.	
Impact of Covid-19	0.000	0.190	0.190	0.190	Service Delivery has a recurring pressure of £0.100m for additional contractors spend and Traffic Management, as the service has been unable to provide the required training and has also faced recruitment delays during the Covid-19 Pandemic. Workforce is also incurring an additional £0.090m of costs due to COVID related sickness levels.	Quarter 1 claim to be submitted for consideration from the Emergency Hardship Fund Contingency Reserve.
Other Minor Variances	11.292	11.269	-0.023			
Total Streetscene & Transportation	38.466	39.531	1.064	0.190		
Planning, Environment & Economy						
Community	0.890	0.967	0.077		Fee income shortfalls in Licensing and Pest Control and historic business planning efficiency £0.024m not realised	
Development	0.146	-0.100	-0.246		Favourable variance following receipt of a 'one off' Planning Fee £0.300m	
Regeneration	0.807	0.765	-0.042		Staff savings following continuation of Grant Funding secured for the Social Enterprise Post, minor variances across the Service	
Management & Strategy	1.385	1.269	-0.116		Staff savings due to vacant posts	
Impact of Covid-19	0.000	0.036	0.036	0.036	COVID-19 related additional cleaning costs for Countryside Service and Environmental Health Officer costs	
Minor Variances	3.569	3.581	0.012			
Total Planning & Environment	6.797	6.562	-0.236	0.036		
People & Resources						
HR & OD	2.284	2.151	-0.133		Staff savings due to vacant posts in Occupational Health Service plus commitment challenge across the Service	
Corporate Finance	2.041	2.014	-0.027			
Total People & Resources	4.324	4.164	-0.160	0.000		
Governance						
Democratic Services	2.374	2.284	-0.089		Variance as a result of the Members Allowances new rate not being implemented until May, 2022 and lower than anticipated take up of both Broadband and Pension Allowances (£0.108m) ; plus minor variances across Service	
Customer Services	1.018	0.902	-0.116		Registrars Fee Income higher than anticipated and savings from vacant posts	

Budget Monitoring Report

Service	Approved Budget (£m)	Projected Outturn (£m)	Annual Variance (£m)	Impact of Covid-19 (£m)	Cause of Major Variances greater than £0.050m	Action Required
Revenues	0.201	0.088	-0.113		The variance results from the projected potential surplus on the Council Tax Collection Fund (£0.117m) based on current information; minor variances across the Service account for the remainder	
Impact of Covid-19	0.000	0.001	0.001	0.001		
Minor Variances	7.180	7.168	-0.012			
Total Governance	10.772	10.442	-0.330	0.001		
Strategic Programmes						
Minor Variances	6.116	6.096	-0.020			
Total Strategic Programmes	6.116	6.096	-0.020	0.000		
Assets						
Caretaking & Security	0.264	0.182	-0.082		Savings on salaries due to vacancies	
Minor Variances	0.048	0.084	0.036	0.000		
Total Assets	0.312	0.266	-0.046	0.000		
Housing and Community						
Benefits	13.260	12.910	-0.350		Projected underspend of -£0.640m on the Council Tax Reduction Scheme (CTRS) which is offset by pressures on recovery of overpayments including a shortfall against the income budget target which has previously been compensated by the WG COVID-19 Hardship Fund and also due to the need to increase the bad debt provision for recovery of overpayments	
Housing Solutions	1.154	0.990	-0.163		Mostly due to savings on salaries due to vacancies and ongoing recruitment challenges	
Minor Variances	0.248	0.244	-0.004			
Total Housing and Community	14.662	14.145	-0.518	0.000		
Chief Executive's						
	2.256	2.186	-0.071		Variance due to vacant post and not all staff at top of scale, together with commitment challenge across the Services	
Central & Corporate Finance						
	28.769	28.543	-0.226		Over recovery of planned pension contributions recoupage against actuarial projections based on the current level of contributions	
Centralised Costs	2.783	2.752	-0.030			
Grand Total	326.682	326.967	0.285	0.226		

2022/23 Efficiencies Outturn Tracker - Mth 4

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
		2022/23 £m	2022/23 £m	2022/23 £m		
Portfolio						
Corporate						
Increase in Reserves	Rachel Parry Jones	0.471	0.471	0.000	C	G
Utility Inflation	Rachael Corbelli	0.085	0.085	0.000	C	G
Efficiency from Restructure	Corporate Policy Rachel Parry Jones	0.025	0.025	0.000	C	G
Recharge to HRA	Chief Executive post to HRA 50% Rachel Parry Jones	0.027	0.027	0.000	C	G
Total Corporate Services		0.608	0.608	0.000		
Housing & Assets						
Connahs Quay Power Station	Neal Cockerton	0.290	0.290	0.000	C	G
Rent Newydd	Neal Cockerton	0.020	0.020	0.000	C	G
Total Housing & Assets		0.310	0.310	0.000		
Social Services						
Sleep in Pressure not Required	Neil Ayling	0.123	0.123	0.000	C	G
Total Social Services		0.123	0.123	0.000		
Governance						
Single Person Discount Review (One Off)	Gareth Owen	0.300	0.300	0.000	O	G
Total Governance		0.300	0.300	0.000		
Total 2022/23 Budget Efficiencies		1.341	1.341	0.000		

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	%	£
Total 2022/23 Budget Efficiencies	100	1.341
Total Projected 2022/23 Budget Efficiencies Underachieved	0	0.000
Total Projected 2022/23 Budget Efficiencies Achieved	100	1.341
Total 2022/23 Budget Efficiencies (Less Previously agreed Decisions)	100	0.000
Total Projected 2022/23 Budget Efficiencies Underachieved	0	0.000
Total Projected 2022/23 Budget Efficiencies Achieved	0	0.000

Corporate Efficiencies Remaining from Previous Years

Income Target Remaining	£m
Income Target Efficiency remaining from Previous Years	0.041
Fees and charges increase 1st October, 2022	(0.026)
Total Income Efficiency Remaining	0.015

(0.015)

Movements on Council Fund Unearmarked Reserves

	£m	£m
Total Reserves as at 1 April 2022	18.438	
Less - Base Level	(5.769)	
Total Reserves above base level available for delegation to Cabinet		12.669
Less - COVID-19 Emergency Funding Allocation		5.316
Less - Childrens Services Social Work Costs (approved 21/22)		0.157
Less - impact of the final pay awards (still awaited)		
Less - Month 4 projected outturn		0.285
Total Contingency Reserve available for use		6.911

Budget Monitoring Report
Housing Revenue Account Variances

MONTH 4 - SUMMARY

Service	Revised Budget (£m)	Projected Outturn (£m)	Variance (£m)	Last Month Variance (£m)	Cause of Major Variance	Action Required
Housing Revenue Account						
Income	(38.119)	(37.714)	0.405	0.377	We are currently projecting a variance of £0.405m due to loss of rental income in relation to void properties. Of this, £0.315m relates to void properties, £0.067m relates to utilities costs on void properties and £0.039m relates to void garages. The remaining (£0.016m) relates to other minor variances.	
Capital Financing - Loan Charges	6.723	6.723				
Estate Management	2.321	2.162	(0.159)	(0.131)	Additional cost of agency positions of £0.140m, which is offset by vacancy savings of (£0.176m) and additional funding from the Housing Support Grant of (£0.120m). Other minor variances of (£0.003m).	
Landlord Service Costs	1.572	1.623	0.051	(0.007)	Salary savings of (£0.025m) are currently being projected within the service. There is a forecasted pressure on utilities costs of £0.062m. The remaining variance of £0.014m is down to other minor movements.	
Repairs & Maintenance	10.908	10.925	0.017	0.015	There are a number of vacant trades positions which are being covered by agency, leading to an additional net cost of £0.059m. Vacancy savings of (£0.056m) in respect of Admin posts have also been identified. Savings on the cost of materials of (£0.102m). Additional cost of fleet forecasted to be £0.154m due to factors such as rising fuel costs. Other minor variances of (£0.038m).	
Management & Support Services	2.716	2.590	(0.127)	(0.119)	Savings of (£0.051m) have been projected based on current vacancies within the service and a further (£0.100m) efficiency has been identified through a review of central support recharges. Costs of legal advice in respect of the Renting Homes Wales Act £0.017m. Other minor variances of £0.007m.	
Capital Expenditure From Revenue (CERA)	10.898	10.898				
HRA Projects	0.122	0.122	(0.000)	0.000		
Contribution To / (From) Reserves	2.858	2.858				
Total Housing Revenue Account		0.188	0.188	0.135		

CABINET

Date of Meeting	Monday 26th September 2022
Report Subject	Capital Programme Monitoring 2022/23 (Month 4)
Cabinet Member	Cabinet Member for Finance, Inclusion, Resilient Communities including Social Value and Procurement
Report Author	Corporate Finance Manager
Type of Report	Operational

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The report summarises changes made to the Capital Programme 2022/23 since it was set in December 2021 to the end of Month 4 (July 2022), along with expenditure to date and projected outturn.

The Capital Programme has seen a net increase in budget of £29.590m during the period which comprises of:-

- Net budget increase in the programme of £15.864m (See Table 2 - Council Fund (CF) £17.621m, Housing Revenue Account (HRA) (£1.757m));
- Introduction of Carry Forward from 2021/22 of £13.726m (CF £13.726m, HRA £0.000m)

Actual expenditure was £14.290m (See Table 3).

Capital receipts received in the first quarter of 2022/23, total £1.058m. This gives a revised projected surplus in the Capital Programme at Month 4 of £3.126m (from an opening funding position surplus of £2.068m) for the 2022/23 – 2024/25 Capital Programme, prior to the realisation of additional capital receipts and/or other funding sources.

RECOMMENDATIONS

	Cabinet are requested to:
1	Approve the overall report.
2	Approve the carry forward adjustments, as set out at 1.19.
3	Approve the additional allocations, as set out in 1.22.

