

CABINET

Minutes of the Cabinet meeting held in Conference Room 1, County Hall, Ruthin at 12.05 p.m. on Tuesday 19 December 2006.

PRESENT

Councillors S A Davies, Lead Member for Business, Communications and Personnel; P A Dobb, Lead Member for Health & Wellbeing; R W Hughes, Leader and Lead Member for Regeneration; M A German, Lead Member for Children and Young People; D Owens, Lead Member for Lifelong Learning; S Roberts, Lead Member for Promoting Denbighshire; G O Rowlands, Lead Member for Finance, 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; T R Hughes; M M Jones, P J Marfleet; N J Roberts; S Thomas; C H Williams and R LI Williams.

ALSO PRESENT

Chief Executive, Financial Controller and the County Clerk.

APOLOGIES

Councillor E C Edwards, Lead Member for Communities and the Deputy Chief Executive / Corporate Director: Resources.

1 URGENT MATTERS

Item 9 Revised Policy for Issuing Refuse Collection Sacks.

2 MINUTES OF THE CABINET

The Minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on 28 November 2006 were submitted.

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on 28 November 2006 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Leader.

3 REVIEW OF CAR PARKING CHARGES

The Chief Executive presented the report as Members were requested to identify in principle, the appropriate direction in respect of the charging policy. Cabinet would then be asked to make a final decision on the 20th February 2007 when information on the potential financial implications and the Council's budgetary

position would be known. He stressed the need for clarity on the way forward and referred to a previous debate on the issue. It was not good practice to have free car park spaces as this encouraged the use of cars. He referred to annex 2 to the report which had been produced after the Scrutiny Committee had been held. Members would need to justify any special treatment on car parking charges for Corwen, for example. There was no scope for introducing a lower tariff without impacting on the Council's services.

Councillor G O Rowlands confirmed that both Rhuddlan Councillors, the traders and the Community Council agreed the need to introduce charges in the Parliament Street, Rhuddlan car park. Members agreed to include Rhuddlan car park charges in the recommendation.

Councillor E W Williams said no charges had been introduced in Corwen whilst the consultation on car parking had been held and he reminded Members of the minimal onstreet parking available in the town. He felt it should be recognised that parking in the market towns should be treated differently so as not to take trade away. It was important to rejuvenate Denbighshire's market towns. He commended the work carried out by the Head of Transport and Infrastructure and his staff and the many consultation meetings held.

Councillor R W Hughes thanked officers for the information and felt she could agree with most of what the Scrutiny Committee had recommended.

Councillor E W Williams referred to Councillor G M Kensler's remarks about parking at previous meetings regarding the lack of onstreet parking and the fact that residents in many areas wanted permit parking. The Head of Transport and Infrastructure said offstreet and onstreet parking were subject to different legislation and therefore the issues must be kept separate.

Councillor P A Dobb, referring to parking costs in Ruthin, said people living in the surrounding rural area had to pay charges for a short visit to the town. She said concessions should be agreed for all Denbighshire's market towns. She referred to the staff car park at County Hall and asked whether this could be opened to the public at weekends and whether consideration should be given to charging staff for parking in the office car parks across the County, up to £20 a year. She reminded Members that the Authority was aiming for silver in the Corporate Health Standard in 2007 and car park provision for staff would not count in the Authority's favour. Councillor Dobb said more should be provided in the way of advertising of parking passes, and that advertising in County Voice was not sufficient. She suggested a couple of parking bays should be provided in Market Street, Ruthin for use with parking passes for those people with ill health who did not qualify for blue badges.

Councillor J Thompson Hill thanked the officers for their thorough work on car parking charges. He reminded Members that the Authority did not own the car

park at County Hall, Ruthin and would therefore not be able to impose charges without negotiation. With regard to the report, there was no consensus of opinion within different organisations regarding car park charges. All Members could make a case for exceptions to charges in their towns. He had concerns regarding option (b) in the Scrutiny Committee report.

Councillor M A German said it was important to encourage the use of public transport.

After further discussion, Members agreed to revise the recommendations and

RESOLVED that Members agree:

[a] the principle of users of car parks being charged for the service provided

[b] long stay tariff of 20p for first hour, 40p for second hour, 60p for third hour, 80p for fourth hour and £2.00 per day be introduced at the Green Lane car park in Corwen with 20 free car parking spaces being designated outside the Health Centre, and no charges should be introduced for Corwen's Pavilion and Station Road car parks, with similar charges being introduced at Ruthin, Denbigh and St Asaph

[c] free charging periods be not accepted

[ch] the free student parking scheme in the multi-storey car park in Denbigh be implemented on a permanent basis

[d] the current levels of tariffs be changed to reduce charges in Ruthin, Denbigh and St Asaph to the levels set for Corwen in (b) above. All other tariffs to remain unchanged

[dd] a review of the parking restrictions in Denbigh be undertaken with a view to increasing the number of free on-street, time-limited spaces available

[e] the budget provision allocated for the maintenance of the Council's car parks be increased to address some of the backlog of maintenance issues

[f] to introduce charges in Parliament Street, Rhuddlan at the same level as in (b) above

[ff] officers consider ways of publicising parking permits.

4 DENBIGHSHIRE'S OLDER PEOPLE'S COMMISSIONING STRATEGY

Councillor P A Dobb presented the report for Members to note the actions achieved in relation to Denbighshire's Older People's Commissioning Strategy Action Plan and to agree the development of the Joint Commissioning Strategy.

Members were also asked to agree and note the proposed way forward to implement the National Service Framework for Older People.

Councillor Dobb said the Authority had come a long way over the last 4 years and said the main aim was to provide preventative services and to keep people in their own homes. The Welsh Assembly Government had launched a National Service Framework, a 10 year programme to bring services up to standard. Reports on progress would be provided to Cabinet on a regular basis. She praised the Social Services Department for taking the Strategy forward and said the Department was extremely well thought of and respected by other agencies.

Councillor E W Williams congratulated Councillor Dobb and the staff on their important work. He said many elderly people were proud and did not ask for help at an early enough stage. Councillor R W Hughes agreed with Councillor Williams and said it was important for people to have a voice. Members agreed to Councillor Hughes' request to endorse the Scrutiny Committee recommendation of Councillor J R Bartley as the Denbighshire Disabilities Champion.

RESOLVED that Members note the progress of the Denbighshire Commissioning Strategy for Older People's Services Action Plan and agree the development of a Joint Commissioning Strategy. Members also agree and note the proposed way forward to implement the National Service Framework for Older People in Denbighshire. Members endorse the appointment of Councillor J R Bartley as the Denbighshire Disabilities Champion.

5 HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT BUDGET 2006-2007

Councillor P A Dobb presented the report for Members to note the latest financial forecast position of the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) (revenue and capital) for the current financial year. The outturn projection at the end of November showed a net surplus at the year end of £770k was shown against a budgeted surplus of £333k. This was an increase of £70k to the surplus at the end of October.

Councillor Dobb informed Members that capital plan environmental improvement works were being considered and tenants would be invited to participate. All sheltered accommodation was to have wiring renewed. The Authority was on track with the refurbishment programme. The business plan review was under way as the Determinations had been received.

