

**COMMUNITY PROFILE AND PARTNERSHIPS
OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
5 MARCH 2012**

Minutes of the meeting of the Community Profile and Partnerships Overview and Scrutiny Committee of the Flintshire County Council held at County Hall, Mold on Monday, 5 March 2012

PRESENT: Councillor D. McFarlane (Chairman)

Councillors: S.R. Baker, A.J. Davies-Cooke, F. Gillmore, R.J.T. Guest, R.P. Macfarlane and D.I. Mackie

APOLOGIES:

Councillors: Eng. K. Armstrong-Braun, R. Hughes, D.L. Mackie and E.W. Owen

CONTRIBUTORS:

Geographic Information Services Manager and Information Analyst (for minute number 52)

Policy, Performance and Partnerships Manager (for minute number 53)

IN ATTENDANCE:

Member Engagement Manager and Committee Officer

48. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

49. CLWYD THEATR CYMRU – AGENDA ITEM 4

The Member Engagement Manager explained that this item on Clwyd Theatr Cymru had been withdrawn due to unforeseen circumstances for which he apologised. It was suggested that the issue be commended to the successor Committee under the new Council.

50. VARIATION IN ORDER OF BUSINESS

The Member Engagement Manager indicated that there would be a slight change in the order of business to bring forward the item on Digital Mapping and this would be considered after the minutes.

51. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 30 January 2012 had been circulated to Members with the agenda.

Matters Arising

The Member Engagement Manager referred to the second paragraph on page 6 and advised that the visit to the control room at Mold Police Station

had been cancelled. He explained the reasons for this and said that another visit would be arranged after the Election.

RESOLVED:

That the minutes be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

52. DIGITAL MAPPING

The Chairman welcomed Andy Brown, the Geographic Information Services Manager and Ashley Dymont, Information Analyst, to the meeting.

The Geographic Information Services Manager provided a detailed demonstration of Infomap, the Council's intranet mapping product. He explained that it had been launched in 2008 and he provided full details of how Members and officers could use the facility. The Infomap covered a variety of items which could be viewed based on predefined geo-sets and the Geographic Information Services Manager used trees covered by tree preservation orders as an example to show the information that could be viewed. Planning applications from 2006 to the current date were included and the Infomap was updated daily. He explained that users could find areas by using addresses or postcodes, facilitated by the Council's Local Land and Property Gazetteer (LLPG), and demonstrated this to the Committee.

The Chairman asked if this had been provided to the Planning Committee as training and in response the Geographic Information Services Manager said that it had not, but that this could be considered. Following a question from Councillor R.J.T. Guest about whether the LLPG was used by the Planning Department, he said that their current system used an Ordnance Survey address system but the use by them of the LLPG addressing system was being considered. He also explained about the public facing side of the service which was available through the Flintshire County Council website. The Information Analyst headed up the Local Land and Property Gazetteer for the Authority and in 2011 it had achieved a gold standard for matches of 99.95% against the Council Tax addressing system and a 99.50% match against National Non Domestic Rates addresses.

On the issue of benefit claimants, which was one of the predefined geo-sets, the Geographic Information Services Manager explained that the system did not identify individual claimants but was able to indicate the numbers of claimants within wards. However, he added that by using a secure log in system, sensitive information could be viewed by those with appropriate access.

Councillor R.P. Macfarlane asked about the section on the website on digital mapping and was advised that the public section was called 'Stratus' and the Geographic Information Services Manager detailed the view which could be seen by the public and how they would use the system. He added that information was being gathered on an ongoing basis and that if a request

was received to include particular information, then this would be considered and gave an example of listed buildings which had been requested recently. In response to a question from Councillor D.I. Mackie, the Geographic Information Services Manager said that if Members required information in the form of a report, they should contact him detailing the required parameters.

Councillor Mackie raised concern that there was a separate planning system which was being updated separately as he felt that all of the data on this issue should be held centrally.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the demonstration be received; and
- (b) That the suggestion that the demonstration be used as part of Planning Committee training be forwarded to the Head of Planning.