REPORT DETAILS

1.00	EXPLAINING THE CAPITAL PROGRAMME MONITORING POSITION – MONTH 4 2022/23																																																																																			
1.01	<p>Background</p> <p>The Council approved a Council Fund (CF) Capital Programme of £37.469m for 2022/23 at its meeting on 7th December 2021 and a Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Capital Programme of £25.074m for 2022/23 at its meeting on 15th February 2022.</p>																																																																																			
1.02	For presentational purposes the Capital Programme is shown as a whole, with sub-totals for the Council Fund and HRA. In reality the HRA programme is 'ring fenced' and can only be used for HRA purposes.																																																																																			
1.03	<p>Changes since Budget approval</p> <p>Table 1 below sets out how the programme has changed during 2022/23. More detailed cumulative information relating to each Portfolio is provided in Appendix A:-</p> <p>Table 1</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2">REVISED PROGRAMME</th> <th>Original Budget 2022/23</th> <th>Carry Forward from 2021/22</th> <th>2022/23 Savings</th> <th>Changes - This Period</th> <th>Revised Budget 2022/23</th> </tr> <tr> <th>£m</th> <th>£m</th> <th>£m</th> <th>£m</th> <th>£m</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>People & Resources</td> <td>0.350</td> <td>0.155</td> <td>0.000</td> <td>0.000</td> <td>0.505</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Governance</td> <td>0.363</td> <td>0.383</td> <td>0.000</td> <td>0.000</td> <td>0.746</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Education & Youth</td> <td>10.010</td> <td>6.057</td> <td>0.000</td> <td>(0.112)</td> <td>15.955</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Social Services</td> <td>1.364</td> <td>1.038</td> <td>0.000</td> <td>2.169</td> <td>4.571</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Planning, Environment & Economy</td> <td>0.128</td> <td>0.817</td> <td>0.000</td> <td>2.394</td> <td>3.339</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Streetscene & Transportation</td> <td>3.519</td> <td>2.683</td> <td>0.000</td> <td>12.849</td> <td>19.051</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Strategic Programmes</td> <td>19.400</td> <td>0.964</td> <td>0.000</td> <td>0.000</td> <td>20.364</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Housing and Communities</td> <td>1.660</td> <td>0.386</td> <td>0.000</td> <td>0.286</td> <td>2.332</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Capital Programme and Assets</td> <td>0.675</td> <td>1.243</td> <td>0.000</td> <td>0.035</td> <td>1.953</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Council Fund Total</td> <td>37.469</td> <td>13.726</td> <td>0.000</td> <td>17.621</td> <td>68.816</td> </tr> <tr> <td>HRA Total</td> <td>25.074</td> <td>0.000</td> <td>0.000</td> <td>(1.757)</td> <td>23.317</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Programme Total</td> <td>62.543</td> <td>13.726</td> <td>0.000</td> <td>15.864</td> <td>92.133</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	REVISED PROGRAMME	Original Budget 2022/23	Carry Forward from 2021/22	2022/23 Savings	Changes - This Period	Revised Budget 2022/23	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	People & Resources	0.350	0.155	0.000	0.000	0.505	Governance	0.363	0.383	0.000	0.000	0.746	Education & Youth	10.010	6.057	0.000	(0.112)	15.955	Social Services	1.364	1.038	0.000	2.169	4.571	Planning, Environment & Economy	0.128	0.817	0.000	2.394	3.339	Streetscene & Transportation	3.519	2.683	0.000	12.849	19.051	Strategic Programmes	19.400	0.964	0.000	0.000	20.364	Housing and Communities	1.660	0.386	0.000	0.286	2.332	Capital Programme and Assets	0.675	1.243	0.000	0.035	1.953	Council Fund Total	37.469	13.726	0.000	17.621	68.816	HRA Total	25.074	0.000	0.000	(1.757)	23.317	Programme Total	62.543	13.726	0.000	15.864	92.133
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1.04	<p>Carry Forward from 2021/22</p> <p>Carry forward sums from 2021/22 to 2022/23, totalling £13.727m (CF £13.727m, HRA £0.000m), were approved as a result of the quarterly monitoring reports presented to Cabinet during 2021/22.</p>																																																																																	
1.05	<p>Changes during this period</p> <p>Funding changes during this period have resulted in a net increase in the programme total of £15.864m (CF £17.621m, HRA (£1.757m)). A summary of the changes, detailing major items, is shown in Table 2 below:-</p> <p>Table 2</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="333 633 1370 1937"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="3" style="text-align: center;">CHANGES DURING THIS PERIOD</th> </tr> <tr> <th></th> <th style="text-align: center;">Para</th> <th style="text-align: center;">£m</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td colspan="3"><u>COUNCIL FUND</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3">Increases</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Transportation Grants</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1.06</td> <td style="text-align: right;">9.596</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Highways</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1.07</td> <td style="text-align: right;">2.376</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Children's Services</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1.08</td> <td style="text-align: right;">1.883</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Townscape Heritage Initiatives</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1.09</td> <td style="text-align: right;">1.260</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Secondary Schools</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1.10</td> <td style="text-align: right;">1.010</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Energy Services</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1.11</td> <td style="text-align: right;">0.918</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Waste Services</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1.12</td> <td style="text-align: right;">0.877</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Other Aggregate Increases</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">1.777</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">19.697</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3">Decreases</td> </tr> <tr> <td>School Modernisation</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1.13</td> <td style="text-align: right;">(2.076)</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">(2.076)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">17.621</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3"><u>HRA</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3">Increases</td> </tr> <tr> <td>WHQS Improvements</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1.14</td> <td style="text-align: right;">2.207</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Other Aggregate Increases</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">0.591</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">2.798</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3">Decreases</td> </tr> <tr> <td>SHARP</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1.15</td> <td style="text-align: right;">(3.555)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Other Aggregate Decreases</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">(1.000)</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">(4.555)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">(1.757)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	CHANGES DURING THIS PERIOD				Para	£m	<u>COUNCIL FUND</u>			Increases			Transportation Grants	1.06	9.596	Highways	1.07	2.376	Children's Services	1.08	1.883	Townscape Heritage Initiatives	1.09	1.260	Secondary Schools	1.10	1.010	Energy Services	1.11	0.918	Waste Services	1.12	0.877	Other Aggregate Increases		1.777			19.697	Decreases			School Modernisation	1.13	(2.076)			(2.076)	Total		17.621	<u>HRA</u>			Increases			WHQS Improvements	1.14	2.207	Other Aggregate Increases		0.591			2.798	Decreases			SHARP	1.15	(3.555)	Other Aggregate Decreases		(1.000)			(4.555)	Total		(1.757)
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1.06	<p>It is usual in the early part of the financial year to receive notification of funding allocations that were not available at budget setting time. This is the</p>																																																																																	

	case with the Local Transport, Active Travel, Road Safety and Safe Routes grants from Welsh Government (WG). These grants will provide a range of transportation schemes across the County.
1.07	This is the introduction of additional allocations approved in the 2021/22 Outturn report, along with grant funding to support the Highway Asset Management Plan.
1.08	Re-profiling of the Child Care Offer Capital Grant for delivery of the final schemes in 2022/23.
1.09	Introduction of additional allocations approved in the 2021/22 Outturn report along with Transforming Town Place Making and Targeted Regeneration Investment grants for improvement of properties in the County.
1.10	Introduction of grant funding from WG for community focused schools, supporting projects to safely and effectively open schools to the community outside traditional hours.
1.11	Introduction of funding to complete the solar farm scheme in Connahs Quay and other energy efficiency schemes on Council assets.
1.12	WG funding has been introduced for improvement works at Standard Yard Transfer Stations, along with funding to purchase two waste vehicles.
1.13	Re-profiling of prudential borrowing for school modernisation schemes to match projected actual expenditure in this financial year.
1.14	Introduction of additional budget into the WHQS programme to match anticipated expenditure in this financial year.
1.15	Re-profiling of prudential borrowing for the Strategic Housing and Regeneration Programme (SHARP), due to delays in the number of schemes programmed in for this financial year.
1.16	<p>Capital Expenditure compared to Budget</p> <p>Expenditure as at Month 4, across the whole of the Capital Programme was £14.290m. The breakdown of expenditure is analysed in Table 3, along with the percentage spend against budget.</p> <p>This shows that 15.51% of the budget has been spent (CF 10.73%, HRA 29.61%). Corresponding figures for Month 4 2021/22 were 32.87% (CF 37.22%, HRA 24.89%).</p>
1.17	The table also shows a projected underspend (pending carry forward and other adjustments) of £1.543m on the Council Fund and a break even position on the HRA.

Table 3

EXPENDITURE	Revised Budget	Cumulative Expenditure Month 4	Percentage Spend v Budget	Projected Outturn	Variance Budget v Outturn (Under)/Over
	£m	£m	%	£m	£m
People & Resources	0.505	0.000	0.00	0.505	0.000
Governance	0.746	0.136	18.23	0.746	0.000
Education & Youth	15.955	0.992	6.22	15.494	(0.461)
Social Services	4.571	1.344	29.40	4.382	(0.189)
Planning, Environment & Economy	3.339	0.232	6.95	3.089	(0.250)
Streetscene & Transportation	19.051	3.351	17.59	19.005	(0.046)
Strategic Programmes	20.364	0.557	2.74	20.364	0.000
Housing & Communities	2.332	0.582	24.96	2.332	0.000
Capital Programme & Assets	1.953	0.193	9.88	1.356	(0.597)
Council Fund Total	68.816	7.387	10.73	67.273	(1.543)
Disabled Adaptations	1.114	0.151	13.55	1.114	0.000
Energy Schemes	1.101	0.753	68.39	1.101	0.000
Major Works	0.726	0.241	33.20	0.726	0.000
Accelerated Programmes	0.561	0.144	25.67	0.561	0.000
WHQS Improvements	15.562	4.683	30.09	15.562	0.000
SHARP Programme	4.253	0.931	21.89	4.253	0.000
Housing Revenue Account Total	23.317	6.903	29.61	23.317	0.000
Programme Total	92.133	14.290	15.51	90.590	(1.543)

1.18 Details of the variances for individual programme areas are listed in Appendix B, which includes the reasons, and remedial actions which may be required, where those variances exceed +/- 10% of the revised budget. In addition, where carry forward into 2023/24 has been identified, this is also included in the narrative.