RESOLVED that Cabinet note the latest financial forecast position [revenue and capital] of the Housing Revenue Account for the current financial year.

6 REVENUE BUDGET AND SUMMARY CAPITAL PLAN 2006-2007

Councillor G O Rowlands presented the report for Members to note the latest revenue budget performance figures for the 2006/2007 financial year as detailed in appendix 1 attached to the report. Members were also asked to note the summary capital plan performance figures for the 2006-2007 financial year as detailed in appendices 2 and 3 attached to the report.

Councillor Rowlands detailed the year-end projections on service budgets along with pressures and savings within the corporate budgets. He emphasised that the equal pay claims would lead to a significant pressure in the current year and confirmed that as HM Treasury had refused to agree to capitalise these costs, suitable provision would need to be set up which would lead to a major reduction in general balances. These would need to be rebuilt in future years through top slicing of the overall revenue funding.

Referring to the elections due in May 2007, Councillor E W Williams stressed the importance of pressing the mainstream political parties to include capitalisation provision in their manifesto. He said Council Tax could go up by 3% in order to fund single status and the electorate should be informed of the reasons why this could happen.

The Financial Controller said there was a small WAG allocation available in the current financial year for capital directions and Authorities were being invited to bid to the Assembly regarding this. The Chief Executive informed Members that the powers to issue capitalisation direction were vested solely in the Welsh Assembly Government. Councillor R W Hughes said she would discuss this at her meeting with other North Wales Leaders the following day.

***RESOLVED** that Members note the revenue budget performance figures for the current financial year as detailed in appendix 1 to the report and also note the summary capital plan performance figures for the 2006-2007 financial year as detailed in appendices 2 and 3 to the report.*

7 ROUTINE REPORTING ON PERSONNEL

Councillor S A Davies presented the latest report on staff headcount.

***RESOLVED** that Cabinet note the information in the report and the proposed Action Plan.*

8 CABINET FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

Councillor S A Davies presented the Cabinet Forward Work Programme.

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

9 URGENT ITEMS:

REVISED POLICY FOR ISSUING REFUSE COLLECTION SACKS

Councillor E W Williams presented the report seeking to confirm the Council's policy for the distribution of refuse collection sacks:

- a) All properties will receive a standard issue of one sack per week. For logistical reasons; in the south of the County the sacks will be delivered weekly by the refuse operatives, and in the north of the County they will be delivered annually via a roll.
- b) Extra (pink) bin sacks can be purchased from the One-Stop Shops at a cost of 6p each. Refuse collectors will also collect other refuse sacks, providing they are suitable for the job, i.e. providing that there are no adverse health and safety implications.
- c) The maximum number of bags collected from any individual property on a given refuse collection day will be six.
- d) Further steps will be taken to widen the opportunities available for recycling, especially in areas that are not currently on the Council's 'blue box scheme'. This will include new brings site in Bryn Eglwys, Llandegla, Pen Gwern (Llangollen), Llanrhaeadr, Rhewl and Corwen (Rhug shop on A5).

Councillor S A Davies said refuse collection was particularly important in rural areas where there were no recycling facilities and suggested perhaps £60k saved by supplying 1 bin bag could be found to fund smaller recycling areas in some villages. Councillor E W Williams said the Department was considering provision of such facilities and the Welsh Assembly Government were also supporting the initiative. The Corporate Director: Environment said some funding was available from the rural area grants for provision of recycling in rural areas.

Councillor R E Barton (Observer) asked a number of questions. In response, Councillor E W Williams said the report had not been provided earlier as it had to form part of the budgetary process and it would have been remiss not to have considered this in the list of priorities discussed at the Scrutiny Committee, Members' Forum and Directorate Budget meetings. The Corporate Director: Environment said the current policy had been in existence since Denbighshire had been formed in 1996. There were issues where some residents received more than one bin bag per household and he said a clear steer was required. He asked Councillor Barton to contact him if further information was required.

Councillor E W Williams said the Authority had improved its recycling targets over the last 4 years and were meeting its 25% target. He commended the public for their support with recycling.

RESOLVED that Cabinet approve the continuation of the policy.

At this juncture (1.15 p.m) the meeting adjourned for 15 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 20, 21 and 23 of Part 4 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

PART II

10 CAPITAL PLAN

Councillor G O Rowlands presented the report for Members to note the latest position on the 2006-2007 element of the Capital Plan.

Councillor Rowlands said work on the Scala project was progressing to plan as was the Ruthin Craft Centre project, with an application for funding being made to DEIN. Negotiations were also progressing regarding land purchase for Project Alpha. The Community Learning Centres project had to adhere to tight deadlines which required significant work.

With regard to the Office Accommodation project at Brighton Road, Rhyl, Councillor J Thompson Hill indicated that the project was on track.

The Chief Executive clarified the funding available for the following year on the Community Projects and confirmed that the scheme would continue. He said the current report asked for Members' agreement not to allocate the £330k in 2007 as the 2006 allocation had not been spent.

The Head of Development Services said monies had been allocated and there would be no more available for allocation until April 2007, after Council had taken decisions on the Capital budget. He agreed to provide an update report showing the current status of the Community Projects. Both Councillor R W Hughes and Councillor E W Williams said it was important that Community / Members Schemes were continued with.

Regarding the Members' Priority Scheme, Councillor Williams said the procedure was too cumbersome and should be simplified for the following year.

RESOLVED that Cabinet note the latest position on the 2006-2007 element of the Capital Plan. The Head of Development Services to provide an update report showing the current status of the Community Projects.

11 HEATHER AND HILLFORTS

Councillor S Roberts presented the report seeking Members' endorsement of the submission of the Stage 2 Heather and Hillforts Landscape Partnership Scheme funding application to the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF), and to agree to progress to the implementation phase of the project if the bid was successful.

Members discussed the project and agreed with Councillor E W Williams' suggestion of perhaps a 5% or 10% contribution to a project where the environment was changing. The County Archaeologist said it was hoped to research changes in the environment and that parallel projects would achieve this. She confirmed that negotiations with the graziers were ongoing.

RESOLVED that Members endorse the submission of the Stage 2 Heather and Hillforts Landscape Partnership Scheme funding application to the Heritage Lottery Fund, and to agree to progress to the implementation phase of the project if the bid is successful.

12 PEN Y PIGYN, CORWEN UPDATE

Councillor J Thompson Hill presented the report to inform Members of the slope stabilisation work at Pen y Pigyn quarry and the funding requirements in 2006-2008 to allow to completion of slope stabilisation works. Photographs of the various works were distributed at the meeting.

Councillor Thompson Hill detailed the works to date and referred Members to the photographs circulated. He agreed to provide a further update to Cabinet in February or March 2007.

RESOLVED that Cabinet note the progress on the work at Pen y Pigyn quarry and support slope stabilisation and associated works as quickly as conditions and safety permit and provide the appropriate funding.

