# FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

### CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

# DATE OF MEETING: 21 NOVEMBER 2023 AGENDA ITEM NO. 4

# REPORT OF:Chief Executive, Corporate Finance Manager,<br/>Corporate Manager – Capital Programme & Assets

#### SUBJECT: CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2024/25 – 2026/27

RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT:

- To approve the allocations and schemes in Table 3 for the Statutory/Regulatory and Retained Assets sections of the Council Fund Capital Programme 2024/25 – 2026/27;
- To approve the schemes included in Table 4 for the Investment section of the Council Fund Capital Programme 2024/25 – 2026/27;
- (3) To note that the shortfall in funding of schemes in 2024/25 and 2025/26 in Table 5 at this point in the approval process allows flexibility. Options including a combination of future capital receipts, alternative grants (if available), prudential borrowing or the re-phasing of schemes will be considered during 2024/25 and included in future Capital Programme reports; and
- (4) To consider and approve the schemes included in Table 6 for the specifically funded section of the Council Fund Capital Programme which will be funded in part through borrowing.

As detailed in the recommendations.

As in the report.

The proposed Capital Programme will be

DECISION:

**REASON FOR DECISION:** 

CONSULTATIONS

# **REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT:**

referred to the Corporate Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee for comment at its meeting on 16 November 2023, with their comments being fed back to Cabinet verbally before being discussed at County Council in December 2023.

#### **RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:**

Financial consequences for capital resources are as set out within the report.

As previously stated, there are revenue consequences of borrowing in interest costs and revenue provision for debt repayment which will bear on the MTFS as new pressures.

The pressures for previously approved school building works, the Joint Archive Facility and Croes Atti Residential Care Home have been built into the current MTFS. Pressures for borrowing for new schemes, will be built into future MTFS calculations as necessary.

	Pressure	Pressure	Average
	in Year 1	in Year 50	Annual
			Pressure
	£m	£m	£m
Develop- ment of Children's Resident- ial Care	0.060	0.079	0.068
Total	0.060	0.079	0.068

#### **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:**

None.

DISPENSATIONS

None.

DATE PUBLISHED:

22<sup>nd</sup> September 2023

**SIGNED** 

### FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

#### CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

### DATE OF MEETING: 21 NOVEMBER 2023 AGENDA ITEM NO. 5

#### **<u>REPORT OF:</u>** <u>Corporate Finance Manager</u>

# SUBJECT:CAPITAL STRATEGY INCLUDING PRUDENTIALINDICATORS 2024/25 - 2026/27

RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT:

- (1) Cabinet approves and recommends the Capital Strategy to County Council; and
- (2) Cabinet approve and recommends to Council:
  - The Prudential Indicators for 2024/25 – 2026/27 as detailed within Tables 1, and 4-8 of the Capital Strategy
  - Delegated authority for the Corporate Finance Manager to effect movements between the separately agreed limits within the authorised limit for external debt and the operational boundary for external debt (Table 6 of the Capital Strategy)

#### **DECISION:**

#### **REASON FOR DECISION:**

#### CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT:

As detailed in the recommendations.

As in the report.

The Capital Strategy and the proposed Capital Programme will be referred to the Corporate Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee for comment at its meeting on 16th November 2023, with their comments being fed back to Cabinet verbally before being discussed at County Council in December 2023.

## **RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:**

As set out within the report.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

DISPENSATIONS

DATE PUBLISHED:

None.

<u>NS</u>

None.

22<sup>nd</sup> September 2023

SIGNED

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#### FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

#### CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

#### DATE OF MEETING: 21 NOVEMBER 2023 AGENDA ITEM NO. 6

#### **<u>REPORT OF:</u>** <u>Chief Officer (Streetscene and Transportation)</u>

#### WASTE STRATEGY CONSULTATION

**RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT:** (1) That Cabinet acknowledges the progress made on achieving a robust and effective Resources and Waste Strategy to meet net zero targets and mitigate against the risk of fine and achieve statutory recycling targets; and

(2) That Cabinet approves the commencement of a consultation exercise on the authority's draft Resources and Waste Strategy.

As detailed in the recommendations.

As in the report.

**REASON FOR DECISION:** 

DECISION:

SUBJECT:

CONSULTATIONS	
<b>REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT:</b>	

Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Streetscene and Regional Transport Strategy; Flintshire residents; elected Members; Town and Community Councils; Members of the Senedd; Members of Parliament; Flintshire County Council officers and employees; contractors.

#### **RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:**

The work is being supported by Local Partnerships and Waste Resources Action Programme (WRAP) Cymru. There is no additional resource implication for undertaking the public consultation, however support will be required through the corporate communications team.

**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** 

None.

**DISPENSATIONS** 

None.

