CABINET

Minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet held in the Monsanto Suite, Royal International Pavilion, Llangollen on Tuesday 6th February 2001 at 10.00 a.m.

PRESENT

Councillors E.C. Edwards (Leader), I.M. German, D.M. Holder, R.W. Hughes, G.M. Kensler, D.M. Morris, E.A. Owens, A.E. Roberts, W.R. Webb and K.E. Wells.

Observers - Councillors M.A. German, M.M. Jones, R.J.R. Jones, A.J. Tobin and C.H. Williams.

ALSO PRESENT

Deputy Chief Executive, County Clerk, Financial Controller.

APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillor E W Williams.

1 <u>URGENT MATTERS</u>

The Leader gave notice of the following item which in his opinion should be considered at the meeting as a matter of urgency pursuant to Section 100B(4) of the Local Government Act, 1972:-

- 1 Boundary Commission
- 2 Visit to Vasternoorland, Sweden
- 3 Association of Local Authorities Contract Services Directors and Chief Officers ~ Welsh Region Chairman
- 4 Llangollen
- 5 Move of Education Staff from County Hall, Mold to Offices in Denbigh
- 6 Sun Centre, Rhyl

2 MINUTES OF THE CABINET

The Minutes of the Cabinet held on 23 January 2001 (previously circulated) were submitted.

Matters Arising:-

Item 9 (National Assembly for Wales: Draft Protocol: Response to Serious Concern About Local Authority Social Services) The Deputy Chief Executive gave assurance to Councillor G.M. Kensler that any letters received from the National Assembly for Wales regarding any letter of intervention from the SSIW would be brought to the attention of the Lead Cabinet Member and the Chair of Scrutiny by the Leader.

Item 22 (Eirianfa Day Centre, Denbigh) Addition of Councillor G.M. Kensler's declaration of interest in the item and had left the Chamber during its discussion.

Item 26 (Sun Centre, Rhyl) Paragraph 2 - Councillor I.M. German's name be replaced by Councillor E.W. Williams.

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on 23 January 2001 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Leader.

3 REVENUE BUDGET 2000-2001

Councillor E.A. Owens, Lead Cabinet Member for Finance submitted the report (previously circulated). Councillor Owens reported that the overall position had deteriorated, with £116k over target which required additional effort and attention to recoup before the end of this financial year. Councillor Owens congratulated Education in moving towards the savings targets and pointed out the reasons for the increases in the Finance and Chief Executive's Departments had been explained at the previous meeting.

Members raised a number of questions on the detail i.e. SEN, Leisure and Countryside Services, savings, education advisory costs, resorts and attractions and Leisure Services DSOs. Planning Services to consider undertaking work in respect of access issues in relation to the Disability Discrimination Act.

Councillor E.A. Owens responded other than on the DSO issue which was dealt with by the County Clerk.

RESOLVED that the Lead Cabinet Members for Lifelong Learning, Leisure, Environment and Personal Services continue to consider as a matter of urgency the budget reductions to be identified and report their findings to Cabinet on a regular basis.

4 **RECRUITMENT**

The Leader of the Council submitted two reports (previously circulated) seeking approval for external advertisement:-

- 4(i) Principal Technical Support Analyst PO2 Resources: ICT
- 4(ii) Senior Analyst Programmer SO1-SO2 Resources: ICT

RESOVLED that the external advertisement of the Principal Technical Support Analyst PO2 and Senior Analyst Programmer SO1-SO2 be approved.

5 URDD EISTEDDFOD 2006

Councillor G.M. Kensler, the Lead Cabinet Member for the Eisteddfod and Welsh Language submitted the report (previously circulated), seeking Members approval in principle to use the Royal International Pavilion site for the Urdd Gobaith Cymru 2006 National Eisteddfod and to authorise discussions in order to progress the matter. Councillor Kensler said the Eisteddfod was always held during the half term week in May of each year. This would be a boost for Llangollen and for the County's facilities.

RESOLVED that Members approved in principle the proposal by the Urdd Gobaith Cymru to hold its 2006 Urdd National Eisteddfod at the Royal International Pavilion, Llangollen and authorised further discussions on behalf of the Council with the Urdd and others in this regard.

6 BEST VALUE - RESPONSE TO STOCKTAKE

The Leader submitted the report (previously circulated) seeking Members approval to the draft response on the Best Value Stock Take. The Leader also read part of a letter received from a Prestatyn County Councillor congratulating all on their work leading to the production of the report.

Councillor G.M. Kensler asked whether bilingual training be included as part of the Best Value process. This was agreed.

RESOLVED the draft report on Best Value Stock Take be accepted.

7 <u>DENBIGHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL (PONT MELIN Y WIG, MELIN Y WIG, CORWEN)(WIDTH RESTRICTION) ORDER 200</u>

Councillor D.M. Morris, the Lead Cabinet Member for the Environment submitted the report (previously circulated) informing Members of an objection received to the proposal and to seek approval to it being overruled.

The width restriction was required to secure the structural integrity of the bridge and to maintain public safety until such time as necessary repairs could be carried out to the bridge. Provision would be made within the traffic order imposing the restriction for the Highway Authority at its discretion and subject to certain conditions being satisfied to give permission in writing to appropriate third parties enabling them to facilitate necessary deliveries/collections to and from properties on the north side of the bridge including that of the objector.

Members were asked to consider for future cases when objections are raised concerning the order making process, that the Head of Highways and Transportation in consultation with the Cabinet Member for the Environment be granted delegated authority to accept or overrule objections, noting at that stage local Member agreement to the order being made would have already been received.

Councillor G.M. Kensler informed Members that Councillor E.W. Williams was the local Member and not Councillor G. Jones, and that Councillor G. Jones had passed the relevant papers to Councillor E.W. Williams.

RESOLVED that:-

- (a) that Members receive and note the contents of the report;
- (b) that in order to secure the structural integrity of the bridge and maintain public safety the objection to the proposal be overruled, and
- (c) in future cases when objections are raised concerning the order making process, the Head of Highways and Transportation in consultation with the Cabinet Member for the Environment be granted delegated authority to accept or overrule objections noting that at this stage local Member agreement to the order being made would have already been received.

