

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Date of Meeting	Tuesday 20 th June 2023
Report Subject	Council Plan 2023-28
Cabinet Member	Leader of the Council
Report Author	Chief Executive
Type of Report	Strategic

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Council Plan for 2023-28 has been reviewed and refreshed to reflect the key priorities of the Council for the five-year term of the new administration.

The 'super-structure' of the Plan comprises of seven priorities and relevant sub-priorities. The seven priorities take a long-term view of recovery, projects and ambitions over the next five years.

The Council Plan 2023-28 will be published in a similar format to previous years, identifying actions aimed at achieving the Well-being objectives, priorities and sub-priorities. National and regional issues/risks which could impact on the achievement of these priorities will be identified and monitored.

Part 2 of the Council Plan will be considered by the respective Overview and Scrutiny committees to ensure full coverage of Part 1 of the Council Plan 2023-28 and its respective measures and their targets.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1.	To approve the Council Plan 2023-28 Part 1 and Part 2 documents that outline the actions, measures and risks that underpin the Priorities, Sub-Priorities and Well-being objectives of the Council Plan 2023-28.
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REPORT DETAILS

1.00	Council Plan 2023-28
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>A full review has been undertaken to ensure the appropriateness and relevance of the well-being objectives, priorities, and sub-priorities going forward. This includes a review of the current Council Plan 2022-23 to determine:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• priority actions that continue from 2023 onwards for sustained attention• priority actions which could be removed as they have been completed or become operational (business as usual); and• emerging new priority areas, actions and measures for 2023-28
1.03	<p>The high-level structure of the Council Plan 2023-28 was agreed in October 2022, and consists of seven priorities, well-being objectives, and a number of sub-priorities as detailed below:</p> <p>Priority: Poverty Well-being Objective: Protecting our communities and people from poverty by supporting them to meet their basic needs and to be resilient Sub-priorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Income Poverty- Child Poverty- Food Poverty- Fuel Poverty- Digital Poverty <p>Priority: Affordable and Accessible Housing Well-being Objective: Housing in Flintshire meeting the needs of our residents and supporting safer communities Sub-priorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Housing Support and Homeless Prevention- Housing Needs and Housing Options- Social Housing- Private Rented Sector- Empty Properties* (Removed) <p>Priority: Green Society and Environment Well-being Objective: Limiting and enhancing the impact of the Council's services on the natural environment and supporting the wider communities of Flintshire to reduce their own carbon footprint Sub-priorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Phosphates Mitigation- Net Zero Carbon Council (Previously called Carbon Neutrality)- Climate Change Adaptation- Flood Risk Management Strategy- Strategic Flood Consequences Assessment

- Fleet Strategy
- Green Environment
- Flintshire Forest
- Green Access
- Renewable Energy* (Removed)
- Active and Sustainable Travel Options
- Circular Economy

Priority: Economy

Well-being Objective: Connecting communities and enabling sustainable economic recovery and growth

Sub-priorities:

- Rural Regeneration
- Levelling Up* (Removed)
- Town Centre Regeneration
- Business
- Transport Connectivity
- Digital Infrastructure
- Local Development Plan (LDP) Targets
- Spending Money for the benefit of Flintshire* (Removed)
- Reducing Worklessness

Priority: Personal and Community Well-being

Well-being Objective: Supporting people in need to live as well as they can

Sub-priorities:

- Independent Living
- Safeguarding
- Direct Provision to support people closer to home
- Local Dementia Strategy
- A Well-connected, Safe and Clean Local Environment.

Priority: Education and Skills

Well-being Objective: Enabling and Supporting Learning Communities

Sub-priorities:

- Educational Engagement and Achievement
- Digital Learning Opportunities
- Learning Environments
- Learning Community Networks
- Specialist Educational Provision* (Removed)
- Welsh Education Strategic Plan (WESP)
- Well-being

Priority: A Well-managed Council

Well-being Objective: A responsible, resourceful, and trusted Council operating as efficiently as possible

Sub-priorities:

- People
- Anti-Racist and Anti-Discriminatory Council
- Financial Resilience
- Flintshire Assets
- Digital
- Partnerships

