

AGENDA ITEM NO: 2

CABINET

Minutes of the Cabinet meeting held in Conference Room 1, Council Offices, Ruthin on Tuesday 21 February 2006 at 11.00 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, J Thompson Hill, Lead Member for Property and Asset Management and E W Williams, Lead Member for Environment. Observers: Councillors J R Bartley; R E Barton; M LI Davies; G C Evans; K N Hawkins; C L Hughes; N Hugh Jones; M M Jones, and G M Kensler.

ALSO PRESENT

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

APOLOGIES

Councillor M A German, Lead Member for Children and Young People

ANNOUNCEMENT

The Leader referred to the Cabinet Question Time which had taken place prior to the meeting and thanked the members of the public who had attended. She asked Cabinet Members if they had any particular issues they wished to report following the session:

Councillor S Roberts referred to concerns raised by the Civic Society over the disabled access to the Ruthin Library and the footbridge from the car park to Yr Hen Garchar. Questions were also asked over the opening of Nantclwyd House, and assurance was given that it would be opened as soon as possible.

Councillor E W Williams reported that he had been approached by a lady who had not realised that she was entitled to have her refuse collected, and had therefore, not had any refuse collected for over 15 years.

The Leader asked whether Members had any good news items to report.

Councillor E W Williams referred to the sharing of best practice at a seminar he had attended in Birmingham to look at Green Litter, and reported that the larger Councils were very interested in what we had achieved.

The Chief Executive advised Members that the authority had been nominated in two categories at the Excellence Wales awards which were being held in Cardiff at the

end of the month. The Leader, Deputy Leader and officers would be attending, and he was hopeful for some positive news.

Councillor S Roberts advised Members that she had attended the Celebratory Conference on library standards in Wales at which Robat Arwyn Jones, the Principal Librarian was one of the speakers. He has now been asked to write an article for the next issue of the Cymal Journal on how Denbighshire has improved its library facilities over the last 3 years.

1 URGENT MATTERS

There were no urgent matters.

2 MINUTES OF THE CABINET

The Minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on 31 January 2006 were submitted.

Item 3 Revenue Budget 2005/06 - the Leader referred to the resolution and reported that the decision taken at the last meeting was to earmark £50k from the 2005/06 budget and not £25k as recorded in the minutes, and that the additional £25k received from the WLGA was an additional sum of money received which could be used as match funding.

Councillor P J Marfleet reported that he was under the impression that the total amount required for the visioning exercise was £50k, and that because of the £25k windfall received from the WLGA, only £25k would now be required to be earmarked from the 05/06 budget. He did not recall during the budget rounds, any indication that a likely £25k would be coming from the WLGA.

The Chief Executive explained that the announcement of £25k from the WLGA was a good news item and there was no intention to reduce the £50k already earmarked, as this money was still required to pay for the external professional advice which was required.

It was agreed to amend the resolution to read: *that Members note the figures in the appendices, and agree to earmark **£50k** from the 2005-2006 budget to be carried forward to 2006-2007 to be used for the Visioning exercise's marketing requirements.*

Item 5 Capital Prioritisation Process – it was reported that the scheme had been to Council, and it was agreed that there would be Member representation when CET were looking at the bids.

Item 9 Discount on Community Council By-Election Charges – Councillor M LI Davies said he would like the item referred back to Scrutiny for discussion, as he felt the outcome was very unfair on smaller communities. The Chief Executive explained that it was up to Councillor Davies to raise this with the relevant Scrutiny, and that it was their decision to discuss this issue further.

The Leader asked Members if they had items they wished to raise at Cabinet, could they please do so beforehand, so that Officers were able to provide them with a response at the meeting.

RESOLVED that, subject to the above, the Minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on 31 January 2006 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Leader.

3 MONITORING THE AUTHORITY'S KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Councillor P J Marfleet presented the report seeking Members' consideration of the Corporate Quarterly Performance Report against the Improvement Plan for 2005 / 2006 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 Marfleet referred to the considerable amount of work that had been undertaken to try to achieve the performance indicators which were a key element of the Wales Programme for Improvement, and he advised Members that the WLGA, LGA and Idea were all working together to take stock of the current position.

He reported on a Seminar he had attended with other Lead Members across England and Wales where they had shared experiences of what each other were doing to achieve the targets. One clear message emerging from the Seminar was the common feeling that the burden was now too great, and the fear that there was a culture of compliance.

The Leader thanked Councillor Marfleet for his report and explained that the authority was being judged very much at the moment by its performance against the PI's. She asked Members to report individually on their relevant PI's.

Health, Social Care and Well-being - the Corporate Director: Social Services and Housing was pleased to report on the Indicators for Children's Services. She reported that there had been significant improvement and that a great deal of work had been undertaken to meet the targets. In SCC/C/004 the placement breakdown rate was not such good news, but the indicator concealed the fact that the Department reduced the number of looked after children, so the percentage did not reflect that the number of children who had 3 or more placements had also reduced. In SCC/C/005 (a) the target had been met for this quarter, and although the pathway plan in (b) had not met the target, against each quarter the performance was better than that in 2004/05. Children's Services and Housing were also delivering good news stories with the number of 16/17 year old care leavers in bed and breakfast accommodation.

Councillor P A Dobb referred to SCC/S/002 and said that since setting the target, the definition had changed to exclude professional support services. The Welsh Assembly Government had advised that we were now not allowed to

include these.

Homelessness HHA/S/001 – Councillor Dobb reported that this was an ongoing problem, and that the department knew that it would not be able to achieve the target. The Head of Housing Services had contacted WAG and although they would not amend the target number, they had said they would accept our lowest number.

The Corporate Director: Social Services and Housing reported that the number of homeless families with children in bed and breakfast accommodation was low in comparison with the other North Wales authorities.

Food Hygiene - Councillor E W Williams referred to PPN/S/001bii and explained that there had been staffing problems in Public Protection, but he was confident that these would be addressed. The Head of Planning and Public Protection reported that he was confident that the department was making steady progress and that a report on the Food Hygiene PI was being presented to the next meeting of the Environment Scrutiny.

Municipal Waste - Councillor Williams referred to WMT/S/001 PI and although the performance against iia and iib was not as good, he was confident that that target would be met.

The Corporate Director: Environment referred to the Waste Management PI and explained that the target set by WAG for 2005/06 was 15% and in order to achieve the target, iia and iib needed to be added together. This year was an interim year, and the target set for next year was 25%, and effective processes needed to be put in place. He advised Members that the authority had come a long way in a short period of time.