8 VALUATION AND ESTATES - DELEGATED POWERS

Councillor D.M. Morris, the Lead Cabinet Member for the Environment submitted the report and appendix (previously circulated) seeking Members approval to recommend to Council the transfer and amendment of delegated powers to the Head of Design and Construction Services.

It should be noted in paragraph 1.1 that the Head of Professional Services should read 'Head of Consultancy Services'.

Councillor G.M. Kensler asked whether there was a need for delegated powers as Cabinet normally met every fortnight and Council every month. Both Councillor D.M. Morris and the County Clerk said that delegated powers was essential owing to the large volume of work.

RESOLVED the granting of delegated powers, as described in Appendix 1, to the Head of Consultancy Services be approved.

9 HOME ENERGY CONSERVATION ACT REPORT - FUEL POVERTY REPORT

Councillor D.M. Morris, the Lead Cabinet Member for the Environment submitted the report and appendix (previously circulated) seeking Members' approval to adopt the Home Energy Conservation Act (HECA) progress report and the Fuel Poverty Strategy and to provide recommendation to Council.

The initial HECA report (which contained details of the methods Denbighshire County Council would adopt to achieve the statutory 30% reduction in energy consumption and CO2 emmissions) was submitted to the then Welsh Office in November 1998 and was approved. Each subsequent year a report has to be submitted which detailed improvements and percentage achieved. This year was the first time a separate Fuel Poverty report was submitted which detailed methods to be adopted to reduce fuel poverty in Denbighshire.

RESOLVED that Members recommend to Council to adopt the reports as corporate policies in view of their statutory nature and make them available to members of the public.

10 CONCESSIONARY FARE SCHEME

Councillor D.M. Morris, the Lead Cabinet Member for the Environment submitted the report (previously circulated) seeking Members' approval for the inclusion of the Denbighshire County Council Concessionary Fare Travel Scheme in the all Wales Cerdyn Cymru initiative. Members were also asked to approve implementation of the change to the Denbighshire County Council Concessionary Fare Travel Scheme as required by the National Assembly for Wales.

The National Assembly For Wales made three commitments regarding the provision of Concessionary Fare Schemes for local bus service travel throughout Wales:-

- (i) Impose a maximum fee for the issue of a pass to £5.00. This was introduced in Denbighshire from August 1999.
- (ii) The pass issue fee of up to £5.00 to be removed from 1 April 2001.
- (iii) Pass entitlement for free travel on local buses from 1 April 2002. (Currently half fare entitlement)

RESOLVED that Members:-

- (a) approved participation with Cerdyn Cymru from 1 April 2001, and
- (b) approved changes to the DCC Concessionary Fare Travel Scheme as required by the National Assembly for Wales.

11 URGENT ITEMS

11.1 Boundary Commission Update

The Leader thanked Members and Officers for their presentation to the Boundary Commission visit on Friday 2 February 2001 at the Monsanto Suite, Royal International Pavilion, Llangollen. The Leader expressed his pleasure at the way in which Members had worked together.

The Assistant Chief Executive: Strategy updated Members on the timetable of the Commission with draft initial recommendations being available July-August and the final report being published in October 2001. He indicated the need for the Council's own response be considered both by Cabinet and Council and that in consequence only a draft report had so far been submitted to the Commission.

11.2 Visit to Vasternoorland, Sweden

The Leader asked Members to consider 2 Member nominations for an agreed visit to Vasternoorland following the successful outcome of the visit to County Clare by a delegation from Denbighshire County Council which would also contribute to developing work on European Programmes. It had been agreed at Cabinet on 7 November 2000 that the Leader, Chairman, 2 Members and 2 officers would attend.

RESOLVED that Councillor D.M. Holder and Councillor R.W. Hughes visit Vasternoorland along with the Leader and Chairman and 2 officers.

11.3 Association of Local Authorities Contract Services Directors and Chief Officers ~ Welsh Region Chairman

The Leader reminded Members that Cabinet agreed last year that Keith Bryan, Denbighshire's Assistant Chief Executive: Contract Services could be put forward for the post of Chairman of the Welsh Region of the Association of Local Authorities Contract Services Directors and Chief Officers.

The post of Chairman meant that he would be the Principality's representative on the Association's British Executive Council which normally met every 4 months or so. One of the benefits of the position was that he would be consulted more directly on issues that arose nationally that could have implications on Local Authority Contract Services, particularly on Best Value matters.

On 26 January 2001 Keith Bryan, Assistant Chief Executive: Contract Services was elected to the post of Chairman of the Welsh Region of the Association of Local Authorities Contract Services Directors and Chief Officers.

11.4 Llangollen

The Leader welcomed Mrs. Margaret Pierce Jenkins, Clerk to Llangollen Town Council to the meeting. The Leader also took the opportunity to thank the Director of the Environment and his staff for all their work in ensuring the Horseshoe Pass had re-opened.

At this juncture (10.40 a.m) the meeting adjourned for 15 minutes to allow Members to participate in refreshments.

12 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the Press and Public be excluded form the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 8, 9 and 10 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

13 <u>CITIZENS' ADVICE BUREAUX FUNDING 2001-2001</u>

(The County Clerk declared a personal interest which was not clear and substantial).

The Leader of the Council submitted the report (previously circulated) seeking Members' approval to the level of corporate funding by Denbighshire County Council for Citizens' Advice Bureaux in Denbighshire for 2001-2002 which took account of inflation and agreed cuts in expenditure.

Councillor E.A Owens indicated that the very favourable settlement this year for the Citizens' Advice Bureaux did not represent a precedent for future years.

RESOLVED that Members approved:-

- (a) the County Council funding Denbighshire County Council Citizens' Advice Bureaux from Corporate Funds in 2001-2002, and
- (b) the amount as stated in the report be paid from Corporate Funds to Denbighshire Citizens' Advice Bureaux in 2001-2002, subject to the Council's agreed budget.

14 <u>DENBIGHSHIRE VOLUNTARY SERVICES COUNCIL (NEWVOL) APPLICATION FOR CORE</u> FUNDING 2001-2002

The Leader of the Council submitted the report (previously circulated) seeking Members' approval for core funding for Denbighshire Voluntary Services' Council in 2001-2002.

Councillor E.A. Owens indicated that the very favourable settlement this year for the Denbighshire Voluntary Services' Council did not represent a precedent for future years.

