

**CABINET**

Minutes of the Cabinet meeting held in Eirianfa, Factory Place, Denbigh on Tuesday 29 November 2005 at 10.00 a.m.

**PRESENT**

Councillors S A Davies, Lead Member for Business & Communications; P A Dobb, Lead Member for Health & Wellbeing; E C Edwards, Lead Member for Communities; R W Hughes, Leader and Lead Member for Regeneration; P J Marfleet, Lead Member for Finance and Personnel; D Owens, Lead Member for Lifelong Learning; S Roberts, Lead Member for Promoting Denbighshire and J Thompson Hill, Lead Member for Property and Asset Management.

Observers: Councillors J R Bartley; M Ll Davies; G C Evans; C L Hughes; M M Jones, N Hugh Jones and G M Kensler.

**ALSO PRESENT**

Chief Executive; Deputy Chief Executive / Corporate Director: Resources, County Clerk and the Financial Controller.

**APOLOGIES**

Councillors M A German, Lead Member for Children and Young People and E W Williams, Lead Member for Environment.

**ANNOUNCEMENT**

Councillor S Roberts said the Garden Restoration Project at Plas Newydd, Llangollen had received the British Association of Landscape Industries award on 18.11.2005 at the annual awards ceremony in London. The award marked the achievement of the project in sensitively restoring a Grade II listed landscape. The £1m project, funded by ERDF, Heritage Lottery Fund and the Authority, also provided a shop/cafe/new toilets on the site and enabled a further two rooms to be opened in the house along with provision of an audio guide for use by visitors.

Councillor D Owens said the Lifelong Learning Student Finance Team had been voted the top in Wales for processing the highest number of student loan applications within the prescribed timescale and had also been voted 4th overall in the UK.

**1 URGENT MATTERS**

There were no Urgent Matters.

## 2 MINUTES OF THE CABINET

The Minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on 25 October 2005 were submitted.

**RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on 25 October 2005 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Leader.

## 3 DENBIGHSHIRE INTERNATIONAL STRATEGY

Councillor R W Hughes presented the report seeking Cabinet approval of the Denbighshire International Strategy. She hoped to develop the process so that Members would be aware of ongoing work and allow an opportunity for them to suggest new works.

Councillor P J Marfleet, whilst supporting the strategy and drawing down of funding, expressed his concern about the amount of involvement in the international strategy and said that 250 person days of foreign travel had taken place during the year but this information had not been included in the report, this included about 20 people going to Ireland at different times. However, he expressed his support for the work done by the Head of Development Services and the Principal European Officer and their team for their skills in drawing funding to the County.

Councillor Marfleet referred to the Aims and Objectives - Promoting Economic Development and Competitiveness - and said the Authority should be developing links with the region and on a national basis. He suggested the County should be targeting its nearer neighbours for tourists rather than Silesia for example.

Councillor Marfleet discussed the Denbighshire International Forum which involved officers and the Leader. He then suggested a list be drawn up of companies / large firms who already export their goods internationally, for example Ifor Williams Trailers, who could then be approached to see if the Authority could help enhance their business in any way which would lead to economic benefits in the County.

Councilor D Owens agreed it was important to emphasise the business aspect of the Strategy and asked that a breakdown of the funding received be provided for all Members.

Councillor E C Edwards said excellent work had been carried out in communities. He also agreed that it was important that all Members be kept informed of results, for example there had been 5 visits to Athy but few people were aware of the quantifiable benefits.

Councillor P A Dobb expressed her disappointment that Health was not included as part of the Aims and Objectives as it was important that expertise was shared on a variety of social and economic problems. It was agreed that the Strategy be revised to include Health as part of the Aims and Objectives.

In response to a query from Councillor N Hugh Jones, the Chief Executive said refurbishment works had been carried out for the youth, for example in Prestatyn Youth Club.

The Head of Development Services informed Members that much youth development work was carried out by ECTARC and two officers in Lifelong Learning were also involved in youth development. With regard to the Rhyl Athy Project, he saw no reason why the Coordinator could not provide a report for all Members on the outcomes to date. He said it had been decided at an early stage to concentrate on the Objective 1 Programme and then on the Interreg as the Objective 1 was coming to an end.

Councillor R W Hughes said it was important to look at major structural fund programmes along with the lottery. She agreed that officers should explore the possibility of business connections with large employers in Denbighshire.

**RESOLVED** that Cabinet agree the Denbighshire International Strategy be approved with the proviso that a section on Health be included in the Aims and Objectives.

#### **4 MODERNISING EDUCATION UPDATE**

Councillor D Owens presented the report for Members to note progress made with the Modernising Education programme and to approve the issue of an Invitation to Tender (ITT) to appoint consultants to work on the Modernising Education Programme. Members were also asked to note that the potential contract value to undertake the work described in the ITT would be ascertained from tender responses and that any contract arising from the tendering process will only be let subject to the availability of sufficient funding.

Councillor P J Marfleet supported the process of tendering for external consultants and said it should be included as part of the budget setting process for the Directorate. The Corporate Director: Lifelong Learning said the figure was included in the following year's budget, but as a commercial in confidence figure. This was a high priority programme.

In response to a query from Councillor P A Dobb, the Corporate Director: Lifelong Learning clarified Annex A for Members and said that consultants would be carrying out some of the specialist project work whilst the Authority's staff carried out other aspects of the work. He confirmed that the costs would be available once tenders had been received and evaluated.

Councillor E C Edwards asked whether the consultants would be given a steer to include community issues as part of the consultation as he felt it was of the greatest importance. The Corporate Director: Lifelong Learning said schools were increasingly being seen as the hub of communities and the Welsh Assembly Government had a policy of community focus through

schools and had made a small amount of funding available. He said this was a fantastic opportunity to have more consultation with the community.

Councillor R W Hughes said the Visioning would also form part of the consultation. She said she would wish to see the consultants interviewed.

The Corporate Director: Lifelong Learning confirmed that Welsh medium education was naturally included as part of the key skills. The consultants once appointed would understand that some schools produced fluent bilingual speakers.

**RESOLVED** that Cabinet:

[a] note progress made with the programme to date

[b] approve the issue of an Invitation to Tender to appoint consultants to work on the Modernising Education Programme

[c] note that the potential contract value to undertake the work described in the ITT will be ascertained from tender responses

[d] note that any contract arising from the tendering process will only be let subject to the availability of sufficient funding.

## **5 DENBIGHSHIRE'S RESPONSE TO THE AUDITOR'S REPORT ON THE IMPROVEMENT PLAN 2005-2006**

Councillor R W Hughes presented the report for Members to agree the Authority's draft Action Plan in response to the Auditor's report on the Improvement Plan. She congratulated the officers on their work.

Councillor P A Dobb queried the updated risk assessments and their severity. The Policy Unit Manager said workshops had been held and it was hoped that any confusion on risks had been resolved. It was important that Services carried out their own risk assessments, to feed into the budget setting process.

**RESOLVED** that Cabinet approve the Authority's draft Action Plan in response to the Auditor's report on the Improvement Plan.

## **6 MONITORING THE AUTHORITY'S KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS**

Councillor P J Marfleet presented the report for Cabinet to consider the Corporate Quarterly Performance Report which detailed the Authority's key performance indicators and urged Members to monitor closely the progress being made against corporate and service risks with reference to local performance indicators and progress towards target of statutory performance indicators, with a view to considering any issue in greater depth as deemed necessary.

Councillor P A Dobb, referring to NPA 6, said the Welsh Assembly Government had changed the reporting definition and they had not included welfare benefits which the Authority included. She stressed the need for more accurate reporting. Regarding Housing, she said negotiation was required with the Welsh Assembly Government to negotiate changes to targets in respect of homeless families.

The Corporate Director: Social Services and Housing said Children's Services were showing significant improvements but they were still struggling with looked after children SCC/C/004. It was important to identify potential foster carers.

Councillor J Thompson Hill said it was hoped the receipt for the car park site in Ruthin would be received by 01.12.2005. He said the annual target would need further consideration and the figure should be revised.

The Corporate Director: Environment said the private sector houses figure had improved and recycling targets were improving whilst the municipal waste figures were exceeding some targets. The Authority was also working within the limits of the biodegradable material tonnage sent to landfill sites.

Councillor R W Hughes reported that the target for new high quality jobs created through the financial support programme would be achieved.

Councillor D Owens said it was hoped for an improvement in the percentage of attendance in secondary schools with a new strategy. Mobile classroom numbers had to be increased although this number would fall if further resources were available for schools maintenance. Councillor P J Marfleet queried whether the number of mobile classrooms could be linked to the number of pupils. The Corporate Director: Lifelong Learning reminded Members that some mobile classrooms, for example the laboratories at Ysgol Brynhyfryd, were in better condition than the school buildings. Councillor Owens said the Welsh Assembly Government were aware that pupil numbers had increased in parts of the County and that the figures would therefore be distorted.

Councillor E C Edwards reported that the reduction in the level of crime figures was an annual target. He said a more accurate figure would be to report the number of cases brought to justice. Violent crime figures in North Wales could increase as a result of the new Licensing Act. However, the all crime and burglaries figures were on target and vehicle crime was down. He was concerned about the increase in anti social behaviour. He said the Chief Executive had built strong partnerships with the North Wales Police and thanked him for his work with the Steering Group and the Area Commander. He welcomed the Corporate Director: Environment to the Steering Group as he would be taking over from the Chief Executive.

Councillor P J Marfleet, referring to the Council Tax figures, said it was harder to achieve a 1% improvement at 97% than at say 50%. The figures in CHR/C/002 had been transposed as an improvement in the number of

working days had been achieved and he asked that the data be corrected for the next report. The Deputy Chief Executive / Corporate Director: Resources referred to progress in relation to Single Status.

Councillor S Roberts said fitness targets had been increased.

The Policy Unit Manager said the Authority's own targets could be changed and officers could discuss these with the Scrutiny Committees. Each Service's Performance Management Officer should provide accurate information.

**RESOLVED** that Members monitor closely the progress being made against corporate and service risks with particular reference to those indicators not on target. CHR/C/002 to be amended for the next report as the performance symbols should be transposed.

## **7 REVENUE BUDGET 2005-2006**

Councillor P J Marfleet presented the report for Members to note the budget performance figures for the current financial year as detailed in the appendices to the report and consider any actions necessary to bring the Directorates' projected spending in line with available budgets. All Directorates had contributed to the potential underspend totalling £192k. However, there was still time to go before year end, including the winter period, therefore there was no room for complacency.

Councillor Marfleet said the Social Services and Housing budget deficit of £540 k was masked by the budget underspend brought forward from the last financial year. Social Services areas needed remedial actions although the overall figures were good.

The Corporate Director: Lifelong Learning said the Directorate had saved £216k by extreme cost savings.

The Chief Executive said the reported figures should not lead to a false sense of security as some of the savings were from increased income.

**RESOLVED** that Cabinet note the figures in the Appendices and that Lead Members consider remedial actions to align projected spending levels with approved budgets.

## **8 HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT BUDGET 2005 / 2006**

Councillor P A Dobb presented the report for Members to note the latest financial forecast position of the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) for 2005-2006, which showed a potential net underspend of £267k at the year end. This had resulted from an increase in rents as fewer houses were being sold and staff vacancies.

***RESOLVED** that Cabinet note the latest financial forecast position of the Housing Revenue Account for 2005-2006.*

## **9 CABINET FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME**

Councillor S A Davies presented the Cabinet Forward Work Programme. He confirmed that all Members received the Cabinet papers. Reports now included Action Plans which would be monitored. He stressed the need for 'middle management' to produce the reports in a timely manner.

Councillor R W Hughes said a report on Collaboration with a Statement of Intent would be discussed at the December 2005 Cabinet meeting.

***RESOLVED** that Cabinet note the Cabinet Forward Work Programme.*

## **10 URGENT ITEMS**

There were no Part I Urgent Items.

At this juncture (11.35 a.m.) the meeting adjourned for 10 minutes to allow Members to participate in refreshments.

## **EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

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

### **PART II**

## **11 THE DEVELOPMENT OF YSGOL TIR MORFA - PHASE II**

Councillor D Owens presented the report seeking Cabinet's recommendation that Full Council consider the inclusion of Tir Morfa Phase II development within the capital plan as soon as resources were available and to consider what potential resources could be available to the Authority to fund the development. To help with costs, the project was three phased. He stressed that if it was not possible to proceed with the project it would have cost implications with regard to the mobiles in use at the school.

The Chief Executive said the Corporate Executive Team would bring options and proposals to the next Cabinet meeting if Members decided to proceed with the project. The Corporate Director: Lifelong Learning said Tir Morfa Phase II should be included in the Capital Plan.

Members discussed various aspects of the report and expressed their disappointment that prudential borrowing could not be an option. They agreed the project was a high priority and that it was important to continue with Phase II.

Savings could be made once the project was completed as children would not be going out of County. It was hoped that this project could become a regional facility and discussions were being held with the Welsh Assembly Government.

The Senior Education Officer outlined the project to date and said if Phase II was not built, children over the age of 7 years would have to be sent out of County for their education.

After further detailed discussion of the scheme, Members agreed to defer Recommendation 9.2 until the next meeting.

**RESOLVED** that:

- [a] Cabinet recommend that Full Council consider the inclusion of Tir Morfa Phase II development within the Capital Plan as soon as resources become available*
- [b] a further report be considered by Cabinet at its next meeting to consider what potential resources may be available to the Authority to fund the development.*

## **12 CAPITAL PLAN 2005-2006**

Councillor P J Marfleet presented the report for Members to note the latest projected position in the 2005/06 element of the capital plan.

Councillor Marfleet reported that the sale proceeds from the former temporary car park in Ruthin were still awaited and should be received later in the week, which would allow reinstatement of the block allocations for maintenance works to schools. He expressed his overlying concern regarding slippage identified, which he felt was not realistic. With regard to the unfunded overspend of £300k at paragraph 2.9, it was agreed that the Corporate Executive Team would resolve the issue. It was important as overspends could impact on such schemes as Tir Morfa or the Scala.

In response to a query from Councillor S A Davies regarding accurate preparation of tenders, the Chief Executive said there were usually good reasons why some refurbishment work could not have been foreseen as in Rhyl Leisure Centre for example or if asbestos was found in buildings. He said many completed schemes were as per the tender.

Councillor Marfleet said it was important that scheme plans were as realistic as possible and if expenditure was changing during the course of any scheme it should be reported at the time.

The Corporate Director: Lifelong Learning said the project teams plan the schemes and then are charged for the design which resulted in a payment being required before the project could be agreed. Funding should be flexible to the planning stage and then accurate figures provided in order for a



decision to be made. Councillor E C Edwards said it was important the scheme project managers had technical ability.

The Financial Controller detailed the current potential slippage and other types of funding which were scheme specific. With regard to the potential overspend of £217k on generally funded schemes, if no slippage occurred it would fall on the Revenue budget.

**RESOLVED** that Cabinet note the position of the 2005/06 element of the Council's agreed 3 Year Capital Plan.

### **13 RESTRUCTURING OF THE HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT - RESTRICTED CIRCULATION**

The Chief Executive apologised to Members and said the report should have been in his name and not in the name of the Lead Member. The report asked Members to note the creation of an additional post of Personnel Officer, Pay and Rewards and sought approval for the use of the existing Single Status provision to cover the additional costs outlined in this paper.

