

ENVIRONMENT AND ECONOMY OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
12th NOVEMBER 2024

Minutes of the hybrid meeting of the Environment and Economy Overview & Scrutiny Committee of Flintshire County Council held on Tuesday, 12th November 2024.

PRESENT: **Councillor David Evans (Chair)**
Councillors: Mel Buckley, David Coggins Cogan, Bill Crease, Richard Lloyd, Mike Peers, Vicky Perfect, Dan Rose and Roy Wakelam

SUBSTITUTIONS: Councillor Ian Hodge for Councillor Roz Mansell

ALSO PRESENT: Councillors Helen Brown, Gina Maddison and Andrew Parkhurst (as observers)

CONTRIBUTORS: Councillor Dave Hughes (Leader of the Council), Councillor Paul Johnson (Cabinet Member for Finance and Social Value), Councillor Glyn Banks (Cabinet Member for Streetscene and Transportation) Chief Officer (Planning, Environment & Economy), Chief Officer (Streetscene and Transportation), Strategic Finance Manager – Corporate Finance, Regulatory Services Manager, and Streetscene Service Manager

IN ATTENDANCE: Democratic Services Manager and Democratic Services Officers

38. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST [\(link to recording\)](#)

Councillors Lloyd and Peers declared a personal interest on Agenda Item 5 – Budget 2025/26 – Stage 2.

Councillor Banks declared a personal interest in agenda item 6 – Consultation for a proposed new National Park for North East Wales.

39. MINUTES [\(link to recording\)](#)

To confirm as a correct record the [minutes \(agenda item no.3\)](#) of the meeting held on 8 October 2024.

RESOLVED:

That the minutes be approved as a correct record.

40. FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME AND ACTION TRACKING [\(link to recording\)](#)

The Democratic Services Manager presented the Forward Work Programme and Action Tracking report. [Forward Work Programme \(agenda Item no.4\)](#).

The Chief Officer (Streetscene and Transportation) requested that an item on Briefing Sessions for Members to be held on 10th December 2024 on the A494 Dee Crossing be added to the Forward Work Programme.

In response to a question on the items to be added on Place Making Plan Buckley and Place Making Plan Holywell, the Chief Officer (Planning, Environment and Economy) advised that work was ongoing and a date confirmed when a report would be submitted to the Committee and an update included on the Programme for the meeting to be held on 10 December 2024.

Councillor Lloyd asked that an update be provided on developments on the Access Barrier. He also asked that he be invited, as the local Ward Member, to attend any meetings regarding the Access Barrier in connection with his Ward which was agreed.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That subject to the above amendments the Forward Work Programme be noted;
- (b) That the Facilitator, in consultation with the Chair of the Committee, be authorised to vary the Forward Work Programme between meetings, as the need arises; and
- (c) That the Committee notes the progress made in completing the outstanding actions

41. BUDGET 2025/26 – STAGE 2 [\(link to recording\)](#)

The Strategic Finance Manager – Corporate Finance introduced the [report \(agenda item no.5\)](#). He advised that the details of the cost pressures and proposed efficiency options for the Planning, Environment and Economy Portfolio, and the Streetscene and Transportation portfolio, which were within the remit of the Environment and Economy Overview & Scrutiny Committee, were included within the report. The Committee was invited to review and comment on the cost pressures and associated risks.

The Chief Officer (Streetscene and Transportation) agreed to give consideration to the suggestion made by Councillor Peers that Town and Community Councils be asked to make a contribution to the cost of repairs and maintenance of the public conveniences sited in their area.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the Planning, Environment and Economy portfolio's cost pressures be noted and supported.
- (b) That the Streetscene and Transportation portfolio's cost pressures be noted and supported; and

- (c) That the Committee supports the Streetscene and Transportation cost pressures being removed as outlined in section 1.07 of the report.

42. CONSULTATION ON THE PROPOSED NEW NATIONAL PARK FOR NORTH EAST WALES ([link to recording](#))

The Chief Officer (Planning, Environment and Economy) introduced the [report \(agenda item no.6\)](#) to agree the Council's response to a live consultation on the proposed North East Wales National Park. The consultation exercise would run until 16 December 2024.

Councillor Peers proposed that the Committee did not support the proposal to create a new National Park for North East Wales. This was seconded and when put to the vote was carried.

RESOLVED

That the Committee does not support the proposal to create a new National Park for North East Wales

43. RESIDUAL WASTE COLLECTIONS CHANGE AND COMMUNICATION PLAN ([link to recording](#))

The Chief Officer (Streetscene and Transportation) introduced the [report \(agenda item no.7\)](#). She explained that a report presented to Cabinet in July 2024 detailed that a further report would be provided to set out the implementation plan and communications plan to provide Members with assurance that the change to service will be well planned and managed to minimise impact on Flintshire residents. This report presents the proposed implementation date and details the action plan and communications plan for the service change.

Councillor Peers asked that the cost of implementation of moving to the 3 weekly kerbside collection model be provided as soon as possible. The Chief Officer explained that information had been provided to Members and offered to resubmit to Councillor Peers or provide a further progress report to a meeting of the Committee next year.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the implementation date for the residual waste collection frequency change already approved be supported;
- (b) That the implementation plan presented with this report be supported and the work undertaken to date be noted;
- (c) That the communication plan presented with this report be supported;
- (d) That the updated Recycling and Household Collections and Household Recycling Centre Operations Policy to reflect the previously approved changes to service be noted; and

- (e) That the updated Household Recycling Centre Vehicle Permit Policy to be published following the adoption of revised procedures put in place to support customers with disabilities who may need to access the HRCs using their vehicles be noted.

44. MEMBERS OF THE PRESS IN ATTENDANCE

There were no members of the press or public in attendance.

(The meeting started at 10.00 a.m. and ended at 12.36 p.m.)

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Chair