RESOLVED that Members approved:-

- (a) to contribute towards the core funding costs of the Denbighshire Voluntary Services Council in 2001-2002, and
- (b) that a grant as specified in the report be made subject to the Council's agreed budget.

15 PERSONNEL SERVICES - RESTRUCTURING

Councillor I.M. German, Cabinet Lead Member for Human Resources submitted the report (previously circulated) seeking Members' authorisation to introduce a revised management structure and service delivery provision for personnel services for the County Council.

After discussion, Members agreed to vary the Recommendation.

RESOLVED:-

- (a) that the proposals for the restructuring of Personnel Services will be noted;
- (b) the report and proposals be the subject of consultation with Directorates / Departments, Trade Unions and employees, and
- (c) that the implementation issues outlined in the Head of Personnel's report be progressed accordingly with a report back to Cabinet.

16 19 BEDFORD STREET, RHYL - BAAF

Councillor W.R. Webb, Lead Cabinet Member for Property submitted the report (previously circulated) seeking Members' approval to charge rental at 'less than best consideration'. A previous application by the British Association for Adoption and Fostering Organisation (BAAF) for a rental discount in line with Council Policy was submitted and approved on 23.10.2000. The organisation was seeking a similar discount for another room owing to their charitable status.

RESOLVED that Members:-

- (a) approve a 50% percentage discount to be applied in accordance with the benchmarks as set out in the Council's policy on 'Leasing/Renting Council Property to non-Commercial Organisations'. The lease would record the open market rent and the discount would be recorded by way of a side letter, and
- (b) other terms and conditions to be agreed by the Director of Technical Services in consultation with the County Clerk.

17 LAND AT LLWYN MAIR, DENBIGH

Councillor W.R. Webb, Lead Cabinet Member for Property submitted the report (previously circulated) seeking Members' approval that officers be authorised to conduct further discussions with the prospective purchaser and that officers be authorised to dispose of the revised area of land at Llwyn

Mair, Denbigh on terms to be agreed with the Head of Public Protection and Regulatory Services in consultation with the County Clerk.

Councillor G.M. Kensler indicated the need for maps to accompany such items.

A request had been received by the Architect acting on behalf of the current owners of the former Baptist Chapel at Henllan Place, Denbigh to form a new vehicular access on Council owned land known as Llwyn Mair. The Planning Authority had received an application for a change of use from a chapel to a dwelling and it was considered that the existing access to the chapel was unsuitable for daily vehicular use. The land at Llwyn Mair was an open plan grassed area with paths which led to Maes yr Eglwys estate. The conversion of the chapel into a dwelling was supported by CADW and the Denbigh Townscape Heritage Initiative.

RESOLVED that Officers be authorised:-

- (a) to conduct further discussions with the prospective purchaser, in conjunction with Planning, Highways and the Local Members to agree (if possible on a revised area for the access, and
- (b) be authorised to dispose of the revised area of land at Llwyn Mair, Denbigh on terms to be agreed with the Head of Public Protection and Regulatory Services in consultation with the County Clerk.

18 PROPERTY / LAND DISPOSALS

Councillor W.R. Webb, Lead Cabinet Member for Property submitted the report (previously circulated). Members received the report and noted that the sale of land at Morfa Hall would not proceed for the time being.

RESOLVED that Members note the report and approve the action taken to date.

19 MOVE OF EDUCATION STAFF FROM COUNTY HALL, MOLD TO OFFICES IN DENBIGH

Councillor W.R. Webb, Lead Cabinet Member for Property submitted the report (previously circulated) detailing the amended proposals. It was noted that paragraph the total for paragraph 4.2 Costs should read 175 and not 171.

RESOLVED:-

- (a) that Cabinet approve the move of Education staff to Caledfryn;
- (b) that Cabinet approve the move of Customer Services staff to Bodelwyddan;
- (c) that Cabinet approve the refurbishment of Fron Fraith and the use of it for Housing staff, and
- (ch) further consideration be given to paragraph 4.2.5 of the report.

20 SUN CENTRE, RHYL

Councillor R.W. Hughes, Lead Cabinet Member for Culture and Leisure advised Members of the need to commit capital expenditure of up to £255k to effect necessary repair and maintenance work on the Sun Centre, Rhyl to enable it to open for the current season. Members agreed that in the light of our obligations to tourists who had already booked holidays in the area and the need to secure the long term future of the building within the proposed Trust, that the expenditure should be agreed.

The Director of Resources drew Members' attention to the theoretical savings which had not yet been fully evaluated accruing to the proposed Trust and also that this expenditure had not been considered against other priorities.

Councillor R.W. Hughes indicated that current information pointed to the desirability of a reduced property portfolio from that initially proposed by the Consultants of the Nova Centre, Bowling Centre, Sun Centre and Sky Tower.

RESOLVED that Members agreed to commit capital expenditure of up to £255k in the next financial year subject to the approval of Council.

CABINET MEMBER: Councillor A E Roberts, Lead Member Personal Services

DATE: 22 February 2001

SUBJECT: Housing Revenue Account, Capital and Revenue

Budgets 2000/2001 and 2001/2002

1.0 DECISION SOUGHT

1.1 To set the HRA budget for 2001/2002 and increase Council rents.

2.0 REASON FOR SEEKING DECISION

2.1 <u>Capital 2000/2001</u>

The limited programme set out in the Housing Strategy and Operational Plan has been substantially completed with the exception of Maes Gruffydd, Trefnant which has been delayed by the difficulty in obtaining temporary "float" houses. This scheme has now started and funding needed to complete the scheme can be carried over into 200/2002.

2.2 Capital 2001/2002

The HSOP programme of £1,935,000 for 2001/2002 will have to be reduced with the following funding available:

Basic Credit Approval	£1,109,000	Confirmed by National Assembly
Special Credit Approval	£ 250,000	Bid made to National Assembly
Usable Capital Receipts	£ 200,000	Dependent on level of sales
Revenue Contribution	£ 100,000	Assumes revenue budget.
Total	£1,659,000	_

Provided that the various elements are confirmed then the programme can be implemented with the exception of one major scheme. It is recommended that Phase 3 of the Internal Improvements at Gwynfryn Avenue, Rhyl is deferred and instead the Minor Works and Environmental Improvements scheme should include a substantial further phase at Gwynfryn Avenue.