Lifelong Learning – Councillor D Owens reported on EDU/S/001 and his concerns that this figure could escalate in certain schools.

Councillor Owens referred to the number of mobile classrooms being used and reported that since September, 5 additional classrooms had been provided. All of the mobile classrooms from Rhyl High had now been removed, and it was anticipated that another 8 would be removed by the end of the current academic year.

When reporting on the local indicator of new/refurbished school buildings completed each quarter, Councillor Owens advised Members that there was a great deal of major work being undertaken in a number of schools.

Community Safety – the Corporate Director: Environment advised Members that he was sure that the work the County Council was undertaking was having an impact on this figure and expressed his concerns as to whether the actual target set was achievable and realistic. He reported figures in Denbighshire had reduced and virtually all crime indicators had fallen dramatically. The number of crimes being reported had increased and some of the Town Centres had reported high levels of violent crime in pubs and clubs. This was being

closely monitored, but there was a long way to go to achieve the 15% target.

The Chief Executive explained that the percentages are the required targets set by the Home Office, and that this should be noted against the indicators in the next report.

Corporate Health – Councillor P J Marfleet referred to CFH/C007, which had been consistently performing well, and congratulated staff for all their hard work. With reference to LI/RS/REV, Councillor Marfleet advised Members that there was a need to be wary of the LABGI money and take stock.

In reference to CHR/C.002, he advised Members that the new HRA system would be able to monitor the numbers of days lost due to sickness, and that if there was a trend on a department basis it needed to be identified.

Job Evaluation K12 – Councillor Marfleet reported that there had been a slight slippage against this target, which was an issue, but not one he was over concerned with.

Revenue Collection –BNF/S/002a and CO5 - Councillor Marfleet reported that that the Benefits Team were consistently working well, and congratulated staff for all of their hard work.

Procurement – the figure set for the local indicator was a very real target, which gave the authority an opportunity to save a great deal of money.

The Leader asked when would the data on sickness levels be available to look at. The Head of Personnel explained that there had been problems retrieving the information from the system, but work was being done to resolve this, and the information would be available by June, 2006.

Capital Receipts – Councillor J Thompson-Hill referred to CO8 and advised Members there was very little chance of achieving the target set of £3m. The Leader agreed that this particular target would need reconsidering.

Councillor N Hugh-Jones referred to CHR/C.002 monitoring of sickness levels, and asked whether this included school employees. The Head of Personnel explained that the indicator covered all employees of the County Council.

Councillor G M Kensler asked a number of questions in relation to the PI's, and responses were given as follows:

HHA/S/001 – did the numbers of homeless families with children in bed and breakfast accommodation include the transient population? Councillor Dobb explained that this was very varied, and that families could be local, or families moving into the area.

Mobile Classrooms – if we have to place mobile classrooms at a school because of fire, are these counted in the figures. The Head of Strategy and Resources explained that these are outside the normal reporting of figures.

Enforcement action taken for dog fouling/litter/fly tipping/abandoned cars – as the figure was higher than the target set, would it not be possible to raise the target which would provide us with more funding. Councillor E Williams explained that in terms of prosecuting, a number of people had been fined and this had been advertised.

Councillor S Roberts referred to LAA12, which was not reported on in this quarter. She advised Members that the target set for health walks was set at 1,600, and that the amount achieved to date was well above target at 3,942.

Councillor N Hugh-Jones referred to the figure for the health walks and as to how realistic was the target when set. He also referred to WAG's assessment of the figures, and as to how they were able to say that the target set was a realistic one. He was of the opinion that WAG should be told that the figure set was not realistic and a total waste of money and officer time.

Councillor Marfleet asked Members between now and the next meeting to work with their relevant Head of Service to discuss how realistic were the targets set, and to understand why some of the indicators were not performing well. He asked Members to come up with some proposals and look at ways of overcoming the poor performance.

RESOLVED that Members note the progress on the Corporate Quarterly Performance report against the Work Programme in the Improvement Plan 2005-2006.

4 HEALTH, SOCIAL CARE AND WELLBEING STRATEGY: HEADLINE ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2005-2006 AND KEY ACTIONS FOR 2006-2007

Councillor P A Dobb presented the report for Members to agree the key action points arising from implementation of the Health, Social Care and Wellbeing Strategy one year after its formal adoption.

Councillor Dobb advised Members that there had been considerable progress made in shared care between the Council and health services, and that a development for 2006/07 would be a joint intermediate care service. Plans for the future also included the development of "champions" for each health promotion area, and well known Denbighshire people were being sought as Champions. Councillor Dobb asked Members if they knew of anyone, to let her know.

Councillor Dobb also referred to some of the challenging areas; the financial pressures facing the health service, and the inequity in pay and conditions between health and social services staff.

In response to a question from Councillor G M Kensler, the Corporate Director: Social Services and Housing Services reported that as far as the local authority was concerned, the additional money for social care services had been

included in the budget settlement with a further recent announcement by the Minister.

Councillor C L Hughes referred to the Voluntary Sector Liaison Group and said a meeting had not been held within the last 18 months. The Corporate Director: Social Services and Housing reported that Officers were holding discussions with the Voluntary Services Council to reconvene the meetings.

RESOLVED that Cabinet agree the key action points arising from implementation of the Health, Social Care and Wellbeing Strategy one year after its formal adoption as set out in paragraph 2.2.8 of the report.

5 ACCOUNTABILITY ARRANGEMENTS - LOCAL HEALTH BOARD

Councillor P A Dobb presented the report seeking Cabinet agreement to ensure systematic review of major current issues arising in the Local Health Board.

Councillor Dobb referred to key issues on which decisions had been made by the Board over the last year and would continue to feature prominently during 2006/07. She referred to the Primary Care Estates Strategy which would include five developments in Denbighshire; a new Primary Care Resource Centre in Rhyl, initially the redevelopment of Clarence House, Rhyl, redevelopment of Beech House and Bronffynnon practices in Denbigh, and the practice in Corwen.

Councillor Dobb reported that the Conwy and Denbighshire NHS Trust and Denbighshire LHB were also reviewing each community Hospital in Denbighshire, and that the reviews were considering the future service patterns and the condition and cost of maintaining existing buildings. A decision on the future of Prestatyn Community Hospital was expected to be made at a Board meeting in April.