53. 'SHARED PURPOSE – SHARED DELIVERY' – WELSH GOVERNMENT CONSULTATION ON INTEGRATING PLANS AND PARTNERSHIPS

The Policy, Performance and Partnerships Manager introduced the report to provide an overview of the consultation on the proposed statutory guidance produced by the Welsh Government (WG) on integrating plans and partnerships, 'Shared Purpose – Shared Delivery'.

The proposals to produce a single plan to replace four plans currently in place were mainly well supported and included good practices already being undertaken such as a reduction in the number of partnerships. It was reported that the expectation was that the single plan would be based on a comprehensive single needs assessment, use an outcomes based methodology and would pay attention to the needs of the whole population in the local area but with a specific focus on groups who were disadvantaged, vulnerable or at risk of becoming vulnerable. One area that officers disagreed with was that the Local Service Board (LSB) would be the accountable body to carry out the requirements of the Welsh Government's Programme for Government as it was felt that local priorities should be the main consideration. The Policy, Performance and Partnerships Manager explained that any comments from this Committee could be included as part of the response of Flintshire County Council which was to be presented to Executive on 27 March 2012.

In response to a question from Councillor D.I. Mackie, the Policy, Performance and Partnerships Manager said that statutory partnerships could comprise of local leads and they would be accountable for the delivery of the service. Councillor R.J.T. Guest expressed concern about how Overview & Scrutiny Committees would scrutinise collaborative working following the introduction of the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011. In response, the Policy, Performance and Partnerships Manager agreed that there was some confusing terminology in the document and it was not clear what the intentions of WG were.

Councillor Mackie asked how the visions of Flintshire County Council would fit in with that of partner agencies such as Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board. The Policy, Performance & Partnerships Manager said that when the Improvement Plan was being developed, consultation was undertaken with partner agencies and they had agreed with the strategic intent as identified by the Authority. Councillor R.P. Macfarlane asked about the future of local administration in Wales and said that the document created confusion.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the report be noted; and
- (b) That the comments of the committee be included in the response of Flintshire County Council which was being considered by Executive on 27 March 2012.

54. FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

The Member Engagement Manager introduced the report to consider the Forward Work Programme for the Committee.

He explained that a Forward Work Programme was not attached to the report as this was the last meeting of the committee prior to the Elections. He asked whether Members had any suggestions of items to be commended to the successor committee and highlighted paragraph 3.02 and the request from Councillor Eng. K. Armstrong-Braun. He also suggested that the Statutory Crime and Disorder role of the committee could be considered at a future meeting.

Councillor S.R. Baker spoke of issue of Flintshire residents receiving hospital treatments in England and asked whether this could be considered. In response the Member Engagement Manager said that this was in the remit of the Social and Health Overview & Scrutiny committee and that he would pass the suggestion on to the Learning and Social Care Overview & Scrutiny Facilitator.

Following a discussion on the presentations from partner organisations which had been received by the committee, the Member Engagement Manager asked for suggestions of items for future presentations. In response to a comment from the Chairman on Royal Mail and the proposed increase in the price of stamps, Councillor R.J.T. Guest explained that a Post Office Users Council used to operate but he did not know if it still existed. The Member Engagement Manager said that he could find out and would put the issue on the Forward Work Programme as a topic for consideration by the successor committee.

RESOLVED:

That the Forward Work Programme be amended to reflect the above suggestions.

55. DURATION OF MEETING

The meeting commenced at 10.00 a.m. and ended at 11.05 a.m.

56. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS IN ATTENDANCE

There were no members of the public and one member of the press in attendance.

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Chairman

SUMMARY OF DECLARATIONS MADE BY MEMBERS
IN ACCORDANCE WITH FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL'S
CODE OF CONDUCT

COMMUNITY PROFILE AND PARTNERSHIPS OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	DATE: 5 MARCH 2012
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MEMBER	ITEM	MIN. NO. REFERS
NO DECLARATIONS WERE MADE		