The Deputy Chief Executive / Corporate Director: Resources outlined the changes to the Central Personnel Department and the works required on both Single Status and the Staff Appraisal System.

Councillor P J Marfleet said the report was a good example of looking at the whole departmental structure when staff resigned or retired to meet the needs of service provision.

**RESOLVED** that Members note the creation of additional post of Personnel Officer, Pay and Rewards and approve the use of the existing Single Status provision to cover the additional costs outlined in the report.

The meeting concluded at 12.55 p.m.

**REPORT TO CABINET**

**CABINET MEMBER:** Councillor R Hughes, Lead Member for Regeneration

**DATE:** December 20<sup>th</sup> 2005

**SUBJECT:** West Rhyl Regeneration Strategy

**1 DECISION SOUGHT**

- 1.1 To approve the acquisition of property at 50-57 West Parade, Rhyl, 1a John Street and two garage properties in the rear lane, through either voluntary or compulsory purchase action with our partner the Welsh Development Agency.
- 1.2 That Cabinet confirm its support for the Welsh Development Agency to acquire 50-57 West Parade, Rhyl , 1a John Street and the two garage properties within the rear lane by the use of their Compulsory Purchase Powers if required.

**2 REASON FOR SEEKING DECISION**

- 2.1 Cabinet resolved at its meeting on 24 May 2005 to receive the West Rhyl Regeneration Strategy and support the implementation of the master plan subject to further work as the proposals evolve.
- 2.2 The Cabinet also resolved to support the use of Denbighshire County Council's Compulsory Purchase Powers in respect of the West Rhyl Regeneration Strategy, but no approval to support the use of the Welsh Development Agency's Compulsory Purchase Powers was made.
- 2.3 The Cabinet also agreed that prior to the issue of compulsory purchase orders or voluntary purchases of individual properties a further report was to be brought to Cabinet for consideration.
- 2.4 A joint report setting out the planning justification, the boundaries of the site to be acquired, and the range of uses considered appropriate for the site has been prepared, and is included within the report at Appendix 1.

**3 POWER TO MAKE THE DECISION**

- 3.1 S120 of the Local Government Act 1972 gives the power to acquire land. S226 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 gives the power to implement Compulsory Purchase Orders.

**4 COST IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 There are no cost implications for Denbighshire County Council.

- 4.2 The Welsh Development Agency will be voluntarily or compulsorily purchasing the properties, followed by demolition works, at their own cost, and then acting as a vendor of a cleared site to potential developers.

## **5 FINANCIAL CONTROLLER STATEMENT**

- 5.1 There are no obvious significant financial implications for the Council resulting from this matter.

## **6 CONSULTATION CARRIED OUT**

- 6.1 The Cabinet Members have already been consulted on the West Rhyl Regeneration Strategy and approved its implementation and the use of Denbighshire County Council's Compulsory Purchase Powers.

- 6.2 The Rhyl Elected Members group has received a presentation on the West Rhyl Regeneration Strategy and have indicated their support, to this element of the project.

- 6.3 The Welsh Development Agency Board will be receiving a report in January to recommend that they use their Compulsory Purchase Powers to acquire the property if required. Denbighshire County Council is asked to confirm their support for the use of the Welsh Development Agency Compulsory Purchase Powers for this specific regeneration site 50-57 West Parade, 1a John Street and the two garage properties in the rear lane.

- 6.4 Current owners of the properties highlighted in the report have been contacted by the Welsh Development Agency with a view to voluntarily purchase of their properties and have been advised that Compulsory Purchase Powers are being sought by the Welsh Development Agency Board in case voluntary purchase is not possible.

## **7 IMPLICATIONS ON OTHER POLICY AREAS INCLUDING CORPORATE**

- 7.1 The proposal is an integral part to the key corporate objective of ensuring that no ward in Denbighshire is within the top 50 deprived wards in Wales by 2012. It also contributes to a wide range of objectives contained in the Community Plan as well as towards improving the environment in the County generally.

## **8 ACTION PLAN**

- 8.1 There is no action required from officers of the County Council. This project is a Welsh Development Agency project. The Cabinet is required to approve and support the Welsh Development Agency's proposed action.

## **9 RECOMMENDATIONS**

Members are invited to:

- 9.1** Approve progressing the first phase of the West Rhyl Regeneration Strategy by supporting the acquisition of 50-57 West Parade, 1a John Street, and the two garage properties within the rear lane, by the Welsh Development Agency.
- 9.2** Confirm their support for the Welsh Development Agency to use their compulsory purchase powers to progress this acquisition if required.



# Nathaniel Lichfield and Partners

Planning Design Economics

## **Planning Review**

**West Rhyl**

**46-57 West Parade**

August 2005

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## **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 This report has been prepared by Nathaniel Lichfield and Partners on behalf of the Welsh Development Agency (WDA) with a view to setting out the planning justification for the redevelopment of 46-57 West Parade, and the properties located in and to the north of the lane between West Parade and Aquarium Street in Rhyl.
- 1.2 The purpose of this report is to take the West Rhyl Regeneration Strategy - Development Brief to the next stage, with specific reference to the above site, which is also known as Action Area G.
- 1.3 This report will therefore focus on identifying the precise boundaries of the regeneration site and set out the range of uses that are appropriate, in consideration of the regeneration objectives of the strategy. This report will also provide a potential basis for any compulsory purchase of the necessary land as well as setting out an indicative form of development.

## **2.0 DESCRIPTION OF ACTION AREA**

- 2.1 The Development Brief Action Area G includes numbers 46-57 West Parade, 1-9 John Street and properties to the south of the rear lane between West Parade and Aquarium Street. The WDA has requested that Nathaniel Lichfield & Partners review the boundary of the action area to ensure that there are no potential conflicts with existing uses and to establish the principles for the required form of development.
- 2.2 The property is located to the north east of the town centre, adjacent to the sea front, fronting West Parade. The property comprises a terrace of approximately 12 no. properties, dating from the Victoria era, with uniform features typical of this era, including some bay windows, symmetrically proportioned frontages with dormer windows and pitched roofs at attic level.
- 2.3 Some of the units have been merged and reconfigured into larger units over time. The site area is approximately 1.34 acres.
- 2.4 The units within the terrace are in varying states of condition and disrepair. The majority of the units are considered to be in poor condition, with some units having almost completely failed (from external inspection), with rotting structural timbers, windows, doorways and roof coverings. The majority of the units appear to be in residential use, or unoccupied/ redundant. There is a scattering of retail uses along the ground floors towards the middle of the terrace, comprising low value "tourist" souvenir retailing and the like.
- 2.5 Whilst much of the terrace is in a poor state of repair, there are two notable exceptions. Firstly, the unit at 57 West Parade appears to be undergoing rehabilitation and refurbishment. Knight Frank have been unable to ascertain the proposed end use of this building, although open market apartments or holiday apartments appear to be the most obvious. Secondly, Nos. 48 and 49 West Parade have recently been the subject of a refurbishment scheme to convert the property to provide open market apartments. Knight Frank have not been able to converse directly with the developer, although their agents report steady sales, with the completion of the scheme due presently.
- 2.6 Within the vicinity of the subject property, there are two significant developments which have been completed over recent years. The Clwyd Alyn Housing Association



development at 58-62 West Parade comprises 28 apartments all comprising two bedroom units designed for 2 person occupation.

2.7 The Haigh Properties development at 71-74 West Parade also comprises a recently refurbished terrace of housing converted into 1 and 2 bedroomed apartment units available to the private rented market.

2.8 Action Area G is in close proximity to the commercial centre of West Rhyl and the new hub of tourist attractions. Action Area G represents a prime development site that would normally hold a premium value due to its proximity to the sea front. We therefore believe that the regeneration of this site is a priority in order to curtail the detrimental impact it has on the image of West Rhyl.

### **3.0 PURPOSE AND JUSTIFICATION OF LAND ACQUISITION**

3.1 The purpose of land acquisition at Action Area G is to ensure that a comprehensive approach can be taken to the regeneration of this strategically important site within West Rhyl.

3.2 The redevelopment of this site will deliver significant regeneration benefits to the site itself and potentially have a catalytic effect promoting increased confidence and further investment along West Parade and West Rhyl.

3.3 The regeneration benefits include:

- Creation of a more attractive and coherent street frontage on West Parade;
- Securing improved housing standards;
- Introducing new market housing in West Rhyl and providing conditions where developers are encouraged to build;
- Improving the market for private housing, with a view to increasing property values and home ownership;
- Improving the immediate physical environment and facilitating the physical dimensions of improving social, economic and environmental conditions in the area; and
- A statement of confidence with the potential to encourage further public and private investment in the regeneration of West Rhyl.

3.4 It is widely accepted that there is an acute need to change the balance of housing tenure within West Rhyl. The existing housing stock is orientated towards HMOs, single person flats and guesthouses catering for long stays. The predominance of these forms of accommodation attract those on low incomes, which in turn leads to the concentration of the most deprived within a defined area.

3.5 In light of the ability of the proposed redevelopment to generate the conditions necessary, whereby developers are encouraged to build, there appears to be a clear and compelling case in the public interest for a comprehensive approach to the redevelopment of the site, even if only for the reduced area.

- 3.6 The proposed redevelopment of the site is in keeping with the aspirations of 'Rhyl Going Forward', which sets out a strategic framework for Rhyl and how it might be supported. This document was produced by key local players and was subsequently submitted to the Welsh Assembly Government. It is one of the first actions identified in this document that a Regeneration Strategy considering the key issues affecting West Rhyl is produced and a landuse strategy and masterplan for the 'West Rhyl Regeneration Area' (WRRRA) is devised with a view to revitalising the physical environment of the area. The proposed regeneration of Action Area G forms part of this wider regeneration initiative.
- 3.7 It is therefore apparent that the intentions for acquiring land at Action Area G through a Compulsory Purchase Order are clear. The regeneration of the proposal site has been a long held vision, with the WRRRA strategy being jointly funded by Denbighshire County Council and the WDA.
- 3.8 In the light of the local authority's long held aspirations to see West Rhyl rejuvenated and the apparent conformity of the redevelopment proposal with the Development Plan, there appears to be a strong presumption in favour of the proposal.
- 3.9 The extent of any compulsory purchase order area should represent the minimum land that is required to facilitate the significant regeneration benefits of the development and to promote increased confidence and further investment along West Parade and West Rhyl.

## **4.0 MARKET APPRAISAL**

4.1 A market appraisal was undertaken by Knight Frank in August 2005 a full copy of which has been supplied directly to WDA. Set out below are the key findings as relevant to the consideration of the regeneration analysis.

4.2 With regard to evidence directly comparable with the subject property, we outline these as follows:

**(i) 48-49 West Parade, Rhyl (open market sales)**

2/3 bedroomed basement level apartment - £79,950

Ground & 1<sup>st</sup> floor 2 bedroomed unit - circa £86,950

"Penthouse" units - circa £100,000

**(ii) 71-74 West Parade, Rhyl (open market rental property)**

1 bed - from £310 per calendar month

2 beds - from £360 per calendar month

4.3 The Landlord is currently reviewing rents upwards as the Assured Shorthold Tenancies expire and they have commented that they believe the rental ceiling to be circa £400 per calendar month.

**(iii) 58-62 West Parade, Rhyl (Housing Association rentals)**

4.4 Clwyd Alyn Housing Association provide 'over 55' age group accommodation and we understand that the levels of rent are set at benchmarks provided by the Welsh Assembly Government. Rental levels are as follows:-

2 bed unit - £196 per calendar month

£80 per calendar month service charge

The service charge covers the cost of a resident caretaker.

**(iv) 64 West Parade**

- 4.5 We understand that Clwyd Alyn Housing Association are undertaking a further development adjacent to 58-62 West Parade. The proposed development is for 20 no. residential units split on a 50:50 ratio between key workers (local fire / police / health) and mature (over 55) age group.

Rents are proposed in the region of:

2 bed unit - £180 per calendar month  
£120 per calendar month service charge

**(v) Car Park - Palace Avenue / Butterton Road**

- 4.6 We understand that this site has recently been acquired by Clwyd Alyn Housing Association for the development of an extra –care facility for the elderly. The proposed development will be of contemporary design. The proposed 59 units in the scheme will be managed and run under a joint venture between Clwyd Alyn Housing Association and the local authority.

**Market Overview of alternative options**

- 4.7 There are a number of options available with regard to the future redevelopment or refurbishment of the subject property. It is considered that there is room for growth in the Rhyl residential market place, particularly for schemes offering an alternative to the traditional "HMO" type of accommodation. We feel that accommodation that offers a good level of specification and high quality building environment will have a strong appeal in the market place.
- 4.8 We believe that the whole parade at 48-57 West Parade will prove to be a site of sufficient size for the promotion of a high quality new build apartment type block. We believe there will be certain restrictions to promoting the whole site on this basis, particularly in the light of the refurbishment of 48-49 West Parade, where refurbished units are now being offered to owner/occupiers. We consider that there will be too

much inherent value within the 48-49 West Parade block to enable the whole site to be assembled and packaged as one opportunity.

4.9 Subject to the ability to split the individual units contained within the 46-57 West Parade terrace, one option would be the acquisition of title, with a view to splitting up the units and offering development opportunities for sale, giving purchasers an option to demolish and rebuild, or refurbish where appropriate.

4.10 A scheme comprising one and two bedroom units, split between a ratio of 60:40 in favour of two bedroom units is considered appropriate, with all units being kept to an optimum (small) size in order to drive the rate £/sq ft to a maximum level. One bedroom units should be circa 495 sqft, and two bedroom units circa 625 sqft.

4.11 Knight Frank consider values within the following range could be achieved:

1 bedroom apartment -	£60,000 - £70,000
2 bedroom apartment -	£75,000 - £99,000
Rental Income : 1 bedroom apartment -	£320 pcm
Rental Income: 2 bedroom apartment -	£350 - £395 pcm

4.12 The site has failed in terms of its viability in the marketplace, with the exception of the refurbished units at 48 and 49 West Parade. This refurbished scheme demonstrates that there is an inherent demand for good quality affordable accommodation in this location.

4.13 With the demolition of the majority of the site, there is the opportunity to replace the existing with a high quality mix of contemporary and traditional vernacular design. We believe that on site car parking will be a vital addition to any proposed scheme, and this should be accommodated in a secure environment at the rear of any development, or within an underground car park scheme.

4.14 There is currently some poor quality retail uses at ground floor level. We believe that future ground floor retail use should be precluded in any proposed scheme in order to preserve a high quality and more 'exclusive' feel to any development.