2.3 Revenue 2000/2001

The HRA probable outturn is shown on Annex 1 and includes the additional income and expenditure reported to Cabinet in November. The figure for Housing Benefit is still quite uncertain and the Housing Subsidy income is dependent upon it. However it does appear that a reasonable balance can be restored to the HRA.

2.4 <u>Revenue 2001/2002</u>

A proposed budget for 2001/2002 is shown on Annex 1 with the following assumptions:

- (i) Management and Maintenance Allowance has been increased by the National Assembly by a further £40 per dwelling from £1040 to £1080 which will increase Subsidy entitlement.
- (ii) The Notional Rent set by the Assembly is increased by £1.91 per week from £38.55 to £40.46 (4.95%). Average rent in Denbighshire is actually £38.35 and an increase of 5.5% would therefore be required to reach the new Notional Rent. However a further increase above inflation is difficult to justify and it is therefore recommended that rents are increased by 5.0% from April 2001.
- (iii) Garage rents are currently £2.60 per week. It is recommended they be increased by £0.10 (4%) from April.
- (iv) Expenditure on Supervision and Management (Housing Management, Welfare Services, Rent Collection, Tenant Participation, etc.) is increased by 3%. This includes for efficiency cuts as required for all Council services but provides for the full year cost of service increases agreed by Cabinet in November 2000. Repairs expenditure is increased by 6% from last year's budget including consolidation of the £100,000 increase in the current year.
- (v) Heating Charges are maintained at current levels subject to further review once end of year total expenditure is known.

3.0 COST IMPLICATIONS

The cost of implementing the decision is covered by the increased income.

4.0 FINANCIAL CONTROLLER STATEMENT

The content of this report has been discussed with the Lead Members for Personal Services and Finance. The figures are prudently set, as exemplified by the Bad Debt Provision for rents. A rent increase of less than 5.5% would lead to a reduction in Housing Benefit Subsidy of £80,000 per 1% with a resulting reduction in expenditure.

5.0 CONSULTATION CARRIED OUT

Denbighshire Tenants' and Residents' Federation have been consulted on the principles of the Capital and Revenue programmes.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS ON OTHER POLICY AREAS INCLUDING CORPORATE

Housing Revenue Account is ring fenced from the Council General Fund.

7.0 RECOMMENDATION

- 7.1 That the Housing Revenue Accounts, Capital and Revenue be adopted as shown above.
- 7.2 That rents for Council dwellings be increased by 5.0% with effect from 2nd April 2001.
- 7.3 That rents for Council garages (except Trefnant) be increased by 10p per week with effect from 2nd April 2001.

hraestot00 ANNEX 1

HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT 2000/2001 & 2001/2002

		<u>Original</u> <u>budget</u> 2000/2001	Revised budget 2000/2001	Estimated out-turn 2000/2001	<u>Budget</u> 2001/2002
Expenditure Supervision & Manageme	ent General	910,100	955,100	944,395	1,042,825
Supervision & Manageme	ent Special	136,750	136,750	171,660	181,560
Welfare Services		427,200	452,200	425,630	506,500
Homelessness		72,550	72,550	69,645	74,665
Repairs & Maintenance		2,226,700	2,336,700	2,289,530	2,332,530
Total Management & Mai	intenance	3,773,300	3,953,300	3,900,860	4,138,080
Rent rebates		4,563,000	4,563,000	4,660,000	4,927,000
Debt charges		1,760,000	1,760,000	1,813,000	1,853,000
C.E.R.A.		74,000	74,000	24,000	100,000
Provision for bad debts		0	0	50,000	0
Total expenditure		10,170,300	10,350,300	10,447,860	11,018,080
Income Rents (net of voids)	- Dwellings	8,173,200	8,173,200	8,188,000	8,381,805
	- Garages	80,000	80,000	93,500	97,000
Interest (R.T.B. mortgage	es)	43,000	39,000	37,000	35,000
Subsidy		1,939,827	2,318,011	2,318,000	2,444,497
Total income		10,236,027	10,610,211	10,636,500	10,958,302
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	ear	65,727	259,911	188,640	-59,778
Balance at the beginning	of the year	9,710	10,503	10,503	199,143
Balance at the end of the	year	75,437	270,414	199,143	139,365

pq/dmb/5/2/01

DENBIGHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL HOUSING STRATEGY & OPERATIONAL PLAN 2000/2001 CAPITAL PROGRAMME & ASSOCIATION INVESTMENT

ANNEX 2

2000/2001 PROGRAMME

A. DENBIGHSHIRE HRA INVESTMENT	Properties	Spend 00/01	CarryOver01/02
Brought Forward From Previous Year		1,095,000	
Minor Works and Environmental Improvements		205,000	
Disabled Facilities Grants		100,000	
Stock Transfer Options		210,000	
Total		1,610,000	0
FUNDING			
Basic Credit Approval Special Credit Approval SCA (Stock Transfer Options) Usable Capital Receipts Revenue/Balances		1,081,000 200,000 105,000 150,000 74,000	
Total		1,610,000	

DENBIGHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL HOUSING STRATEGY & OPERATIONAL PLAN 2000/2001 CAPITAL PROGRAMME & ASSOCIATION INVESTMENT

2001/2002 PROGRAMME

A. DENBIGHSHIRE HRA INVESTMENT		Properties	Spend 01/02	CarryOver02/03	
Brought Forw	Brought Forward From Previous Year				
GROUP A -	Council Terrace, Rhyl Victoria Rd, Rhyl Geufron, Rhyl Ffordd Isa, Prestatyn Bryn Castell, Rhuddlan Vicarage Lane, Rhuddlan	2 7 6 5 1 3		15,000 15,000 10,000	
GROUP B -	Myddleton Ave, Denbigh Ruthin Rural (1934 Properties) Llandrillo Road, Cynwyd Maes Hyfryd, Cynwyd Uwch y Dre, Corwen Maes y Waen, Carrog Rhoslan, Llandrillo	25 12 1 2 6 1 2	4,000 9,000	1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000	
GROUP C -	Gwynfryn Avenue, Rhyl	28	300,000	120,000	
GROUP H -	Berth Glyd, Llandyrnog Maes y Felin, Llanrhaeadr Maes Garmon, Llanarmon Erw Deg, Llangollen	8 2 4 10	10,000		
GROUP F -	Maes Gruffydd, Trefnant Maes Teg, Trefnant Church View, Cefn Meiriadog Glascoed Road, Marli	11 1 1 1	205,000 15,000 20,000 15,000	70,000	
Minor Works Disabled Fac	and Environmental Improvements ilities Grants		400,000 100,000	40000	
Total			1,935,000	310,000	
FUNDING					
Basic Credit A Special Credi Usable Capita Revenue/Bala	it Approval al Receipts		1,150,000 250,000 200,000 335,000		
Total			1,935,000		