13 CAPITAL PRIORITISATION PROCESS REVIEW

Councillor G O Rowlands presented the report for Members to recommend to Council the proposed changes to the Capital Prioritisation Progress, as detailed in paragraphs 2.10 to 2.21 of the report.

Councillor P A Dobb, referring to Appendix 2, said some of the projects listed were statutory requirements and therefore they should be scored higher.

The Chief Executive reminded Members that they were being asked to amend the current methodology and that the scores in the report were examples only. The future scoring would incorporate any changes agreed. The Corporate

Executive Team scored the projects which would then be discussed and agreed by Cabinet.

Councillor E W Williams said Members would have an opportunity to question the project scoring, if required, at Cabinet. He asked whether the projects would be considered by Cabinet at an early enough stage to be included in the budget system for project priority order.

Councillor R W Hughes welcomed the inclusion of Economic Impact into the scoring process but also expressed concerns about the scoring of community projects.

The Chief Executive reminded Members that schools and highways for example have to be provided for and if these items scored higher than some other projects, Cabinet would be able to alter the ranking following discussion.

RESOLVED that Members recommend to Council the proposed changes to the Capital Prioritisation Process as shown in paragraphs 2.10 to 2.21 of the report.

14 LIFELONG LEARNING DIRECTORATE RESTRUCTURING

The Corporate Director: Lifelong Learning presented the Restricted Circulation report in detail seeking Cabinet support for the case for additional costs associated with the Lifelong Learning Directorate Restructuring, as outlined in the report.

The Corporate Director: Lifelong Learning discussed various issues, including the need to provide a Deputy for the Corporate Director to be available to take statutory decisions in his absence. It was agreed the Corporate Executive Team would discuss whether there was a need for a Deputy Director role in other Directorates. He also discussed the timetable of events.

Following discussion on job evaluation, the Chief Executive said if some posts have managerial responsibilities, such responsibilities would have to be paid for, as would recruitment and retention allowance if appropriate.

Members were assured by the Corporate Director: Lifelong Learning that the ongoing consultation regarding school places would not be affected by the proposed restructuring. The Cambridge Education Consultants had been involved in building the restructuring process and were involved in the need to raise standards in schools.

Councillor P A Dobb expressed strong concerns and felt she could not support the report.

RESOLVED that Cabinet support for the case for additional costs associated with the Lifelong Learning Directorate Restructuring, as outlined in the report.

The meeting concluded at 3.35 p.m.

REPORT TO CABINET

CABINET MEMBER: COUNCILLOR M A GERMAN LEAD MEMBER FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

DATE: 16 January 2007

SUBJECT: Child Trust Funds

1 DECISION SOUGHT

1.1 Members agree to make additional contributions into Child Trust Funds for Denbighshire's Children who are Looked After.

2 REASON FOR SEEKING DECISION

Background

- 2.1 The Child Trust Fund (CTF) is a long-term savings and investment account for children. All children born from 1 September 2002 are eligible to receive £250 to kick start their own account. A supplementary £250 is also paid to all children as they attain age 7. For children in families eligible for Child Tax Credit or with a household income below the Child Tax Credit threshold, two additional payments of £250 are made; the first at their birth and the second when they become 7 years of age.
- 2.2 The main aim of the Child Trust Fund is to ensure that all children have a financial asset at the start of their adult life. Other aims include helping people to understand savings and investment, encouraging parents and children to develop the savings habit and building on financial education.
- 2.3 Other savings may be added voluntarily to this account, so that parents, families and friends can contribute up to a maximum £1,200 annually into the Child's Trust Fund Account. Local Authorities can also contribute similarly if they wish.
- 2.4 Parents as Child Benefit claimants receive details of the Child Trust Fund accounts and are later sent a voucher for £250 so that they can be set up an account of their choice. If a voucher is not used HM Revenues and Customs open an account on behalf of the child.
- 2.5 No tax is payable on Child Trust Funds and they are not deemed to be an element of a family's income, so do not influence any benefit applications for the family.
- 2.6 Child Trust Funds may not be withdrawn until the child becomes 18 years old. The young person is the only one who can access these funds at that time – no-one else can do this. Young people will require support and development

from their peers, mentors and from Social Services staff in order to guide them in their spending choices.

- 2.7 Where children do not have someone with a parental responsibility (i.e. on a S31 Care Order to the Council), and the local authority has a responsibility to them as Children Looked After, HM Customs and Excise open a Child Trust Fund account on behalf of that child. Parents are still able to make additional contributions if they wish, so are the Local Authority as the Corporate Parent for the child.
- 2.8 A complex system of monthly notifications is forwarded from Social Services to HM Customs and Excise, to ensure that children born after 1 September 2002, who become looked after, are informed about the appropriate person with parental responsibility. Additional information is also given to ensure that the whereabouts of a child and their family can be maintained and also of any person where it is felt to be inappropriate for them to receive information about the child or the Child Trust Fund account.
- 2.9 Carers for children leaving Local Authority (LA) care should be encouraged to take an interest in the Child Trust Fund account and to take an active role in managing and developing that account. The Child Trust Fund website has a range of information documents and fact sheets available for parents, carers and adopters.

Additional Contributions

- 2.10 The Welsh Assembly Government (WAG) is committed to improving outcomes for Children Looked After and to prepare them for independent living, so would wish to encourage Local Authorities to use their Corporate Parenting responsibilities to make additional annual contributions to the Child Trust Fund of children they look after.
- 2.11 To assist and encourage Local Authorities in this, WAG has set up arrangements from 31 May 2006, whereby it will reimburse local authorities a minimum £50 for each child looked after for whom they pay an additional Child Trust Fund annual contribution. A Child Trust Fund Reimbursement Grant application may be made on 31 May each year, to claim the LA contributions paid in the preceding financial year, into the Child Trust Fund of eligible children.
- 2.12 The Child Trust Fund Reimbursement Grant is intended to be a short-term temporary arrangement and in the longer term suggests they will scope the options for future payments to be made through Local Authority Revenue Support Grants.
- 2.13 Within Denbighshire to date, we have held parental responsibility for 12 children born after 1 September 2002, who have qualified for a Child Trust Fund. Two children from that group now have another person with parental responsibility, so there are currently only 10 children within this group. By

financial years, we recorded parental responsibility for those 12 children as follows:

- 2003/04 1
- 2004/05 3
- 2005/06 3
- 2006/07 5

- 2.14 The focus of activities within Denbighshire's Children and Family Services, is to limit periods of LA care and to seek permanence options for children at the earliest opportunity, thus we would not expect to hold responsibility for children for indefinite periods, although there will be an increase in the numbers generally as the impact of the legislation implementation date includes more children as they become eligible by their birth.
- 2.15 Access to a lump sum for any young person looked after at the age of 18 could be of great benefit to them. Improvements in learning and attainment should increase access into training and university places; young people form relationships and wish to establish their own household, marry, form a civil partnership; young people with a child of their own may wish to ensure additional child care arrangements; etc. However, work will be required to assist all Children Looked After with the development of their financial education so that they will be more able to direct any sums accrued most purposefully at this point in their lives. They will learn from their peers too, who will similarly receive access to their Child Trust Fund account at 18.
- 2.16 In conclusion, the authority can make a £50 contribution for each child on a set date [being the anniversary of their birth] for which we can receive reimbursement of that amount from WAG. Any other additional amounts would have to be met from the Council's own resources. WAG has indicated that the £50 reimbursement is a 'minimum' amount, but gives no clue as to when or if it might intend to offer a higher amount at any point in the future.
- 2.17 It is also difficult to predict the likely level of contributions that might be forthcoming from any parent, carer, family or friends during the course of any given year and it would be reasonable to expect that some encouragement should be given to families and adopters to add to these funds. This is an area that we would have to pay increasing attention to ensuring that adopters and carers have sufficient information to enable them to make greater contributions.
- 2.18 To assist members, I have prepared some scenario's utilising the Child Trust Fund calculator tool to try to give some greater understanding of the likely impact of saving for our children; they are contained in Appendix 1.
- 2.19 Information concerning other LA approaches to Child Trust Fund additional contributions in Wales is sketchy. A number of local authorities have given a commitment to make additional payments, but this may only comprise the £50 contribution from WAG – Conwy, Ceredigion, Blaenau Gwent, Swansea and Carmarthenshire. Some have indicated that they will be preparing Cabinet

papers for more detailed consideration but to date the only authority found to have given any greater formal commitment is Torfaen; who have decided to make a payment of £125, making a net contribution of £75 themselves to add to the £50 available.

- 2.20 The matter of Child Trust Funds was discussed by Scrutiny members at their recent meeting of 16 November 2006. They expressed a wish to recommend to Cabinet that the Council should pay £50 for each year for each child for whom the Council have a parental responsibility in addition to the £50 available via the WAG grant. They also recognised that there are children for whom we often have a long-term caring responsibility, but who are cared for on a voluntary basis under s20 of the Children Act 1989, rather than as a consequence of legal requirements; for these children too they wished to recommend that the Council should also make a £50 annual contribution into their Child Trust Fund account.
- 2.21 The anticipated implications of that recommendation are detailed in paragraphs 4.1 to 4.4 below
- 2.22 Scrutiny members also expressed concern about the potential for young people at age 18 to spend any accrued Child Trust Funds wisely. Naturally, Social Services Department staff will work with children, young people, their families and their foster carers to try to foster a sensible approach to saving and spending as befits the intentions established by the Government.
- 2.23 To address this, Scrutiny members asked if there might be any way in which the Council could establish some form of trust fund arrangement for which young people could apply and be granted sums for very specific purposes. In this manner they felt the Council could better ensure the wise approach to spending that they would be able to endorse.
- 2.24 Discussions with colleagues in Finance have identified that the setting, running and maintenance of trust funds is legally and financially complex. A further factor is that a substantial sum of money is actually required to be able to generate a grants pot for allocation. Trust funds are more usually gifted by a beneficiary for such a purpose and comprise a capital sum that is invested with the income used for grant purposes. The Council does not have access to such a resource, so would have to generate a capital sum over time, or generate an annual lump sum to allocate annually. In essence, to generate such a sum doesn't seem to be very feasible. In the event that any resource perhaps does become available, this proposal could be revisited.
- 2.25 As Corporate Parents wishing to set a tone for their children, it is important to foster and encourage financial planning for a child's future, especially where those children may have been at considerable disadvantage during their lives because of our statutory intervention. Savings contributions established through the early years of a child's life may later form a valued contribution to counter that period.

3 POWER TO MAKE THE DECISION

3.1. Child Trust Funds Act 2004

4 COST IMPLICATIONS

4.1 The likely financial implications based on the records of our looked after population shows that between 70 to 80 children are likely to be subject to full care orders each year and thus would be eligible for a Child Trust Fund payment to coincide with their birthday during their care period.

4.2 The financial implication to the County Council for payments, (net of the assumed £50 contribution from WAG) made to 80 children subject to a court order by the year 2020:

- £50 each year would be £4,000 (£100 into CTF)

4.3 The additional financial implications for payments being made to **all** children in our long-term care, to include the additional 40 children looked after who are accommodated voluntarily, not subject to legal proceedings, for periods in excess of 12 months, by the year 2020:

- £50 each year would be £6,000

4.4 Members are invited to consider the scenario projections at Appendix 1 to show the impact of the savings that will be accrued at age 18 based on these payments.

4.5 Resources to meet the additional payments to be made by the Council will be met from Children and Family Services and will be included within their budget plans, with a specific budget line established to enable any monitoring and reporting as required.

5 FINANCIAL CONTROLLER STATEMENT

5.1 Although the proposal has only a small financial impact for the service, a budget to fund the costs needs to be identified.

6 CONSULTATION CARRIED OUT

6.1 Discussions were held with Scrutiny members at the Social Services and Housing Scrutiny meeting on 16 November 2006 and their recommendations are at paragraph 2.20; and contact was established with all 22 Welsh Local Authorities.

7 IMPLICATIONS ON OTHER POLICY AREAS:

7.1 THE VISION

Our vision identifies a range of activities for our attention and offers support for making additional contributions to Child Trust Funds through the following statements:

- To encourage the Local Authority in conjunction with partners in the public, private and voluntary sectors to work together to eliminate deprivation
- To safeguard vulnerable children and adults, promoting their independence and ensuring that everyone is able to realise their potential

7.2 OTHER POLICY AREAS INCLUDING CORPORATE

8 ACTION PLAN

- 8.1 Finance would be asked to manage and control Child Trust Fund payments on behalf of the Local Authority and to claim any Grant payments available from any relevant sources, on an annual basis. Implementation of these payments would be backdated to 01.09.2002 for those children remaining in our care.

9 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 9.1 Members are asked to agree to make additional contributions into Child Trust Funds for Denbighshire's Children who are Looked After; to approve the proposals detailed in the report at 2.20. The financial overall impact is anticipated to be reasonably limited as indicated in Section 4 – Cost Implications, to achieve the maximum by 2020. Given the high level of attention being paid by Children and Family Services to limiting placement periods and planning for permanence coupled with the fact that Child Trust Funds are likely to continue to attract some additional subsidy from the WAG for a period, Members are invited to consider making an annual payment of £50 for each Child Looked After and to access the £50 WAG grant for each eligible child per year, which will also be paid into their existing Child Trust Fund savings account.
- 9.2 The financial impacts may not be immense for a young person who remains in LA care for an extended period, but it would give them some access to a resource which may reduce the necessity for them to take on expensive loans for items or events which cannot be provided otherwise.
- 9.3 Children and Young People should be encouraged to develop a savings habit. Children who become looked after do not have the same levels of parental support available to them to lead and guide their savings habit, so the Local Authority should set that standard whenever they have to act as the Corporate Parent.

Appendix 1

The scenarios below reflect instances that usually happen in relation to our work with children. These are not exceptional instances, but regular occurrences.

Scenario 1

New Born Child who is looked after until age 2 at which time they are adopted.