## **5.0 IDENTIFICATION OF A REVISED ACTION AREA BOUNDARY**

### **The Principles of the Proposed Form of Redevelopment**

- 5.1 Three alternative development options were originally considered, including those which took in more of the street block contained by West Parade, John Street, Aquarium Street and Abbey Street.
- 5.2 As previously noted, the main scope for conflict, however, arises from the existence of back lane garage uses to the rear of the properties on West Parade and Aquarium Street. These are not only visually unattractive but could also cause noise disturbance. If they were to remain, they would clearly have a detrimental impact upon both the form of redevelopment of the West Parade site and the marketability of the final scheme.
- 5.3 It is clear that the main objective of securing improved appearance and housing standards can be most effectively achieved by a scheme which includes the whole of the street frontage along West Parade, together with all land to the north of the lane and the curtilages of the garage and workshop remises to the south of the rear lane.
- 5.4 The main Regeneration Strategy noted that the principal general approach should be towards introducing new market housing in West Rhyl and in providing conditions where developers are encouraged to build. This should be achieved through a combination of demolition or renovation of existing poor quality housing stock and new build.
- 5.5 In addition to singling-out Ocean Beach as a primary emphasis, the West Rhyl Regeneration Strategy identified a number of action areas, one of which was 46-57 West Parade and 1-9 John Street (Action Area G). The intention of encouraging new private housing is substantially to improve the market for private housing in West Rhyl, increasing property values and home ownership. With these visible physical changes and with the improving local housing market conditions, it is then likely that emerging trends of conversions from unsatisfactory HMOs and shared-facility flats to self-contained flats and houses will continue and accelerate, bringing more families and a more stable population into the area.
- 5.6 Whilst various opportunity sites may well emerge during the strategy period, there is a need for direct action on renewal through more effective and more substantial action

at an early stage in order to create the economic and social conditions by which the market itself will then drive renewal. This key Action Area site on West Parade forms an integral part of that overall approach, seeking renewal and better quality housing at an early stage in an important location along the seafront.

- 5.7 For the street level, the likely reduction in tourist activity in areas away from the town centre and the key leisure attractions (in the likely absence of Ocean Beach at the far end of the seafront) will reduce the attraction of much of the promenade frontage properties for tourism/leisure activities, with a consequent lack of investment and care. It is therefore appropriate to actively plan for such change, rather than to accept a period of increasing dereliction and harm to amenity.
- 5.8 At upper levels, the poor quality housing is likely to become increasingly affected by lack of investment and reducing residential amenity, rendering the accommodation suitable only for short and medium term lets rather than permanent housing, exacerbating the social and economic problems of the wider community.
- 5.9 It is therefore intended that the site should be redeveloped for private housing, at both ground and upper levels.
- 5.10 Since the production of the Nathaniel Lichfield & Partners options report a market appraisal has been undertaken by Knight Frank (31 August 2005), this is summarised above. The Knight Frank report makes reference to the recent refurbishment and sale of units in 48-49 West Parade.
- 5.11 The success of the scheme at 48-49 West Parade means that we have further reviewed the development options – two alternatives are considered below.

***Option 1 – Redevelopment of all properties fronting West Parade and north of the lane (including commercial properties on the lane).***

- 5.12 This would allow for comprehensive development of the whole of the site and was the preferred route set out in our options paper.
- 5.13 The main concern is that it would require the acquisition of the recently refurbished 48-49 West Parade. Knight Frank make reference to there being too much inherent value within this block to enable the whole site to be assembled and packaged as one opportunity.



**Option 2 – Retention of 48-49 West Parade and redevelopment of the remaining two areas.**

5.14 Retention of 48-49 West Parade would result in the site being split into two parcels either side of the retained property:

- i) Land east of 48-49 West Parade (i.e. Sandringham Hotel and 50-52 Abbey Street);

The condition of these properties appears reasonable so that their retention and refurbishment could complement the work already undertaken at numbers 48-49. It may be that the works on the adjacent property and any works undertaken by WDA further along West Parade would result in increased private investment in these properties without requiring direct involvement by WDA.

Alternatively the plot is of sufficient scale to allow viable redevelopment of the site for residential purposes.

- ii) land to the west of 48-49 West Parade (i.e. 50-57 West Parade, 1a John Street and properties within the rear lane).

The properties fronting West Parade, particularly 50-51 are in a particularly bad condition. It appears unlikely that a reasonable refurbishment programme would be realistic. Instead it is our view that comprehensive redevelopment of this whole area would achieve more significant benefits in line with the regeneration strategy objectives.

Whilst the form of development would be more limited and constrained by the retention of 48-49 West Parade, we consider that a viable development area would still remain.

Consideration of options

5.15 As well as the increased costs associated with purchase of 48-49 West Parade, there is also the issue of need. If acquisition of the wider area is to be pursued through CPO it will be necessary to demonstrate that comprehensive development of the whole site, including 48-49 West Parade, is necessary in order to deliver the regeneration objectives for West Rhyl.

- 5.16 Subject to confirmation that party wall issues could be dealt with satisfactorily it is our view that a satisfactory scheme that would deliver the regeneration objectives could be achieved without the acquisition of 48-49 West Parade.
- 5.17 As a result we would recommend consideration of a reduced Action Area running from 50-57 West Parade to the rear lane including the commercial properties therein, equating to an approximate site area of 0.9 acres.

## 6.0 PROPOSED STRATEGY

- 6.1 The extent of the revised acquisition area comprises 50 -57 West Parade and land to the rear including the small commercial uses operating in the rear lane.



- 6.2 It is proposed that 50-57 West Parade are cleared, with a view to erecting a 4/5 storey apartment development. This proposed form of development would ensure that a continuous frontage along West Parade is secured, which would reflect the scale and vertical emphasis of the existing and adjacent buildings along West Parade. Retention of 48-49 West Parade would provide a context for the design of the new frontage.
- 6.3 Securing the provision of a continuous frontage will provide a sense of good enclosure to West Parade and generate an 'active frontage', with frequent windows and balconies animating the public realm, which will encourage street vitality.
- 6.4 As previously noted, the main scope for conflict arises from the existence of back lane garage uses to the rear of the properties on West Parade and Aquarium Street. These are not only visually unattractive but could also cause noise disturbance. If they were to remain, they would clearly have a detrimental impact upon both the form of redevelopment of the West Parade site and the marketability of the final scheme.
- 6.5 It is therefore proposed that that these existing commercial uses in the rear lane are cleared, which would make acceptable double fronted development of flats on West Parade, increasing accommodation and viability.



*View east along rear lane from John Street to Abbey Street*

- 6.6 Early concept schemes have been based on a four-storey double/aspect development along the West Parade alignment, with wings running southwards. Wrapping the development around the corner of the block would avoid exposing blank sides.
- 6.7 It is proposed that the four storey apartment development could sit over undercroft car parking, which would be accessed through a landscaped surface carpark on the remainder of the site.
- 6.8 Because the manner in which car parking is arranged can have a fundamental effect on the quality of a place, it is vital that surface parking is not allowed to dominate the space, or to inconvenience pedestrians or cyclists. Utilising the rear courtyard of the development for parking purposes would enable natural surveillance of the vehicles to take place and avoid the use of the front curtilage of the proposed development, which would result in the breaking up of the frontage.
- 6.9 We believe that such a scheme could provide between approximately 40 and 45 two and three bed flats with an attractive aspect. It can be noted, however, that these estimates are by no means definitive. The exact number of dwellings that can be delivered through such a scheme would be subject to the preparation of detailed plans.

- 6.10 The soft landscaping on the southern side of the site in the carpark areas will be important to offer suitable softening of views over the rear of other properties in West Rhyl.
- 6.11 This approach would result in the minimum acquisition to those properties necessary to deliver effective and efficient redevelopment of the West Parade frontage whilst avoiding the redevelopment of other properties within the street block.
- 6.12 The scheme would offer physical improvements along one of the poorest quality stretches of West Parade – some of which appear to be vacant and/or derelict. It is intended that the residential led regeneration scheme will not only deliver physical improvements but will increase investor confidence in the wider area.
- 6.13 These improvements would complement proposals proposed through the ‘Drift Park’ and the linear improvements linking the town centre and the Ocean Beach site.

## **7.0 ACHIEVING SUSTAINABLE DESIGN SOLUTIONS**

- 7.1 The principles which should guide the implementation of sustainable design in the context of West Rhyl were set out in the West Rhyl Regeneration Strategy Development Brief. For clarity, however, these are reiterated below.
- 7.2 New development should be robust and usable all year round to ensure the most efficient use is made of the site. Housing should be designed for permanent self-contained residential use rather than holiday homes.
- 7.3 Traditional building materials of brick, render and stone should be used as these have been proven to withstand the harsh marine climate over time.
- 7.4 This site is currently of poor visual appearance and the quality of the architectural detailing has been significantly eroded. The site presents an ideal opportunity to remove the low quality buildings and introduce new attractive development.
- 7.5 As this site is closer towards the commercial centre of West Rhyl and the new hub of the tourist attractions, there is less of a requirement to reflect the Victorian residential nature of West Rhyl and more opportunity to introduce more contemporary designs. However, the building height should remain at 4 storeys in order to maintain the established ridgeline along the promenade generally. There may be an opportunity for a taller feature within an overall design which meets this requirement.
- 7.6 Development should be 'wrapped around' the corners of John Street so as to avoid blank frontages.

### **Promoting a successful relationship between public and private space**

- 7.7 The established building line along West Parade should be maintained in the redevelopment. This will result in minimal set backs from the street and landscaping treatments should therefore be used to soften the boundary between the development and public space. A suitable change in level could be introduced, creating a 'ground floor' level some 1.0 metre above pavement level in order to avoid loss of privacy for ground floor occupiers.
- 7.8 Open space to the rear and around parking areas should also be landscaped to enhance the overall appearance of the site and to avoid the domination of the space by car parking.

- 7.9 In order to maintain the continuous frontage along West Parade, parking should be located to the rear with access to be provided via the side streets rather than from West Parade. The most efficient location for parking would be at semi basement level but it is recognised that this has significant cost implications. Thus, it is proposed that parking facilities are provided for by under croft development and partially at the rear of the proposed apartment block in the form of a parking court.
- 7.10 Denbighshire County Council's adopted parking standards are set out in Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) Note 21. Whilst SPG Note 21 sets out the desired maximum car parking provision for residential development that would be sought by the Council, we are aware that there is scope for flexibility in reflecting these standards in the proposed development.
- 7.11 The parking court should accommodate in the region of 30 car parking spaces and the under croft facility an additional 40 spaces, which equates to an overall ratio of 1 space per dwelling plus 1 visitor space per 2 units. Although this level of provision is somewhat below the adopted standards sought by the Council, the redevelopment site is located within close proximity to existing public transport connections and within walking distance of the town centre. We therefore believe that the proposed ratio of parking provision will ensure the future development of sustainable transport patterns by promoting walking and cycling for shorter trips.
- 7.12 The need to promote sustainable forms of development, with specific reference to encouraging sustainable transport patterns is addressed in Planning Policy Wales (PPW). Paragraph 8.4.2 of PPW advises that local authorities should ensure that new developments provide lower levels of parking than have generally been achieved in the past. PPW also states that minimum parking standards are no longer appropriate.
- 7.13 The detailed layout should meet servicing requirements for waste collection and other services, as well as access for emergency vehicles, not only to the proposed form of development, but also to the properties located to the south of the lane between West Parade and Aquarium Street. This should form part of any discussion at a detailed application stage.
- 7.14 To widen the housing choice available in West Rhyl, apartments should normally be a minimum of two bedrooms, including perhaps duplexes. The size of the units will ultimately determine the density at which the site is to be developed. The most important issue is to ensure that all housing, whatever the type or style, is of a high quality and self-contained.



**WEST PARADE  
WEST RHYL**

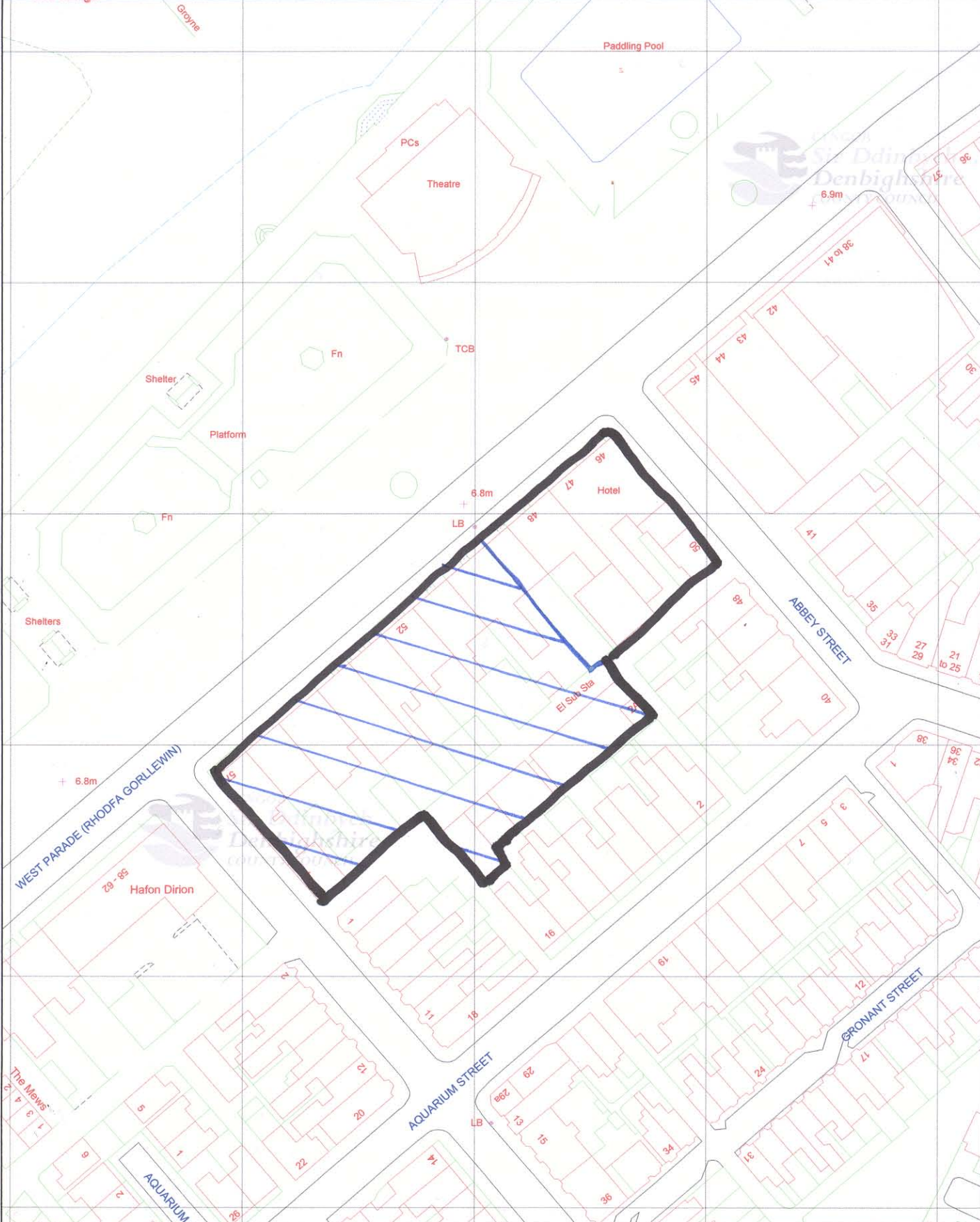
Indicative Site Layout  
Option 2

DO NOT SCALE





Nathaniel Lichfield  
and Partners  
Planning Design Economics






 CYNGOR  
 Sir Ddinbych  
 Denbighshire  
 COUNTY COUNCIL


**50-57 West Parade**

  
 Scale 1:1145  
 2 Dec 2005

Environment Directorate  
 Caledfryn  
 Smithfield Road  
 Denbigh LL16 3RJ

Atgynhychir y map hwn o Ddeunydd yr Ordnance Survey gyda chaniatâd yr Ordnance Survey ar ran RLeM © Hawffraint y Goron. Mae atgynhychir heb ganiatâd yn torri hawffraint y Goron a gall arwain at erlyniad neu achos sifil CS Ddinbych. LA 09008L. 2002  
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**REPORT TO CABINET**

**CABINET MEMBER:** Councillor P J Marfleet, Lead Member for Finance & Human Resources

**DATE:** 20 December 2005

**SUBJECT:** Revenue Budget 2005/06

**1. DECISION SOUGHT**

1.1 Members note the budget performance figures for the current financial year as detailed in the attached appendices and consider remedial actions necessary to bring Directorates' projected spending in line with available budgets.