# DATE PUBLISHED:

22<sup>nd</sup> September 2023

# <u>SIGNED</u>

Democratic Services Manager

The

**Democratic Services Manager** 

# **FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

# **CABINET RECORD OF DECISION**

DATE OF MEETING:	21 NOVEMBER 2023		23	<u>AGENDA ITEM NO. 7</u>		
REPORT OF:	Corporate Finance Manager					
SUBJECT:	REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING 2023/24 (MONTH 6)					
RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT:		(1)	To note the report and the estimated financial impact on the 2023/24 budget; and			
		(2)	£0.100m	ove the change of use for of an earmarked reserve arelink service as outlined		
DECISION:		As de	etailed in th	ne recommendations.		
REASON FOR DECISION:		As in the report.				
CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT:		None.				
<b>RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:</b>		As set out within the report.				
DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:		None.				
<b>DISPENSATIONS</b>		None.				
<b>DISPENSATIONS</b>		None	•			
DISPENSATIONS			Septembei	r 2023		

**SIGNED** 

Shall

# **FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

# CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING:	21 NOVEMBER 2023		23	AGENDA ITEM NO. 8	
REPORT OF:	Corporate Finance Manager				
SUBJECT:	CAPITAL PROGRAMME MONITORING 2023/24 (MONTH 6)				
<b>RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT:</b>		(1)	Approve the overall report;		
		(2)	•••	e the carry forward ents as set out in 1.12; and	
		(3)		e the additional allocations out in 1.14.	
DECISION:		As detailed in the recommendations.			
REASON FOR DECISION:		As in the report.		t.	
CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT	<u>:</u>	No consultation is required as a direct result of this report.		•	

**RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:** 

As set out in the body of the report.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

**DISPENSATIONS** 

DATE PUBLISHED:

None.

None.

22<sup>nd</sup> September 2023

**SIGNED** 

## FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

### **CABINET RECORD OF DECISION**

# DATE OF MEETING: 21 NOVEMBER 2023 AGENDA ITEM NO. 9

# **<u>REPORT OF:</u>** <u>Chief Officer (Governance)</u>

# SUBJECT: COUNCIL TAX BASE FOR 2024/25

**RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT:** 

 Approve the tax base of 66,081
 band D equivalent properties for tax setting purposes for the financial year 2024/25; and

As detailed in the recommendations.

As in the report.

None.

(2) Continue to set a 'nil' discount for properties falling within any of the Prescribed Classes (A, B or C) and for this to apply to the whole of the county area.

**DECISION:** 

**REASON FOR DECISION:** 

CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT:

**RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:** 

Setting the tax base is part of an annual process of determining council tax charges for the next financial year as part of the council's budget preparations.

The tax base is also used by the Police & Crime Commissioner and town/community council's to set their new council tax precepts, and which will be included in the 2024/25 bills sent to every council taxpayer.

#### DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

None.

DISPENSATIONS

DATE PUBLISHED:

22<sup>nd</sup> September 2023

<u>SIGNED</u>

Shall

# FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

### CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

# DATE OF MEETING: 21 NOVEMBER 2023 AGENDA ITEM NO. 10

#### **<u>REPORT OF:</u>** <u>Chief Officer (Planning, Environment and Economy)</u>

# SUBJECT: SHARED PROSPERITY FUND

- RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT:
- Members are asked to note the progress made in developing the SPF programme both regionally and locally; and
  - (2) Members are asked to review and approve the recommended approach to allocating any residual SPF money and delegate authority to the Chief Officer (Planning, Environment and Economy) and the Cabinet Member for Climate Change and Economy to operate this approach and to manage changes within the projects approved.

#### As detailed in the recommendations.

#### As in the report.

Consultation events were held with stakeholders in May 2022 as part of the development of the regional investment strategy. The Council met again with consultees in October 2022 to provide an update on the development of the programme and raise awareness of forthcoming funding opportunities.

Four percent of the value of the programme can be drawn down by the regional lead body for programme governance, administration and monitoring and evaluation. Funds can be allocated from this sum to each local authority to cover programme management costs so the programme

#### **DECISION:**

**REASON FOR DECISION:** 

#### <u>CONSULTATIONS</u> <u>REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT:</u>

#### **RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:**

should not present an additional burden to Council finances.

Match funding is not required by UK Government for the SPF programme. The Council therefore does not face any additional financial pressures from the delivery of the programme.

#### DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

None.

**DISPENSATIONS** 

None.

DATE PUBLISHED:

22<sup>nd</sup> September 2023

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## FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

### CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

# DATE OF MEETING: 21 NOVEMBER 2023 AGENDA ITEM NO. 11

#### **<u>REPORT OF:</u>** Chief Officer (Planning, Environment and Economy)

# SUBJECT: SOCIAL ENTERPRISE

- **RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT:** (1) Members are asked to review and approve the draft response to the Audit Wales report '*A missed* 
  - approve the draft response to the Audit Wales report '*A missed opportunity*' – *Social Enterprises*; and
  - (2) Members are asked to review and approve the draft Social Enterprise Action Plan which has been developed following the publication of the report above.