1.19 **Carry Forward into 2023/24**
 During the quarter, carry forward requirements of £1.543m (all CF) has been identified which reflects reviewed spending plans across all programme areas; these amounts can be split into 2 areas, those required to meet the cost of programme works and/or retention payments in 2023/24 and Corporate provision that are allocated as requested and approved.

1.20 The Corporate provision is as follows:-

- Community Asset Transfers - Community groups have a number of years to draw down their funding once approved. These sums are set aside to ensure that funds are available when called upon.

1.21 Information relating to each programme area is contained in Appendix B and summarised in Table 4 below:

Table 4

CARRY FORWARD INTO 2023/24	Month 4 £m
Education & Youth	0.461
Social Services	0.189
Planning, Environment & Economy	0.250
Streetscene & Transportation	0.046
Capital Programme & Assets	0.597
Council Fund	1.543
TOTAL	1.543

1.22	<p>Additional Allocations</p> <p>Additional allocations have been identified in the programme in this quarter as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ty Nyth Children’s Assessment Centre - £0.060m. Additional funding required to complete works at Ty Nyth. The service will also bid for additional grant funding, which if successful, will allow this additional allocation to be returned back to the core programme. <p>This can be funded from within the current ‘headroom’ provision.</p>
1.23	<p>Savings</p> <p>No savings have been identified in the programme in this quarter.</p>
1.24	<p>Funding of 2022/23 Approved Schemes</p> <p>The position at Month 4 is summarised in Table 5 below for the three year Capital Programme between 2022/23 – 2024/25:-</p>

Table 5**FUNDING OF APPROVED SCHEMES 2022/23 - 2024/25**

	£m	£m
Balance carried forward from 2021/22		(2.149)
Increases		
Shortfall in 2022/23 to 2024/25 Budget	0.867	
		0.867
Decreases		
Additional GCG - 2022/23 Confirmed	(0.786)	
Actual In year receipts	(1.058)	(1.844)
Funding - (Available)/Shortfall		(3.126)

1.25 Capital receipts received in the first quarter of 2022/23, total £1.058m. This gives a revised projected surplus in the Capital Programme at Month 4 of £3.126m (from an opening funding position surplus of £2.068m) for the 2022/23 – 2024/25 Capital Programme, prior to the realisation of additional capital receipts and/or other funding sources.

1.26 **Investment in County Towns**

At its meeting on 12th December 2017, the Council approved a Notice of Motion relating to the reporting of investment in county towns. The extent and format of the reporting was agreed at the Corporate Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 14th June 2018.

1.27 Table 6 below shows a summary of the 2021/22 actual expenditure, the 2022/23 revised budget and budgets for future years as approved by Council at its meeting of 7th December, 2021. Further detail can be found in Appendix C, including details of the 2022/23 spend to Month 4.

Table 6**INVESTMENT IN COUNTY TOWNS**

	2021/22	2022/23	2023 -
	Actual	Revised	2025
	£m	Budget	Budget
		£m	£m
Buckley / Penyffordd	1.928	4.894	9.602
Connah's Quay / Shotton	0.842	2.515	1.500
Flint / Bagillt	0.368	1.782	7.750
Holywell / Caerwys / Mostyn	4.495	7.975	0.000
Mold / Treuddyn / Cilcain	6.968	21.016	22.101
Queensferry / Hawarden / Sealand	8.031	3.492	3.000
Saltney / Broughton / Hope	4.929	1.217	27.430
Unallocated / To Be Confirmed	1.540	4.796	18.092
Total	29.101	47.687	89.475

1.28 The inclusion of actuals for 2021/22 and approved schemes for future years allows a slightly fuller picture of investment plans. However, expenditure which has occurred in years' prior to 2021/22 has not be included, and the expenditure and budgets reported should be considered in that context.

1.29 There are two significant factors which increase allocations to particular areas, which are homes developed under SHARP, and new or remodelled schools. The impact of these can be seen in the detail shown in Appendix C.

1.30 Some expenditure cannot yet be allocated to specific towns as schemes are not yet fully developed or are generic in nature and not easily identifiable to one of the seven areas. As such schemes are identified the expenditure will be allocated to the relevant area.

1.31 Information on the split between internal and external funding can be found in Appendix C.

1.32 In addition to the information contained in Appendix C, there is also considerable capital expenditure on the HRA Welsh Housing Quality Standard (WHQS), which was originally outside the scope of this analysis. A summary is provided in Table 7 below, albeit using a slightly different catchment area basis.

Table 7

WHQS Programme		
	2021/22 Actual £m	2022/23 Budget £m
Holywell	0.850	4.550
Flint	0.870	1.450
Deeside & Saltney	4.430	1.700
Buckley	4.820	1.250
Mold	5.150	4.262
Connah's Quay & Shotton	0.960	2.350
Total	17.080	15.562

2.00 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

2.01 Financial implications - As set out in the body of the report.

2.02 Personnel implications - None directly as a result of this report.

3.00 IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND RISK MANAGEMENT

3.01 The impact of the pandemic will continue to be monitored closely during this financial year. Due to the re-profiling of schemes from the 2021/22 and resources available to manage and deliver schemes, the levels of planned expenditure in 2022/23 may be affected, resulting in a high level of carry forward requests to re-phase budgets into the 2023/24 programme.

In addition to the above there are currently indications that material supplies, and demand, are being impacted by overseas supply market disruption leading to potential cost increases, higher tender prices and project delays.

Grants received will also to be closely monitored to ensure that expenditure is incurred within the terms and conditions of the grant. The capital team will work with project leads to report potential risks of achieving spend within timescales and assist in liaising with the grant provider.

The Council has a prudent policy of allocating its own capital receipts to fund capital projects only when receipts are actually received rather than when it is anticipated the receipt will be received, and this position continues to be the case. Due to the pandemic there may be a delay in obtaining capital receipts as the timing of these receipts are also subject to market forces

	outside of the Council's control. In line with current policy no allowance has been made for these receipts in reporting the Council's capital funding position.
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4.00	CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT
4.01	No consultation is required as a direct result of this report.

5.00	APPENDICES
5.01	Appendix A: Capital Programme - Changes during 2022/23
5.02	Appendix B: Variances
5.03	Appendix C: Investment in Towns

6.00	LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS
6.01	Capital Programme monitoring papers 2022/23.

7.00	CONTACT OFFICER DETAILS
7.01	Contact Officer: Chris Taylor, Strategic Finance Manager Telephone: 01352 703309 E-mail: christopher.taylor@flintshire.gov.uk

8.00	GLOSSARY OF TERMS
8.01	<p>Budget Re-profiling: Capital schemes are very dynamic and a number of factors can influence their timing and funding. Budget re-profiling assures that the correct resources are available in the correct accounting period to finance the actual level of expenditure.</p> <p>Capital Expenditure: Expenditure on the acquisition of non-current assets or expenditure which extends the useful life of an existing asset</p> <p>Capital Programme: The Council's financial plan covering capital schemes and expenditure proposals for the current year and a number of future years. It also includes estimates of the capital resources available to finance the programme.</p> <p>Capital Receipts: Receipts (in excess of £10,000) realised from the disposal of assets.</p> <p>Carry Forward: Carry forward occurs when schemes due to be completed in a given financial year are delayed until a subsequent year. In this case</p>

the relevant funding is carried forward to meet the delayed, contractually committed expenditure.

CERA: Capital Expenditure charged to **Revenue Account**. The Council is allowed to use its revenue resources to fund capital expenditure. However the opposite is not permissible.

Council Fund (CF): The fund to which all the Council's revenue and capital expenditure is charged.

Housing Revenue Account (HRA): The fund to which all the Council's revenue and capital expenditure relating to its housing stock is charged.

MRA: Major Repairs Allowance. A general capital grant from WG for HRA purposes.

Non-current Asset: A resource controlled (but not necessarily owned) by the Council, from which economic benefits or service potential are expected to flow to the Council for more than 12 months.

Section 106: Monies are received from developers/contractors pursuant to Section 106 of the Town & Country Planning Act 1990. These sums are available for use once the relevant terms of the individual agreement have been met. The monies are most commonly used for educational enhancement, play areas, highways and affordable housing.

Target Hardening: Measures taken to prevent unauthorised access to Council sites.

Unhypothecated Supported Borrowing (USB), commonly referred to as Supported Borrowing - Each year Welsh Government provide Councils with a Supported Borrowing allocation. Councils borrow to fund capital expenditure equivalent to that annual allocation, Welsh Government then include funding to cover the revenue costs associated with the borrowing for future years within the Revenue Support Grant. The Council decides how this funding is spent.

Unsupported (Prudential) Borrowing: Borrowing administered under the Prudential Code, whereby Authorities can set their own policies on acceptable levels and types of borrowing. The Prudential Framework allows Authorities to take out loans in response to overall cash flow forecasts and other factors provided they can show that the borrowing is to meet planned capital expenditure in the current year or the next three years.

APPENDIX A

CAPITAL PROGRAMME - CHANGES DURING 2022/23

	Original Budget 2022/23	Carry Forward from 2021/22	2022/23 Savings	Changes (Current)	Revised Budget 2022/23
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Council Fund :					
People & Resources					
'Headroom'	0.350	0.140	0.000	0.000	0.490
Corporate Finance - H & S	0.000	0.015	0.000	0.000	0.015
	0.350	0.155	0.000	0.000	0.505
Governance					
Information Technology	0.363	0.383	0.000	0.000	0.746
	0.363	0.383	0.000	0.000	0.746
Education & Youth					
Education - General	0.650	4.778	0.000	(0.003)	5.425
Primary Schools	1.257	0.666	0.000	0.714	2.637
Schools Modernisation	7.303	0.000	0.000	(2.076)	5.227
Secondary Schools	0.300	0.357	0.000	1.253	1.910
Special Education	0.500	0.256	0.000	0.000	0.756
	10.010	6.057	0.000	(0.112)	15.955
Social Services					
Services to Older People	0.650	0.156	0.000	0.286	1.092
Learning Disability	0.270	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.270
Children's Services	0.444	0.882	0.000	1.883	3.209
	1.364	1.038	0.000	2.169	4.571
Planning, Environment & Economy					
Closed Landfill Sites	0.000	0.250	0.000	0.000	0.250
Engineering	0.038	0.349	0.000	0.000	0.387
Energy Services	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.918	0.918
Townscape Heritage Initiatives	0.050	0.218	0.000	1.260	1.528
Private Sector Renewal/Improv't	0.040	0.000	0.000	0.216	0.256
	0.128	0.817	0.000	2.394	3.339
Streetscene & Transportation					
Waste Services	1.875	1.930	0.000	0.877	4.682
Cemeteries	0.000	0.265	0.000	0.000	0.265
Highways	1.644	0.424	0.000	2.376	4.444
Local Transport Grant	0.000	0.018	0.000	9.596	9.614
Solar Farms	0.000	0.046	0.000	0.000	0.046
	3.519	2.683	0.000	12.849	19.051

APPENDIX A (Cont.)