**2. REASON FOR SEEKING DECISION**

2.1 The need to deliver the Council's agreed budget strategy for the current financial year and avoid reducing already inadequate reserves.

**3. POWER TO MAKE THE DECISION**

3.1 Local Authorities are required under section 151 of the Local Government Act (1972) to make arrangements for the proper administration of their financial affairs.

**4. COST IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 This report details the latest projections of Service budget year end positions as reported by Directorates, together with information on pressures and savings within the corporate budgets. The service pressure projections are as at the end of November 2005. Corporate details are as at mid November.

The appendix details a potential underspend totalling £243k (£192k underspend last report). This excludes the schools' delegated budgets which are now reporting a pressure of £361k. The main areas of change from the last report are:

- i) Of the £361k identified by schools- £58k related to SEN staffing, £121k school staffing, £55k premises, and £22k other supplies. The remainder of the overspend relates to staffing issues, mainly workload/PPA expenditure. Rhyl High have committed a large part of their balance on new staff, CCTV for the school, and redecoration/building work - this amounts to around £100k of the above. The £361k pressure will be met from schools' balances.
- ii) The forecast for Social Services and Housing has moved from a £158k underspend to £199k underspend. This is mainly due to a

reduction of staffing costs in Children's Services and Adult Services.

Other reported pressure areas remain at a similar level to the last report.

Other potential but thus far unquantifiable pressures are the impact of the Single Status Pay Review and the appeals against the recent Council Tax revaluations, both of which may exceed the assumptions within the budget.

There are further potential pressures that have not yet been fully quantified and therefore the following issues may still need to be addressed:

- 4.3 Within the Lifelong Learning Directorate work is being undertaken to identify and understand the reasons for the continuing pressure on School & College transport. It is currently difficult to assess the level of funding needed for the future.
- 4.4 While the Environment Directorate does not suffer the same level of demand led pressures it is none the less likely to be under further pressure from Health and Safety requirements. Severe weather during winter months could also cause additional pressures.
- 4.5 The overall financial position has improved since last month with directorates continuing to put significant effort into identifying savings where possible.
- 4.6 These underlying issues that mean caution is still required in all budget areas. The current underspend is partly due to increased income from investments because of slippage on the capital programme. Once this slippage is caught up, that additional income will no longer be there for future years.

## **5. FINANCIAL CONTROLLER STATEMENT**

- 5.1 Work needs to continue to take place to review service budgets and identify savings that will enable total Directorate spending to be contained within budget.

## **6. CONSULTATION CARRIED OUT**

- 6.1 Lead Cabinet members need to continue to consult with Heads of Service to agree necessary remedial action to prevent overspends in 2005/06

**7. IMPLICATIONS ON OTHER POLICY AREAS INCLUDING CORPORATE**

7.1 Proper management of the Council's revenue budget underpins activity in all of the Council's policy areas.

**8. ACTION PLAN**

8.1 All departments undertake regular budget monitoring and will continue to identify and take advantage of savings and efficiencies.

**9. RECOMMENDATION**

9.1 That Members note the figures in the appendices and

9.2 That Members consider remedial actions necessary to bring service projected spend in line with budgets.

**MONTHLY REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING REPORT - FINANCIAL YEAR 2005/06  
POSITION AS AT END NOV 2005**

Directorate	Budget			Projected Outturn			Variance			Variance Previous report £000s
	Gross Expenditure £000s	Gross Income £000s	Net Expenditure £000s	Gross Expenditure £000s	Gross Income £000s	Net Expenditure £000s	Gross Expenditure £000s	Gross Income £000s	Net Expenditure £000s	
Lifelong Learning (excluding schools delegated)	28,973	-10,691	18,282	29,363	-10,815	18,548	390	-124	266	278
Environment	31,233	-10,859	20,374	31,389	-11,070	20,319	156	-211	-55	-55
Personal Services	47,678	-16,039	31,639	48,915	-17,475	31,440	1,237	-1,436	-199	-158
County Clerk	1,969	-543	1,426	2,110	-694	1,416	141	-151	-10	-12
Resources	8,167	-2,500	5,667	8,282	-2,663	5,619	115	-163	-48	-48
Corporate, Miscellaneous & Benefits	25,777	-21,952	3,825	25,983	-21,955	4,028	206	-3	203	203
Clawback of Revenue Support Grant				200	0	200	200	0	200	200
<b>Total All Services</b>	<b>143,797</b>	<b>-62,584</b>	<b>81,213</b>	<b>146,242</b>	<b>-64,672</b>	<b>81,570</b>	<b>2,445</b>	<b>-2,088</b>	<b>357</b>	<b>408</b>
Capital Financing Charges/Investment Income			10,891			10,291			-600	-600
Precepts & Levies			3,975			3,975			0	0
			<b>96,079</b>			<b>95,836</b>			<b>-243</b>	<b>-192</b>

**Note:**

The Management Accounting rules of the Council require debtor account entries to be reversed in respect of amounts outstanding for more 30 days after the due date. In the event that debts cannot be collected, services will be required to meet the cost of the debt write-off. This may impact on the actual outturn achieved by services at the year end.

**MONTHLY REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING REPORT - FINANCIAL YEAR 2005/06**  
**LIFELONG LEARNING**  
**POSITION AS AT END NOV 2005**

	Budget			Projected Outturn			Variance			Variance
	Gross Expenditure £000s	Gross Income £000s	Net Expenditure £000s	Gross Expenditure £000s	Gross Income £000s	Net Expenditure £000s	Gross Expenditure £000s	Gross Income £000s	Net Expenditure £000s	Previous report £000s
Individual School Budgets	50,792	-4,596	46,196	51,836	-5,279	46,557	1,044	-683	361	0
School Funds Held Centrally	15,432	-4,810	10,622	15,752	-4,955	10,797	320	-145	175	159
Non school Funding	1,947	-906	1,041	1,958	-884	1,074	11	22	33	53
Corporate Services	445	-5	440	445	-25	420	0	-20	-20	-20
Leisure Services	7,102	-4,038	3,064	7,160	-4,029	3,131	58	9	67	74
Culture	3,005	-351	2,654	3,006	-351	2,655	1	0	1	2
Countryside	1,042	-581	461	1,042	-571	471	0	10	10	10
	<b>28,973</b>	<b>-10,691</b>	<b>18,282</b>	<b>29,363</b>	<b>-10,815</b>	<b>18,548</b>	<b>390</b>	<b>-124</b>	<b>266</b>	<b>278</b>
<b>Total Lifelong Learning</b>	<b>79,765</b>	<b>-15,287</b>	<b>64,478</b>	<b>81,199</b>	<b>-16,094</b>	<b>65,105</b>	<b>1,434</b>	<b>-807</b>	<b>627</b>	<b>278</b>

**MONTHLY REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING REPORT - FINANCIAL YEAR 2005/06**  
**LIFELONG LEARNING**  
**POSITION AS AT END NOV 2005**

<u>Comments</u>	<u>Current Month</u>	<u>Previous Month</u>
	<u>£000s</u>	<u>£000s</u>
<b>EDUCATION</b>		
<b>Individual School Budgets:</b>		
The latest projection on schools' delegated budgets would indicate that schools' balances of £1,559k as at 31/03/05 will be reduced by £361k during 2005/06. This includes additional expenditure in respect of SEN support delegated to schools.	361	0
<b>School Funds Held Centrally:</b>		
<b>School Transport</b>		
Following information received from Transportation during November outstanding queries with regards changes to contracts from September have been resolved resulting in the revised projected outturn. Proposed introduction of new software should quicken this procedure in future. Pressure of £50k have been met within year from internal savings	252	187
<b>SEN</b>		
The delegation of SEN Pupil Support Workers in the Primary sector was finalised in September based on actual cost. The completion of the delegation process has identified a shortfall of £630k (£629k 2004/5) which will be partially offset by increased income from out County placements £395k leaving a net shortfall of £235k.	235	235
Speech & Language Therapy - increased demand on service	52	52
<b>Other</b>		
Management actions, vacancy savings and reduced free school meals	-171	-122
Increased income generation	-99	-99
ABA Behaviour Support	-28	-28
Pension contributions	-30	-30
Other schools funds held centrally	-36	-36
Service delivery will continue to be reviewed during the remainder of the year with a view to reducing expenditure and maximising grant income in order to dampen down existing pressures		
<b>Non School Funding</b>		
<b>Student awards</b>		
Savings on administration/software licences	-13	-13
<b>College Transport</b>		
Reduction in pressure from that reported last month due to changes in contract prices from start of academic year.	53	73
Non School funding additional identified in year savings	-7	-7
<b>Corporate Services</b>		
A number of corporate service budgets and related service expenditure have recently been transferred to the Directorate (Equalities, Access, Translation, Press & PR, County Voice). A net saving of £20k is projected on Press, PR and County Voice mainly as a result of income generation.	-20	-20
Initial indications are that there is a shortfall in the funding transferred in respect of Equalities, Access and Translation Service of £25k which needs to be resolved, and as such is not included in this report.		
<b>TOTAL EDUCATION</b>	<b>549</b>	<b>192</b>

<b>CULTURE &amp; LEISURE</b>		
<b>Leisure</b>		
Vandalism / other premises costs to maintain Frith Beach	40	40
Energy Costs increase	29	36
Loss of swimming revenue at Rhyl LC due to temporary closure	14	14
Delayed appointment of Assistant Director	-6	-6
Reduction of Winter Events programme	-5	-5
Possible increase in income from review of fees & charges	-5	-5
<b>Culture</b>		
Increase in Libraries' NNDR	23	23
Delayed appointments	-15	-14
Reduction in opening hours of Gruelling Experience at Ruthin Gaol	-7	-7
Countryside - reduced CCW grant - net	12	12
Additional project management fees secured	-2	-2
<b>TOTAL CULTURE &amp; LEISURE</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>86</b>
<b>TOTAL LIFELONG LEARNING</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>627</b>
		<b>278</b>

Note: A saving of £26k from non-payment of support services contributions to Clwyd Leisure Ltd for 2004/05 & 2005/06 will be included in the projection when confirmed.



**CULTURE & LEISURE EFFICIENCY SAVINGS PROGRESS REPORT**

<b>Proposed Efficiency Saving</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Progress</b>
Reduce funding to grant aided bodies	26,873	Achieved
Reduction of Library Service & Records M:	8,928	Achievable
Cut Pavilion Theatre Secretary post by 50%	9,534	Achieved
Reduction of furniture/equipment purchase	6,800	Achievable
Increase fees & charges	37,865	Unlikely due to extended Leisure Centre closures
<b>Total</b>	<b>90,000</b>	

**Summary**

36,407	Achieved
<u>46,593</u>	Achievable
<u>83,000</u>	
<u>7,000</u>	Shortfall

**Education Efficiency savings**

	<b>£</b>	
SCHOOLS DELEGATED BUDGET	353,000	Achieved
FREE SCHOOL MEALS REDUCTION	50,000	Achieved
REDUCED MEALS SUBSIDY	38,500	Achieved
SCHOOLS INSURANCE EXCESS	31,500	On target to be achieved
MANAGEMENT & SECRETARIAT	5,120	Achieved
CLIENT SERVICES	7,000	Achieved
ADVISORY	11,700	Achieved
PRIM. ED. - NON DELEGATED	28,780	Achieved
SECONDARY - NON DELEGATED	28,240	Achieved
SPECIAL SCHOOLS - NON DELEG.	9,040	Achieved
STATEMENTING	7,500	Achieved
EDUCATION MISCELLANEOUS	22,620	60% Achieved; 40% On target to be achieved
	593,000	

**MONTHLY REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING REPORT - FINANCIAL YEAR 2005/06**  
**ENVIRONMENT DIRECTORATE**  
**POSITION AS AT END NOV 2005**

	Budget			Projected Outturn			Variance			Variance Previous report £000s
	Gross Expenditure £000s	Gross Income £000s	Net Expenditure £000s	Gross Expenditure £000s	Gross Income £000s	Net Expenditure £000s	Gross Expenditure £000s	Gross Income £000s	Net Expenditure £000s	
Development Services (Notes 1, 2 & 3)	8,567	-5,018	3,549	8,617	-5,082	3,535	50	-64	-14	35
Transport & Infrastructure (Notes 3 & 6)	8,396	-3,323	5,073	8,422	-3,366	5,056	26	-43	-17	0
Planning & Public Protection	4,122	-1,850	2,272	4,170	-1,898	2,272	48	-48	0	-20
Director & Support (Note 3)	1,160	-103	1,057	1,162	-123	1,039	2	-20	-18	-15
Environmental Services	8,988	-565	8,423	9,018	-601	8,417	30	-36	-6	0
<b>Total Environment</b>	<b>31,233</b>	<b>-10,859</b>	<b>20,374</b>	<b>31,389</b>	<b>-11,070</b>	<b>20,319</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>-211</b>	<b>-55</b>	<b>0</b>

**Notes:**

- Additional LABGI funding of £144k has recently been given to the Directorate and the assumption made is that this will all be spent in 2005/06
- Additional income generated by the County Building Group due to the capitalised maintenance budget projected to be spent in full. This is offset by the extra costs detailed in 4b.
- Savings arising from delays in filling vacant posts
- Projected additional costs arising from Health and Safety issues (see cabinet report 21/6/05)

	<b>Total req'd</b>	<b>Likely spend 2005/6</b>
(a) Legionellosis control	£235k	£200k
Fire Risk Assessments & Roof Void Compartmentalisation	<u>100k</u>	<u>£60k</u>
	<b>£335k</b>	<b>£260k</b>

We are in the process of committing and viring revenue and capital resources as agreed.  
There will be an ongoing revenue pressure in future years in respect of the items listed above.

- (b) No extra budget has been provided to fund the additional revenue pressure of £80k in respect of extra administrative Health & Safety processes.  
It is anticipated that these costs will be absorbed in the Directorate's overall revenue budget.