With reference to the Secondary Care Review, Councillor Dobb advised Members that there were many risks as well as opportunities, and that if there were any change to the pattern of services, it was vital that resources came with the patient.

Councillor Dobb referred to the funding and financial position, and reported that the local authority was supporting the LHB in challenging the workings of the "Townsend formula". Two areas causing concern for us as a local authority are Mental Health and EMI. She reported that a Change Agent Team had been appointed and detailed work on a Service Change and Efficiency Plan (SCEP) was underway. She advised Members that the local authority representatives were in a difficult position on this issue, as they would support the health service returning to a financial balance, but with this there could be risks of service cuts.

Councillor S A Davies advised Members that he had been attending the Secondary Care Review Reference Group and that an issue emerging from this

group was the limited collaboration between the Secondary Care Review and the Primary Care Review. Councillor Davies suggested that the WLGA be asked to become involved in this issue, because if costs were going to fall to local authorities, instead of the health services, assistance was required.

The Corporate Director: Social Services and Housing advised Members that what the health services were trying to achieve was to enable people to stay at home. However, what is being proposed is a “whole system” redesign and that creates high risk for the local authority and health services.

The Leader expressed her concern at the effect that caring for an ill relative at home would have on the carer, and that from Prestatyn Members’ point of view, it was important to retain some NHS beds in the town.

Councillor N Hugh-Jones referred to the Council opposing the Police Reform, and felt that if we and other Councils opposed to WAG, they may decide not to close community Hospitals.

Councillor E C Edwards said that this was a very important debate, and that he was a firm believer that all elderly people should be allowed to stay in their homes for as long as possible. He suggested looking at converting homes and asking the Asset Management Committee to look into this.

Councillor M LI Davies referred to the new GP contract and out of hours arrangements, and agreed that it did work in some ways, but expressed his concern that when he was a recent patient, he was told to take his prescription to a chemist in Colwyn Bay or Prestatyn, and that there was no chemist local to the hospital. He asked whether the LHB could consider using the pharmacy department at Ysbyty Glan Clwyd. He also referred to dental services, and how difficult it had become to find an NHS dentist locally, and that the nearest available dentist to him was in Prestatyn.

Councillor Dobb assured Councillor Davies that she would take back the comments on the out of hours service, and explained that the LHB was in negotiations to provide dental services in Rhyl and Denbigh, which should provide sufficient dentists for everyone in Denbighshire.

Councillor G M Kensler felt the comparison with Police Reform was a valid one as changes often proved to be more expensive.

Councillor C L Hughes agreed with the Leader’s comments on the effect caring for an ill relative at home can have on the carer, and asked that consideration be given to provide better conditions for children and families who care for a parent(s) with psychiatric problems.

Councillor E W Williams reported that costs are looked at from above, and who shouts loudest, gets the money. There is a great need to commit to partnership working, as there is much more we could do together and get ideas for funding.

The Leader reported that these were serious issues for the authority and suggested that as a Cabinet we needed to make some representations to the Health Minister of the issues and risks to the authority.

Councillor S A Davies suggested a letter be sent to the Health Minister pointing out the inadequate collaboration between the Secondary Care Review and the Primary Care Review, and our concerns that adequate funding was not in place. The Leader asked that guidance be taken from Councillor P A Dobb as to the issues to be raised in the letter, and emailed to Cabinet Members for comments.

Councillor E W Williams suggested contacting the WLGA to see if there were any concurring views from other local authorities in Wales.

RESOLVED that Cabinet agree that, following discussion at Scrutiny Committee, they will specifically review in 2006/07 the risks and opportunities relating to

- [1] asset management decisions across the health and local authority sectors
- [2] the implications for the local authority of service delivery changes arising from the secondary care, community hospitals and primary care reviews
- [3] the impact for the local authority of the health economy financial position and "Service Change and Efficiency Plan" (SCEP)
- [4] a letter to be sent to the WAG Minister for Health and Social Services, with a copy to the WLGA, pointing out there is a perception of inadequate collaboration between the Secondary Care Review and the Primary Care Review and also expressing the Authority's concerns that adequate resources are not in place.

6 RESPONSE TO THE CURRENT CONSULTATION ON THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT PENSION SCHEME [AMENDMENT] [NO 3] REGULATIONS 2005

The Deputy Chief Executive / Corporate Director: Resources presented the report seeking agreement to a response on the current consultation on changes to the Local Government Pension Scheme [LGPS]. He referred to the draft response attached at Appendix 2 which had been discussed in detail by the Resources Scrutiny Committee, and who had been generally in agreement with the draft except for a few amendments.

Councillor P M Marfleet highlighted the importance of parity with other public sector workers, and that this was something that should have been grasped by Central Government.

Councillor P A Dobb referred to Social Services and how important it was that parity was kept between Social Services, the Voluntary Services and other agencies. As the authority represented an area where there is a large number of elderly people, Councillor Dobb felt that people of today realised that

retirement had to be later in life, and had to be realistic, and therefore, she could not support keeping the 85 year rule.

The Chief Executive referred to the Fire Service Pension Scheme in England, and as to how all serving fire fighters who had 25 years service could retire at 50. If existing fire fighters are allowed to retire at 50, how can the Government make a difference with Local Government employees.

Councillor P A Dobb felt that a role of a fire fighter was a different role which was more physical and had more stress levels, and she did not think that any local government role was as physical.

Andy Rutherford, the Branch Secretary of UNISON referred to their response to the draft regulations and as to how they had taken onboard that the 85 year rule had to change. He referred to Fire fighters, Police Officers and Teachers all being protected, but advised Members that the fire service staff, police staff and support assistants were not protected. He agreed that parity was important and that it should not be a split workforce, everyone should be protected. Councillor P J Marfleet agreed with Mr. Rutherford's views and highlighted the need for Central Government to deal with this issue for the future for new starters, because in 10-15 years time the situation will be much more drastic.

Councillor R E Barton referred to the financial implications and to the pension holiday, and as to how the cost of it should be pursued with the WLGA/LGA. He agreed that there needed be consistency for all employees on the scheme, and that the authority needed to pursue Central Government.

Councillor P J Marfleet referred to the difference in pension contribution between teachers and other local government employees, and as to how this was manifested in the final salary.