	Original Budget 2022/23	Carry Forward from 2021/22	2022/23	Changes (Current)	Revised Budget 2022/23
			Savings		
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Strategic Programmes					
Leisure Centres	0.200	0.286	0.000	0.000	0.486
Play Areas	0.200	0.394	0.000	0.000	0.594
Libraries	0.000	0.009	0.000	0.000	0.009
Theatr Clwyd	19.000	0.275	0.000	0.000	19.275
	19.400	0.964	0.000	0.000	20.364
Housing & Communities					
Disabled Facilities Grants	1.660	0.386	0.000	0.286	2.332
	1.660	0.386	0.000	0.286	2.332
Capital Programme & Assets					
Administrative Buildings	0.675	0.588	0.000	0.035	1.298
Community Asset Transfers	0.000	0.655	0.000	0.000	0.655
	0.675	1.243	0.000	0.035	1.953
Housing Revenue Account :					
Disabled Adaptations	1.114	0.000	0.000	0.000	1.114
Energy Schemes	0.510	0.000	0.000	0.591	1.101
Major Works	0.726	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.726
Accelerated Programmes	0.561	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.561
WHQS Improvements	13.355	0.000	0.000	2.207	15.562
Modernisation / Improvements	1.000	0.000	0.000	(1.000)	0.000
SHARP Programme	7.808	0.000	0.000	(3.555)	4.253
	25.074	0.000	0.000	(1.757)	23.317
Totals :					
Council Fund	37.469	13.726	0.000	17.621	68.816
Housing Revenue Account	25.074	0.000	0.000	(1.757)	23.317
Grand Total	62.543	13.726	0.000	15.864	92.133

PEOPLE & RESOURCES

Capital Budget Monitoring 2022/23 - Month 4

Programme Area	Total Budget £m	Actual Exp. £m	Projected Outturn £m	Variance (Under)/ Over £m	Variance %age %	Variance Prev Qtr £m	Cause of Variance	Action Required	Comments
'Headroom'	0.490	0.000	0.490	0.000	0	0.000		Corporate provision - to be allocated as requested and approved.	Any unspent allocation will be the subject of a carry forward request at outturn.
Corporate Finance - Health & Safety	0.015	0.000	0.015	0.000	0	0.000		Corporate provision - to be allocated as requested and approved.	Any unspent allocation will be the subject of a carry forward request at outturn.
Total	0.505	0.000	0.505	0.000	0	0.000			

GOVERNANCE

Capital Budget Monitoring 2022/23 - Month 4

Programme Area	Total Budget £m	Actual Exp. £m	Projected Outturn £m	Variance (Under)/ Over £m	Variance %age %	Variance Prev Qtr £m	Cause of Variance	Action Required	Comments
Information Technology	0.746	0.136	0.746	0.000	0	0.000			
Total	0.746	0.136	0.746	0.000	0	0.000			

Variance = Budget v Outturn

EDUCATION & YOUTH

Capital Budget Monitoring 2022/23 - Month 4

Programme Area	Total Budget £m	Actual Exp. £m	Projected Outturn £m	Variance (Under)/ Over £m	Variance %age %	Variance Prev Qtr £m	Cause of Variance	Action Required	Comments
Education - General	5.425	0.388	5.221	(0.204)	-4	0.000	Joint archive scheme (£0.197m) and Gronant CP roof works retention (£0.007m) to fall into 2023/24.	Carry Forward - Request approval to move funding of £0.204m into 2023/24.	
Primary Schools	2.637	0.406	2.380	(0.257)	-10	0.000	Ysgol Penyffordd classroom extension works due to commence in April 2023, £0.257m.	Carry Forward - Request approval to move funding of £0.257m into 2023/24.	
Schools Modernisation	5.227	(0.166)	5.227	0.000	0	0.000			
Secondary Schools	1.910	0.125	1.910	0.000	0	0.000			
Special Education	0.756	0.239	0.756	0.000	0	0.000			
Total	15.955	0.992	15.494	(0.461)	-3	0.000			

Variance = Budget v Outturn

SOCIAL SERVICES

Capital Budget Monitoring 2022/23 - Month 4

Programme Area	Total Budget £m	Actual Exp. £m	Projected Outturn £m	Variance (Under)/ Over £m	Variance %age %	Variance Prev Qtr £m	Cause of Variance	Action Required	Comments
Services to Older People	1.092	0.130	0.903	(0.189)	-17	0.000	An element of design costs for Croes Atti Residential Home, Flint to fall into 2023/24.	Carry Forward - Request approval to move funding of £0.189m into 2023/24.	
Learning Disability Services	0.270	0.000	0.270	0.000	0	0.000			
Children's Services	3.209	1.214	3.209	0.000	0	0.000			
Total	4.571	1.344	4.382	(0.189)	-4	0.000			

Variance = Budget v Projected Outturn

PLANNING, ENVIRONMENT & ECONOMY

Capital Budget Monitoring 2022/23 - Month 4

Programme Area	Total Budget £m	Actual Exp. £m	Projected Outturn £m	Variance (Under)/ Over £m	Variance %age %	Variance Prev Qtr £m	Cause of Variance	Action Required	Comments
Closed Landfill Sites	0.250	0.000	0.000	(0.250)	-100	0.000	Project to progress into 2023/24.	Carry Forward - Request approval to move funding of £0.250m into 2023/24.	
Engineering	0.387	0.000	0.387	0.000	0	0.000			
Energy Services	0.918	0.083	0.918	0.000	0	0.000			
Townscape Heritage Initiatives	1.528	0.066	1.528	0.000	0	0.000			
Private Sector Renewal/Improvement	0.256	0.083	0.256	0.000	0	0.000			
Total	3.339	0.232	3.089	(0.250)	-7	0.000			

Variance = Budget v Outturn

STREETSCENE & TRANSPORTATION

Capital Budget Monitoring 2022/23 - Month 4

Programme Area	Total Budget £m	Actual Exp. £m	Projected Outturn £m	Variance (Under)/ Over £m	Variance %age %	Variance Prev Qtr £m	Cause of Variance	Action Required	Comments
Waste Services	4.682	(0.246)	4.682	0.000	0	0.000			A tender exercise is underway in relation to Standard Yard waste transfer station in Buckley; further market testing and additional funding options are now being explored, along with alternative designs.
Cemeteries	0.265	0.001	0.265	0.000	0	0.000			
Highways	4.444	(0.442)	4.444	0.000	0	0.000			
Local Transport Grant	9.614	4.038	9.614	0.000	0	0.000			
Solar Farms	0.046	0.000	0.000	(0.046)	-100	0.000	Works to take place in 2023/24 for the installation of solar PV at Standard Yard waste transfer station, to ensure site is energy neutral. This is a requirement as part of the wider improvement scheme on the site.	Carry Forward - Request approval to move funding of £0.046m into 2023/24.	
	19.051	3.351	19.005	(0.046)	-0	0.000			

Variance = Budget v Outturn

STRATEGIC PROGRAMMES

Capital Budget Monitoring 2022/23 - Month 4

Programme Area	Total Budget £m	Actual Exp. £m	Projected Outturn £m	Variance (Under)/ Over £m	Variance %age %	Variance Prev Qtr £m	Cause of Variance	Action Required	Comments
Leisure Centres	0.486	0.000	0.486	0.000	0	0.000			
Play Areas	0.594	0.159	0.594	0.000	0	0.000			
Libraries	0.009	0.000	0.009	0.000	0	0.000			
Theatr Clwyd	19.275	0.398	19.275	0.000	0	0.000			
Total	20.364	0.557	20.364	0.000	0	0.000			

Variance = Budget v Outturn

HOUSING & COMMUNITIES

Capital Budget Monitoring 2022/23 - Month 4

Programme Area	Total Budget	Actual Exp.	Projected Outturn	Variance (Under)/ Over	Variance %age	Variance Prev Qtr	Cause of Variance	Action Required	Comments
	£m	£m	£m	£m	%	£m			
Disabled Facilities Grants	2.332	0.582	2.332	0.000	0	0.000			DFG spend is customer driven and volatile.
Total	2.332	0.582	2.332	0.000	0	0.000			

Variance = Budget v Outturn

CAPITAL PROGRAMME & ASSETS

Capital Budget Monitoring 2022/23 - Month 4

Programme Area	Total Budget	Actual Exp.	Projected Outturn	Variance (Under)/ Over	Variance %age	Variance Prev Qtr	Cause of Variance	Action Required	Comments
	£m	£m	£m	£m	%	£m			
Administrative Buildings	1.298	0.185	1.298	0.000	0	0.000			
Community Asset Transfers	0.655	0.008	0.058	(0.597)	-91	0.000	Expenditure is incurred as and when schemes are signed off.	Carry Forward - Request approval to move funding of £0.597m into 2023/24.	
Total	1.953	0.193	1.356	(0.597)	-31	0.000			