1.04	<p>Five of the sub priorities previously presented to Informal Cabinet, marked with an * above, have now been removed. The reason why they have been removed from the Council Plan 2023-28 is detailed below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Empty Properties* – Does not warrant a specific sub priority within the Council Plan going forward as work has now become business as usual. • Renewable Energy* - Does not warrant a specific sub priority within the new Council Plan as this has been captured within the Climate Change and Adaptation sub priority. • Levelling Up* - The Council was not awarded any funding from the Levelling Up Fund (LUF) Programme. Any actions and risks associated with LUF have therefore, been removed from the Council Plan 2023-28. • Spending Money for the benefit of Flintshire* - Does not warrant a specific sub priority in the Council Plan going forward as social value work has now become business as usual. • Specialist Educational Provision* - Does not warrant a specific sub priority within the Council Plan going forward as work has now become business as usual. <p>The specialist Educational Provision sub priority has been removed following Cabinet.</p>
1.05	<p>A lot of work has taken place within each of the portfolios to identify the actions, measures and risks that sit beneath each of the sub priorities and underpin the Council Plan. These are detailed within the Council Plan Part 2 document attached (Appendix Item 2).</p>
1.06	<p>These documents have been considered by all of the respective Overview and Scrutiny Committees and a number of minor changes have been made to include missing targets and also include footnotes to better explain the targets etc.</p>
1.07	<p>Following adoption by County Council, the Council Plan 2023-28 will be available as a web-based document published on the Flintshire County Council website.</p>

2.00	RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS
2.01	<p>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.</p>

3.00	CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED / CARRIED OUT
3.01	To date, all Members have had the opportunity to consider and review the draft Well-being objectives, priorities, and sub-priorities before these were agreed in October 2022.
3.02	Overview and Scrutiny Committees have had the opportunity to review the Council Plan Part 1 and Part 2 documents and scrutinise any actions, measures and/or targets set for 2023-28.

4.00	IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND RISK MANAGEMENT
4.01	<p>A summary Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA) has been completed for the Council Plan 2023-28 and considers the high-level priorities (detailed within Section 1.03 of this report). In addition to providing a high level IIA summary for the Council Plan, all portfolios have identified whether an IIA will be undertaken against each of the actions they have identified for the Council Plan, when the IIA will be undertaken, who the lead officer will be and when they envisage the IIA being reviewed. This information has been collated and will support the Council Plan IIA.</p> <p>Ways of Working (Sustainable Development) Principles</p> <p>In regard to the impact on the Ways of Working (Sustainable Development) Principles, the Council Plan 2023-28 continues to be aligned to these Principles;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Long-term • Prevention • Integration • Collaboration • Involvement <p>By completing a high-level IIA for the Council Plan 2023-28, it will enable the Council to have an overview of the various additional IIA's that will be carried out to support the actions identified within the Council Plan 2023-28.</p> <p>Well-being Goals Impact</p> <p>The Council Plan 2023-28 continues to provide evidence of alignment with the seven Well-being Goals (part of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015). To do this effectively the Council ensures that specific strategic and policy reports include impact and risk assessments and considers the Well-being Goals.</p> <p>The Well-being Goals are;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prosperous Wales • Resilient Wales • Healthier Wales

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More Equal Wales • Cohesive Wales • Vibrant Wales • Globally Responsible Wales <p>Council's Well-being Objectives</p> <p>The Council's Well-being objectives have been reviewed as part of this exercise. The refreshed set Well-being objectives is found within this report in section 1.03.</p>
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5.00	APPENDICES
5.01	<p>Appendix 1 - Council Plan 2023-28 Part 1: An overview of the Well-being Objectives, Priorities, Sub priorities and their definitions</p> <p>Appendix 2 - Council Plan 2023-28 Part 2: How achievements will be measured - Supporting Actions, Measures and Risks</p>

6.00	LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS
6.01	The Council Plan 2023/28 Summary IIA is available upon request.

7.00	CONTACT OFFICER DETAILS
7.01	<p>Contact Officer: Sam Perry, Performance and Risk Management Support Officer</p> <p>Telephone: 01352 701476</p> <p>E-mail: Sam.perry@flintshire.gov.uk</p>

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.
8.03	Council Plan Part 2: The document which underpins the Council Plan, which captures the Actions, Measures, and Risks set out within each priority.