The Chief Executive explained that the Teachers' Scheme was worked out on a national basis and that each authority was told what they needed to contribute. The Local Government fund was backed by real assets which can grow in value, whereas the Teachers' fund was not, so that is why we are told how much to contribute.

The Deputy Chief Executive / Corporate Director: Resources explained that the Government proposals were that the 85 year rule would be removed this year with protection for existing staff until 2013.

Councillor P A Dobb agreed that there should be consistency between employees, but felt that Central Government was trying to bring a scheme that was realistic, and therefore agreed that the 85 year rule should be removed.

Upon being put to the vote and on the casting vote of the Leader, it was

RESOLVED that Cabinet agree the response as outlined in Appendix 2 attached to the report, subject to the amendments in paragraph 2.5 of the report.

7 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 £233k at the year end. The main reasons for the change are increased staffing and one-off redundancy costs.

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

8 REVENUE BUDGET 2005-2006

Councillor P J Marfleet presented the report asking Members to note the budget performance figures for the current financial year and seeking agreement to earmark £30k to fund a Council presence at the Urdd Eisteddfod in 2006-2007.

Councillor Marfleet advised Members that the situation had improved slightly showing a potential underspend of £416k, which did not include the schools' delegated budget which was reporting a pressure of £306k. The improvement in underspend had been reached due to ICT forecasting a £50k underspend and the forecast for the Capital Financing Charges showing a further underspend of £50k. Councillor Marfleet commended Finance Officers for taking advantage of the dip in interest rates for long term borrowing and refinancing £32m worth of debt to secure £230k savings per year against actual target which would assist the authority within the current financial year.

He stated that overall, the position was difficult and as referred to at the last meeting asked Directorates/Department to provide details on how they considered any carry forwards/underspends should be allocated.

Councillor E W Williams referred to the process and as to how there should be an acknowledgement for those Directorates that underspend, because if they achieve savings, the work would go unrewarded.

The Leader agreed, and felt it was important to tackle those areas which were demand led. She also referred to 4.6 of the report which indicated that £25k of the underspend be earmarked for the Visioning exercise. Following the discussion of this amount under the Minutes item, she asked for this amount to be amended to £50k.

Councillor S Roberts referred to the recommendation to earmark £30k for a Council presence at the Urdd Eisteddfod, and advised Members that this money would assist with promotional material which could also be used at the

Llangollen Royal International Musical Eisteddfod and the Denbighshire and Flintshire Agricultural Show.

RESOLVED that Members note the figures in the appendices, and agree to earmark £30k to fund a Council presence at the Urdd Eisteddfod in 2006/2007.

9 CABINET FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

Councillor S A Davies presented the Cabinet Forward Work Programme.

RESOLVED that Cabinet note the Cabinet Forward Work Programme.

10 URGENT ITEMS

There were no Part I Urgent Items.

EISTEDDFOD YR URDD 2006

Members received a presentation from Sian Eirian, Director of the Eisteddfod. The bilingual presentation would be depatched to all Members.

Sian Eirian referred to the special partnership between the Urdd and the Authority and thanked all Members, the Chief Executive, Corporate Directors and all staff for their support. She also introduced Ian Carter, the Eisteddfod Field & Business Manager to the meeting.

She referred to the audience that the Eisteddfod attracts and to the opportunities for local businesses during Eisteddfod week, referring to statistics that 70% of day visitors travel from over 100 miles away, and not only do they visit the Eisteddfod, they visit other areas in its proximity, and 78% spend money in local businesses. She referred to how extensively the Eisteddfod was broadcast, and that programmes will be broadcast in English and Welsh during Eisteddfod Week.

Ian Carter showed Members two aerial photographs of the Conwy Eisteddfod to give an indication of the area that was required, together with two plans of the Ruthin field. He explained that coaches would be entering via the school entrance and that the back road to the Leisure Centre would be used for emergency services only. 250 spaces had been allocated for caravans and 6,000 for cars. He also advised Members that because of the merging of quangos to the Welsh Assembly Government, the WDA would not have a presence on the field, and therefore there would be a shortfall in sponsorship.

The Chief Executive expressed his disappointment at the news that the WDA would not have a presence on the field, and to the fact that the Urdd would now receive less sponsorship for the event. He referred to the plans and asked whether there would be a safe road for pedestrians to walk to the field.

Mr. Carter explained that he was hoping that everyone would enter the Eisteddfod field through the Welcome Tent. He referred to the plans and highlighted footpaths which pedestrians could use when walking from the caravan site into Ruthin.

Councillor G M Kensler also expressed her disappointment that the WDA would not be present and felt strongly that the authority should write to the First Minister and the Minister for Economic Development and Transport to express its disappointment.

Councillor G C Evans asked about the parking of coaches in the town, and as Tesco had now purchased the Lon Parcwr site, where were they intending to park the coaches. Mr. Carter explained that there were a couple of alternative options being looked at in Ruthin. He assured Members that coach drivers were very experienced, and very good at finding places to park. He asked that if anyone had any suggestions for the possible parking for 80 coaches to let him know.

Councillor E C Edwards referred to news that the Trunk Roads Agency were going to be investing some money into the pavements on Rhos Street.

Councillor D Owens referred to the non-presence of the WDA and to the financial impact, and asked whether the Welsh Assembly Government would now be taking up a larger tent. Mr. Carter explained that they were hoping that WAG would take up a larger tent, but this would not make up the shortfall. The Welsh Language Board had confirmed its attendance, and discussions were taking place with the Wales Tourist Board, as it was uncertain whether they would be.

Sian Eirian thanked Members for their trust, support and enthusiasm, and said that the Eisteddfod was a golden opportunity for Denbighshire to promote its assets.

The Leader thanked Sian Eirian and Ian Carter for their presentation and agreed that a letter be sent to WAG.

RESOLVED that due to the shortfall of income from the Welsh Assembly Government as a result of the merging of quangos and discontinuance of WDA support, Cabinet agreed to write to WAG asking for their support for this year's Urdd Eisteddfod.

The meeting concluded at 1.10 p.m. for lunch and reconvened at 1.45 p.m.

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED that 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 and 8 of Part 1 of Schedule 12 of the Local Government Act 1972.

PART II

11 EISTEDDFOD YR URDD 2006

Councillor E W Williams declared an interest in this item.

Councillor S Roberts presented the report seeking Members' agreement to the County Council's final tranche of grant support for the Urdd Eisteddfod being

held in Ruthin between 29 May - 3 June 2006 and to agree the Council's presence at the event and associated resource requirements.