Variance = Budget v Outturn

HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT

Capital Budget Monitoring 2022/23 - Month 4

Programme Area	Total Budget £m	Actual Exp. £m	Projected Outturn £m	Variance (Under)/ Over £m	Variance %age %	Variance Prev Qtr £m	Cause of Variance	Action Required	Comments
Disabled Adaptations	1.114	0.151	1.114	0.000	0	0.000			
Energy Services	1.101	0.753	1.101	0.000	0	0.000			Programme of works to assist with energy efficiency in homes.
Major Works	0.726	0.241	0.726	0.000	0	0.000			
Accelerated Programmes	0.561	0.144	0.561	0.000	0	0.000			
WHQS Improvements	15.562	4.683	15.562	0.000	0	0.000			Contract accelerated at Leeswood due to the number of external repairs highlighted. It is cost effective to carry out these works in year whilst contractors are currently on site as opposed to revisiting.
SHARP	4.253	0.931	4.253	0.000	0	0.000			Delay to the Nant Y Gro Scheme.
Total	23.317	6.903	23.317	0.000	0	0.000			

Variance = Budget v Outturn

SUMMARY

Capital Budget Monitoring 2022/23 - Month 4

Programme Area	Total Budget £m	Actual Exp. £m	Projected Outturn £m	Variance (Under)/ Over £m	Variance %age %	Variance Prev Qtr £m	Cause of Variance	Action Required	Comments
People & Resources	0.505	0.000	0.505	0.000	0	0.000			
Governance	0.746	0.136	0.746	0.000	0	0.000			
Education & Youth	15.955	0.992	15.494	(0.461)	-3	0.000			
Social Services	4.571	1.344	4.382	(0.189)	-4	0.000			
Planning, Environment & Economy	3.339	0.232	3.089	(0.250)	-7	0.000			
Streetscene & Transportation	19.051	3.351	19.005	(0.046)	-0	0.000			
Strategic Programmes	20.364	0.557	20.364	0.000	0	0.000			
Housing & Communities	2.332	0.582	2.332	0.000	0	0.000			
Capital Programme & Assets	1.953	0.193	1.356	(0.597)	-31	0.000			
Sub Total - Council Fund	68.816	7.387	67.273	(1.543)	-2	0.000			
Housing Revenue Account	23.317	6.903	23.317	0.000	0	0.000			
Total	92.133	14.290	90.590	(1.543)	-2	0.000			

Variance = Budget v Outturn

INVESTMENT IN COUNTY TOWNS - 2021/22 ACTUAL SPEND

APPENDIX C

TOWN FUNDING	21/22 ACTUAL £000	BUCKLEY		CONNAH'S QUAY		FLINT		HOLYWELL		MOLD		QUEENSFERRY		SALTNEY		UNALLOCATED		TOTALS			
		Internal £000	External £000	Internal £000	External £000	Internal £000	External £000	Internal £000	External £000	Internal £000	External £000	Internal £000	External £000	Internal £000	External £000	Internal £000	External £000	Internal £000	External £000	Total £000	
EXPENDITURE																					
HOUSING - HRA																					
SHARP	2,024					20		1,635	289	5		2					73		1,715	309	2,024
EDUCATION & YOUTH																					
Queensferry Campus	7,651											2,214	5,437						2,214	5,437	7,651
Ysgol Glanrafon	3,157										3,157								0	3,157	3,157
Castell Alun High School	4,216													3,121	1,095				3,121	1,095	4,216
SOCIAL CARE																					
Marleyfield EPH	605	605																	605	0	605
Ty Nyth, Children's Residential Care	462										462								0	462	462
PLANNING, ENVIRONMENT & ECONOMY																					
Solar PV Farms	600				600														600	0	600
STREETSCENE & TRANSPORTION																					
Improvements to Standard Yard Waste Transfer Station	386		386																0	386	386
Improvements to Greenfield Waste Transfer Station	795							27	768										27	768	795
Highways Maintenance	2,506	137	28	35		197		344	421	92	433	242		103	68		406	0	1,556	950	2,506
Transport Grant	4,133		772		207		151		1,011		253		136		542		1,061		0	4,133	4,133
STRATEGIC PROGRAMMES																					
Theatr Clwyd - Redevelopment	1,984										661	1,323							661	1,323	1,984
HOUSING & ASSETS																					
Affordable Housing	582									582									582	0	582
	29,101	742	1,186	635	207	197	171	2,006	2,489	1,340	5,628	2,458	5,573	3,224	1,705	479	1,061	11,081	18,020	29,101	

AREA TOTAL

1,928 842 368 4,495 6,968 8,031 4,929 1,540

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INVESTMENT IN COUNTY TOWNS - 2022/23 REVISED BUDGET

APPENDIX C (Cont)

TOWN FUNDING	REVISED BUDGET £000	BUCKLEY		CONNAH'S QUAY		FLINT		HOLYWELL		MOLD		QUEENSFERRY		SALTNEY		UNALLOCATED		TOTALS			
		Internal £000	External £000	Internal £000	External £000	Internal £000	External £000	Internal £000	External £000	Internal £000	External £000	Internal £000	External £000	Internal £000	External £000	Internal £000	External £000	Internal £000	External £000	Total £000	
EXPENDITURE																					
HOUSING - HRA																					
SHARP	7,808	32				162		7,581					33						7,808	0	7,808
EDUCATION & YOUTH																					
Ysgol Glanrafon	398									302	96								302	96	398
Ysgol Croes Atti, Shotton	750				262	488													262	488	750
Ysgol Croes Atti, Flint	350										350								0	350	350
Penyffordd CP	377	377																	377	0	377
Joint Archive Facility, FCC and DCC	197									197									197	0	197
SOCIAL CARE																					
Ty Nyth, Children's Residential Care	803																		0	803	803
Croes Atti Residential Care Home, Flint	1,000						1,000												1,000	0	1,000
Relocation of Tri-Ffordd Day Service provision	270													270					270	0	270
PLANNING, ENVIRONMENT & ECONOMY																					
Solar PV Farms	410				410														410	0	410
STREETSCENE & TRANSPORTION																					
Improvements to Standard Yard Waste Transfer Station	3,871	3,405	466																3,405	466	3,871
Highways Maintenance	2,592		33								4					2	2,152	401	2,152	440	2,592
Transport Grant	9,614		581		1,355		270	27	363		371		3,459		947		2,241	27	9,587		9,614
STRATEGIC PROGRAMMES																					
Theatr Clwyd - Redevelopment	19,247										247	19,000							247	19,000	19,247
	47,687	3,814	1,080	672	1,843	1,162	620	7,608	367	746	20,270	33	3,459	270	949	2,152	2,642	16,457	31,230	47,687	
AREA TOTAL			4,894		2,515		1,782		7,975		21,016		3,492		1,219		4,794				

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TOWN FUNDING	ACTUAL TO DATE £000	BUCKLEY		CONNAH'S QUAY		FLINT		HOLYWELL		MOLD		QUEENSFERRY		SALTNEY		UNALLOCATED		TOTALS				
		Internal £000	External £000	Internal £000	External £000	Internal £000	External £000	Internal £000	External £000	Internal £000	External £000	Internal £000	External £000	Internal £000	External £000	Internal £000	External £000	Internal £000	External £000	Total £000		
EXPENDITURE																						
HOUSING - HRA																						
SHARP	931	32				162		704					33							931	0	931
EDUCATION & YOUTH																						
Ysgol Glanrafon	347									250	97									250	97	347
SOCIAL CARE																						
Ty Nyth, Children's Residential Care	501									501										501	0	501
Croes Atti Residential Care Home, Flint	133						133													133	0	133
STREETSCENE & TRANSPORTION																						
Improvements to Standard Yard Waste Transfer Station	16		16																	0	16	16
Highways Maintenance	43		33						4						2		4			0	43	43
Transport Grant	4,038				1,250			9	92		288		2,399							9	4,029	4,038
STRATEGIC PROGRAMMES																						
Theatr Clwyd - Redevelopment	237										237									0	237	237
	6,246	32	49	0	1,250	295	0	713	96	751	622	33	2,399	0	2	0	4			1,824	4,422	6,246
AREA TOTAL																						
			81		1,250		295		809		1,373		2,432		2		4					

INVESTMENT IN COUNTY TOWNS - 2023- 2025 BUDGET

APPENDIX C (Cont)

TOWN FUNDING	FUTURE BUDGET £000	BUCKLEY		CONNAH'S QUAY		FLINT		HOLYWELL		MOLD		QUEENSFERRY		SALTNEY		UNALLOCATED		TOTALS			
		Internal £000	External £000	Internal £000	External £000	Internal £000	External £000	Internal £000	External £000	Internal £000	External £000	Internal £000	External £000	Internal £000	External £000	Internal £000	External £000	Total £000			
EXPENDITURE																					
EDUCATION & YOUTH																					
Ysgol Croes Atti, Flint	5,150					1,925	3,225												1,925	3,225	5,150
Drury County Primary	3,650	2,372	1,278																2,372	1,278	3,650
Elfed High School	4,488	1,571	2,917																1,571	2,917	4,488
Mynydd Isa Area	1,464	512	952																512	952	1,464
Saltney/Broughton Area	25,000													8,750	16,250				8,750	16,250	25,000
Joint Archive Facility, FCC and DCC	2,783									2,783									2,783	0	2,783
SOCIAL CARE																					
Relocation of Tri-Ffordd Day Service provision	2,430													2,430					2,430	0	2,430
STREETSCENE & TRANSPORTION																					
Highways Asset Management Plan	2,000																2,000		2,000	0	2,000
STRATEGIC PROGRAMMES																					
Theatr Clwyd - Redevelopment	19,000										7,000	12,000							7,000	12,000	19,000
HOUSING & ASSETS																					
Affordable Housing	23,510			1,500	0	2,600				318			3,000				16,092		23,510	0	23,510
	89,475	4,455	5,147	1,500	0	4,525	3,225	0	0	10,101	12,000	3,000	0	11,180	16,250	18,092	0	52,853	36,622	89,475	
AREA TOTAL			9,602	1,500		7,750		0		22,101		3,000		27,430		18,092					



CORPORATE RESOURCES OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Date of Meeting	Friday 23 September 2022
Report Subject	Council Plan 2022-23 Timeline Review
Cabinet Member	Leader of the Council
Report Author	Chief Executive
Type of Report	Strategic

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Council Plan for 2022-23 was adopted by County Council in July. The Plan was reviewed and refreshed for content following on from our response to the pandemic and our Recovery Strategy. The themes and priorities remain the same to 2021/22 however there are some developments with sub-priorities.