AGENDA ITEM NO. 5(1)

VACANCY CONTROL APPROVAL FOR THE FILLING OF VACANT POSTS BY EXTERNAL ADVERTISEMENT

Directorate: Lifelong Learning

Section: Culture & Leisure

Post Title:

Museum Attendant - Plas Newydd (Seasonal)

Salary Grade: Scale 1 scp 5

JUSTIFICATION FOR EXTERNAL RECRUITMENT (This part must be completed for all posts)

Plas Newydd House in Llangollen opens for the summer season - 1st April - 31st October each year and is staffed by 4 Museum Attendants on a part-time basis. We already have 3 members of staff (who were employed at Plas Newydd last Season), but now need toadvertise for one additional post to complete the team. The staff work on a 3 day rotating shift system, and there is a requirement for two members of staff to be present on each day to comply with Health & Safety requirements. The ability to speak Welsh is considered essential.

We need to advertise externally as soon as possible in order that we can make an appointment

We need to advertise externally as soon as possible in order that we can make an appointment prior to Plas Newydd opening on 1st April, 2001, as the postholder is also required to undertake the "spring cleaning" which will commence on Monday 26th March, 2001.

A copy of the advert is attached for your information.

Signed: Spored Bowen (Corporate)	Director) Dated: 2 · 02 · 0
Signed: Signed: (Corporate) Signed: (Lead Meml	ber) Dated: ∑ . D2 . o
To: Cabinet	
Signed: (Leader)	\mathcal{I}
	Approved Refused
Comments/Reasons	
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Please return this form to Emma Safhill, Personnel Officer, Directorate of Lifelong Learning, c/o County Hall, Mold.

VACANCY CONTROL APPROVAL FOR THE FILLING OF VACANT POSTS BY EXTERNAL ADVERTISEMENT

		Department:	0.	
Directorate: <u>CUIEF</u>	Executive's	Seetion: Cour	ty Clerk's	
Post Title: RECEPTION	157 /TELEPHONIST	Salary Grade:	Serie 2	
JUSTIFICATION FOR EXTERNAL RECRUITMENT (This part <u>must</u> be completed for <u>all</u> posts)				
the Council's mo	acancy in post of in Switchboard at	- Kuthin (part-	-time, mornings)	
Non replacement level Sinilar p	would reduce the ser ost (part-time afterno	via provision to ons) previously ap	yourd by Cabinet.	
Signed:	(Corporate	Director)	Dated: 8/2/01	
Signed:	(Lead Men	iber)	Dated:	
To: Cabinet Signed:	(Leader		8 Feb 2001 Approved Refused	
Comments/Reasons				
-				
Di A. A. Ali farm	n to the Director of the En	nloving Directorate		

ADRAN CLERC Y SIN
ADRAN CLERC Y SIN
COUNTY CLERK
COUNTY CLERK'S DEPARTMENT
RHYL

-7 FEB 2001

REPORT TO CABINET AGENDA ITEM NO: 6

CABINET MEMBER: LEADER

DATE: 22 FEBRUARY 2001

SUBJECT: PRESTATYN TOWN CENTRE TASK GROUP

1. DECISION SOUGHT

1.1 To appoint one elected member and one officer to serve as the County Council's representatives on the Prestatyn Town Centre Task Group.

2. REASON FOR SEEKING DECISION

- 2.1 Prestatyn Town Council recently commissioned a consultants' report on entitled "Moving Forward Together an Action Plan for Change; a Review of the Prestatyn Town Centre Regeneration Strategy".
- 2.2 One of the recommendations in the report is that a Town Centre Task Group be established and they have asked for the County Council to be represented. Progress on achieving many of the aims and objectives in the report cannot be achieved without partnership and co-operation between the town council and the County Council.

3. COST IMPLICATIONS

3.1 Initially any costs would be associated with attending meetings etc.

4. FINANCIAL CONTROLLER STATEMENT

4.1 Costs restricted to travel costs for attending meetings.

5. CONSULTATIONS CARRIED OUT

5.1 The Prestatyn Town Regeneration Study is soon to be the subject of an open public consultation exercise arranged by the Town Council.

6. IMPLICATIONS FOR OTHER POLICY AREAS INCLUDING CORPORATE

6.1 Consistent with Corporate objectives and working in partnership with Prestatyn Town Council in community development and re-generation.

7. RECOMMENDATION

7.1 That the Council appoints an elected Member and an Officer representative to participate on the Prestatyn Town Centre Task Group.

REPORT TO CABINET

AGENDA ITEM NO: 7

CABINET MEMBER LEADER

DATE: 22 FEBRUARY 2001

SUBJECT: JOINT COUNCIL FOR WALES

1. DECISION SOUGHT

To agree to a change in the Authority's representation on the Joint Council for Wales in that Councillor I.M. German replace Councillor A.E. Roberts.

2. REASON FOR SEEKING DECISION

As Councillor I.M. German is the Cabinet Lead Member for Human Resources, it is considered appropriate that she attend meetings of the Joint Council for Wales as one of Denbighshire's representatives: the other being Councillor G. Williams.

3. COST IMPLICATIONS

Approved duty.

4. FINANCIAL CONTROLLER STATEMENT

N/A

5. CONSULTATIONS CARRIED OUT

Both Councillors I.M. German and A.E. Roberts have been consulted on this matter along with officers in the Department of Personnel.

6. POLICY IMPLICATIONS INCLUDING CORPORATE

N/A

7. RECOMMENDATION

That approval be given to Councillor I.M. German taking the place of Councillor A.E. Roberts as one of the Authority's representatives on the Joint Council for Wales: Denbighshire's representatives would, therefore, be Councillors I.M. German and G. Williams.