**DECISION:** 

**REASON FOR DECISION:** 

#### CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT:

**RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:** 

As detailed in the recommendations.

As detailed in the report.

The production of the revised Social Enterprise Action Plan included consultation with representatives from the sector.

No resource implications arise directly from this report. The actions contained in the Action Plan make use of available Council resources.

**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** 

None.

**DISPENSATIONS** 

None.

DATE PUBLISHED:

22<sup>nd</sup> September 2023

<u>SIGNED</u>

Shall

#### FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

### CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

# DATE OF MEETING: 21 NOVEMBER 2023 AGENDA ITEM NO. 12

#### **<u>REPORT OF:</u>** <u>Chief Officer (Planning, Environment and Economy)</u>

As in the report.

# SUBJECT: FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL'S CARBON FOOTPRINT REPORT 2022-23 FOOTPRINT REPORT 2022-23

**RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT:** To note the contents of the report, and progress made in the past year to improve data collection for the Council's carbon footprint.

#### **DECISION:**

**REASON FOR DECISION:** 

#### CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT:

**RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:** 

None required.

As detailed in the recommendation.

Staff time and collaboration with other council departments (e.g., IT) to identify digital tools to streamline the collection of raw data (e.g., electricity use in buildings).

Some costs may be involved if a suitable digital tool is identified, but it is currently not clear whether that would be the case or how much.

Recruitment of a Joint Procurement Business Partner between Flintshire County Council and Denbighshire County Council in September 2023.

### **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:**

None.

None.

DISPENSATIONS

DATE PUBLISHED:

22<sup>nd</sup> September 2023

<u>SIGNED</u>

Shall

## FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

### CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

# DATE OF MEETING: 21 NOVEMBER 2023 AGENDA ITEM NO. 13

# **REPORT OF:** Chief Officer (Housing and Communities)

# HOMELESS PRESSURES

RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT:

- (1) Cabinet to note the latest financial position in relation to homelessness; and
- (2) Cabinet to support the options outlined in appendix 1 to increase supply and mitigate further overspends on the homelessness budget.

**DECISION:** 

SUBJECT:

**REASON FOR DECISION:** 

#### CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT:

As detailed in the recommendations.

As in the report.

Consultation with Elected Members through Cabinet and Communities and Housing Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

Consultation with Housing Partners will be undertaken if options relating to changes to the Allocations Policy are progressed. The Common Allocations Policy is a shared policy and their support and engagement in adopting any temporary changes of practice will be required, if we are to apply the changes to all social housing in Flintshire, and not just Council homes.

The approach to consultation with residents in relation to the Sheltered Housing Review will be agreed by the Task and Finish Group. Consideration will need to be given to whether consultation with Mini Group communities is required if changes to these properties are to be progressed.

#### **RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:**

**Revenue:** Statutory Homeless Services are funded through Council Fund. Additional duties placed on Councils and the current demands on services and homeless accommodation results in additional expenditure and budget pressures. Whilst some grant is available for 2023-2024 for emergency housing and other discretionary funding for crisis interventions, this is not sufficient to cover the full scale of the financial risk. Support

of the financial risk. Support services are funded through Housing Support Grant. There are significant recruitment and retention challenges within the Housing Support sector and grant levels have not increased in the last 2 years and are unlikely to increase further. Additional services focused on supporting people, delivering improved outcomes, will require revenue funding to deliver, and may require business cases to be developed, within a spend to save, cost benefit approach.

**Capital:** Creating more housing will require significant capital investment and has been flagged early within the Councils Capital Programme and Housing Revenue Account Business Plan. The Flintshire Housing Prospectus has been approved by Council and shared with our Housing Partners and Social Housing Grant (SHG) supports ambitious plans to increase housing supply at scale and pace and additional funding from Welsh Government has been available to support this challenge.

**Human Resources:** Staff are under significant pressure with high levels of homelessness and unsuitable housing options such as hotels making support work more challenging. Additional support staff and staff for the management of temporary accommodation will be required and whilst some funding is available through Housing Support Grant, this funding has been standstill budget and unlikely to increase. Cost for support staff and service is however going up. Additional staff will also be required to deliver on ambitious plans to develop more housing to meet homelessness and broader housing needs.

#### DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

None.

**DISPENSATIONS** 

DATE PUBLISHED:

None.