The outline of the Council Plan for 2022/23 including the six themes, their priorities and actions is appended (as Part 1).

At County Council in July, it was requested Overview and scrutiny Committee's review; (1) action timelines; and (2) some of the definitions be reviewed.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1	To agree Council Plan Part 1 reviewed and updated timelines for completion
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REPORT DETAILS

1.00	COUNCIL PLAN 2022/23
1.01	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.
1.02	<p>In July, County Council requested a review of timelines due to several target completion dates being set as March 2023. This review has been carried out for each of the actions of the Council Plan and is appended for reference. The dates have been reviewed by officers to ensure accurate targets are now identified. The document contains the updated target dates and rationale for the changes or no changes. The three categories of rationale are:</p> <p>Core Business – activity is ongoing; Project – activity has clear start and end dates; and New Initiative – activity has clear start date which may develop in the future</p>

2.00	RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS
2.01	Resource implications have been considered during preparation of the Medium-Term Financial Strategy and Capital Programme and will continue to be monitored during the regular budget monitoring and financial review arrangements.

3.00	CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED / CARRIED OUT
3.01	All Members have had the opportunity to consider and review the content of the draft Plan themes and priorities. Overview and Scrutiny Committees have reviewed and discussed the overall content of the Plan throughout January and February 2022.

4.00	IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND RISK MANAGEMENT						
4.01	<p>Ways of Working (Sustainable Development) Principles Impact</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Long-term</td> <td rowspan="5">The Council Plan 2022/23 continues to be aligned to the Sustainable Development Principles across all their working. Assessment against these will be made at the end of year Annual Performance Report.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Prevention</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Integration</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Collaboration</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Involvement</td> </tr> </table>	Long-term	The Council Plan 2022/23 continues to be aligned to the Sustainable Development Principles across all their working. Assessment against these will be made at the end of year Annual Performance Report.	Prevention	Integration	Collaboration	Involvement
Long-term	The Council Plan 2022/23 continues to be aligned to the Sustainable Development Principles across all their working. Assessment against these will be made at the end of year Annual Performance Report.						
Prevention							
Integration							
Collaboration							
Involvement							

Well-being Goals Impact								
<table border="1"> <tr><td>Prosperous Wales</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>	Prosperous Wales	Resilient Wales	Healthier Wales	More equal Wales	Cohesive Wales	Vibrant Wales	Globally responsible Wales	Council Plan 2022/23 continues to provide evidence of alignment with the Well-being Goals. Specific strategic and policy reports include impact and risk assessments.
Prosperous Wales								
Resilient Wales								
Healthier Wales								
More equal Wales								
Cohesive Wales								
Vibrant Wales								
Globally responsible Wales								
<u>Risk Management</u>								
Risks have been captured and added for information within Part 2 Council Plan 2022/23.								

5.00	APPENDICES
5.01	Appendix 1: Council Plan (Part 1) 2022-23 Timeline Review.

6.00	LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS
6.01	None.

7.00	CONTACT OFFICER DETAILS
7.01	Contact Officer: Jay Davies, Strategic Performance Advisor Telephone: 01352 702744 E-mail: jay.davies@flintshire.gov.uk

8.00	GLOSSARY OF TERMS
8.01	Council Plan: the document which sets out the annual priorities of the Council.
8.02	Medium Term Financial Strategy: 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.

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Portfolio	Task Description	Task Estimated Completion Date	New Estimated Completion Date	Task Type
Chief Exec's	Continuing to generate social value outcomes through the Council's procurement activities	31/03/2023	No Change	Core Business
Chief Exec's	Supporting supply chain partners to measure and convert their social value offerings through procurement commitments, into real and tangible benefits for local residents and communities	31/03/2023	No Change	Core Business
Chief Exec's	Reviewing the Social Value Strategy to identify further opportunities to maximise social value across the Council, its services and expenditure	31/03/2023	No Change	Core Business
Chief Exec's	Generating local spend to support economic growth through the inclusion of social value measures in procurement activity	31/03/2023	No Change	Core Business
Housing and Assets	Working with two local communities to inform a long term vision and delivery plan for using the Flexible Funding Grant programme to achieve positive outcomes for people	31/03/2023	No Change	New Initiative
Governance	Supporting people to use digital technology through promotion of suitable training to develop digital skills and confidence in the communities we serve	31/03/2023	No Change	Core Business
Governance	Providing free of charge public access to the internet and devices where necessary at Flintshire Connects Centres, Aura library services and the four Leisure Centres	31/03/2023	No Change	Core Business
Housing and Assets	Maximising the number of people signposted for support to facilitate longer term change	31/03/2023	No Change	Core Business
Housing and Assets	Ensuring that take-up to benefit entitlement is maximised in a timely way by processing claims efficiently	31/03/2023	No Change	Core Business
Housing and Assets	Maximising take up of the Discretionary Housing Payments scheme and other financial support	31/03/2023	No Change	Core Business
Housing and Assets	Continuing to offer our community hub (Contact Centres) approach giving access to a range of programmes, services and agencies together in one place	31/03/2023	31/03/2023	New Initiative
Housing and Assets	Developing a "Well Fed at Home service"	31/12/2022	31/12/2022	New Initiative
Housing and Assets	Continuing to develop delivery of a "Hospital to Home" meals service	31/03/2023	31/03/2023	New Initiative
Housing and Assets	Introducing a transported and delivered food service "Mobile Meals" to those who are vulnerable	31/03/2023	31/03/2023	New Initiative
Housing and Assets	Promoting housing support and homeless prevention services with our residents and partners	31/03/2023	No Change	Core Business

Portfolio	Task Description	Task Estimated Completion Date	New Estimated Completion Date	Task Type
Housing and Assets	Commissioning a wide range of housing related support that meets the needs of the people of Flintshire	31/03/2023	No Change	Core Business
Housing and Assets	Ensuring a multi-agency partnership approach to homeless prevention and develop a culture where homelessness is “everyone’s business”	31/03/2023	No Change	Core Business
Housing and Assets	Ensuring when homelessness does occur it is rare, brief and non-recurring	31/03/2023	No Change	Core Business
Housing and Assets	Developing and extending our Housing First and Rapid Rehousing approaches for those who do experience homelessness	31/03/2023	No Change	New Initiative
Housing and Assets	Remodelling the “emergency beds” Homeless Hub accommodation offer and service delivery	31/03/2023	No Change	New Initiative
Housing and Assets	Exploring opportunities to develop a young person’s homeless hub offering accommodation and support services	31/03/2023	No Change	New Initiative
Housing and Assets	Promoting the Single Access Route to Housing (SARTH), Common Housing Register, Affordable Housing Register and Housing Support Gateway within the community and with professionals	31/03/2023	No Change	Core Business
Housing and Assets	Developing self-service approaches that enable people to identify their own housing options through online support	31/03/2023	No Change	New Initiative
Housing and Assets	Piloting a risk assessment process to identify pre tenancy support needs to reduce risk of tenancy failure	31/03/2023	No Change	Project
Housing and Assets	Reviewing our sheltered housing stock to ensure that it continues to meet the needs of current and prospective tenants	31/03/2023	No Change	Core Business
Housing and Assets	Working with housing association partners to build new social housing properties and additional affordable properties	31/03/2023	31/03/2023	Core Business
Housing and Assets	Increasing the Council’s housing portfolio by building social housing properties and affordable properties for North East Wales (NEW) Homes	31/03/2023	31/03/2023	Core Business
Housing and Assets	Ensuring that the Council’s housing stock meets the Welsh Housing Quality Standard and achieves a minimum SAP energy efficiency rating of 65	31/12/2022	31/03/2023	Project
Housing and Assets	Developing plans for the de-carbonisation of Council homes in line with Welsh Government guidance to ensure their thermal efficiency is optimised and the cost of heating homes are minimised	31/03/2023	No Change	Core Business
Housing and Assets	Working with residents to ensure our communities are well managed, safe, and sustainable places to live	31/03/2023	No Change	Core Business

Portfolio	Task Description	Task Estimated Completion Date	New Estimated Completion Date	Task Type
Housing and Assets	Supporting our tenants to access technology and create sustainable digital communities	31/03/2023	No Change	New Initiative
Housing and Assets	Listening to our tenants and working with them to improve our services, homes and communities	31/03/2023	No Change	Core Business
Housing and Assets	In partnership with Denbighshire CC, creating a new Dynamic Procurement System in order to ensure CPR's are met and provide a wider opportunity for tendering Disabled Adaptation projects	31/03/2023	30/03/2023	New Initiative
Housing and Assets	Creation of a new amalgamated Disabled Adaptations Team consisting of Privately rented/Owned properties and Council Housing stock	31/03/2023	31/12/2022	Core Business
Housing and Assets	Engaging with private sector tenants, giving them a voice and responding to their needs	31/03/2023	No Change	Core Business
Housing and Assets	Working in partnership with landlords and private sector agents to better understand their needs	31/03/2023	No Change	Core Business
Housing and Assets	Developing a "landlord offer" that encourages landlords to work with the Council to raise standards of property management and condition of homes where needed	31/03/2023	No Change	Core Business
Housing and Assets	Improving access to private sector properties for those who are homeless, at risk of homeless and in housing need	31/03/2023	No Change	Core Business
Planning, Environment and Economy	Reducing the risk of fuel poverty for residents by increasing the energy efficiency of homes	31/03/2023	No Change	Core Business
Planning, Environment and Economy	Engaging, supporting and referring vulnerable households to reduce fuel poverty and improve health and wellbeing	31/03/2023	No Change	Core Business
Planning, Environment and Economy	Mapping Houses of Multiple Occupation (HMO's) across Flintshire to ensure legal minimum housing standards are met and to improve residents' quality of life	31/03/2023	No Change	Project
Planning, Environment and Economy	Bringing empty homes back into use thorough the Empty Homes Loan	31/03/2023	No Change	Core Business
Planning, Environment and Economy	Exploring opportunities to develop a project management service for non-commercial landlords to encourage take up of the Empty Home Loan Scheme	31/03/2023	No Change	New Initiative
Planning, Environment and Economy	Targeting 'problem' empty homes in our communities and use enforcement powers where appropriate to improve our communities and increase housing supply	31/03/2023	No Change	Core Business
Planning, Environment and Economy	Exploring opportunities to maximise housing and revitalise our towns through the redevelopment of the High Street	31/03/2023	No Change	Project

