

## FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

**REPORT TO:** **CABINET**

**DATE:** **TUESDAY, 17 SEPTEMBER 2013**

**REPORT BY:** **CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

**SUBJECT:** **OUTCOME AGREEMENT 2013 - 2017**

### **1.00 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1.01 To provide (i) an update of the new arrangements for the Outcome Agreement from 2013-14; and (ii) to endorse the outline of a new Outcome Agreement for 2013-14 based on draft Welsh Government guidance.

### **2.00 BACKGROUND**

#### **2.01 Outcome Agreements**

The Outcome Agreements were introduced by Welsh Government to identify how we work towards improving outcomes for local people against the Government's National priorities.

2.02 The new Outcome Agreement will be a three year agreement (from 2013/14 to 2015/16) with a further 'payment year' into 2016/17. Full payment of the grant (approximately £1.47M) is made when a significant proportion of the targets and commitments have been achieved. The arrangements and guidance for the new Outcome Agreement have not yet been finalised by Welsh Government. It is likely that 70% of the grant will be paid upon achievement of our selection of five of the strategic themes and outcomes within the Welsh Government's Programme for Government.

2.03 The detail regarding the remaining 30% is unclear but is likely to include some aspects of governance and performance (such as any intervention or statutory recommendations made by the Wales Audit Office).

### **3.00 CONSIDERATIONS**

#### **3.01 Outcome Agreement 2013/14 onwards**

The choice of five of the strategic themes from the Welsh Government's Programme for Government have been carefully considered to ensure that we have:

- Strategic and close 'fit' with priorities within the Improvement Plan
- A strong evidence base
- Likely success rate

Integration with the Improvement Plan is important to ensure that we incorporate monitoring of achievement against the Outcome Agreement within our quarterly reports of progress against the Improvement Plan. This reduces duplication and provides regular progress reports to identify if any intervention is needed to keep good progress and successful achievement of the grant.

- 3.02 Included in the reporting against each of the five themes will be a requirement to use three of the Programme for Government's 'tracking indicators'. These have also been considered to ensure that we can both report against these and have a strong evidence base to support them.
- 3.03 Attached at Appendix 1 is a full list of the possible ten themes. The strongest five themes have been highlighted. The Appendix also lists relevant 'tracking indicators' from which we need to select a number to support our themes and outcomes. Again, some of the strongest indicators have been highlighted.

The strongest five themes and outcomes are:

- Growth and Sustainable Jobs / Supporting the economy and business
- Education / Improving school attainment
- 21<sup>st</sup> Century Health Care / Ensuring people receive the help they need to live fulfilled lives
- Welsh Homes/Supporting People / Welsh Homes - Improving quality
- Tackling Poverty / Improving the skills of young people and families

- 3.04 Further work on the detail for each of the themes is still to be undertaken following this endorsement of the strategic themes and outcomes and also upon receipt of the final guidance around the new Outcome Agreement from Welsh Government.
- 3.05 Welsh Government's assessment of the achievement of the full grant against our existing agreement for 2012/13 has still to be received. An assessment meeting with Welsh Government took place late August and indications were given that the officer recommendation to the Minister would be for full achievement of the grant.

#### **4.00 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 4.01 Cabinet to endorse the selection of the new strategic themes and outcomes for the new three year Outcome Agreement starting in 2013/14 and receive a further report on a final agreement following the final guidance issued by Welsh Government.

#### **5.00 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.01 A full grant of approximately £1.47M is made payable depending upon Welsh Government's scoring and assessment matrix. This has not yet been confirmed for 2014/15 onwards. The Council's Medium Term Financial Plan

assumes receipt of the full grant over the MTFP period.

**6.00 ANTI POVERTY IMPACT**

6.01 There are no specific anti-poverty implications within this report.

**7.00 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT**

7.01 There are no specific environmental implications within this report.

**8.00 EQUALITIES IMPACT**

8.01 There are no specific equality implications within this report.

**9.00 PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS**

9.01 There are no specific personnel implications within this report.

**10.00 CONSULTATION REQUIRED**

10.01 The Local Service Board will be informed of any collaborative or joint arrangements for achievement.

**11.00 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN**

11.01 Consultation has been undertaken with Corporate Management Team in the development of the new Outcome Agreement.

**12.00 APPENDICES**

**Appendix 1: Selection of strategic themes and outcomes 2013 onwards.**

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

None.

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