

**FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

**REPORT TO:**           **CABINET**

**DATE:**               **TUESDAY, 18 FEBRUARY 2014**

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

**SUBJECT:**           **OUTCOME AGREEMENT 2013-2016**

**1.00   PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1.01    To recommend a new Outcome Agreement for 2013-16.

**2.00   BACKGROUND**

**2.01    **Outcome Agreements****

The Outcome Agreements were introduced by Welsh Government to drive local partnership performance to achieve local outcomes in support of set national priorities.

2.02    The new successor Outcome Agreement will be a three year agreement. The guidance for the new successor Outcome Agreement was received from Welsh Government during October 2013.

2.03    The structure of the new successor Outcome Agreement framework is based on outcomes and corporate governance in two parts. The successor Outcome Agreement Grant (approximately £1.46M) paid as follows: 70% on the delivery of outcomes and 30% in meeting any statutory recommendations made to Welsh Ministers on Council corporate governance. The latter does not apply to Flintshire based on its current governance.

**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 has been made carefully to ensure: -

- A close 'fit' with priorities within the Improvement Plan
- A strong evidence base to support our actions
- A reasonable level of confidence in meeting our outcomes to secure the grant

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 intervention is needed to maintain progress and secure achievement.

3.02 As previously endorsed by Cabinet (17 September 2013) the strongest five themes and outcomes are: -

- Growth and Sustainable Jobs / Supporting the economy and business
- Education / Improving school attainment
- 21st 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

3.03 The previous Cabinet report set out the requirement to use three of the Programme for Government's 'tracking indicators' against each of the five themes. Where appropriate tracking indicators have been included in Flintshire's draft Outcome Agreement.

3.04 Attached at Appendix 1 are the drafts of the 5 themes. These final drafts have been shared with Welsh Government as part of the negotiation process. Welsh Government has confirmed that they are content with this version and that it is ready to be agreed by the Minister for Local Government and Government Business subject to approval.

Similarly to the existing Outcome Agreement there will be scope to renegotiate parts of the successor Outcome Agreement as necessary over its life time.

3.05 Following Welsh Government's assessment of our performance against our existing agreement for 2012-13, we received a full grant payment of £1.465M in December 2013.

#### **4.00 RECOMMENDATIONS**

4.01 To approve the new Outcome Agreement.

#### **5.00 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

5.01 A full grant of approximately £1.46M annually will be made payable depending upon Welsh Government's scoring and assessment. The Council's Medium Term Financial Plan assumes receipt of the full grant over the coming period.

**6.00 ANTI POVERTY IMPACT**

6.01 There are no specific poverty implications for this report. However poverty is a strategic theme within the proposed successor Outcome Agreement as well as a priority within the Improvement Plan.

**7.00 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT**

7.01 There are no specific environmental implications for this report.

**8.00 EQUALITIES IMPACT**

8.01 There are no direct equality implications for this report.

**9.00 PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS**

9.01 There are no direct personnel implications for 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 within the Council and with local partners in the development of the new successor Outcome Agreement.

11.02 The draft successor Outcome Agreement has been shared with Welsh Government and they have confirmed that they are content with this version and that it is ready to be agreed by the Minister.

**12.00 APPENDICES**

12.01 Appendix 1 – Draft Outcome Agreement 2013/14 – 2015/16

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

None

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