Contributions:

- Government Birth contribution - £500
- 2 X £50 annual payments whilst looked after

- Assume Government contribution at age 7 of £250
- Assume additional savings made into the Child Trust Fund account of £600 per year once adopted

Total at Age 18 = £13,380

Enhancements:

- a) If Denbighshire pays an additional £50 (total £100) per year during the course of the child being looked after and the adopter/child/family make payments at the rate of £600 per year, the sum available at age 18 would be £13,730

See table below to reflect options as detailed in Scenario 1:

	Birth	LAC period	Age 7	Annual savings	Total at 18
1	£500	£100 (2x50)	£250	£600	£13,380
2	£500	£200 (2x100)	£250	£600	£13,730

Scenario 2

A child who becomes looked after at age 5 and remains in our care until aged 18

Contributions:

- Government Birth contribution - £500
- Government age 7 Contribution - £500

- Assume LA annual contributions 13 x £50 (WAG grant only)

Total at Age 18 = £2,370

Enhancements:

- a) If Denbighshire pays an additional £50 (total £100) per year during the course of the child being looked after, the sum available at age 18 would be £3,200

See table below to reflect options as detailed in Scenario 2:

	Birth	Age 7	Annual payments	Total at 18
1	£500	£500	£50	£2,370
2	£500	£500	£100	£3,200

The sums in scenario 2 are significantly lower based on the assumption that additional savings may not be made by the child or their family. The Local Authority would wish to encourage the development of the saver habit to boost the sum available at age 18.

Scenario 3

A child who is not subject to a legal order, but is admitted into voluntary care. Such children may spend some significant periods in care because of family ill-health or the child may have a disability or exhibit behaviours that makes their care more challenging. These children may spend time in foster care, even periods in residential care. Through these periods the parental responsibility will have remained with the family throughout. Such children will not be eligible for WAG grant payments, but will experience significant disadvantage along with lack of family support.

Contributions:

- Government Birth contribution - £250
- Government age 7 Contribution - £500

- Assume LA annual contributions 10 x £50

Total at Age 18 = £1,720

See table below to reflect options as detailed in Scenario 3:

	Birth	Age 7	Annual payments	Total at 18
1	£500	£500	£50	£1,720

REPORT TO CABINET

CABINET MEMBER : Councillor Gareth Rowlands, Lead Member for Finance

DATE : 16 January 2007

SUBJECT : BUDGET FOR 2007-08 TO 2009-2010

1. DECISION SOUGHT

For Cabinet

- 1.1 to discuss 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 committees 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 30 January 2007 with a view to making its recommendations to Council.

2. REASON FOR SEEKING DECISION

- 2.1 The Assembly announced the final settlement details for 2007/8 on 20 December. Total funding for revenue purposes is £125.355m. This is a decrease of £309k from the provisional settlement largely as a result of the transfer from the revenue settlement of funding for fire-fighters' pensions. However it still represents an increase of 4.7% over the current year's adjusted funding; this is the highest increase in North Wales and ahead of the Welsh average of 4.4%.
- 2.2 The final settlement involves new specific grants for schools totalling £11.6m for Wales in respect of energy costs and improvement in attainment. The Welsh Assembly Government has not yet confirmed the figure for Denbighshire. WAG has reduced the efficiency assumption for schools that is built into the revenue settlement from 1% to 0.3%.
- 2.3 For 2007-08 we will be required to publish our total education budget compared to the education element of the standard spending assessment and explain any difference between the two figures. It is not possible to finalise this aspect until we have decided the final treatment of funding for pressures and bids.
- 2.4 Directorates have identified a number of service pressures that they wish to have considered for additional funding. These totalled nearly £2.9m and are detailed in appendix 2.

3. Process and context

- 3.1 The exercise so far has included 2 rounds of meetings with Lead Cabinet Members, Scrutiny Committee representatives and Directorate officials to consider pressures likely to be encountered by services next financial year together with savings proposals to a) meet WAG efficiency savings targets and b) provide members with options for supporting pressures. WAG published their provisional settlement details between these meeting rounds. The opportunity was taken also to hold an away day and evening seminar for all members to update them on the budget setting progress and seek feedback on several issues. In addition I have met representatives of town and community councils.
- 3.2 We are in a period of lower levels of growth in public spending. Resources will become much tighter even though the pressures facing councils are not slowing (such as the increasing number of elderly people, costs of educating and supporting disabled young people, energy costs and so on). The outcome of the Comprehensive Spending Review will be known in July 2007 but the pre-budget report reveals that public spending will grow at an average of 1.9% a year above inflation in the period 2008-2012, compared to growth of about 5% a year in the previous period. A new annual efficiency target for the civil service and local government in England has been set at 3%. This is bound to impact on the overall level of the Assembly's budget, and within that the level of grant for local government services in Wales.

Equal pay ("single status")

- 4.1 A very significant, immediate challenge is the financial consequences of implementing the single status agreement of 1997. These have accelerated beyond previous estimates as a result of settlements elsewhere and, in particular, of precedents set by court cases. The most recent of these has the effect that, if protection is paid to groups of male workers whose salaries fall as a result of job evaluation, groups of female staff may be eligible to receive additional payments over and above their evaluated salaries so that they are in the same overall financial position as the men. This was not expected or built into our earlier projections and would represent an unavoidable requirement to increase revenue spending so long as any protection arrangements are in place.
- 4.2 The estimated cost across Wales is £300 million and runs into millions of pounds locally: the actual figure will depend on what deal is negotiated on compensation and therefore cannot be precisely estimated at this point. The failure by the Welsh Assembly Government thus far to agree to capitalise the significant one off costs of compensation and back pay for groups of female staff is a further concern.
- 4.3 The overall estimated cost of one-off costs and ongoing costs is significant and will undoubtedly be a major factor impacting on the revenue budget for 2007-08 and later years. We cannot give final estimates because negotiations with the unions are stalled as the development of a national framework for Wales is awaited: this is being negotiated by the WLGA. This report deliberately does not give precise figures because that might reveal elements of our negotiating

stance to the unions: however a breakdown of how it is proposed that we should fund the package depending on the overall figures is in the confidential appendix 4 (Part II).

- 4.4 In line with the council's decision on 19 September we will continue to negotiate with the unions to secure a deal at the lowest cost to the council. Part of that should involve changes to terms and conditions, as envisaged in the 1997 agreement, to help meet the cost of the overall package. There has to be realism on all sides. If the deal goes beyond what we can afford to provide in the budget, the only consequence will be job cuts and potentially adverse impacts on services. I am not proposing that we should fund the costs simply by increasing council tax: I do not believe it to be politically attractive that council tax should be increased significantly in effect to give money to staff although we have to make an appropriate and prudent level of provision within our overall budget.
- 4.5 Of the £2.3m that it is presently proposed to allocate from next year's budget for single status, over half arises because of the Assembly Government's stance on capitalisation- it is important that members and the public understand this and the impact that WAG's approach has on resources available for investment in services and prudential borrowing and on the level of council tax.