5. Progress with Efficiency Savings put forward as part of the Budget Setting exercise

<b>Details</b>	<b>£'000s</b>	<b>Progress</b>
(i) Projected Directorate Underspend 2004/05	100	Achieved
(ii) Income generation - Decriminalisation	50	On target
(iii) Income generation - Car Parking	100	On target
(iv) Development/Building Control - smarter working	30	On target
(v) Savings from Recruitment/Agency Process	30	On target
(vi) Income generation target - Other Fees & Charges	20	On target
(vii) Trading Activity Surplus	50	On target
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b><u>380</u></b>	

5. In the event of severe adverse weather (which is forecast!) then the above underspend will be quickly spent.

**MONTHLY REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING REPORT - FINANCIAL YEAR 2005/06  
SOCIAL SERVICES AND HOUSING  
POSITION AS AT END NOV 2005**

	Budget			Projected Outturn			Variance			Variance
	Gross Expenditure £000s	Gross Income £000s	Net Expenditure £000s	Gross Expenditure £000s	Gross Income £000s	Net Expenditure £000s	Gross Expenditure £000s	Gross Income £000s	Net Expenditure £000s	Previous report £000s
Children Services	8,680	-1,540	7,140	9,174	-1,662	7,512	494	-122	372	409
Adult Services	31,793	-9,258	22,535	32,809	-9,842	22,967	1,016	-584	432	416
Business Support & Development	1,732	0	1,732	2,035	-21	2,014	303	-21	282	277
Supporting People Grant	4,115	-4,129	-14	3,429	-4,136	-707	-686	-7	-693	-693
Underspend Brought Forward 2004/5	0	0	0	0	-540	-540	0	-540	-540	-540
	<b>46,320</b>	<b>-14,927</b>	<b>31,393</b>	<b>47,447</b>	<b>-16,201</b>	<b>31,246</b>	<b>1,127</b>	<b>-1,274</b>	<b>-147</b>	<b>-131</b>
Non HRA Housing	1,358	-1,112	246	1,468	-1,236	232	110	-124	-14	11
Underspend Brought Forward 2004/5	0	0	0	0	-38	-38	0	-38	-38	-38
<b>Total Personal Services</b>	<b>47,678</b>	<b>-16,039</b>	<b>31,639</b>	<b>48,915</b>	<b>-17,475</b>	<b>31,440</b>	<b>1,237</b>	<b>-1,436</b>	<b>-199</b>	<b>-158</b>

**MONTHLY REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING REPORT - FINANCIAL YEAR 2005/06**  
**SOCIAL SERVICES AND HOUSING**  
**POSITION AS AT END NOV 2005**

<u>Comments</u>	<u>Current Month</u>	<u>Previous report</u>
	<u>£000s</u>	<u>£000s</u>
<b>PERSONAL SOCIAL SERVICES</b>		
<b>CHILDREN'S SERVICES</b>		
Specialist Placement commitments remain the major pressure area with a predicted overspend of £984k, this is offset by an underspend within in house fostering services of £454k. The main reason for the reduction in overspend is due to slippage within the Supporting People Team.	352	409
	<b>352</b>	<b>409</b>
<b>ADULT SERVICES</b>		
<b>Learning Disabilities</b>		
The overall reduction of £26k is attributable to a reduction in staffing costs together with a reduction in spend on the Voluntary Organisations budget	340	366
<b>Mental Illness</b>		
The Mental Health Partnership with NHS and Conwy Council commenced on 4 July 2005. A single management structure has been created but budgets have not been pooled. Residential placements continue to be a key pressure. Staffing budgets account for the small reduction in spend compared to last	159	165
<b>Older People</b>		
The Community Care spend has slightly increased during November. The projection has been based on an average of fluctuating expenditure patterns and client numbers. Long term strategies involving extra carehousing are in place though this will not affect outturn in the short/medium term.	151	106
<b>PDSI</b>		
The main overspend continues to be in Community Care. Spend increased significantly in November. However, it has not, as yet proved necessary to increase the outturn, as this has been based on 2004/05 actuals and the high spend that has occurred in the 2nd half of the year. The £35k overspend reflects the agreed £20k extra funding from capital slippage.	255	231
<b>Performance Management &amp; Commissioning</b>		
This underspend is due to staff vacancies within the administration budgets.	-92	-84
<b>Other Adult Services</b>		
The majority of the underspend reported is budget that is as yet unallocated. This will be reallocated within the service to meet pressures before the year end.	-333	-345
<b>Cefndy Enterprises</b>		
The variation is due to an increased sales forecast for the year.	-48	-23
<b>TOTAL ADULT SERVICES</b>	<b>432</b>	<b>416</b>
<b>Business Support &amp; Development</b>		
Centralising stationery expenditure and the increasing costs of telephone recharges account for the overspend in BSD. The non-capitalised infrastructure costs and funding for a post in central ICT supporting the PARIS system are included in the projection. Although expenditure on stationery has now been controlled, photocopier leases still cause an overspend. Work is ongoing to reduce telephone costs.	277	277
<b>Supporting People</b>		
£256k of the underspend reported is earmarked for potential clawback. This is reported as part of the directorate position, but should not be used to fund overspends within the directorate. This leaves £437k underspend to be utilised by Social Services. In-year SPG savings are due to the remodelling of projects and new projects which will not begin until 2006.	-693	-693
	<b>-693</b>	<b>-693</b>
2004/05 Underspend brought forward	<b>-540</b>	<b>-540</b>
<b>Non-HRA Housing</b>		
A detailed review of the non-HRA budget has been completed in the past month resulting in an improved outturn forecast. However, this budget is very volatile, particularly services for homeless people.	-39	11
2004/05 underspend brought forward	-38	-38
	<b>-77</b>	<b>-27</b>
<b>Total Social Services and Housing</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>-158</b>
	<b>-249</b>	<b>-158</b>

## Social Services and Housing Efficiency Savings 2005/06 - Progress Report

Children Services	Target	Details	Status	Comments
Transport	£15,000	Delegation of transport budgets to Team Managers with strict ceiling on spend.	Achievable	Scheme of delegation of budgets to Team Managers has been introduced including restricted budget for Transport
Staff	£15,000	Slippage and savings on posts	Achievable	
Contract savings	£8,000	Work on reducing costs of external placements	Progressing	There is more hope that this saving will be realised as a new North Wales contract is in operation
<b>Adult Services</b>				
Charging Policy	£100,000	Primarily full year impact of charging policy to People with Learning Disabilities	£92k achievable	There is still some concern about the number of people who appealed against the charges and whether all the invoices will be paid in full.
Contract Reviews - invest to save	£30,000	Impact of Care Brokers, Contracts Officers reducing high costs of some placements	Achievable	Care Brokers now in post proving a much more efficient way of identifying care providers. In October a fixed rate for Dom Care was introduced.
Fee increases reduced by .5%	£80,000	Not increasing fees by 1% over inflation. Likely to cause problems in an unstable market.	Achieved	Budgets have been cut. All neighbouring authorities now pay rates higher than Denbighshire.
Work Opps Income	£10,000	Promoting businesses/dividing Llewelyn Room at Henllan	Unlikely to be achieved	Increased income is unlikely by dividing the Llewellyn Rm at Henllan, promotion of Work Opps not generating enough extra income
Cancer Recharge	£5,000	Contribution from neighbouring Authorities	Achieved	LHB re free nursing care admin. £5k received
Staff	£39,000	Reduction in posts	Achieved	Straight budget cut.
<b>Business Support &amp; Development</b>				
House Keeping	£10,000	Working with Procurement to improve efficiencies of purchases and reduce waste.	Uncertain	This is very hard to prove. Previously the stationery budgets were within operational budgets but with many miscodings. By now having identified budgets within BSD for core stationery purchases, this is much improved. Work is underway to identify telephone costs.
Staff	£5,000		Achievable	Slippage on appointments to posts/staff not at top of scale.
<b>Housing</b>				
Piper Lifeline charges	£10,000	Increase in charges	Achieved	Increases applied to 2005/06 charges
Accommodation Support Officer	£75,000	Savings generated by Support Officer in temporary costs of homelessness.	Achievable	If demand on accommodation remains as at present
<b>Totals</b>	<b>£402,000</b>			

The £18k savings not achieved above will hopefully be achieved by increased transport savings in Childrens' Services, further contract savings in Adult Services and additional slippage on administration posts.

**MONTHLY REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING REPORT - FINANCIAL YEAR 2005/06**  
**RESOURCES, COUNTY CLERK, CORPORATE & MISCELLANEOUS**  
**POSITION AS AT END NOV 2005**

	Budget			Projected Outturn			Variance			Variance
	Gross Expenditure	Gross Income	Net Expenditure	Gross Expenditure	Gross Income	Net Expenditure	Gross Expenditure	Gross Income	Net Expenditure	Previous report
	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s
County Clerks	1,969	-543	1,426	2,110	-694	1,416	141	-151	-10	-13
<b>Resources Directorate</b>										
Finance	4,089	-1,840	2,249	4,062	-1,840	2,222	-27	0	-27	-27
Policy Unit	339	0	339	339	0	339	0	0	0	0
Audit	415	-60	355	412	-62	350	-3	-2	-5	-5
I.T	2,236	-431	1,805	2,230	-431	1,799	-6	0	-6	-6
Personnel	1,088	-169	919	1,078	-169	909	-10	0	-10	-10
Project Management	0	0	0	161	-161	0	161	-161	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,167</b>	<b>-2,500</b>	<b>5,667</b>	<b>8,282</b>	<b>-2,663</b>	<b>5,619</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>-163</b>	<b>-48</b>	<b>-48</b>
<b>Corporate and Miscellaneous</b>	4,487	-682	3,805	4,691	-683	4,008	204	-1	203	203
<b>Benefits</b>	21,290	-21,270	20	21,292	-21,272	20	2	-2	0	0
<b>Capital Fin Charges/Investment Income</b>	10,891	0	10,891	10,891	-600	10,291	0	-600	-600	-600
<b>Revenue Support Grant</b>	0	-90,790	(90,790)	0	-90,590	(90,590)	0	200	200	200

**REPORT TO CABINET**

**CABINET MEMBER:** Councillor P Dobb, Lead Member for Health and Wellbeing

**DATE:** 20 December 2005

**SUBJECT:** Housing Revenue Account Budget 2005/06

**1 DECISION SOUGHT**

To note the latest financial forecast position (revenue and capital) of the Housing Revenue Account (H.R.A.) for the current financial year.

**2 REASON FOR SEEKING DECISION**

The need to deliver the Council's agreed budget strategies for the current financial year.

**3 POWER TO MAKE THE DECISION**

Housing Act 1985, Part II.

**4 COST IMPLICATIONS**

The projections undertaken at the end of November 2005 show a potential net under-spend at year end of £248k (Appendix 1) against the revised budget – this is £19k lower than that reported at the end of October (£267k). This is due to a combination of numerous minor changes in the last month.

Vacancy savings within the Rents (£47k) and Supervision and Management [Special] (£1k) are partially offset by additional agency staff costs for maternity leave cover (£16k) and other minor overspends (£21k) within Supervision and Management [General].

Expenditure on Repairs and Maintenance is forecast to be £63k lower than the revised estimate. This is due to a general reduction in repairs reporting, reduced work on void properties and minor impact from the major capital works being undertaken this year (£173k), offset by an additional £110k forecast to be spent on central heating systems that have failed gas servicing inspections.

The increase in Debt Charges (£20k) is due to lower than estimated capital receipts for the year ~ which means that less debt will be written off in the year.

The increase in HRA Subsidy payment to WAG (£10k) is due to higher dwelling numbers (as a result of lower RTB sales). Most components of subsidy are calculated on a 'per dwelling' basis.

The budgeted contribution (£50k) towards the Provision for Bad Debts will not be required this year as rent arrears have continued to fall.

Rental income is forecast to be £148k (1.8%) higher than revised estimate. This is due to reduced voids and higher dwelling numbers (RTB sales lower than forecast).

Progress on HRA capital schemes is included as Appendix 2. Work has now begun on all schemes and expenditure, to date, is £3.6 million. The £600k slippage on major improvements is due to the work starting a few weeks later than originally scheduled – this slippage, however, will be spent within a few weeks in the next financial year. Some final account payments (on works pre 2005/06) are higher than originally estimated and the forecast is now £278k higher than revised estimate. The central heating contract is, however, £160k lower than budgeted. The latest forecasts reported in Appendix 2 are expected to be achieved.

## **5 FINANCIAL CONTROLLER STATEMENT**

The improvement in the overall budgetary position is welcomed, but it will be necessary to remain vigilant in the management of budgets to ensure that the anticipated surplus is delivered at the end of the financial year.

## **6 CONSULTATION CARRIED OUT**

Lead Cabinet members will be required to consult with Heads of Service to monitor the H.R.A. in 2005/06.

## **7 IMPLICATIONS ON OTHER POLICY AREAS INCLUDING CORPORATE**

The level of funding available to services together with budgetary performance impacts upon all services of the Council.

## **8 ACTION PLAN**

The Head of Housing Services and Senior Management Accountant should monitor the Housing Revenue Account on a monthly basis and report to Cabinet to ensure compliance with statutory requirements and budget.

## **9 RECOMMENDATION**

To note the latest financial forecast position (revenue and capital) of the Housing Revenue Account (H.R.A.) for the current financial year.



**HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT Month 8**

<u>2004/05</u>		<u>2005/06</u>		
<b>Actual</b>		<b>Revised</b>	<b>Forecast</b>	<b>Variance</b>
<b>£</b>		<b>Budget</b>	<b>Out-turn</b>	<b>to</b>
		<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>Budget</b>
				<b>£</b>
<b><u>EXPENDITURE</u></b>				
1,092,024	Supervision & Management - General	1,142,595	1,180,101	37,506
205,881	Supervision & Management - Special	213,009	211,898	-1,111
131,271	Welfare Services	127,445	126,750	-695
384,881	Rents	437,328	390,074	-47,254
2,174,227	Repairs and Maintenance	2,662,610	2,600,000	-62,610
3,988,284	Total - Management and Maintenance	4,582,987	4,508,823	-74,164
57,489	Rent Rebates	28,745	28,745	0
1,076,385	Debt Charges	902,596	922,300	19,704
0	C.E.R.A.	326,216	326,216	0
2,584,435	Subsidy	2,681,622	2,691,933	10,311
-169,217	Provision for Bad Debts	50,000	0	-50,000
<b>7,537,376</b>	<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>8,572,166</b>	<b>8,478,017</b>	<b>-94,149</b>
<b><u>INCOME</u></b>				
8,319,302	Rents (net of voids)	8,378,032	8,525,635	147,603
88,733	Garages	91,088	93,680	2,592
120,921	Interest	141,547	145,408	3,861
<b>8,528,956</b>	<b>Total Income</b>	<b>8,610,667</b>	<b>8,764,723</b>	<b>154,056</b>
<b>Surplus / Deficit (-) for the Year:</b>				
<b>665,364</b>	<b>General Balances</b>	<b>364,717</b>	<b>612,922</b>	<b>248,205</b>
<b>326,216</b>	<b>Earmarked Balances</b>	<b>-326,216</b>	<b>-326,216</b>	<b>0</b>
662,070	Balance as at start of year ~ General	1,327,434	1,327,434	0
0	Balance as at start of year ~ Earmarked	326,216	326,216	0
1,327,434	Balance as at end of year ~ General	1,692,151	1,940,356	248,205
326,216	Balance as at end of year ~ Earmarked	0	0	0



## Appendix 2

### Housing Revenue Account Capital ~ 2005/06 Month 8

Project Description	Revised Estimate £	Actual and Committed £	Latest Forecast £	Variance to Estimate £
Housing Repair Work (Pre 2005/06 works)	522,000	738,145	800,000	278,000
Environmental Improvements	347,000	156,730	340,000	-7,000
Major Improvements ~ All groups	3,600,000	1,227,397	3,000,000	-600,000
DFG ~ Council Properties	100,000	119,707	160,000	60,000
Window Replacements	2,976,000	884,527	2,976,000	0
Central Heating Contract	980,000	498,857	820,000	-160,000
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>8,525,000</u></b>	<b><u>3,625,363</u></b>	<b><u>8,096,000</u></b>	<b><u>-429,000</u></b>
<b>Funding:</b>				
Major Repairs Allowance	2,400,000	1,920,000	2,400,000	0
Usable Capital Receipts	2,431,000		2,476,000	45,000
Prudential Borrowing	3,368,000		2,894,000	-474,000
Financed from Revenue (CERA)	326,000	326,000	326,000	0
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>8,525,000</u></b>	<b><u>2,246,000</u></b>	<b><u>8,096,000</u></b>	<b><u>-429,000</u></b>

**REPORT TO CABINET**

**CABINET MEMBER :** Councillor P J Marfleet, Lead Member for Finance and Personnel

**DATE :** 20 December 2005

**SUBJECT :** 3 YEAR REVENUE BUDGET 2006/7 TO 2008/9

**1. DECISION SOUGHT**

For Cabinet

- 1.1 to note the current budget proposals as outlined in appendices 1 to 4
- 1.2 to seek the views of scrutiny committees on the budget bids and proposed efficiencies relating to their directorate; for the committee to advise Cabinet of any proposed amendments, with an indication of priorities
- 1.3 to ask Resources Scrutiny in addition to consider the overall proposals
- 1.4 to reconsider the budget at its meeting on January 31<sup>st</sup> 2006 with a view to making its recommendations to Council.