Cabinet discussed the in kind provision provided by the authority and the importance that any damage caused was rectified.

Councillor Roberts referred to the leaflet for the Eisteddfod which had arrived, but advised Members that although they had used Denbighshire in its title, it did not include our logo, because the leaflet had been produced by the Wales Tourist Board.

The Cultural Tourism and Marketing Manager explained that the leaflet was the first of a series of leaflets produced, and was not the main one. This leaflet had been produced by the Wales Tourist Board to promote the area for people visiting during Eisteddfod Week. She advised Members that the main leaflet produced by the Urdd would have Denbighshire recognition on it.

Councillor E W Williams said that the fact that Denbighshire was in the title was the important part and it did not matter that the logo was omitted.

RESOLVED that Cabinet

- [a] *approve payment of the remaining £150k grant to the Urdd in April 2006, subject to formally agreeing with the Urdd the buy back of those services required that cannot be provided in kind*
- [b] *recommend allocation of an additional sum of £30k from end of year surplus (2005/2006) to finance the agreed County Council presence and promotional activity in respect of the event*
- [c] *agree that DCC's presence and promotion at the event is as outlined in paragraph 2.2*
- [d] *recommend that the Cabinet promotes a motion at the next meeting of the WLGA's Council to call for revised funding arrangements for annual national events, where the burden of funding falls in turn on different parts of Wales, including the Urdd Eisteddfod, and that they should replicate the arrangements now agreed for the National Eisteddfod.*

12 EXTRA CARE HOUSING, PRESTATYN

Councillor P A Dobb presented the report seeking a decision on how to proceed with the development of Extra Care in Prestatyn.

A matrix was circulated to Members which looked at the risks, service delivery, and costs for the three options in Prestatyn including the Ffrith Beach. Members were advised that the Llys Nant option was the recommended option with detailed feasibility work now required.

Councillor Dobb said that she has concerns regarding the saleability of units at Llys Nant, given the nature of the site and the need to phase work around existing residents and functions. However, she did support the recommendations in the report. She advised Members that meetings with staff and family members were underway which were positive.

Cabinet discussed at length the service delivery, the overall costs, planning issues, public perception, impact on staff and existing service users and their families.

RESOLVED that Cabinet confirm the selection of the Llys Nant site for development of an extra care scheme and agree detailed feasibility work, including detailed financial appraisal, is now undertaken to enable the project to be progressed. It was further agreed that subject to the outcome of the consultation process on Prestatyn Community Hospital, discussions are held with health service colleagues about the opportunities for them to be involved in the project.

(Councillor E W Williams requested that his vote against the proposal be recorded).

13 CAPITAL PLAN

Councillor P J Marfleet presented the report for Members to note the latest projected position on the 2005/06 element of the Capital Plan and to agree to the amended funding requirements as set out in paragraphs 2.5 to 2.7 of the report.

He referred Members to the Capital Prioritisation Scheme which had been approved by Council and to the fact that as this had only just started. In order to ensure the timescale did not delay the start of some of the capital projects, he explained that he had drafted a letter to all Members seeking their support to delegate this responsibility to Cabinet to agree £3m out of the £4m.

He assured Members that at the meeting when Cabinet debates the projects, there will be an opportunity for all Members to make representations and ask questions.

RESOLVED that Members note the position of the 2005-2006 element of the Council's agreed 3 year Capital Plan and agree to the amended funding requirements as set out in paragraphs 2.5 to 2.7 of the report.

The meeting concluded at 3.15 p.m.

REPORT TO CABINET

**CABINET MEMBER: COUNCILLOR E C EDWARDS
LEAD MEMBER FOR COMMUNITIES**

DATE: 21 March 2006

SUBJECT: Beyond Area Partnerships

1 DECISION SOUGHT

- 1.1 To approve the recommendations identified in this report relating to the future support of Area Partnerships and their Steering Groups and the endorsement of future community engagement.

2 REASON FOR SEEKING DECISION

- 2.1 In January 2003 four Area Partnership Managers were appointed on fixed term contracts to ensure communities were effectively consulted during the production of the Denbighshire Community Strategy. Four Area Partnerships were constituted and their objectives are set out in Appendix 1.
- 2.2 By July 2004 the Denbighshire Community Strategy and four Area Partnership Plans had been produced and at the end of 2004, following the restructure of the Chief Executives Department a decision was made not to reappoint the Area Partnership managers.
- 2.3 Since February 2005 the Strategic Policy Unit has provided administrative support to the Area Elected Members Groups and the Area Partnership Steering Groups but the Unit does not have the resources to provide support indefinitely and this has been at the expense of other areas of work.
- 2.4 Area Partnerships can continue independently of the Council. The Council will continue to support the Area Elected Members Groups and alternative proposals for effective community engagement are recommended in this report
- 2.5 Following the formation of the partnerships, npower renewables approached Denbighshire County Council requesting use of the Rhyl and Prestatyn and Meliden Area Partnership Steering Groups to distribute the North Hoyle Community Fund. This has been an additional task for the two steering groups in the North, who with support of the Strategic Policy Unit distributed the fund last year.
- 2.6 Following consultation with Town and Community Councils it is suggested 'cluster forums' be established consisting of Chairs and Clerks who will meet with County Officers to discuss issues pertinent to that area. It is also suggested Town and Community Councils have a greater opportunity to engage with the Area Elected Member Groups through occasional joint meetings.

- 2.7 If Council agrees to the withdrawal of support for the Area Partnerships and their Steering Groups reference to the groups in the Council's Constitution will require amending to refer to Area Elected Members Groups only. An effective role for the Members' groups would be the updating and monitoring of progress against the respective Area Plan.

3 POWER TO MAKE THE DECISION

- 3.1 Section 111 of the Local Government Act 1972. Article 10 of the Constitution established the Area Partnerships and sets out their areas and functions (Appendix I refers).

4 COST IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 No cost implications. The proposed recommendations will make the most efficient use of the Strategic Policy Unit structure.

5 FINANCIAL CONTROLLER STATEMENT

The Council does not have an identified budget to provide additional support to Area Partnerships. The costs of any support would therefore have to be met from existing resources.