Efficiency

5.1 Against this backdrop, efficiency must remain a central plank of our approach to everything that we do, including the budget-setting process. The Cabinet has commissioned three pieces of work which will be implemented during 2007 and will shape processes, services and how we use our office accommodation:

- 5.1.1 a project to reform support services within the council (ICT, finance, personnel, etc.) including introduction of shared services across the council where appropriate as a precursor to possible collaboration in these areas with other bodies;
- 5.1.2 reduction in office building occupancy through flexible working arrangements such as home and mobile working, hot desking, open plan offices – underpinning with new personnel policies and investment in ICT infrastructure is likely to be key to success;
- 5.1.3 increasing staff productivity through improved absence and performance management. This involves implementation of the new absence management framework from January 2007, underpinned by council, directorate and service targets for improvement and monthly reporting of performance to Cabinet. The performance management framework was implemented in April 2006 and is now being reviewed in the light of the first 6 months' experience, with changes to be implemented in April 2007.

5.2 The budget proposals respond to the efficiency agenda as follows:

- 5.2.1 efficiency savings of nearly £1.8 million across directorates representing a total of about 1.5% which exceeds the 1% saving built into the revenue settlement by the Assembly Government;
- 5.2.2 all services have been required to find deliverable efficiency savings of a minimum of 1%, with the exception of schools delegated budgets which are expected to find 0.3% savings in line with the Assembly's budget decision. The Schools Budget Forum accept that schools should produce efficiency statements to demonstrate that they are changing how they work as all other services have to do.
- 5.2.3 provision of £125k core funding for 3D within Development Services and expanding the capital feasibility pot by £50k in order to reduce unnecessary bureaucracy and improve forward planning and costing of capital projects;
- 5.2.4 it is also intended to complete in the first half of 2007 a review of the expenditure, funding and income in the following areas: Schools Transport, Schools Meals, increasing income from tourism and cultural facilities (including shared services such as marketing) and translation.
- 5.2.5 It had been hoped to expand the funding pot for efficiency and collaboration projects above its current level of £200k. This will not now be possible. This means that, in order to expand resources to underpin the specific projects mentioned earlier, projects will now be required to repay to the central pot an element of savings at least equivalent to the original "investment".

Council Tax

- 6.1 The focus on efficiency is essential if we are to deliver the Council's strategy of low council tax increases in 2007-08 and 2008-09. The Council agreed in February to aim for 2% in each year. The issue of Single Status and Equal Pay costs are making the delivery of a 2% increase impossible without identifying significant service reductions if we are to meet the pressures and bids in full.
- 6.2 The table in appendix 1 therefore illustrates the impact of three different levels of council tax increase. All of them involve:
 - 6.2.1 passporting in full additional funding for specific pressures that is identified and included in the general settlement, in line with our past practice;
 - 6.2.2 making full provision for inflation costs including wage increases. The detailed assumptions include 2.5% for salaries, increases in line with contractual arrangements for energy and fuel, 5% for transport contracts and 2% for other goods and services;
 - 6.2.3 the provision for single status and efficiency savings mentioned earlier. The key variable here is whether the provision for single status might be decreased or increased as a result of a negotiated settlement and the position on capitalisation. If the cost of single status increased, it would reduce the resources available for meeting pressures and bids.

- 6.3 On the basis of the present figures at a council tax increase of 5%, we would be able to meet in full all the service pressures and bids set out in appendix 2.
- 6.4 At a council tax increase of 3.5% - lower than the 3.6% increase in state pensions from April 2007 - we would have to trim back the funding allocated for pressures by £476k. It is essential that scrutiny committees identify which of the bids would be scaled back or not met at all in these circumstances. One of the issues that would have to be addressed, for example, is whether we should reduce the £470k bid for school improvement to reflect that secondary schools will receive approximately £150k (estimate) from the new specific grant for improving attainment.
- 6.5 At a council tax increase of 2%, we would have to trim back the funding allocated for pressures by £966k. Again the views of scrutiny committees will be required.
- 6.6 My consensual approach towards the budget therefore leaves scope for members to choose a council tax increase higher than our current strategy, in line with views expressed in the informal seminar on the budget. The bulk of members who gave a view indicated that they supported an increase of 2.5% or 3%. W
- 6.7 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.

The Council's Priorities and Prudential Borrowing

7.1 After mandatory and unavoidable requirements, such as health and safety, are addressed, the Council's policy is to ensure that resources are allocated to the Council's priorities of school buildings, highways and public realm. The first two are capital items and therefore current proposals include £350k funding for prudential borrowing of £4m as follows:

- a) school buildings : £1m in 2007-08. A report to Asset Management Committee on 24 October identified a requirement in 2007-08 of a little over £3m, but current capacity issues suggest a lower figure is more deliverable in year. There are substantial blocks already part of the capital plan which means that the total investment would be about £3m – in addition about £9m expenditure is planned on specific schools projects;
- (b) health and safety issues £0.5m, as identified in the report to the Asset Management Committee.
- (c) highways, including car parks : £2m in 2007-08 with similar planned allocations in later years.
- (d) an allocation for continuing the members' capital pot into 2007-08 : while the expenditure would not, in all cases, accord fully with our Council's priorities it is proposed to retain the pot at the level of £500k or £10k per Member at a

revenue cost of £50k. However we must simplify administration and members will need clear guidance in advance on the cost of standard projects (e.g. replacing a lamppost or resurfacing 100m of footpath) so that they submit realistic projects.

7.2 It is not proposed to allocate resources for the community projects capital block in 2007-08. As noted in the capital plan reported to Cabinet on 19 December there are £150k of unallocated resources being carried over from 2006-07 and more may be released if existing project commitments do not materialise. Capital bids will be assessed against the revised prioritisation criteria with a report on the recommended plan for the next 3 years presented to the Council's meeting on 27 February.

8. POWER TO MAKE DECISION

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

9. COST IMPLICATIONS

There are no cost implications arising directly from this report.

This report is however an integral part of preparing the budget for 2007/08 and the 2 subsequent years.

10. 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, Scrutiny chairs and officers. The process now moves on to involve Scrutiny Committees formally.

11. CONSULTATION CARRIED OUT

These initial proposals have been subject to consultation and discussion with a range of members as noted in paragraph 3.1.

12. 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 2007/08 and indicative budgets for the following 2 years as required by the Prudential Code.

Funding to meet mandatory requirements and the council's priorities are included in the proposals.

13. ACTION PLAN

Action	By whom	By when
Papers to be prepared	Corporate Directors /	One week prior to

for Scrutiny Committees	Finance teams	Scrutiny meetings
Scrutiny Committees to review proposals	Scrutiny Committees	Before the Cabinet meeting on 30 th January
Cabinet to finalise budget proposals	Cabinet Members / Chief Executive and Directors	30 th January 2007
Council to review budget		13 th February 2007
Council to agree final budget		27 th February 2007

14. RECOMMENDATIONS

For Cabinet

14.1 to discuss the current budget proposals as outlined in appendices 1 to 4

14.2 to seek the views of scrutiny committees on the budget bids and proposed efficiencies relating to their directorate; for the committees to advise Cabinet of any proposed amendments, with an indication of priorities

14.3 to ask Resources Scrutiny in addition to consider the overall proposals

14.4 to reconsider the budget at its meeting on 30 January 2007 with a view to making its recommendations to Council.