REPORT TO CABINET AGENDA ITEM NO: 8

CABINET MEMBER LEADER

DATE: 22 FEBRUARY 2001

SUBJECT: BRITISH RESORTS ASSOCIATION COMMITTEES 2001 - 2003

1. DECISION SOUGHT

To nominate one Elected Member and one Officer to serve on the British Resorts Policy Committee and Officers Advisory Committee respectively for the period 2001 - 2003.

2. REASON FOR SEEKING DECISION

- 2.1 A request has been received from the Director of the British Resorts Association for the Authority to nominate a Member to serve on the Policy Committee and an Officer to represent the Authority on the Officers Advisory Committee.
- 2.2 For Members' information, Denbighshire's current representatives are Councillor W.G. Thomas together with the Chief Executive.

3. COST IMPLICATIONS

Approved duty.

4. FINANCIAL CONTROLLER STATEMENT

N/A

5. CONSULTATIONS CARRIED OUT

N/A

6. POLICY IMPLICATIONS INCLUDING CORPORATE

N/A

7. RECOMMENDATION

- (a) that replacement County Council representatives be appointed to serve on the British Resorts Association Committees for the period 2001 2003; and
- (b) that nominations be duly invited for one Elected Member to serve on the Policy Committee and one Officer to serve on the Officers Advisory Committee.

AGENDA ITEM NO: 9

REPORT TO CABINET

CABINET MEMBER: Lead Member for Education

DATE: 26 February 2001

SUBJECT: Membership of the Management Committee of Canolfan

Glyndwr (Ysgol Brynhyfryd Community Arts Theatre)

1 <u>Decision Sought</u>

To seek Cabinet approval to increase the Membership of the Management Committee of Canolfan Glyndwr from 9 to 11.

2 Reason For Seeking Decision

A request has been received from the Management Committee of Canolfan Glyndwr for consideration to be given to increasing the membership of the Committee by 2. Furthermore it is requested that these two additional Members are:

A representative from Ruthin Town Council The Bursar of Ysgol Brynhyfryd.

3 <u>Cost Implications</u>

N/A

4 Financial Controller Statement

N/A

5 Consultation Carried Out

Request received directly from Canolfan Glyndwr Management Committee. The Management Committee have also sought the formal approval of the Arts Council for Wales to this increase

6 Implications On Other Policy Areas Including Corporate

N/A

7 Recommendation

That Members approve the increase in the membership of the Committee from 9 to 11 and that the additional Members are:

A representative from Ruthin Town Council The Bursar of Ysgol Brynhyfryd.

REPORT TO CABINET AGENDA ITEM NO: 10

FROM: COUNCILLOR D M MORRIS

LEAD CABINET MEMBER, ENVIRONMENT

DATE: 22 February 2001

SUBJECT: Section 278 Agreements Highways Act 1980

1. Decision Sought

To seek authority to enter into Agreements with developers under Section 278 of the Highways Act 1980 where such agreements are required following the grant of planning permission.

2. Reason for Seeking Decision

Section 278 of the Highways Act 1980 allows highway authorities to enter into agreements with developers for the execution at the developer's expense of any works

- (a) which the County Council, as highway authority are or may be authorised to execute,
- (b) or the execution of such works incorporating particular modifications, additions or features, or at a particular time or in a particular manner.

The preconditions for the an agreement are that the County Council must be satisfied that the works will be of public benefit i.e. in terms of highway safety and the free flow of traffic and the works proposed fall within the County Council's powers of road building, maintenance or improvement.

Most agreements under Section 278 of the Highways Act 1980 follow on from a planning permission granted to a developer, which if it is to be implemented will require highway improvements of some kind.

The current practice by the Head of Planning Services is to deal with the requirement for highway works by way of Grampian style conditions i.e. that they should be completed prior to commencement of work on site and in this situation a Section 278 Agreement is required to govern the carrying out of the highway works to ensure that the applicant or developer carrying out the works:-

- (a) constructs the highway works required are constructed to adoption standards;
- (b) provides a bond/deposit provided to cover the estimated costs of the highway works in default;
- (c) provides appropriate indemnities and insurances so that any person suffering damage or injury as a consequence of those works may seek redress against the developer rather than against the County Council who would otherwise be liable in its capacity as Highway Authority;
- (d) complies with the of the Street Works Code contained in the New Roads and Street Works Act 1991 where it is intended to open up the highway to do work (this requires that notice of intention to carry out work must be given and an appropriate licence obtained from the County Council in its capacity as Street Works Authority for the purposes of that Act).
- (e) requires payment of highway supervision fees incurred by the County Council

It is essential from the County Council's point of view to have such an Agreement in place as quickly as possible to ensure that the works in the existing highway are not carried out until the safeguards contained within it are in place. It should also be noted that Section 278 Agreements are enforceable against subsequent landowners where sums are outstanding and if there are such sums outstanding they will registrable as a local land charge and show up each time a local land charges search is carried out.

Developers also frequently wish to enter into such agreements urgently since the commencement of work on site is frequently dependent on these agreements being in place eg statutory undertakers will not carry out to move/relocate their apparatus unless the developer can show that there is a Section 278 Agreement in place with the County Council. For these reason a general authority in the terms referred to below is sought.

Members are asked to note that it is intended to request the Head of Planning Services that where Grampian style conditions are imposed in respect of developments a note should be included in the planning permission to the effect that the applicant/developer will not be permitted to carry out any work in the highway until such time as he has concluded an agreement with the County Council under Section 278 Highways Act 1980/complied with the requirements of the New Roads and Street Works Act 1991 as referred to above.

3. Cost Implications

Cost of highway works permitted by the Agreements and supervision costs incurred by the County Council in supervising the works to be paid for in full by the applicant/developer as applicable.

4. Financial Controller's Statement

Not Applicable

5. Corporate Implications

None

6. Recommendations

Authorisation is therefore sought :-

- (1) for the Head of Highways and Transportation to negotiate terms for a Section 278 Agreement/Bond with developers where he is of the view the highway works required as a consequence to a grant of planning permission by the County Council fall within the ambit of Section 278 of the Highways Act 1980.
- (2) for the Head of Legal and Administration be authorised to affix the seal of the County Council to Section 278 Agreements negotiated by the Head of Highways and Transportation.
- (3) for the Head of Legal and Administration be authorised to recover the costs/contribution to the highway works and the cost of any highway supervision works assessed by the Head of Highways and Transportation together with the proper legal costs of entering into the Section 278 Agreement from the developer who carries out the works.