6 CONSULTATION CARRIED OUT

- 6.1 The Strategic Policy Unit has previously conducted one-to-one interviews with members of CET and Lead Cabinet Members in order to shape the review of the Area Partnerships.
- 6.2 A Members Seminar took place in April 2005 and discussions have taken place with Town and Community Councils, the four Area Elected Members Groups and the four Area Partnership Steering Groups. A summary of the responses are set out in Appendix 2.
- 6.3 Resources Scrutiny received a verbal report at their meeting on the 9th March 2006. Scrutiny members supported the withdrawal of support for Area Partnerships, supported the retention of Area Elected Members Groups, supported the improvement of the County Liaison Meetings, with Agendas dispatched in advance and supported further consultation with Town and Community Councils as to who should be invited to the Cluster meetings and ensure that the framework for these meetings is flexible.

7 IMPLICATIONS ON OTHER POLICY AREAS INCLUDING CORPORATE

- 7.1 Wider consultation with the community and in particular formal engagement with Town and Community Councils will influence and impact on all policy areas.

8 ACTION PLAN

Action	Lead Member/Officer	Deadline
Report to Council recommending removal of Area Partnerships from Constitution and recommendations in 9.0	Cllr Elwyn Edwards	4 April 2006
Formal response to Area Partnerships	Janette Williams	30 April 2006
Annual Programme and Agenda for Cluster meetings with Town and Community Councils agreed	Cllr Elwyn Edwards	30 June 2006

9 RECOMMENDATIONS

That Cabinet agree and recommend to Council on the 4 April 2006 the following:-

- 9.1 That the Authority ceases to provide officer support from the Strategic Policy Unit to the Area Partnerships, their forums and Steering Groups.
- 9.2 That the reference to Area Partnerships in the Council's Constitution is amended to refer to Area Elected Members Groups and these Members' groups adopt the role of monitoring progress against the respective Area Plans.
- 9.3 The Strategic Policy Unit establishes 'cluster meetings' with Town and Community Councils to discuss service delivery and act as an interface with Clerks and Chairs.
- 9.4 The Area Elected Members Groups engage with Town and Community Councils to discuss service delivery with support of the Strategic Policy Unit at regular intervals as determined by the Elected Members Groups.

COUNCIL CONSTITUTION ARTICLE 10 – AREA PARTNERSHIPS

10.1 Area Partnerships

There shall be four advisory Area Partnerships covering between them the whole area of the County. There shall be a partnership for Rhyl, Prestatyn, Central Denbighshire, and Ruthin and the Dee Valley, the areas of each partnership being defined in the following table:

	COMMUNITIES
RHYL	Rhyl
PRESTATYN	Prestatyn & Meliden
CENTRAL DENBIGHSHIRE	Aberwheeler Bodelwyddan Bodfari Cefn Meiriadog Cwm Denbigh Dyserth Henllan Llandyrnog Llanrhaeadr yng Nginmeirch Nantglyn Rhuddlan St. Asaph Trefnant Tremeirchion Waen
RUTHIN AND THE DEE VALLEY	The Communities not listed above

10.2 Membership

Councillors for a ward which lies wholly or partly in the area of an Area Partnership shall be entitled to be members of that Partnership. In addition, if a Cabinet Member has a portfolio for an area but does not represent a ward which lies wholly or partly in that area, he or she shall be entitled to be a member of that Area Partnership.

10.3 Functions of Area Partnerships

- To provide consultation and feedback mechanisms for the Council and its partners
- To help plan service delivery
- To assist with service provision and service performance reviews.
- To develop with the community local regeneration strategies.
- To provide the basis for local area representation on any strategic partnership established under the Denbighshire Community Strategy.
- With the community to review progress of the local area regeneration strategy. To oversee the coordination of the community strategy as it impacts on the local area.
- To provide evidence to Policy Review and Scrutiny Committees on the operation of the Community Strategy in their area.

Consultation response

Town and Community Councils

Two seminars were held in September 2005 and the majority of Councils welcomed the opportunity of attending 'cluster' meetings with County Officers and additional County Liaison Meetings with the Leader and Chief Executive. The Councils also endorsed greater liaison with the Area Elected Members Group.

Area Elected Members Groups

South Area Members Group – Agreed at its meeting on 11 Jan 2006 to the recommendations in this report.

Central Area Members Group – At its meeting on the 16th January 2006, the group agreed to the recommendations in the report.

Rhyl Area Members Group – At its meeting on 25th January 2006, the County Council members expressed concern at the proposal to remove the officer support to the Steering Group and to removal of references to Area Partnerships in the Council Constitution. Members asked that alternative support structures are identified to ensure that a representative forum of some kind is facilitated to ensure communication and co-ordination of various sectors' input to regeneration in Rhyl. The other alternatives proposed are not considered appropriate for Rhyl. In respect of the future of the North Hoyle Community Fund County Council Members agreed to undertake the distribution of the Fund if requested to do so by *npower renewables*.

Prestatyn and Meliden Area Members Group – Agreed at its meeting on 18 Jan 2006 to the recommendations in this report. In respect of the future of the North Hoyle Community Fund Members agreed to undertake the distribution of the Fund if requested to do so by *npower renewables*.

Area Partnership Steering Groups

South Area Partnership Steering Group – At its meeting on 13 January 2006 the Steering Group were disappointed that the County Council was proposing to withdraw support. It accepted the inevitable consequence that the South Area Partnership would cease and hoped that the good work undertaken would continue as a foundation for community engagement. It endorsed future meetings between the County and Town and Community Councils

Central Area Partnership Steering Group – At its meeting on 13 January 2006 the Steering Group expressed its disappointment at the proposals to withdraw support for the Partnership however accepted that it would as a consequence cease to exist. The Steering Group asked that the achievements of the Group were made known and endorsed future channels of community engagement.

Rhyl Area Partnership Steering Group — At its meeting on 9 February 2006 the Group expressed its disappointment at the proposal to withdraw officer support for the Steering Group especially since the sector forums in Rhyl have continued to meet and sustaining themselves independent of support from the Strategic Policy Unit. The Steering Group decided that it too would continue to exist without the support of the Strategic Policy Unit and expect the Authority to continue to recognise the Steering Group as a representative consultative body. Rhyl Steering Group will be entering into discussions with the Prestatyn and Meliden Steering Group to consider joint working. The Group also decided that it would wish to continue to distribute the North Hoyle Community Fund and would approach npower-renewables accordingly.