APPENDIX 1

REVENUE BUDGET 2007/8

FUNDING – (SUBJECT TO FINAL SETTLEMENT)

Provisional WAG funding, increase of 4.7%,
Possible Special grant to exempt schools from efficiency savings
Council Tax,
- increase in Tax Base
Deprivation grant (note, LABGI ignored at this stage as too volatile)

ASSUMED INCREASE IN COUNCIL TAX

	+2%	+3.5%	+5%
	£000	£000	£000
	125,355	125,355	125,355
	0	0	0
	32,840	33,320	33,800
	410	420	420
	169	169	169
Total funding	<u>158,774</u>	<u>159,264</u>	<u>159,744</u>

BUDGET REQUIREMENT

Current DCC base budget (ex LABGI impact & net of one year special funding to address performance issues in Secondary Schools at KS3 and plus full year effect of HR staffing review £44k)
inflation requirement
full year effect of increased Teacher's Pension costs

	151,302	151,302	151,302
	4,027	4,027	4,027
	180	180	180

actual elements in settlement for specific service pressures, assume passported;

Social Care	487	487	487
SEN	195	195	195
Landfill tax	109	109	109
Other - schools councils	15	15	15
- EU food hygiene legislation	6	6	6

transfers into settlement from specific grants,

Smoke free legislation	41	41	41
Children first	448	448	448
Service Principles & Service Responses	99	99	99
Mental Capabilities Act	7	7	7
Electoral duties	40	40	40
less service savings potentially deliverable	-1,802	-1,802	-1,802
passporting of WAG efficiency saving for schools 0.3%	-100	-100	-100
capitalization of revenue maintenance costs	-300	-300	-300
procurement savings	-150	-150	-150

TOTAL

	<u>154,604</u>	<u>154,604</u>	<u>154,604</u>
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Balance of funding available to finance pressures	4,170	4,660	5,140
<u>Pressures</u>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • minimum contribution to rebuild balances/reserves assuming need to establish a specific provision for Equal Pay back dated costs, contribution from revenue to Back Pay costs and impact of Equal Pay on pay protection costs 	2,300	2,300	2,300
<u>Bids</u>			
LLL	1,209	1,209	1,209
Environment	383	383	383
Social Services	590	590	590
Resources	0	0	0
County Clerks	75	75	75
Corporate	229	229	229
£4m Prudential Borrowing, AMC report,Highways bids, Members pot	350	350	350
Total	<u>5,136</u>	<u>5,136</u>	<u>5,136</u>
Further Savings/bids reductions to be identified	966	476	0

Budget Pressures and Bids 2007/8

Budget Pressure/Service Improvement Bids

Number (Each Directorate's bids are in priority order as decided by Directorate)	Short Description / reason for pressure /bid e.g statutory, demographic change, policy decision	Impact / risk	Amount £000
	COUNTY CLERKS		
1	2 x PO3 posts – Corporate Governance/High Level Contracts – no longer efficient or cost effective for Ian Hearle and Jane Kennedy to carry all of this workload due to other democratic and managerial pressures. Lifelong Learning/Social Services – continued expansion of work for all disciplines particularly exclusion appeals, guidance for governors, reduction in childcare cases not materialising and increased duties in respect of vulnerable adults.	Impact - will provide a specific individual to carry out this work and build up new expertise and provide some succession planning particularly for Corporate Governance. Risk – high level work overlooked, deadlines not met. Impact – will speed up provision of legal support for critical areas. Risk – failure of the Council in its statutory duty in “high visibility” areas.	£88k
2	1 x Sc3 post – primarily to process increase in Highways Traffic Orders and supporting administrative work.	Impact – will assist speed up process and free up time for high fee-earners to do more cost effective work. Risk – backlog of work and inefficient use of staff.	£21k
3	Funding shortfall following completion of Voluntary Land Registration Project necessary to provide additional support in respect of land/property matters in both the Planning/Highways and conveyancing teams.	Impact – will maintain the momentum gained in property matters and maximise the benefits of the registration process.	£20k
4	Operational overheads - Publications Practising Certificates, postages etc.		£21k
Adjustment	Contributions to be sought from Social Services & Housing and Environment Directorate's increased funding/income		-75k
		County Clerks Total	75k

	LIFELONG LEARNING		£000
5	Schools' Revenue Budgets As per HWG presentation	High Risk - Serious implications, reduction in staff, larger classes, not compliant with statutory guidance on class sizes at KS1 & KS2. Possible withdrawal of WAG grant	721k
6	Countryside Sites Maintenance 22 managed countryside sites with minimum 500,000 + visitors pa. Inadequate existing maintenance budget of £1.5k. H&S risk assessments of sites have identified a need for significant further investment and continual maintenance.	High risk. Essential health and safety/maintenance works to reduce risk of claims, etc	25k
7	CRB Checks Statutory service The introduction of a new Corporate Criminal Records Check policy in April this year now requires CRB checks <i>"to be repeated every three years for all those posts for which checks are mandatory, and at election or appointment for all council members and school governors"</i> .		30k
8	Servicing and Inspection of Equipment Required on Health and Safety grounds as confirmed by Corporate Health and Safety Adviser: Scale 2 post plus travel	Identified risk from Corporate H&S. Legislative timetable may not be compiled with. HSE may intervene	21k
9	Tourism Strategy / DMS Programme Due to the transfer of responsibilities for the tourism and Visitor Economy Agenda there is a need to review, update and implement a new Tourism Strategy. The Strategy Review will need to be robust and far reaching as it will determine the ability of Denbighshire to draw down funding from the new EU Convergence Funding process as the current Objective 1 programme which underpins the County's Support for the Trade and Tourism Economy finishes in Dec 2006. If not	Without a full strategy review DCC and its tourism stakeholders cannot plan a cost effective action plan to grow the tourism economy and will not be able to access regional, national, EU and private sector joint funding and potential major inward investment capital will be lost to areas with fit for purpose tourism strategies. If there is no DMS investment programme the current network of TICs will continue to	40k

	addressed immediately this will impact particularly on and slow down the Rhyl regeneration process and the prosperity of the vulnerable county rural economy.	depreciate, will serve fewer customers and will invalidate the tourism action plan	
10	Ruthin Craft Centre Need to provide e base budget to a level which matches ACW expectations, which will secure £60k + extra ACW revenue grant each year towards the additional cost of running the new centre, and transitional costs in 2007-08 whilst redevelopment of the Craft Centre is underway (eg avoiding redundancies, compensation for income lost, etc).	Additional funding required to secure ACW grant support whilst the facility is closed	5k (25k 2008/09)
11	Scala Charitable Company Set up costs for the proposed new locally based not for profit charitable company that is to be established to operate the new Scala. If Council agree that the project is to proceed, work will commence on site in early 2007 and open during 2008. Set up costs during 2007-08 include the Council's legal costs and a part grant to the new body to facilitate its own work in advance of opening.	Bid reduced on instruction from Resources; possible future savings at Ffrith to be reallocated to the Scala. High risk of underfunding if Ffrith project fails again. Full £40k Scala funding essential in 2007-08 to cover costs of setting up new charitable company	5k (25k 2008/09)
12	School & College Transport Despite a reduction in the number of operating days in 2007/08 to 182 days, the cost of education transport is projected to increase by £118k. This is based on the average percentage increase in daily prices in the last 3 years in excess of inflation at 5%. 50% of SEN Transport contracts are to be re-tendered in February 2007 along with 25% of mainstream contracts	Insufficient to meet tender round predicted increases which may be even higher. Potential pressure for 2007-08	100k
13	Tim Data Changes in the income sources available to supplement the core budget. Only 2 out of 7 posts covered by core budget.	Continued dependency on grants. Reduction in service resulting in delay in providing statistical data to WAG and other DCC departments	60k
14	School Meals Operating at a deficit	Funding either available for cashless system or to support Environment if capitalised. Review to be carried out with Finance support to Task & Finish Group	70k