REPORT TO CABINET AGENDA ITEM NO: 11

CABINET MEMBER: Councillor R W Hughes, Lead Member for Culture, Leisure

and Tourism

DATE: 22 February 2001

SUBJECT: Flood damaged records management material

1. Decision Sought

1.1 To agree to allow Harwell Drying Services to begin treating flood damaged documentation as covered by the Authority's insurance arrangements.

2. Reason For Seeking Decision

- 2.1 On 30 October and 6 November 2000 the Depot at Park Road was inundated by flood water to depths of two and four feet on the two successive Mondays.
- **2.2** Boxes of files deposited by services and for which the Authority has a statutory duty to make 'proper arrangements' were saturated.
- 2.3 638 boxes of files and documentation which were beyond repair and those coming up to their destruction dates were destroyed, and 3,500 boxes were removed off site stored temporarily in business units whilst the building was dried and cleaned. These have now been returned to the Depot where they are being requested by officers in the usual way.
- 2.4 The remaining saturated material comprising 1165 boxes were assessed immediately on request by Harwell Drying Services to which the Archive Service subscribes as a priority user on behalf of the whole authority. Priority registration ensures immediate treatment of the saturated material by quick freezing to prevent deterioration.
- 2.5 The boxes were treated in this way and removed to the company's premises in Essex for further attention by chemical freeze-drying prior to their return.

3. Cost Implications

- 3.1 There are no direct cost implications for the Council. Harwell estimate the process to cost in the region of £90k. Due to the urgent nature of the emergency and owing to the fact that the Authority was registered as a priority user with Harwell comparisons with other such service providers to comply with financial standing orders would be difficult at this stage. Harwell, however, do seem to be the company of preference of most archive and records management services.
- 3.2 Insurance loss adjusters are happy to allow the procedure to take place as part of the legitimate costs of the repair of flood damage.

4. Financial Controller Statement

4.1 Not applicable

5. Consultation Carried Out

5.1 Not applicable

6. Implications On Other Policy Including Corporate

6.1 None, but a report on the future of the Records Management Service will be presented to Cabinet in due course.

7. Recommendation

7.1 That the damaged material to be restored by Harwell Drying Services and for the costs to be paid by the Council's insurers.

AGENDA ITEM NO: 12

REPORT TO CABINET

CABINET MEMBER: COUNCILLOR D M MORRIS

DATE: 22 February, 2001

SUBJECT: Speed Camera Hypothecation Partnership

1 DECISION SOUGHT

To seek agreement to the principle of forming a partnership to enable the hypothecation of speed camera enforcement fines in North Wales.

2 REASON FOR SEEKING DECISION

A pilot scheme is in operation in eight areas of Britain, including South Wales, whereby some of the revenue generated by speed enforcement fines is recovered by the Police and their partners to allow greater speed enforcement to take place. Elsewhere in the country all fines revenue accrues to the Lord Chancellor's Department. The additional speed enforcement enables opportunities to reduce road casualties and move towards achieving the Government's targets on road safety. These targets were also formally adopted by the Council in the Local Transport Plan.

The Government has indicated that more police forces will be able to take advantage of the opportunities presented by the hypothecation of speed enforcement fines. The necessary legislation is included in the Vehicle Crime Bill which received its second reading on 18 December 2000. Initial results from the pilot scheme indicate that the number of injury accidents has fallen by between 10% and 45% and the number of people killed and seriously injured reduced by between 40% and 85%. North Wales Police is keen to apply to be one of the forces to take advantage of these opportunities. The next group of police forces to proceed with hypothecation will be chosen on a competitive basis, with each interested force submitting a business case. In order to progress a business case for the project the Force wishes to develop a partnership with the North Wales local authorities, the North Wales Health Authority, the National Assembly, the Magistrates Clerk's Office and the Crown Prosecution Service.

The conditions for hypothecation state that only expenditure incurred in additional camera activity in "collision hot spots" can be supported. Any surplus fines revenue is returned to the government. The Council may incur additional costs in establishing the scheme, for example, for extra signing or preparation of sites where additional enforcement will be undertaken. These costs may be limited, as the Council has already purchased two speed cameras for use by the Police and erected signing at a number of locations with concentrations of speed related accidents, but would be recoverable from the hypothecation funds. Hypothecation will ensure that the cameras already purchased will be used more extensively.

3 COST IMPLICATIONS

The costs have yet to be determined but are being funded by Grant Aid and are in the order of £35,250.00. However, any further costs incurred would be recoverable from the fines revenue within the year of spend as part of the ongoing operation of the partnership.

4 FINANCIAL CONTROLLER STATEMENT

A further report will be brought to members when costs are identified.

5 CONSULTATION CARRIED OUT

None at this stage.

6 IMPLICATIONS ON OTHER POLICY AREAS INCLUDING CORPORATE

The proposals meet with the County's policy to reduce accidents within the context of Government Targets.

7 RECOMMENDATION

That the Council support in principle the formation of a speed camera hypothecation partnership with North Wales Police.

AGENDA ITEM NO: 13

REPORT TO CABINET

CABINET MEMBER: Councillor David Morris - Environment

DATE: 22 February, 2001

SUBJECT: Traffic Signals Maintenance - Extension of Contract

1 DECISION SOUGHT

To seek agreement to the extension of the traffic signals maintenance contract with TSC.

2 REASON FOR SEEKING DECISION

It was agreed at the meeting of the Technical Services Committee on 3 June 1997 that it would be more cost effective for the North-east Wales local authorities to act jointly in seeking tenders for the maintenance of traffic signals and pelican crossings. Flintshire County Council would draw up a select list of tenders and invite bids for work on behalf of all the authorities. Following award of the contract each authority would be invoiced separately for work undertaken in its area. The lowest tender was submitted by TSC and as it was fully compliant with the contract specification TSC was awarded the contract.

The contract runs from 1 October 1997 to 30 September 2001 with an option to extend it. TSC's performance has been satisfactory and it is now proposed to extend their contract by 2 years to 30 September 2003. An option will be available at the end of this period to make a further two year extension. The other North-east Wales authorities have agreed to the extension to September 2003.