22<sup>nd</sup> September 2023

**SIGNED** 

#### FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

### CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

# DATE OF MEETING: 21 NOVEMBER 2023 AGENDA ITEM NO. 14

#### **<u>REPORT OF:</u>** <u>Chief Officer (Housing and Communities)</u>

# SUBJECT:CORPORATE DEBT POLICY – HOUSING RENT<br/>COLLECTION

**RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT:**Approve the proposed changes to the<br/>Corporate Debt Recovery Policy to<br/>strengthen the collection of Housing Rent<br/>by taking court action, as a default<br/>position, in cases where contract holders<br/>are not making payment, and are 12<br/>weeks in arrears and/or who owe £1,500<br/>or more.**DECISION:**As detailed in the recommendation.

As in the report.

REASON FOR DECISION:

CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT: Prior to the adoption of the changes at Cabinet, Scrutiny has been asked to endorse the proposed changes to the Corporate Debt Recovery Policy in relation to the trigger points for legal action for housing rent.

**RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:** 

The deployment of the Mobysoft 'Rent Sense' software, funded by the HRA, continues to be necessary to control rent arrears and to ensure resources are targeted effectively.

**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** 

None.

None.

**DISPENSATIONS** 

DATE PUBLISHED:

22<sup>nd</sup> September 2023

<u>SIGNED</u>

Shall

# FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

### CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING: 21 NOVEMBER 2023 AGENDA ITEM NO. 15

#### REPORT OF: Chief Executive

# SUBJECT:ALLEVIATING FOOD POVERTY OVER THE<br/>SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

#### RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT:

- Cabinet approves the payment of £25.00 per eligible pupil to address the period covering the Christmas holiday period, to be taken from the hardship fund (total estimated amount £129,825); and
- (2) That Cabinet set up the Member Working Group and that the group report back its findings before the 2024/25 budget is concluded. The principle aim of the Working Group will be to consider and recommend sustainable options for future school holidays.

#### As detailed in the recommendations.

As in the report.

The issue was raised at County Council and course of action determined following that meeting. The setting up a member working group to explore future provision and implications will feed back outcomes to Cabinet for consideration.

As noted in the report at 1.06, the proposal will have an estimated cost, for this period of £129,825. The member working group may conclude that financial support should be provided for other holiday and half term periods, however, as these discussions have not yet commenced it would be premature to determine an outcome,

#### **DECISION:**

**REASON FOR DECISION:** 

#### <u>CONSULTATIONS</u> <u>REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT:</u>

#### **RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:**

however, should the working group determine to support future holiday periods then this will have financial implications for the Council and as yet no provision has been made in future budgets.

## **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:**

None.

**DISPENSATIONS** 

None.

22<sup>nd</sup> September 2023

DATE PUBLISHED:

**Democratic Services Manager** 

**SIGNED** 

### FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

### CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

# DATE OF MEETING: 21 NOVEMBER 2023 AGENDA ITEM NO. 17

#### **<u>REPORT OF:</u>** <u>Chief Officer (Education and Youth)</u>

# SUBJECT:EXPANSION OF SPECIALIST EDUCATIONALPROVISION

RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT:

DECISION:

**REASON FOR DECISION:** 

CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT: As detailed in the recommendation.

places at Ysgol Pen Coch, Flint.

As in the report.

Subject to Cabinet agreement, consultation will be carried out, through the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013 and School Organisation Code 2018.

Cabinet approves to proceed to issue a statutory notice for an increase in pupil

**RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:** 

As detailed in the report.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

None.

**DISPENSATIONS** 

DATE PUBLISHED:

22<sup>nd</sup> September 2023

SIGNED

#### FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

### CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

# DATE OF MEETING: 21 NOVEMBER 2023 AGENDA ITEM NO. 18

#### **<u>REPORT OF:</u>** <u>Corporate Manager – Capital Programme & Assets</u>

#### AURA LEISURE AND LIBRARY SERVICES

RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT:

SUBJECT:

DECISION:

**REASON FOR DECISION:** 

**REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT:** 

CONSULTATIONS

 That Cabinet support the high-level principles of a new contractual arrangement and consider the other factor of note outlined;

 (2) Cabinet support a funding inflationary increase to Aura for 2024/25 as outlined in the report; and

(3) Cabinet support seeking a further extension of the current funding agreement, for 12 months duration, if early engagement cannot be obtained on a new contractual arrangement from April 2024 and/or there are any further slippages in the preliminary work.

As detailed in the recommendations.

As in the report.

Aura have been consulted as a key stakeholder for the needs assessment work. As have other local leisure providers, including two Community Asset Transfers.

Stakeholders including National Governing Bodies, local sport clubs, Flintshire schools and local indoor sport and leisure operators, have had opportunity to input into the needs assessment work through surveys.

# **RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:**

As outlined in the report.

# DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

Councillor Paul Johnson.

DISPENSATIONS

None.

DATE PUBLISHED:

22<sup>nd</sup> September 2023

<u>SIGNED</u>

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