**2. REASON FOR SEEKING DECISION**

- 2.1 The Assembly have announced the final settlement details for 2006/7. Total funding for revenue purposes is £119.367m. An increase of £280k over the provisional settlement announced last month.
- 2.2 The settlement provides an increase over the current year of 5.9%, after allowing for transfers of former specific grant funding, compared with the Wales average of 5.1%. The Assembly have provided new money of 2%, £2.2m, mainly as a result of the increase in the number of elderly people in the County and 3.8% for inflation and other pressures net of efficiency savings assumptions.
- 2.3 Directorates have identified a number of service pressures that they wish to have considered for additional funding. These totalled £4.9m and are detailed in appendix 1.
- 2.4 In order to minimise the potential impact on the level of Council Tax next year, in line with the Council's agreed policy in the Improvement Plan to improve the level of Council Tax relative to other Councils, Directorates have been asked to identify savings in addition to the original level of efficiency savings required by the Assembly. The results are shown in appendix 2. The Council's current 3 year budget strategy agreed in February 2005 as part of the prudential indicators shows an indicative increase in Council Tax next year of 3%.

- 2.5 A series of meetings between Cabinet Lead Members, Directorate staff and Finance staff have taken place to review the bids for additional resources and consider the potential savings. Scrutiny Chairs and Vice Chairs have also been invited to attend the second round meetings.
- 2.6 Appendix 3 shows the suggested treatment of the bids for additional resources. Some of the bids are covered by the new money built into the settlement and others have been recommended or not for inclusion in the budget.
- 2.7 Appendix 4 shows the overall position including the provisional allocation for inflationary pressures, committed changes considered at this time last year, the adjustment for the change in specific grant funding, additional WAG funding and savings proposals. It also includes the bids recommended for approval as outlined in 2.6 above and detailed in appendix 3. Any subsequent changes will affect the overall position outlined in 2.10 below.
- 2.8 It will be noted that all services have contributed to efficiency savings, although the contribution from school delegated budgets (1.1%) is lower than any other area and lower than the average of 1.7%. By requiring a lower level of efficiency savings from schools, this represents a benefit to them of £330k. In addition, additional core funding for school budgets of £470k is recommended to help deliver improvement in outcomes, particularly at Key Stage 3.
- 2.9 The views of scrutiny committees are sought on the budget bids and efficiency savings as outlined in 2.1 to 2.8 above and detailed in appendices 1 to 4. Where there are amendments to the proposals, it is asked that an indication of prioritisation is also given
- 2.10 The overall position, as indicated in appendix 4, provides for a modest level of funding, £320k, available for investment in the Council's priority service areas, while maintaining the required level of Council Tax at current levels. This sum would enable for example, investment in capital projects using prudential borrowing of £3.5m.
- 2.11 The sum available for investment in priorities can be increased by £158k for every 0.5% increase that is agreed in the level of Council Tax; e.g. for example an increase of 1.5% would provide a further sum of £473k. Translated into potential capital resources using prudential borrowing this would equate to a further £5m., making a total potential additional capital sum available of £8.5m.
- 2.12 Consideration needs to be given to the likelihood of the Council being able to increase the level of activity on capital projects to cater for such an increase in resources in one year bearing in mind the recent tendency for expenditure on projects to slip.
- 2.13 Council, at its meeting on 22 November, expressed a clear desire to progress with the second phase of Ysgol Tir Morfa as quickly as possible. It is therefore suggested that priority is given within the available funding to supporting the capital required to progress with this scheme. (The report on the capital plan

recommends an allocation from capital receipts, leaving £1million yet to be funded for the second phase.)

2.14 Bearing in mind that the Council has to be realistic about its capacity levels, as outlined in 2.12, it is suggested that additional available funding is utilised on a combination of the following:

a. additional revenue funding to develop detailed feasibility studies of capital projects and spend to save initiatives, to support the development of efficiency savings for future years,

b. capital spend to support the members' priorities of school buildings maintenance and highways maintenance. Within this it is recommended that priority is given to ensuring that any outstanding Health and safety issues are addressed

2.15 The Wales Audit Office continue to advise that, despite the significant improvement in levels of general reserves, the level is still below that recommended in the CIPFA good practice guide. These proposals do not include any additions to reserves in 2006/07 but do make provision in 2007/08 to take us to £4.2m as agreed in the Council's financial strategy in February 2005.

2.16 The views of scrutiny committees are sought on how any potential funding as outlined in 2.10 to 2.15 should be utilised.

Whatever level of Council Tax increase is set by Denbighshire County Council, the overall Council Tax increase will depend on decisions by the Police Authority and community councils on their precepts. Denbighshire County Council has no control over their decisions.

### **BUDGET PROPOSALS 2007/08 AND 2008/09**

2.17 The introduction of the Prudential Code requires the Council to provide indicative budget figures for future years. Whilst the nature of one year settlements make it difficult to be precise, this is included in appendix 4 and the main assumptions are:

- a. efficiencies are included at 1% per annum
- b. an allowance has been made to cover potential additional costs to support borrowing in relation to the capital investment required to fund the Housing Stock improvements
- c. reserves are built up by £500k to £4.155m (2.6% of net revenue funding) by 2008
- d. Council Tax increases are kept to 3%, in line with the strategy adopted in February 2005.

### **3. POWER TO MAKE DECISION**

Section 151 of the Local Government Act 1972  
Local Government Finance Act 1992  
Part 1 of Local Government Act 2003

#### **4. COST IMPLICATIONS**

There are no cost implications arising directly from this report.

This report is however an integral part of preparing the budget for 2006/07 and the 2 subsequent years.

#### **5. FINANCIAL CONTROLLER STATEMENT**

The report includes details of the initial phases of the Budget Setting Process following the release of the final WAG settlement and discussions between Lead Cabinet Members and officers. The process now moves on to involve Scrutiny Committees and thereby widens the whole debate.

#### **6. CONSULTATION CARRIED OUT**

These initial proposals have been discussed by members of cabinet, who felt that the most appropriate next stage was for the scrutiny committees to consider the bids and proposed efficiencies in respect of their directorates.

As indicated in 2.5, there has been extensive discussion with lead members, directors and heads of service.

#### **7. IMPLICATIONS ON OTHER POLICY AREAS INCLUDING CORPORATE**

This report forms part of the process of fulfilling the legal requirement to set an annual budget for 2006/07 and indicative budgets for the following 2 years as required by the Prudential Code.

The proposals seek to address potential underfunding as far as it is possible to estimate in the mandatory areas of Special Educational Needs, school transport and social services.

The additional funding opportunities as outlined in 2.10 to 2.15 provide Members with an opportunity to address its priorities.

#### **8. ACTION PLAN**

<b>Action</b>	<b>By whom</b>	<b>By when</b>
Papers to be prepared for Scrutiny Committees	Corporate Directors / Finance teams	One week prior to Scrutiny meetings
Scrutiny Committees to review proposals	Scrutiny Committees	Mid January
Cabinet to finalise budget proposals	Cabinet Members / Chief Executive and Directors	31 <sup>st</sup> January 2006

Council to review budget		14 <sup>th</sup> February 2006
Council to agree final budget		28 <sup>th</sup> February 2006

## **9. RECOMMENDATIONS**

For Cabinet

- 9.1 to note the current budget proposals as outlined in appendices 1 to 4
- 9.2 to seek the views of scrutiny committees on the budget bids and proposed efficiencies relating to their directorate; for the committee to advise Cabinet of any proposed amendments, with an indication of priorities;
- 9.3 to ask Resources Scrutiny in addition to consider the overall proposals
- 9.4 to reconsider the budget at its meeting on January 31<sup>st</sup> 2006 with a view of making its budget recommendations to Council.



**Appendix 1 page 1**

**Lifelong Learning 06/07 Budget Pressures**

	<b>£000</b>	<b>Total £000</b>
<b>Education</b>		
Tim Data SIMS licences	30	
Behaviour Support demand & grant fall out	70	
Speech & Language Therapy demand & grant fall out	112	
Pupil Support LSAs	235	
Modernising Education	100	
Education Psychology change in conditions	23	
Better Schools Fund settlement shortfall	27	597
<b>Youth</b>		
Fall out of grant for Youth Service Manager	49	
Extend Youth service in 3 towns	102	151
<b>Strategy &amp; Resources</b>		
School & College Transport inflation	447	
HR new post	30	
Asset Management new posts	82	559
<b>Corporate</b>		
County Voice	20	20
<b>Culture &amp; Leisure</b>		
Increase Book Fund	30	
Increased Energy Costs	Unknown	
NNDR appeal	23	
Fall out of grant Museum Officer	16	
AONB Grant not received	25	
Christchurch Comm Centre fall out of tapering grant	23	
Ruthin Craft Centre	16	
Nantclwyd House marketing & promotion	20	
Termination of Archives partnership	6	
Ffrith Festival Gardens premises costs	40	
Transfer of TIC's (underfunded)	40	
Transfer of Playground maintenance (underfunded)	25	264
<b>Corporate</b>		
FOI Officer	26	
Records Management Staff	19	45
<b>Departmental Total</b>		<b>1,636</b>

**ENVIRONMENT DIRECTORATE**

**PROPOSED BUDGET PRESSURES 2006/07**

**Detail of Pressure Identified**

	<b>Identified Pressures £000's</b>
<b><u>Heath and Safety</u></b>	
On - going requirement in Building group	70
On - going revenue implications:	
Legionellosis Control	213
Condition Survey on all public buildings	150
<b><u>Fuel</u></b>	
Inflation increases on Diesel in last 18 months in excess of budget allowance	69
<b><u>Utility Costs</u></b>	
Inflation increases on Electricity, Gas and Water in excess of inflation allowance in budget	74
<b><u>Street Lighting</u></b>	
Extra energy costs due to massive rise in March 2006 due to 'Energy Climate Levy' (75%)	126
<b><u>Ground Maintenance</u></b>	
Bringing standards in the south up to those in the north - expectations have now been raised by the public realm initiative	25
<b><u>Waste Management</u></b>	
New contract for Waste disposal Rates not known yet but likely to be a 20 - 25 % price rise in disposal costs. Current costs estimated £920k @ 20% = £184k	354
Additional Landfill costs (inflationary) - £170k	
<b><u>Refuse Collection</u></b>	
Additional costs arising from new hereditaments built in the county since the contracts were introduced:-	45
Premises in the County in April 1996 - £39,946	
Premises in the County as at 31/08/05 - £42,330	
Based on terms of original contracts the increase would lead to an increase in the contract value	
<b><u>Land Charges</u></b>	
Income budget	100
<b><u>Youth Offending Team</u></b>	
support worker	25
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>1,226</u></b>

**SOCIAL SERVICES & HOUSING DIRECTORATE Appendix 1 page 3**

**Budget Pressures 2006/07**

<b>Service</b>	<b>2005/06 Net Budget £</b>	<b>Estimated Budget 2006/2007 £</b>	<b>Need 2006/2007 £</b>	<b>Shortfall 2006/2007 £</b>
<b>Children's Services</b>	<b>7,134,755</b>	<b>7,318,751</b>	<b>7,767,685</b>	<b>-448,934</b>
<b>Adult Services</b>				
Learning Disabilities	2,994,898	3,064,217	3,437,634	-373,417
Mental Illness	1,498,732	1,542,171	1,634,986	-92,815
Older People	13,559,665	13,938,170	14,618,676	-680,506
PDSI	1,661,321	1,709,095	1,999,367	-290,272
Joint Working Grant & Older People Strategy	27,280	28,235	28,235	0
Performance Management & Commissioning	2,046,972	2,108,381	2,097,000	11,381
Other Adult Services	677,222	689,846	531,814	158,032
New Money From 05/06		270,000		270,000
<b>Total - Adult Services</b>	<b>22,466,090</b>	<b>23,350,115</b>	<b>24,347,712</b>	<b>-997,598</b>
Supporting People	-14,611	-14,611	-94,234	79,623
Business Support and Development	705,980	726,554	759,792	-33,238
Senior Management	370,311	381,420	404,215	-22,795
Directorate Costs	329,809	381,420	575,128	-193,708
External Funding	326,343	332,870	365,724	-32,854
<b>Total - BSD</b>	<b>1,732,443</b>	<b>1,822,265</b>	<b>2,104,859</b>	<b>-282,594</b>
<b>Non-HRA Housing</b>	<b>246,937</b>	<b>254,345</b>	<b>254,345</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Carry forward from 04/05</b>				
Social Work Pay Review ADSS			121,000	-121,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>31,565,614</b>	<b>32,730,865</b>	<b>34,501,368</b>	<b>-1,770,503</b>

**Note;** Social Services have used a more zero based budgeting approach to identify the budget needed to fund services by identifying the likely overall pressure for each service area.