The Council's Standing Orders (section 9 (b)) permit extension of an existing contract subject to approval by the responsible committee or subcommittee.

3 COST IMPLICATIONS

The contract costs are met from the Head of Highways and Transportation's traffic management budget.

4 FINANCIAL CONTROLLER STATEMENT

Taking up the option to extend the contract and avoid the likelihood of increasing costs from retendering appears to offer best value for money.

5 CONSULTATION CARRIED OUT

The Traffic Signal Maintenance Contract is due for renewal in September 2001, within the contract is an option to extend. Following discussions between the current partners who comprise Conwy County Borough Council, Wrexham County Borough Council, Flintshire County Council and Denbighshire County Council advice was sought from the Audit Section of Flintshire County Council who concluded they were happy to proceed with the contract extension option. This was due to there being a price review procedure within the contract. In addition similar contracts being let by other Authorities in Wales are experiencing contract prices which are above expected inflation increases.

6 IMPLICATIONS ON OTHER POLICY AREAS INCLUDING CORPORATE

No implications for other policy areas.

7 RECOMMENDATION

- 7.1 That Cabinet agree to the extension of the traffic signals contract with TSC for a two year period from 1 October 2001 to 30 September 2003.
- 7.2 That the Head of Highways & Transportation be given delegated authority for the extension of contracts in liaison with the Cabinet Member (Environment).

AGENDA ITEM NO: 14

CABINET MEMBER: COUNCILLOR D M MORRIS

DATE: 22 February, 2001

SUBJECT: Transport Grant 2001 - 2002 - Accepted Expenditure

1 DECISION SOUGHT

That the proposed programme of work using National Assembly funding be approved.

2 REASON FOR SEEKING DECISION

In August 2000 the Council submitted four bids to the National Assembly for Transport Grant funding. The bids were for the River Clwyd Coastal Area Package (jointly with Conwy County Borough Council) and Safer Routes to Schools Initiatives in Rhyl, Ruthin and Llangollen.

The Assembly has informed the Chief Executive of the accepted expenditure for the Transport Grant bids. In total £1,241,000 has been accepted for financial year 2001/02 consisting of £1,200,000 for the Package Bid and £41,000 for the Rhyl Safer Routes to School Initiative. The Assembly has indicated that it was not prepared to fund the Safer Routes bids for Ruthin and Llangollen. Future indicative allocations for the Package Bid have also been announced these amount to £720,000 for 2002/03 and £480,000 for 2003/04.

The Coastal Area Package has been drawn up jointly with Conwy County Borough Council. The settlement in previous years has been insufficient to allow the whole Package proposal to be implemented. Neither was it possible to identify a combination of individual schemes that could be funded completely by the settlements. It was agreed with Conwy Council that a reasonable apportionment could be made in relation to the population within each authority's area. Conwy, which accounts for approximately 25% of the Package Area population, consequently was allocated 25% of the funding, with Denbighshire retaining the remaining 75%.

In the notification of settlement the Assembly has indicated that priority should be given to cycling and quality bus partnership proposals. The Assembly has commented that the settlement for 2001/02 and the indicative allocation for 2002/03 taken together could be used for the construction of new pedestrian/cyclist bridges adjacent to the road bridges over the North Wales Main Railway Line at St Asaph Avenue in Kinmel Bay (in Conwy) and Tynewydd Road in Rhyl. Conwy Council have stressed the importance of the new pedestrian/cyclist bridge in Kinmel Bay in completing their cycle network. Conwy returned £300,000 of their allocation for 2000/01 on the understanding that it would be made available to them in future years when sufficient funding could be assembled to construct the bridge, the cost of which is £800,000. It is proposed therefore to allocate £800,000 to Conwy Council in 2001/02. This is made up of the £300,000 carried forward from 2000/01, Conwy's 25% split of the 2001/02 settlement (£300,000) and the remaining £200,000 taken from Conwy's share of the indicative allocations for 2002/03 and 2003/04.

It is proposed to use the balance of the 2001/02 settlement, £400,000, to progress the following schemes:-

- Infrastructure works in support of the Quality Bus Partnership with Arriva Cymru for the Rhyl Rhuddlan Glan Clwyd Hospital St Asaph corridor. These will consist of upgrading of bus shelters and bus stops and raising of substandard kerb heights at bus stops.
- Cycle routes from Rhuddlan via Glan Clwyd Hospital to Bodelwyddan, and from Rhuddlan to St. Asaph and an extension of the existing route in the St Asaph Business Park.
- Cycle route across the H-bridge in Rhyl, subject to further investigation.

• Commence construction of the pedestrian/cyclist bridge at Tynewydd Road, Rhyl. The bulk of the construction costs will be met from the allocation for 2002/03.

The settlement for the Rhyl Safer Routes to School Initiative is to provide improved routes for pedestrians to Ysgol Bryn Hedydd. These will complement the provision of the Tynewydd Road pedestrian/cyclist bridge.

The extent of funding to be made available over the next three years from the National Assembly through Transport Grant and the Road Safety Special Grant (the subject of a separate report to Cabinet) will present difficulties with the current level of staff resources within the Highways and Transportation Department. Additional expertise in the field of traffic management, particularly in design for cyclists and pedestrians, will be required to enable the Council to exploit the Assembly's funding to the full. In this regard it is proposed to employ up to two full-time equivalent members of staff with traffic management skills. Employment of the staff would be subject to constant review in the light of continued funding.

3 COST IMPLICATIONS

The additional schemes and staff are to be funded entirely from National Assembly grant funding.

4 FINANCIAL CONTROLLER STATEMENT

The costs to Denbighshire from the above works will be funded from Transport Grant awarded by the National Assembly.

5 CONSULTATION CARRIED OUT

The Package Bid was the subject of consultation before the first submission in 1998. The Rhyl Safer Routes to School Initiative for 2001 - 02 was developed in consultation with the head teacher, pupils and parents of Ysgol Bryn Hedydd.

6 IMPLICATIONS ON OTHER POLICY AREAS INCLUDING CORPORATE

The proposed programme of work is intended to support the Council's efforts to reduce social exclusion through improved accessibility for non-car owners and to support Local Agenda 21 aims.

7 RECOMMENDATION

That the report be received and approved and the proposed programme of work be endorsed.