Prestatyn and Meliden Area Partnership Steering Group – At its meeting on 16 February 2006 the Group expressed its disappointment at the proposal to withdraw support and felt that the County were making an error of judgement and would regret the decision. The Steering Group decided that it would continue to exist without the support of the Strategic Policy Unit and would enter into discussions with the Rhyl Steering Group to consider joint working. The Group also decided that it would wish to continue to distribute the North Hoyle Community Fund and would approach npower-renewables accordingly.

REPORT TO CABINET

CABINET MEMBER: Councillor Pauline Dobb - Cabinet Lead Member for Health and Wellbeing

DATE: 21 March 2006

SUBJECT: Housing Revenue Account Budget 2005/2006

1 DECISIONS SOUGHT

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

(b) For Cabinet to approve an extension to the current Central Heating contract of two years in line with Contract Procedure Rules.

2 REASON FOR SEEKING DECISIONS

HRA Budget Report

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

Central Heating Contract Extension

The Council is working toward achieving Welsh Housing Quality Standards by 2012. Part of achieving the Standards requires a significant investment in central heating system installations and replacements. The current contract was let with an option to extend for up to 2 years if performance was satisfactory.

Contract Procedure Rule 10.1 (Exemptions from Tendering) states:

Where an exemption is sought by a Responsible Officer in respect of obtaining quotations or tendering (CPR 15-23), the report shall, in addition to the requirements of CPR 9.2, justify the use of an alternative method of contractor selection so that propriety, value for money and compliance with EU and domestic legislation can be demonstrated, and shall include one or more of the following reasons:

(d) that new works or services are required which are a repetition of works or services carried out under the original contract (provided in the case of EU contracts they are required within three years of the original contract and the contract notice stated that a new contract might be awarded by negotiation);

3 POWER TO MAKE THE DECISION

(a) Housing Act 1985, Part II.

(b) Denbighshire County Council Financial Regulations – Contract Procedure Rules (CPR 10.1(d)).

4 COST IMPLICATIONS

HRA Budget Report

The projections undertaken at the end of February 2006 show a potential net under-spend at year end of £268k (Appendix 1) against the revised budget. This is an increase of £35k in the projected under spend to that reported at the end of January. The main reason for the change is a reduction in the forecast expenditure on repairs and maintenance of £45k. 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.

Vacancy savings within the Rents Section are partially offset by additional agency staff costs and the other additional costs reported above within Supervision and Management [General].

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 £161k (1.9%) higher than revised estimate. This is due to reduced voids and higher dwelling numbers (RTB sales lower than forecast).

Progress against the HRA capital plan is included as Appendix 2. Work is ongoing on all schemes and expenditure to date is £5.807m. The major elements are as follows:

- Some final account payments (on works pre 2005/06) are higher than originally estimated and the forecast is £278k higher than revised estimate.
- Environmental improvements expenditure is lower than planned because of the concentration of effort on the major improvements programme.
- The £1m slippage on major improvements is due to the work starting later than originally scheduled – this slippage, however, will be spent within the early part of the next financial year.
- The expenditure on Disabled Facilities Grants is £240k, however that charge to the HRA is agreed at £100k and this is on target.
- The current year under spend on the windows contract is due to the contract starting later than planned.
- As the central heating contract has progressed, less houses than planned have required a full replacement, hence the contract performance is better than expected.

The current year slippage will be carried forward to 2006/07. The carry-forward is wholly contained within the HRA and does not impact on the council's capital position, nor will it adversely impact upon the Housing Stock Business Plan (HSBP).

Central Heating Contract Extension

The current contract has proved generally satisfactory and an extension is allowed for in the particular rules that were included in the original tender specification and contract award. The current contract extension will result in the following expenditure, which is allowed for in the HSBP:

- 2006/07 400 Properties x £2,500 per property = £1,000k
- 2007/08 700 Properties x £2,500 per property = £1,750k

5 FINANCIAL CONTROLLER STATEMENT

HRA Budget

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.

Central Heating Contract Extension

The central heating contract extension complies with Financial Regulations and the expenditure is allowed for within the HSBP. The cost of the contract must be closely monitored to ensure there is no adverse affect on the achievement of the HSBP.

6 CONSULTATION CARRIED OUT

Lead Cabinet Members have consulted with the Head of Service to monitor the H.R.A. during 2005/06.

The central heating contract extension has been discussed with the Improvements Sub-group which includes members of the Tenant's Federation.

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 RECOMMENDATIONS

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

To award the contract extension for 2 years as per the original contract, in compliance with CPR 10.1(d).

Housing Revenue Account ~ 2005/06 Month 11

<u>2004/05</u>		<u>2005/06</u>		
Actual		Revised	Forecast	Variance
£		Budget	Out-turn	to
		£	£	Budget
				£
<u>EXPENDITURE</u>				
1,091,038	Supervision & Management - General	1,142,595	1,223,427	80,832
205,743	Supervision & Management - Special	213,009	220,900	7,891
131,906	Welfare Services	127,445	126,746	-699
0	Homelessness	0	0	0
384,881	Rents	437,328	377,209	-60,119
<u>2,174,227</u>	Repairs and Maintenance	<u>2,662,610</u>	<u>2,554,894</u>	<u>-107,716</u>
3,987,795	Total - Management and Maintenance	4,582,987	4,503,176	-79,811
57,489	Rent Rebates	28,745	28,745	0
1,071,190	Debt Charges	902,596	922,300	19,704
0	C.E.R.A.	326,216	326,216	0
2,544,045	Subsidy	2,681,622	2,691,933	10,311
-177,422	Provision for Bad Debts	50,000	0	-50,000
<u>7,483,097</u>	Total Expenditure	<u>8,572,166</u>	<u>8,472,370</u>	<u>-99,796</u>
<u>INCOME</u>				
8,319,302	Rents (net of voids)	8,378,032	8,539,619	161,587
88,733	Garages	91,088	93,680	2,592
<u>136,807</u>	Interest	<u>141,547</u>	<u>145,408</u>	<u>3,861</u>
<u>8,544,843</u>	Total Income	<u>8,610,667</u>	<u>8,778,707</u>	<u>168,040</u>
Surplus / Deficit (-) for the Year:				
735,530	General Balances	364,717	632,553	267,836
326,216	Earmarked Balances	-326,216	-326,216	0
662,070	Balance as at start of year ~ General	1,327,434	1,397,600	70,166
0	Balance as at start of year ~ Earmarked	326,216	326,216	0
1,397,600	Balance as at end of year ~ General	1,692,151	2,030,153	338,002
326,216	Balance as at end of year ~ Earmarked	0	0	0