Portfolio	Task Description	Task Estimated Completion Date	New Estimated Completion Date	Task Type
Planning, Environment and Economy	Gathering information on annual Council greenhouse gas emissions to submit to Welsh Government and the Carbon Programme Board	30/09/2022	No Change	Core Business
Planning, Environment and Economy	Reviewing the procurement policy to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from suppliers	30/09/2022	30/09/2022	New Initiative
Planning, Environment and Economy	Developing plans towards net zero carbon for our assets in line with Welsh Government guidance	31/03/2023	No Change	Core Business
Planning, Environment and Economy	Working with Flintshire's leisure and culture trust partners to reduce carbon emissions	31/03/2023	No Change	New Initiative
Planning, Environment and Economy	Reviewing the Council's Flood Risk Management Strategy	31/03/2023	No Change	Core Business
Planning, Environment and Economy	Reviewing the Council's Strategic Flood Consequences Assessment	30/11/2022	30/11/2022	Core Business
Planning, Environment and Economy	Carrying out flood investigations and alleviation works where appropriate	31/03/2023	No Change	Core Business
Planning, Environment and Economy	Assessing the feasibility of schemes within land assets for resisting flood and drought while enhancing biodiversity and increasing carbon storage	31/01/2023	31/01/2023	Project
Planning, Environment and Economy	Enhancing the natural environment through the delivery of the Section 6 Environment Act Wales biodiversity duty	31/03/2023	No Change	Project
Planning, Environment and Economy	Delivering an increase in canopy cover as part of the Urban Tree and Woodland Plan	31/03/2023	No Change	Project
Planning, Environment and Economy	Delivery of green infrastructure projects under the Local Places for Nature grant funding stream	31/03/2023	No Change	Project
Planning, Environment and Economy	Exploring opportunities to develop the Flintshire Coast Park through the production of a scoping study	31/03/2023	31/12/2022	Project
Planning, Environment and Economy	Delivering the Rights of Way Improvement Plan with a focus to ensure improved access for all and the promotions of Walking for Health	31/03/2023	No Change	Core Business
Planning, Environment and Economy	Assessing the feasibility of renewable energy and land assets and link to wider carbon ambitions	31/03/2023	No Change	New Initiative
Planning, Environment and Economy	Agreeing appropriate investment strategy for future renewable energy developments	31/03/2023	No Change	New Initiative

Portfolio	Task Description	Task Estimated Completion Date	New Estimated Completion Date	Task Type
Planning, Environment and Economy	Support local businesses in their efforts to reduce their carbon footprint and become more resource efficient	31/03/2023	No Change	New Initiative
Planning, Environment and Economy	Monitoring the health and vitality of town centres to support effective management and business investment decisions	31/03/2023	No Change	Project
Planning, Environment and Economy	Encouraging and support investment in town centre properties especially to facilitate more sustainable uses	31/03/2023	No Change	Project
Planning, Environment and Economy	Improving the environment in town centres	31/03/2023	No Change	Project
Planning, Environment and Economy	Supporting the growth of community enterprises in town centre locations	31/03/2023	No Change	Project
Planning, Environment and Economy	Engaging town centre small businesses and improve support packages available to them	31/03/2023	No Change	Project
Planning, Environment and Economy	Supporting small and/or local businesses to engage with public sector procurement opportunities	31/03/2023	No Change	Project
Planning, Environment and Economy	Supporting recovery of the County's Street and indoor markets	31/03/2023	No Change	Project
Planning, Environment and Economy	Supporting growth of the local and regional food and drink business sector through marketing and collaborative projects	31/03/2023	No Change	New Initiative
Planning, Environment and Economy	Supporting recovery of the tourism and hospitality sectors and rebuild confidence in the industry	31/03/2023	No Change	New Initiative
Planning, Environment and Economy	Supporting local businesses in their efforts to reduce their carbon footprint and become more resource efficient	31/03/2023	No Change	New Initiative
Planning, Environment and Economy	Increasing the scale and impact of the social business sector	31/03/2023	No Change	Project
Planning, Environment and Economy	Starting delivery of the local plans within North Wales Growth Deal for digital infrastructure	31/03/2023	No Change	Project
Planning, Environment and Economy	Connecting further rural communities to improved digital infrastructure	31/03/2023	No Change	Project
Planning, Environment and Economy	Ensuring timely adoption of the LDP once Inspector's Report received	31/12/2022	No Change	Core Business

Portfolio	Task Description	Task Estimated Completion Date	New Estimated Completion Date	Task Type
Planning, Environment and Economy	Monitoring overall Plan performance via the Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) and submit to Welsh Government	31/03/2023	No Change	Core Business
Planning, Environment and Economy	Maintaining and updating the LDP Housing Trajectory in line with planning decisions made	31/03/2023	No Change	Core Business
Planning, Environment and Economy	Making decisions at Planning Committee in line with the adopted LDP	31/03/2023	No Change	Core Business
Planning, Environment and Economy	Referencing the LDP growth strategy in early work on a North Wales Strategic Development Plan (SDP)	31/03/2023	No Change	Core Business
Planning, Environment and Economy	Co-ordinating a multi-agency approach to support businesses to recruit people from disadvantaged groups	31/03/2023	No Change	Project
Planning, Environment and Economy	Delivering mentoring and wider support programmes to assist disadvantaged people to re-engage with the labour market	31/03/2023	No Change	Project
Streetscene and Transportation	Converting the authority's fleet to electric and alternative fuels (hydrogen etc)	31/03/2023	31/03/2030	New Initiative
Streetscene and Transportation	Promoting the use of public transport through the further development of the Council's core bus network	31/03/2023	No Change	Core Business
Streetscene and Transportation	Promoting multi modal transport journeys and the development of strategic transport hubs	31/03/2023	No Change	Core Business
Streetscene and Transportation	Developing the County's electric car charging network	31/03/2023	31/12/2022	New Initiative
Streetscene and Transportation	Promoting active travel and further developing the County's walking and cycling network	31/03/2023	No Change	Core Business
Streetscene and Transportation	Achieving Welsh Government recycling targets	31/03/2023	31/03/2025	Core Business
Streetscene and Transportation	Support and promote Re-Use and Repair initiatives in partnership with Refurbs Flintshire	31/03/2023	No Change	Project
Streetscene and Transportation	Promoting the option to reuse and repair unwanted items at Household Recycling Centres by partnering with local Charities or social enterprises	31/03/2023	No Change	New Initiative
Streetscene and Transportation	Working in partnership, actively support and engage with community led groups by developing recycling initiatives	31/03/2023	No Change	New Initiative

Portfolio	Task Description	Task Estimated Completion Date	New Estimated Completion Date	Task Type
Streetscene and Transportation	Developing and delivering transport infrastructure improvements as part of North Wales Metro programme and the Council's Integrated Transport Strategy	31/03/2023	No Change	Core Business
Streetscene and Transportation	Ensuring Flintshire strategic transport priorities are well-represented in the Regional Transport Plan from the forthcoming Corporate Joint Committee development	31/03/2023	No Change	Project
Streetscene and Transportation	Working in partnership, actively support and engage with community led groups by developing Local Environmental Quality initiatives	31/03/2023	31/03/2024	New Initiative
Social Services	Developing an Early Years Strategy to ensure that all our children ages 0-7 have the best possible start in life and are able to reach their full potential	31/03/2023	No Change	New Initiative
Social Services	Plan for the relocation of Tri Ffordd supported employment project to a central site in Mold	31/03/2023	31/12/2022	Project
Social Services	Supporting people to achieve their mental well-being outcomes by promoting personal and community well-being through open access courses delivered by the Learning Partnership	31/03/2023	No Change	New Initiative
Social Services	Developing an action plan to recommission our advocacy service for adults	31/03/2023	31/10/2022	Core Business
Social Services	Continuing to promote the corporate e-learning package	31/03/2023	No Change	Core Business
Social Services	Preparing for the implementation of the new Liberty Protect Safeguard procedures	31/03/2023	No Change	Core Business
Social Services	Setting up a registered Children's Home to help avoid the need for residential placements outside Flintshire	31/03/2023	No Change	Project
Social Services	Continuing to grow our in-house homecare service to support more people to live at home	31/03/2023	No Change	Core Business
Social Services	Continuing to grow our in-house fostering service to support more looked after children	31/03/2023	No Change	Core Business
Social Services	Establishing a Dementia Strategy Project Board and increasing engagement from citizens with lived experience of dementia	31/03/2023	30/09/2022	Project
Education and Youth	Ensuring children have access to well-maintained outdoor play areas which offer a varied and rich play environment	31/03/2023	No Change	Core Business
Education and Youth	Making the processes for claiming free school meals as simple and straightforward as possible to increase the percentage of take-up against entitlement	31/03/2023	30/09/2022	Core Business

Portfolio	Task Description	Task Estimated Completion Date	New Estimated Completion Date	Task Type
Education and Youth	Encouraging take-up of the free school breakfast for year 7 pupils eligible for free school meals	31/03/2023	31/12/2022	Core Business
Education and Youth	Maximising the take-up of the school uniform grant	31/03/2023	30/09/2022	Core Business
Education and Youth	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	31/03/2023	No Change	Core Business
Education and Youth	School employees continuing to access the GwE professional learning offer and engage in cluster working	31/03/2023	No Change	Core Business
Education and Youth	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	31/03/2023	23/12/2022	Project
Education and Youth	Working with schools to support development and implementation of flexible and bespoke educational packages to improve attendance and engagement	31/03/2023	31/08/2023	Project
Education and Youth	Supporting schools and wider education services to increase their digital offer for children and young people	31/03/2023	No Change	Core Business
Education and Youth	Upskilling employees within the Education and Youth Portfolio through access to the GwE professional learning offer and other appropriate training opportunities	31/03/2023	No Change	Core Business
Education and Youth	Embedding the delivery plan for Integrated Youth Services by maintaining focus on increased digital engagement	31/03/2023	No Change	Core Business
Education and Youth	Continuing to increase the range of digital material hosted on the North East Wales Archive website and other digital services to encourage greater participation	31/03/2023	No Change	Core Business
Education and Youth	Continuing to monitor schools' provision for learners who are 'digitally disadvantaged'	31/03/2023	No Change	Core Business
Education and Youth	Supporting schools to maximise their available hardware via the national Hwb programme and to ensure sustainable funding plans in place	31/03/2023	No Change	Core Business
Education and Youth	Starting construction of the proposed 3-16 campus at Mynydd Isa	31/03/2023	No Change	Core Business
Education and Youth	Consult on increasing capacity of Drury CP and Penyffordd CP schools through the School Organisation Code	31/03/2023	No Change	Core Business
Education and Youth	Commissioning a contractor and start design and development process for Drury CP and Penyffordd CP	31/03/2023	31/12/2022	Project