**RESOURCES DIRECTORATE, COUNTY CLERKS & CORPORATE**

**PRESSURES 2006/07**

<b><u>Resources</u></b>	<b>k</b>
<b><u>ICT</u></b>	
• Disaster Recovery Insurance	30
• New post – Information Security Officer	40
• Customer Contact Centre – further impact	45
• Out of Hours Support	55
<b>Total ITC</b>	<b>170</b>
<b><u>Personnel</u></b>	
<b>Health &amp; Safety training</b>	<b>50</b>
<b>TOTAL RESOURCES</b>	<b>220</b>
<b><u>CORPORATE</u></b>	
<b>Members pension contributions</b>	<b>55</b>

**Appendix 2 page 1**

**Lifelong Learning 06/07 Budget Proposals**

	Amount		Detail/Impact
	Efficiency	Other	
Education			
Behaviour Support not filling vacancy	10		Nursery vacancy - absorbed by other staff
EAL reduce equipment budget	1		Negligible
Schools Non Delegated reduce S&S budget	14		Negligible
Tim Data reduce S&S budget	2		Negligible
Introduce grant admin charge on advisory budget	19		Less funding available for grant but split across all schools will be negligible
Behaviour Support increased income generation			9 Permanent exclusions from schools may increase
Transfer salary of statementing officer to grant			40 Reprofilling of svce will result in reduction in statementing service
Transfer salary of ESW to grant			35 Need to reprofile service and may put pressure on other areas
EAL reduce computer purchase			2 Failure to purchase planned computer hardware will affect service delivery and coordination
Schools Non Delegates pupil courses budget			3 Lea not able to offer assistance for special events
Reduce school remissions			10 Reduction based on historic trends. If demand increase will result in pressure
Reduce computer hardware			7 LEA not able to assist schools with purchase of computer servers
Tim Data reduce equipment budget			3 Could lead to less effective admin processes
Stop providing grants to early years voluntary sector			2 Minimal impact
Increase income to Athrawon Bro			2 No impact
<b>Total</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>113</b>	
Youth			
Move youth work from building to outreach			9 Move to outreach work
Do not fill vacancy			2 Youth club will not reopen
Remove young farmers grant			3 Loss of support from Young Farmers
Return two youth clubs to voluntary status			4 2 clubs returned to voluntary status could lead to closure
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>18</b>	
Strategy & Resources			
Financial Services reduce S&S	2		Negligible
Business & Performance School Meals	4		Negligible
Asset Management Support	2		Negligible
Management & Admin S&S contingency	11		May lead to less effective admin processes
Reduce staffing			6 Reduced level of budget monitoring, cease completion of statutory returns, impact on succession management
Cease operating lease for FEAST software			4 Could lead to manual calculations
Recharge Project Management fees			3 No significant impact
HR Training budget			2 Reduced support for professional qualifications may lead to recruitment problems
HR Travel - reduc Governor support			1 Increased risk of compensation claims due to lack of support
Cease subscription to HR publications			0.5 Unable to keep up to date with legislation
Decrease in pensions provision			30 Projected reduction in pension liability
Introduce fair funding charge			35 Would impact on schools delegated budgets
Decrease non devolved R&M			9 Reduction in schools maintenance
<b>Total</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>90.5</b>	

Corporate				
Reduce postage and subscriptions, use in house photographer	1	May not be as professional		
Downscale presence at Flint & Denbigh Show	6	May not be as professional		
<b>Total</b>	<b>7</b>		<b>0</b>	
Culture & Leisure				
Non devolved R&M	4	6 Reduced building maintenance		
Ciwyl Leisure 3 year funding agreement	6	Pressure on externally funded body		
Reduce grants to external bodies	2	Pressure on externally funded body		
Review of terms & conditions of library staff	6	Reduce annual leave could be possible challenge bu unions		
Misc efficiencies (cease subs, window cleaning etc)	4	Impact on standards & shabby buildings		
New charges for music	1	None		
New charges for document storage for other public bodies	1	Income from commercial use of records mgmt dependant on stable insurance costs		
New charges for civil blessings at heritage sites	1	None		
New income from town hall bars	2	None		
New income from Denbighshire arts	1	None		
Franchise at mini golf	3	Dependant on securing franchise		
Tourist attraction lease at Childrens Village	5	None		
New septic tank at Moel Fammau Toilets	4	Savings dependant on completion on new biotank installation		
New user for Frith Festival Gardens	10	Dependant on early resolution and future of Frith		
Mini bus surplus to requirements	1	Minimal, vehicle used little		
Review leisure centre staff rotas	5	Additional pressure on Mangers to provide cover		
Increase all C&L charges		52 Possible negative reaction from customer		
Reduce library & leisure centre opening hours		9 Possible negative reaction & impact on Welsh public Library Standard		
Cancel Walking Festival		7 Loss of established event & reduced ability to support national festival in Liangollen		
Library staff relief budget		10 Disruption of svce & impact on standards		
Ruthin Craft Centre		1 Loss of educational opportunity for community		
Reduce grounds maintenance at Botanical Gardens		3 Reduced floral displays		
Reduce security at childrens village		3 Increased risk of vandalism & anti social behaviour		
Cancel archives software support contracts		2 Equipment taken out of service in event of breakdown		
Reduce heritage exhibitions & advertising budgets		2 Reduced level of activity & loss of income		
Reduce sports/events programmes		7 Impact on health agends & reduced events to boost tourism		
Reduce training budgets		4 Demotivated staff & non compliance with iip		
Close & 'mothball' Corwen Pavillion pending decision on long term future		8 Loss of venue, exisiting staff made part time, but saving maintenance costs		
Cease Beach Lifeguarding Service		40 Public safety issues & adverse media reaction		
<b>Total</b>	<b>56</b>		<b>154</b>	
Overall Total	<b>128</b>		<b>375.5</b>	

ENVIRONMENT DIRECTORATE

Appendix 2 page 2

PROPOSED BUDGET SAVINGS 2006/07

Detail of Savings Proposed	Amount of Savings		
	Efficiencies £000's	Further Savings £000's	Total £000's
Staff Restructuring - Transport and Infrastructure	15		15
Reorganise night time street lighting inspections and reduce bollard cleaning	10		10
Use grounds maintenance operatives in Cemeteries	5		5
Restructuring savings in management of public conveniences	10		10
Remove agency cover used in reception in Caledfryn	3		3
Reduce man hours in external funding unit	3		3
Streamlined budget due to merger of Services - Planning and Public Protection	10		10
Reorganisation of the DC function reducing the requirement for consultants	6		6
Reduce use of consultants on Building Control	5		5
Reduction in Finance and Performance administrative support	3		3
Savings following a number of restructurings in Development Services	27		27
Annual Fee from CCTV at Matalan		10	10
Increase bulk lamp change duration on all street lighting		9	9
Reduce hired sweeper for street cleansing in south		20	20
Additional income from Public Conveniences		12	12
Review and rationalise car parking charges		40	40
Reduce gulley emptying to annually plus hotspots		25	25
Extend use of grazing licences in the agricultural estate		3	3
Reduce support for business group development in Rhyl		8	8
Review use of consultants to carry out work on caravan sites licensing conditions		16	16
A review of all contracts for software packages has identified surplus areas which are no longer required		10	10
Review of fees and charges - Planning and Public Protection e.g Pest Control		10	10
Reducing the budget allocated for consultants on surveying the sites on the Contaminated Land Register.		10	10
Introduce car parking charges on Rhyl Promenade - net of start up costs		150	150
Additional income from Cemeteries		5	5
Reduce verge maintenance at town gateways		20	20
Reduce support for community projects		14	14
Reduce contribution to the Denbighshire Enterprise Agency		6	6
Terminate membership of external bodies including Coalfields Communities Campaign and N.W Economic Forum		8	8
Review of Essential Car User allowances bands		4	4
Review of telephone allowances		3	3
Tourism		7	7
Additional fee income - Development Services		32	32
	<b>97</b>	<b>422</b>	<b>519</b>

**Efficiency Savings and further savings 2006/07**

**Appendix 2 page 3**

<u>Area</u>	Target Efficiency Saving £'000	Target Budget Savings £'000	Total £'000	<u>Proposal</u>
<b>Children's Services</b>				
1. Family Support Workers	0	148	148	Transfer funding to Supporting People
	<b>0</b>	<b>148</b>	<b>148</b>	<b>Total Children</b>
<b>Adult Services</b>				
1. Elderly care – reduce fee increase to independent sector homes	0	85	85	Give 0.5% less than the 2% above inflation increase originally planned.
2. Domiciliary Contract Efficiencies	53	0	53	Single rate for Domiciliary Care
3. EMI Nursing/Domiciliary Efficiencies	5	0	5	Block purchase of 5 EMI beds to be paid at previous years rates.
4. General - extending charges	30	0	30	All service users except Mental Health to be charged.
5. Care Brokers	30	0	30	To improve efficiency through care broker services.
6. Local Authority Home Care	0	11	11	Remove all home care overtime.
7. Continuing Health Care	0	70	70	Widen scope of current recharging.
8. General contractual savings in Adult Services	20	0	20	Review of Link House and care service contracts.
9. Direct Payments	10	0	10	Increase DP having financial benefits of £1.50 an hour.
10. Adult Learning Disabilities - Contract Efficiencies in Work Opportunities & Community Living	15	10	25	Review contracts & introduce planned purchasing.
11. Adult Learning Disabilities – Contract out Community Living Services	0	20	20	2 Projects being tendered to independent sector.
12. Elderly Residential & Day Care	8	8	16	Explore options for use of Llys Nant Special Care Unit and review agency cover.



	Target	Target	Total	
	Efficiency	Budget		
<u>Area</u>	Saving	Savings		<u>Proposal</u>
	£'000	£'000	£'000	
13. Vacant Posts	0	80	80	Staff savings through slippage on vacant posts
14. Meals on Wheels	5	0	5	Tender for delivery of service and review charging
15. Voluntary Org. payments	14	0	14	Reduction of 2% below inflationary uplift
	<b>190</b>	<b>284</b>	<b>474</b>	<b>Total Adults</b>
<b><u>Business Support &amp; Development</u></b>				
1. Reduction in recruitment and retention	5	0	5	Less advertising costs due to better retention
2. NNDR – Henllan	6	0	6	Henllan deleted from Valuations list - no NNDR.
3. Telephone rental streamlining	1	0	1	Deleted extension numbers no longer required.
2. Paris Project Savings	0	8	8	Reduction in revenue costs by possible grant funding.
	<b>12</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>Total BSD</b>
<b><u>Housing</u></b>				
Homelessness	5	0	5	Savings by transferring expenditure from B&B to leased accommodation.
	<b>209</b>	<b>438</b>	<b>647</b>	<b>Directorate Total @ 2%</b>

<b><u>Additional Items</u></b>				
1. Further reduction to fee increases	0	85	85	Give 1% above inflation increase, rather than the 2% originally planned.
2. Foster care	0	50	50	Do not provide respite foster care for disabled children.
3. Adult Learning Disabilities	0	30	30	Introduce waiting lists for Community Living & Work Opportunities.
	<b>0</b>	<b>165</b>	<b>165</b>	<b>Sub total</b>
	<b>209</b>	<b>603</b>	<b>812</b>	<b>Directorate Total @ 2.5%</b>

**RESOURCES DIRECTORATE, COUNTY CLERKS & CORPORATE**  
**SAVINGS 2006/07**

**County Clerks**

	<b><u>Efficiency</u></b>	<b><u>Further</u></b>
	£k	Saving £k
<b>1. County Clerks</b>		
• <b>Increased Income</b>		
- Discretionary Services	4	
- Civil Partnerships	4	
- Increased external charging rate		4
• <b>Freeze vacant post in section</b>		20
<b>TOTAL COUNTY CLERKS</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>2. Resources</b>		
<b>1. Audit</b>		
• <b>Net saving from freezing vacant post</b>		<b>10</b>
<b>2. ICT</b>		
• <b>Reduced expenditure on consultancy</b>		<b>7</b>
• <b>Renegotiation of maintenance contracts</b>		<b>21</b>
<b>3. Finance</b>		
• <b>Revenues –In house bailiff provision</b>		<b>20</b>
• <b>Benefits – Increased DWP grant income</b>		<b>10</b>
• <b>Exchequer – savings on not filling post in         Payments section &amp; reduced hours for 2 staff</b>		<b>18</b>
• <b>Management Accounts – reduction of 1 vacant post</b>		<b>30</b>
<b>4. Personnel</b>		
• <b>Reduction in Medical Adviser costs</b>		<b>2</b>
• <b>Introduction of Childcare Vouchers</b>		<b>7</b>
• <b>Sharing of H&amp;S Mgr with Anglesey</b>		<b>15</b>
• <b>Impact of new HR system</b>		<b>5</b>
• <b>Replace Personnel Officer post by graduate</b>		<b>10</b>
<b>TOTAL RESOURECS</b>		<b>155</b>
<b>5. Corporate &amp; Miscellaneous</b>		
• <b>Reduced external audit fees on grant claims</b>		<b>50</b>
• <b>Members costs</b>		<b>8</b>
• <b>Other</b>		<b>20</b>
<b>6. Capital Financing</b>		
• <b>Rescheduling of debt &amp; therefore reduced         interest rates</b>		<b>240</b>
<b>TOTAL CORPORATE</b>		<b>318</b>

**Assessment**

Assessment	-----Suggested Treatment of Bids-----					COMMENTS
	Bids	Allow for	Passport	Potential	Not	
	£000	in inflation	sum inc in	growth	accepted	
		£000	settlement	£000	£000	
			£000			
<b>LLL - EDUCATION</b>						
Transport net of -4 days (-70k approx)	447			447		Check inflation assumptions
HR staffing levels	30			30		
Asset management	82			50	32	
SIMs licence inc users	30				30	Fund from Sch del budgets
YOT	25			25		
EPIC reduced grant	25				25	Service to fit grant levels
Home tuition	20			20		
SALT inc demand/costs	52			52		Check inflation assumptions
Loss of flexibilities grant	60				60	Service to fit grant levels
Ed Psychs conditions of service	23				23	Similar to JE, absorb.
Pupil support LSAs	235			235		Check recoupment assumptions
Modernising Education - one off	100			100		
Loss of grant re Youth Inf Educ Manager	49				49	Service to fit grant levels
Reduced funding for Teacher Trng & EMA	27			27		
Ext YS prov in 3 towns	102				102	Growth not pressure
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,307</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>986</b>	<b>321</b>	
<b>LLL - CULTURE &amp; LEISURE</b>						
Library Book Fund	30				30	Capital bid
Library inc NNDR	23	23				
Loss of grant for Museums dev	16				16	Service to fit grant levels
Countryside reduced CCW grant	25				25	Service to fit grant levels
Tapering grant Christchurch Com LS	23				23	Service to fit grant levels
Craft Centre inc running costs	16				16	Seek sponsorship e.g.Tesco
NantClwyd House marketing	20				20	Seek sponsorship e.g.Tesco
Termination of Archives partnership	6				6	Service to fit budget levels
Ffrith on going mtce etc	40				40	Disposal of site to be pursued
TIC staffing costs	40				40	Potential One Stop Shop jt use
Playgrounds budget shortfall	25				25	Transfer from Environment
FOI addit staffing due to demand	26			15	11	Income from charges
Records management addit staff	19			10	9	Reduce size of records stored
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>309</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>261</b>	
<b>ENVIRONMENT</b>						
H & S - Building group	70			70		
- Legionellosis control	213			213		
- condition surveys (one off)	150			75	75	Bid reduced to assist savings
Fuel inflation under provision	69	69				
Energy inflation underprovision	74	74				
Street lighting energy u/prov	126	126				
Grounds mtce, imp standard in south	25			25		
Waste, price increase	184	184				
Waste, LFT/inc tonnage	170		110	60		
Refuse, inc properties	45			45		
Land charges income shortfall	100				100	Resolved in 2005/6
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,226</b>	<b>453</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>488</b>	<b>175</b>	
<b>SOCIAL SERVICES &amp; HOUSING</b>						
Children's services	449					
Adult services	997					
Business support	283					Review content of WAG settlement
Supporting People	-79					
Soc Work pay review	121					
WAG additional funding			1728		43	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,771</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,728</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>43</b>	
<b>RESOURCES</b>						
ICT developments	170			170		
H & S training	50			50		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>0</b>	
<b>CORPORATE</b>						
Members' pension costs	55			55		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4,888</b>	<b>476</b>	<b>1,838</b>	<b>1,774</b>	<b>800</b>	

DENBIGHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

1. Budget Requirement 2005/6 to 2007/8 based on WAG Provisional Settlement

	Budget 2005/6	Provisional Inflation 3.45% 2006/7	Committed Changes 2006/7	Transfer in and out of settlement	Efficiency Savings	Further Savings	Service Pressures	Proposed Growth	Additional Specific WAG funds	Projected Budget 2006/7
	£k	£k	£k	£k	£k	£k	£k	£k	£k	£k
Lifelong Learning - Schools budgets	46,196	1,159	0		-259	-241	235	470	381	47,941
- Other Education	12,104	376	0	445	-76	-220	751	0	0	13,380
- Culture & Leisure	6,179	213	0		-54	-114	25	0	0	6,249
Environment	20,244	696	0		-155	-364	488	0	110	21,019
Personal Services	31,612	1,087	270 (1)	1742	-207	-440	0	0	1728	35,792
Resources	5,642	194	0		-39	-115	220	0	0	5,902
County Clerk	1,426	49	0		-8	-24	0	0	0	1,443
	123,403	3,775	270	2,187 (9)	-798	-1,518	1,719	470	2,219 (9)	131,727
Corporate	3,135	108	330 (2&3)		-20	-58	55			3,550
Fire/Sea Fisheries levies	3,975	137	0		-62	-178				4,112
Capital Finance/Interest received	11,021		0 (4)							10,781
Contingency *	625		200 (5)				320 (7)			1,145
Inflation	0		-220 (6)							-220
Contribution to Reserves	0		0 (7)							0
Further Efficiency Savings	0		0							0
	142,159	4,020	580	2,187	-880 (8)	-1,754	2,094	470	2,219	151,095
2. Level of Funding	110,429	4,020		2187			512		2219	119,367
W A G funding	164									164
Deprivation grant	0									0
LABGI*	110,593	4,020	0	2,187	0	0	512	0	2,219	119,531
	31,566	0	580		-880	-1754	1582	470		31,564
	142,159	4,020	580	2,187	-880	-1,754	2,094	470	2,219	151,095

\* Note - impact of LABGI grant excluded  
RSG 5.8% Council Tax collection increase  
NNDR 5.8%

- Notes
1. Full year effect of Demographic pressures in 2005/6
  2. Housing Stock Transfer impact - part year
  3. Customer Contact Centre - full year impact of staffing costs
  4. Effect of Capital Programme
  5. Full year impact of Single Status
  6. Further savings from improved procurement
  7. FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR PRIORITY SERVICE AREAS
  8. Further efficiency savings
  9. Transfers in & out of settlement
  10. Passported additional WAG funding

0 %  
£k  
270  
200  
130  
0  
200  
-220  
320  
-880  
2187  
2219

**Appendix 4 page 2**

Projected Budget 2006/7	Inflation 3% 2007/8	Committed Changes 2007/8	Growth for Priority Services	Projected Budget 2007/8	Inflation 3% 2008/9	Committed Changes 2008/9	Growth for Priority Services	Projected Budget 2008/9
£k	£k	£k	£k	£k	£k	£k	£k	£k
47,941	1,438	0	0	49,379	1,481	0	0	50,861
13,380	401	0	1,010 (9)	13,782	413	0	1,800 (9)	14,195
6,249	187	0	0	6,436	193	0	0	6,629
21,019	631	0	0	21,650	649	0	0	22,299
35,792	1,074	0	0	36,866	1,106	0	0	37,972
5,902	177	44 (5)	0	6,123	184	-220 (6)	0	6,307
1,443	43	0	0	1,486	45	-880 (8)	0	1,531
<b>131,727</b>	<b>3,952</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>135,723</b>	<b>4,072</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>139,795</b>
3,550	106	200 (2)	0	4,866	146	0	1,800	6,812
4,112	123	0	0	4,235	127	0	0	4,362
10,781	0	250 (4)	0	11,031	0	0	0	11,031
1,145	0	0	0	1,145	0	0	0	1,145
-220	0	-220 (6)	0	-440	0	-220 (6)	0	-660
0	0	500 (7)	0	500	0	250 (7)	0	750
0	0	-880 (8)	0	-880	0	-880 (8)	0	-1,760
<b>151,095</b>	<b>4,182</b>	<b>-106</b>	<b>1,010</b>	<b>156,180</b>	<b>4,345</b>	<b>-850</b>	<b>1,800</b>	<b>161,475</b>
<b>119,367</b>	<b>4,134</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>123,501</b>	<b>4,323</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>127,824</b>
164	5	-106	1,010	169	3	-850	1,800	172
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>119,531</b>	<b>4,139</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>123,670</b>	<b>4,326</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>127,995</b>
<b>31,564</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>-106</b>	<b>1,010</b>	<b>32,511</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>-850</b>	<b>1,800</b>	<b>33,479</b>
<b>151,095</b>	<b>4,182</b>	<b>-106</b>	<b>1,010</b>	<b>156,181</b>	<b>4,345</b>	<b>-850</b>	<b>1,800</b>	<b>161,474</b>

3%

3.5%

3.5%

£k

3%

3.5%

3.5%

£k

- 2. Housing Stock Transfer impact - full year efft 200
- 4. Effect of Capital Programme 250
- 5. Impact of HR staffing changes 44
- 6. Further savings from improved procurement -220
- 7. Provision for contribution to Reserves 250
- 8. Further efficiency savings -880
- 9. Service Growth/Pressures 380
- 10. Growth resulting from increase in C/Tax 950
- 4. Effect of Capital Programme 250
- 6. Further savings from improved procurement -220
- 7. Provision for contribution to Reserves 250
- 8. Further efficiency savings -880
- 9. Service growth/Pressures 540
- 10. Growth resulting from increase in C/Tax 980

**CABINET  
FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME**

<b>REPORT TITLE</b>	<b>REPORT LEAD MEMBER / AUTHOR</b>
<b>JANUARY 2006</b>	
Revenue Budget Monitoring Report 2005-2006 [including Procurement] <i>Provides an update of the Revenue Budget position for 2005-2006</i>	Councillor P J Marfleet R Parry
Revenue Budget 2006-2007 to 2008-2009	Councillor P J Marfleet R Parry
Capital Plan <i>Capital 2005-2006</i>	Councillor P J Marfleet R Parry
Three Year Capital Plan 2006-07 Onwards	Councillor P J Marfleet R Parry
Capital Prioritisation Process <i>Recommend the approval of the revised capital programme prioritisation process.</i>	Councillor P J Marfleet A Evans
CCTV Control Room – may form part of Capital Plan report	Councillor E C Edwards I P Jones
Health Social Care and Wellbeing Annual Report	Councillor P A Dobb N Ayling
Housing Revenue Account Budget <i>Sets out the latest financial forecast position of the Housing Revenue Account</i>	Councillor P A Dobb P Quirk
Housing Revenue Account Budget 2006-2007 – 31 Jan	Councillor P A Dobb P Quirk
Improving the Council Housing Stock – 17 January 2006	Councillor P A Dobb P Quirk
Health Social Care and Wellbeing Partnership – Informal Cabinet	Councillor P A Dobb N Ayling
Fees and Charges <i>Domiciliary Care / Nursing Homes</i>	Councillor P A Dobb N Ayling
Corporate Quarterly Performance Report	Councillor P J Marfleet J Ogden
Delegations to Officers 17 January	I K Hearle
<b>FEBRUARY 2006</b>	
Revenue Budget Monitoring Report 2005-2006 [including Procurement] <i>Provides an update of the Revenue Budget position for 2005-2006</i>	Councillor P J Marfleet R Parry
Capital Plan <i>Capital 2005-2006</i>	Councillor P J Marfleet R Parry
Housing Revenue Account Budget <i>Sets out the latest financial forecast position of the Housing Revenue Account</i>	Councillor P A Dobb / P Quirk
Beyond Area Partnerships <i>Consider proposals for the way forward beyond Area Partnerships</i>	Councillor E C Edwards A Evans
Urdd Eisteddfod	Councillor S Roberts T Hughes
<b>MARCH 2006</b>	
Revenue Budget Monitoring Report 2005-2006 [including Procurement]	Councillor P J Marfleet R Parry

<b>REPORT TITLE</b>	<b>REPORT LEAD MEMBER / AUTHOR</b>
<i>Provides an update of the Revenue Budget position for 2005-2006</i>	
Capital Plan <i>Capital 2005-2006</i>	Councillor P J Marfleet R Parry
Modernising Education Update	Councillor D Owens H W Griffiths
Royal International Pavilion Phase I <i>Way forward following feasibility study</i>	Councillor S Roberts T Hughes
Housing Revenue Account Budget <i>Sets out the latest financial forecast position of the Housing Revenue Account</i>	Councillor P A Dobb / P Quirk
<b>APRIL 2006</b>	
Revenue Budget Monitoring Report 2006-2007 [including Procurement] <i>Provides an update of the Revenue Budget position for 2006-2007</i>	Councillor P J Marfleet R Parry
Capital Plan <i>Capital 2006-2007</i>	Councillor P J Marfleet R Parry
Housing Revenue Account Budget <i>Sets out the latest financial forecast position of the Housing Revenue Account</i>	Councillor P A Dobb / P Quirk
Schools Admissions Policy	Councillor D Owens H W Griffiths
<b>MAY 2006</b>	
Revenue Budget Monitoring Report 2006-2007 [including Procurement] <i>Provides an update of the Revenue Budget position for 2006-2007</i>	Councillor P J Marfleet R Parry
Capital Plan <i>Capital 2006-2007</i>	Councillor P J Marfleet R Parry
Housing Revenue Account Budget <i>Sets out the latest financial forecast position of the Housing Revenue Account</i>	Councillor P A Dobb / P Quirk
Revised Homelessness Strategy & Appointment of Homelessness Champion – Deadlines for June	Councillor P A Dobb / P Quirk
<b>JUNE 2006</b>	
Revenue Budget Monitoring Report 2006-2007 [including Procurement] <i>Provides an update of the Revenue Budget position for 2006-2007</i>	Councillor P J Marfleet R Parry
Capital Plan <i>Capital 2006-2007</i>	Councillor P J Marfleet R Parry
Final Revenue Accounts 2005-2006	Councillor P J Marfleet R Parry
Housing Revenue Account Budget <i>Sets out the latest financial forecast position of the Housing Revenue Account</i>	Councillor P A Dobb / P Quirk
Single Education Plan – to be adopted by Council July 2006	Councillor D Owens H Griffiths
<b>JULY 2006</b>	
Revenue Budget Monitoring Report 2006-2007 [including Procurement] <i>Provides an update of the Revenue Budget position for 2006-2007</i>	Councillor P J Marfleet R Parry
Capital Plan <i>Capital 2006-2007</i>	Councillor P J Marfleet R Parry

<b>REPORT TITLE</b>	<b>REPORT LEAD MEMBER / AUTHOR</b>
Housing Revenue Account Budget <i>Sets out the latest financial forecast position of the Housing Revenue Account</i>	Councillor P A Dobb / P Quirk
<b>AUGUST 2006 ~ NO MEETINGS</b>	
<b>SEPTEMBER 2006 ~ 1<sup>ST</sup> MEETING</b>	
Revenue Budget Monitoring Report 2006-2007 [including Procurement] <i>Provides an update of the Revenue Budget position for 2006-2007</i>	Councillor P J Marfleet R Parry
Capital Plan <i>Capital 2006-2007</i>	Councillor P J Marfleet R Parry
Housing Revenue Account Budget <i>Sets out the latest financial forecast position of the Housing Revenue Account</i>	Councillor P A Dobb / P Quirk
Modernising Education Update	Councillor D Owens H W Griffiths
<b>SEPTEMBER 2006 ~ 2<sup>ND</sup> MEETING</b>	
Revenue Budget Monitoring Report 2006-2007 [including Procurement] <i>Provides an update of the Revenue Budget position for 2005-2006</i>	Councillor P J Marfleet R Parry
Capital Plan <i>Capital 2006-2007</i>	Councillor P J Marfleet R Parry
Annual Treasury Report	Councillor P J Marfleet R Parry
Housing Revenue Account Budget <i>Sets out the latest financial forecast position of the Housing Revenue Account</i>	Councillor P A Dobb / P Quirk
<b>OCTOBER 2006</b>	
Revenue Budget Monitoring Report 2006-2007 [including Procurement] <i>Provides an update of the Revenue Budget position for 2006-2007</i>	Councillor P J Marfleet R Parry
Capital Plan <i>Capital 2006-2007</i>	Councillor P J Marfleet R Parry
Housing Revenue Account Budget <i>Sets out the latest financial forecast position of the Housing Revenue Account</i>	Councillor P A Dobb / P Quirk
<b>NOVEMBER 2006</b>	
Revenue Budget Monitoring Report 2006-2007 [including Procurement] <i>Provides an update of the Revenue Budget position for 2006-2007</i>	Councillor P J Marfleet R Parry
Capital Plan <i>Capital 2006-2007</i>	Councillor P J Marfleet R Parry
Housing Revenue Account Budget <i>Sets out the latest financial forecast position of the Housing Revenue Account</i>	Councillor P A Dobb / P Quirk
<b>DECEMBER 2006</b>	
Revenue Budget Monitoring Report 2006-2007 [including Procurement] <i>Provides an update of the Revenue Budget position for 2006-2007</i>	Councillor P J Marfleet R Parry



<b>REPORT TITLE</b>	<b>REPORT LEAD MEMBER / AUTHOR</b>
Capital Plan <i>Capital 2006-2007</i>	Councillor P J Marfleet R Parry
Housing Revenue Account Budget <i>Sets out the latest financial forecast position of the Housing Revenue Account</i>	Councillor P A Dobb / P Quirk
<b>JANUARY 2007</b>	
Revenue Budget Monitoring Report 2006-2007 [including Procurement] <i>Provides an update of the Revenue Budget position for 2006-2007</i>	Councillor P J Marfleet R Parry
Capital Plan <i>Capital 2006-2007</i>	Councillor P J Marfleet R Parry
Housing Revenue Account Budget <i>Sets out the latest financial forecast position of the Housing Revenue Account</i>	Councillor P A Dobb / P Quirk
<b>FEBRUARY 2007</b>	
Revenue Budget Monitoring Report 2006-2007 [including Procurement] <i>Provides an update of the Revenue Budget position for 2006-2007</i>	Councillor P J Marfleet R Parry
Capital Plan <i>Capital 2006-2007</i>	Councillor P J Marfleet R Parry
Housing Revenue Account Budget <i>Sets out the latest financial forecast position of the Housing Revenue Account</i>	Councillor P A Dobb / P Quirk
<b>MARCH 2007</b>	
Revenue Budget Monitoring Report 2006-2007 [including Procurement] <i>Provides an update of the Revenue Budget position for 2006-2007</i>	Councillor P J Marfleet R Parry
Capital Plan <i>Capital 2006-2007</i>	Councillor P J Marfleet R Parry
Housing Revenue Account Budget <i>Sets out the latest financial forecast position of the Housing Revenue Account</i>	Councillor P A Dobb / P Quirk
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