Appendix 2

Housing Revenue Account Capital ~ 2005/06 Month 11

Project Description	Revised Estimate £	Actual and Committed £	Latest Forecast £	Variance to Estimate £
Housing Repair Work (Pre 2005/06 works)	522,000	751,529	800,000	278,000
Environmental Improvements	347,000	170,445	200,000	-147,000
Major Improvements ~ All groups	3,600,000	2,177,784	2,600,000	-1,000,000
DFG ~ Council Properties	100,000	239,521	100,000	0
Window Replacements	2,976,000	1,783,554	2,200,000	-776,000
Central Heating Contract	980,000	684,437	730,000	-250,000
Total	<u>8,525,000</u>	<u>5,807,271</u>	<u>6,630,000</u>	<u>-1,895,000</u>
Funding:				
Major Repairs Allowance	2,400,000	2,400,000	2,400,000	0
Usable Capital Receipts	2,431,000		2,226,000	-205,000
Prudential Borrowing	3,368,000		1,678,000	-1,690,000
Financed from Revenue (CERA)	326,000	326,000	326,000	0
Total	<u>8,525,000</u>	<u>2,726,000</u>	<u>6,630,000</u>	<u>-1,895,000</u>

REPORT TO CABINET

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

DATE: 21 March 2006

SUBJECT: Revenue Budget 2005 / 2006

1. DECISION SOUGHT

1.1 Members note the budget performance figures for the current financial year as detailed in the attached appendices.

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 February 2006. Corporate details are as at early March.

The appendix details a potential underspend totalling £592k (£416k underspend last report). This excludes the schools' delegated budgets. The main areas of change from the last report are:

i) **Social Services** have continued to make savings in administration and will not spend fully on vision equipment. They have also received an additional grant of £88k towards the funding requirement of the PARIS project. The PARIS project has had some delays and will slip into next year. £100k will be required to fund this slippage. In addition, Social Services continue to experience considerable uncertainty around future funding, particularly Supporting People.

ii) The forecast for **Capital Financing Charges** has improved showing £70k further underspend. This is mainly due to increased investment income.

- iii) Members agreed to allocate funds totalling £80k to the **Visioning** project and to the **Urdd Eisteddfod** for use in 2006/07. These have now been shown as earmarked funds.

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.

- 4.4 The **schools' delegated budget** had a brought forward balance available of £1,559k. During 2005/06 the latest projection is that schools will spend £617k of this. £212k will be used for planned expenditure and £405k to meet pressures in areas such as Special Education Needs, Learning Support Assistants, premises and supplies. This means that schools will carry forward balances of £942k.
- 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 It is likely there will be an overall underspend by the end of the financial year. However, the amount is still not clear. Directorates are reviewing the potential year end position to identify the implications of this on next year.
- 4.7 The underlying issues mean that 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. Without the savings on capital financing costs, the Council would be £129k overspent.

6. CONSULTATION CARRIED OUT

- 6.1 Lead Cabinet Members need to continue to consult with Corporate Directors and Heads of Service to agree necessary remedial action needed to contain expenditure.

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 budget performance figures for the current financial year as detailed in the attached appendices.

**CABINET
FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME**

REPORT TITLE	REPORT LEAD MEMBER / AUTHOR
APRIL 2006	
Revenue Budget Monitoring Report 2005-2006 [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 2005-2006</i>	Councillor P J Marfleet / R Parry
Community Capital Projects	Councillor P J Marfleet / M Dixon
Housing Revenue Account Budget <i>Sets out the latest financial forecast position of the Housing Revenue Account</i>	Councillor P A Dobb / P Quirk
Update on Corporate Improvement Assessment	Councillor P J Marfleet A Evans
Progress Against Improvement Plan Work Programme 2005/06	Councillor P J Marfleet J Williams
Alcohol Free Zones	Councillor E C Edwards J White / G Boase
Modernising Education Update	Councillor D Owens H W Griffiths
Schools Admissions Policy	Councillor D Owens H W Griffiths
Delegations to Officers	I K Hearle
Approval of Wind Farm Draft SPG	Councillor E W Williams M Pender
MAY 2006	
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
Corporate Quarterly Performance Report	Councillor P J Marfleet J Williams
Approval of LDP Preferred Strategy and Strategic Options	Councillor E W Williams M Pender
Llangollen Design Guide SPG	Councillor E W Williams M Pender
JUNE 2006	
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
Amendments to Travelling and Subsistence	Councillor P J Marfleet A Evans

REPORT TITLE	REPORT LEAD MEMBER / AUTHOR
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
Single Education Plan – to be adopted by Council July 2006	Councillor D Owens H Griffiths
JULY 2006	
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
Cefndy Healthcare	Councillor P A Dobb / N Ayling
AUGUST 2006 ~ NO MEETINGS	
SEPTEMBER 2006 ~ 1ST MEETING	
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
Corporate Quarterly Performance Report	Councillor P J Marfleet J Williams
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: Report on Work in Stage I of Consultation	Councillor D Owens H W Griffiths
SEPTEMBER 2006 ~ 2ND MEETING	
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
OCTOBER 2006	
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
Review of Capital Prioritisation	Councillor P J Marfleet

REPORT TITLE	REPORT LEAD MEMBER / AUTHOR
	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
Learning Disability Commissioning Strategy – may incorporate Review of Older People Commissioning Strategy	Councillor P A Dobb / N Ayling
NOVEMBER 2006	
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
Corporate Quarterly Performance Report	Councillor P J Marfleet J Williams
Housing Revenue Account Budget <i>Sets out the latest financial forecast position of the Housing Revenue Account</i>	Councillor P A Dobb / P Quirk
Review of Hospital Discharge Scheme	Councillor P A Dobb / N Ayling
DECEMBER 2006	
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
JANUARY 2007	
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
FEBRUARY 2007	
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
Treasury Management Strategy <i>Sets out the strategy for the coming year</i>	Councillor P J Marfleet R Parry
Corporate Quarterly Performance Report	Councillor P J Marfleet J Williams
Housing Revenue Account Budget <i>Sets out the latest financial forecast position of the Housing Revenue Account</i>	Councillor P A Dobb / P Quirk

REPORT TITLE	REPORT LEAD MEMBER / AUTHOR
MARCH 2007	
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