Portfolio	Task Description	Task Estimated Completion Date	New Estimated Completion Date	Task Type
Education and Youth	Seeking Council approval to progress B and B Wales Government 21st Century Schools Investment Programme	31/03/2023	No Change	Core Business
Education and Youth	Progressing the development of a new premises plan for the North East Wales Archive	31/03/2023	No Change	Core Business
Education and Youth	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	31/03/2023	No Change	Core Business
Education and Youth	Developing the Delivery Plan for Adult Community Learning to increase engagement and improve skills within local communities	31/03/2023	30/09/2022	Core Business
Education and Youth	Developing a Supporting Learners strategy to increase levels of engagement and provide appropriate progression routes to further engagement, study or employment	31/03/2023	No Change	Core Business
Education and Youth	Expanding the adult learning offer to reflect national, regional and local priorities in order to provide the skills required through partnership planning	31/03/2023	No Change	Core Business
Education and Youth	Working in partnership with Aura to provide Alternative Provision to young people excluded from school to help gain meaningful qualifications	31/03/2023	No Change	Core Business
Education and Youth	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	31/03/2023	31/08/2023	Project
Education and Youth	Further defining and embedding the menu of outreach support and training to be offered to schools via Plas Derwen Pupil Referral Unit	31/03/2023	31/08/2023	Project
Education and Youth	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	31/03/2023	No Change	Core Business
Education and Youth	Continuing to increase the capacity and take up of Welsh medium education to achieve Welsh Government targets	31/03/2023	No Change	Core Business
Education and Youth	Continue to improve the Welsh language skills of employees in schools to more effectively support learners and the delivery of the curriculum	31/03/2023	No Change	Core Business
Education and Youth	Providing targeted support and intervention to schools to raise standards and promote bilingualism	31/03/2023	No Change	Core Business
Education and Youth	Extending the range of youth services delivered bilingually to encourage young people to retain and use their Welsh language skills into early adulthood	31/03/2023	No Change	Core Business
Education and Youth	Embedding the role of the Integrated Youth Provision Welsh language coordinator	31/03/2023	No Change	Core Business

Portfolio	Task Description	Task Estimated Completion Date	New Estimated Completion Date	Task Type
Education and Youth	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	31/03/2023	No Change	Core Business
Education and Youth	Rolling out the National Framework for Embedding a Whole School Approach to Emotional Health and Wellbeing in all Flintshire schools	31/03/2023	No Change	Project
Education and Youth	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	31/03/2023	30/09/2022	Core Business
Education and Youth	Meeting the requirements under Wellbeing Whole School Approach Development Fund for employee training and pupil engagement	31/03/2023	No Change	Project
Education and Youth	Consolidating the Inspire Youth Work Hospital Project which provides support to young people at risk of self-harming behaviour	31/03/2023	No Change	Core Business
Education and Youth	Improving awareness of trauma informed practice with schools and Education and Youth workforce	31/03/2023	No Change	Core Business
Education and Youth	Developing action plans based on the findings, particularly in relation to Emotional Health and Wellbeing	31/03/2023	31/12/2022	Core Business

BUSINESS AND FINANCIAL PLANNING CYCLE

FINANCES

PLANNING AND PERFORMANCE

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE & EXTERNAL PARTNERSHIPS

AUGUST 22				SEPTEMBER 22				OCTOBER 22				NOVEMBER 22				DECEMBER 22				JANUARY 23				FEBRUARY 23				MARCH 23				APRIL 23				MAY 23				JUNE 23				JULY 23				AUGUST 23				SEPTEMBER 23				OCTOBER 23				NOVEMBER 23				DECEMBER 23																																																							
WK 1	WK 2	WK 3	WK 4	WK 1	WK 2	WK 3	WK 4	WK 1	WK 2	WK 3	WK 4	WK 1	WK 2	WK 3	WK 4	WK 1	WK 2	WK 3	WK 4	WK 1	WK 2	WK 3	WK 4	WK 1	WK 2	WK 3	WK 4	WK 1	WK 2	WK 3	WK 4	WK 1	WK 2	WK 3	WK 4	WK 1	WK 2	WK 3	WK 4	WK 1	WK 2	WK 3	WK 4	WK 1	WK 2	WK 3	WK 4	WK 1	WK 2	WK 3	WK 4	WK 1	WK 2	WK 3	WK 4																																																																
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REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING												FORMAL OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PROCESS OF CAPITAL PROGRAMME BUDGET PROPOSALS												CAPITAL PROGRAMME SET BY CABINET												FORMAL OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PROCESS OF CAPITAL PROGRAMME BUDGET PROPOSALS												CAPITAL PROGRAMME SET BY CABINET												FORMAL OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PROCESS OF BUDGET PROPOSALS												CAPITAL PROGRAMME SET BY CABINET																																															
CAPITAL PROGRAMME SETTING												QUARTERLY MONITORING REPORTING MONTH 4												QUARTERLY MONITORING REPORTING MONTH 6												QUARTERLY MONITORING REPORTING MONTH 9												FULL YEAR OUTTURN MONITOR AND REVIEW												QUARTERLY MONITORING REPORTING MONTH 4												QUARTERLY MONITORING REPORTING MONTH 6																																															
CAPITAL PROGRAMME MONITORING												FORMAL OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PROCESS OF HRA BUDGET PROPOSALS												HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT BUDGET SETTING												FORMAL OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PROCESS OF HRA BUDGET PROPOSALS												HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT MONITORING												FORMAL OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PROCESS OF HRA BUDGET PROPOSALS												HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT MONITORING																																															
MONTHLY MONITORING BY CABINET AND CORPORATE RESOURCES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE																																																																																																																							
MONTHLY MONITORING BY PORTFOLIOS - ESCALATION OF RISKS, AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT																																																																																																																							
MONTHLY MONITORING BY RISK MANAGEMENT AND PORTFOLIOS - ESCALATION OF RISKS, CLOSED RISKS AND RED RISKS																																																																																																																							
COUNCIL PLAN												COT DEVELOP COUNCIL PLAN 23-28 FRAMEWORK												CABINET AGREE COUNCIL PLAN 23-28 FRAMEWORK												COUNCIL PLAN 23-28 PART 1 & 2 DETAIL DEVELOPED												COUNCIL PLAN 23-28 SHARED AT SENIOR LEADERS ACADEMY												CABINET AGREE DEVELOPED COUNCIL PLAN 23-28 CONTENT												CONSULTATION BEGINS ON COUNCIL PLAN 23-28												COUNCIL PLAN 23-28 MEMBER WORKSHOP												CABINET APPROVE COUNCIL PLAN 23-28												COUNCIL PLAN 23-28 ADOPTION											
COUNCIL PLAN MONITORING AND REVIEW												MID YEAR MONITORING REPORT SHARED AT CABINET												QUARTER 3 MONITORING SHARED AT CABINET												END OF YEAR MONITORING REPORT SHARED AT CABINET												QUARTER 1 MONITORING REPORT SHARED AT CABINET												MID YEAR MONITORING REPORT SHARED AT CABINET																																																											
PORTFOLIO BUSINESS PLANS												PORTFOLIO BUSINESS AND SERVICE PLAN DEVELOPMENT												PORTFOLIO BUSINESS AND SERVICE PLAN REVIEW AND DEVELOPMENT												PORTFOLIO BUSINESS AND SERVICE PLAN REVIEW AND DEVELOPMENT												PORTFOLIO BUSINESS AND SERVICE PLAN REVIEW AND DEVELOPMENT												PORTFOLIO BUSINESS AND SERVICE PLAN REVIEW AND DEVELOPMENT																																																											
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RISK MANAGEMENT												CODE OF CORPORATE GOVERNANCE UPDATED BY COWG												CODE OF CORPORATE GOVERNANCE ENORSED BY GOVERNANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE												ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT ENORSED BY GOVERNANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE												ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT ENORSED BY GOVERNANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE												ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT ENORSED BY GOVERNANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE												CODE OF CORPORATE GOVERNANCE UPDATED BY COWG																																															
GOVERNANCE												FINAL STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS												ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT MID YEAR PROGRESS REPORT												ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT REVIEWED BY COWG												DRAFT STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS												FINAL STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS																																																											
FCC WELL-BEING OBJECTIVES												WELLBEING OBJECTIVES REVIEWED ALONGSIDE COUNCIL PLAN												FCC WELL-BEING OBJECTIVES PUBLISHED ALONGSIDE COUNCIL PLAN 23/28												PUBLISH PSB WELLBEING PLAN 23-28												LAUNCH 12 WEEK PUBLIC CONSULTATION ON DRAFT PSB WELLBEING PLAN 23-28												CORPORATE SELF-ASSESSMENT APPROVED BY COUNTY COUNCIL																																																											
PSB - WELL-BEING PLAN												INTERNAL TRIANGULATION OF CORPORATE SELF-ASSESSMENT												CORPORATE SELF-ASSESSMENT APPROVED BY COUNTY COUNCIL												CORPORATE SELF-ASSESSMENT REVIEW WORK CAN BEGINS												INTERNAL TRIANGULATION OF CORPORATE SELF-ASSESSMENT												CORPORATE SELF-ASSESSMENT APPROVED BY COUNTY COUNCIL																																																											
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