15	<p>National Pay Agreement Effect of changes in the national pay agreement of staff.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Soulbury staff conditions of service including the additional allowances - SPAs. ((Education Officers) 2. ESW staff uplifted to Social Workers pay scale 3. Central Advisory Staff – Restructuring Proposals. (Education Advisers) <p>JNC conditions of service (Youth Service)</p>	Failure to meet Employers statutory obligations will result in union activity against the local authority	50k
16	<p>Local Decision to redirect Grant Funding Change in direction of Community Safety Grant away from Youth Support Services. Unable to sustain the Detached/Street Youth worker posts. Re – direction of Cymorth Grant meant loss of 3 full time school youth worker posts. ‘Domino effect’ impact on overall Youth Services’ structures – unable to sustain the Rhuddlan Young People’s Information Shop. This facility will close in 2007 and the needs of the target group of 567 young people will not be met.</p>	Failure to maintain the current service will result in less provision for young people. Inability to deliver on key aspects of the Estyn YPP Post Inspection Action Plan.	10k
17	Phased increase in investment in the Library Book Fund Level to meet National Library Standards of Wales.	<p>IMPACT is an ever growing under investment in the County's core objective of meeting child and adult literacy programme targets</p> <p>Risk - Given the Directorate’s corporate strategic emphasis on Lifelong Learning and particularly on the “ Every Child Matters” approach, to allow the Book Fund Level to decline further runs the risk of weakening the strong School/Library Service Partnership approach to engaging Children in reading. Denbighshire Book Fund Levels are already the lowest amongst all North Wales Local Authorities. This statistic makes no sense in an otherwise exemplary Library Service. The Service is rated amongst the top 3 performing services in Wales.</p>	15k

18	GP Exercise Referral Scheme Four Leisure Centres currently operate our exercise on prescription scheme in partnership with local GP surgeries. This will extend to five when Denbigh Fitness Centre opens later this year. The health benefits of exercise are well recognised and this is a corporate commitment in the Council approved HSCWB Strategy. It is also a WAG priority, and £32k PAG funding is available to support the scheme for a further year. However, WAG have offered a new 3 yr grant for authorities operating GP referral schemes, but require us to maintain our existing programmes and to appoint a coordinator. The new GP Exercise Referral Coordinator would be 50% funded by WAG grant, and 100% funding made available for 2 assistant posts. This amounts to approx £61k grant pa, but requires an investment of £18k pa from Denbighshire on top of the PAG's funding.	Failure to achieve national and local targets/indicators in respect of health and physical activity. Failure to match fund and take advantage of new grant from WAG	15k
19	Print and publicity budgets	The budgets as they stand are not adequate to enable proper promotion of services	2k
20	School Improvement Officer – Primary		0
21	Transfer of Nant Clwyd to LL following Capital Investment		0
22	Translation		0
23	Corporate Marketing and Event budget	Not Supported	0
24	Helicon project Phase 2 development initiative	Capital feasibility bid when outcome known	0
25	Project support	Reduced support for schools projects	0
26	Athrawon Bro		0
27	Development of Historic Houses of Denbighshire	.	0
28	Fitness and Exercise for Health		0
		Lifelong Learning Total	£1,209

	ENVIRONMENT		£000
29	Waste Management - Extra Licensing costs from Civic Amenity sites	Change in Legislation to cater for WEE Directive (unavoidable)	36k
30	Waste Management - Extra costs of bin sacks as a result of the Full Council recommendation (Sept 2006) to allow two bags per household		0
31	School meal service – shown under Lifelong Learning		0
32	Car Parks	Pressure from car park review will affect budget	100k
33	Office Accommodation	North relocation – Brighton Road additional costs	26k
34	Land Charges	Trend continues for income to fall due to competition. Budget resolved last year, but income projected to be below revised income figure	30k
35	Introduce new Health and Safety Management system (consequence of improvement notice and Departmental response to control of contractors)	Assessed as necessary for compliance with the law, including the HSE enforcement notice	12k
36	Health and Safety	Improve inspection regime – additional Clerk of Works Overhaul of current DCC procurement system	25k
37	Reduced Capital in real terms for Renovation Grants	Council's Block Allocation has remained static at £1.9m, which in real terms represents a reduction. Income in this area is reliant on %age of Capital allocated, therefore income permanently under pressure, made worse by inflation being added to this income stream. This should be viewed as a year on year pressure	10k

Appendix 2

38	Land purchases in relation to proposed Recycling Park Rhuddlan (extent of likely costs only came to light Nov.06) Note: this is a one year cost only	Insufficient Grant Finances to roll out phase two of the Blue box scheme AND provide this facility	0
39	Regeneration - Preparatory work for projects to be delivered through the EU Convergence Programme	Council's Block Allocation has remained static at £1.9m, which in real terms represents a reduction. Income in this area is reliant on %age of Capital allocated, therefore income permanently under pressure, made worse by inflation being added to this income stream. This should be viewed as a year on year pressure	80k
40	CCTV - Proposed future expansion of the system will require additional manning	Proposed future expansion of the system will require additional manning	50k
41	3D - Initial work for procurement modernisation – framework and partnering	Initial work for procurement modernisation – framework and partnering	0
42	Highways Landfill Tax/Aggregate Tax – increased costs associated with materials – supply and disposal – SHOULD BE ADDRESSED AS PART OF INFLATION EXERCISE Maintenance	Capital review - new asset review officer due to current officers being heavily involved in a client advisor role	40k
43	Community Safety Agenda Became part of Service on CEO Sharper Focus exercise. Continued work on the budget has identified issues covered by previous surpluses which are no longer available. Budget pressure on salary within the partnership – SHOULD BE ADDRESSED BY TRANSFER OF FUNDING FROM CORPORATE GRANTS BUDGET	Became part of Service on CEO Sharper Focus exercise. Continued work on the budget has identified issues covered by previous surpluses which are no longer available. Budget pressure on salary within the partnership – SHOULD BE ADDRESSED BY TRANSFER OF FUNDING FROM CORPORATE GRANTS BUDGET	0
		Environment Total	383

	SOCIAL SERVICES & HOUSING		£000
44	Learning disabilities increase in numbers and level of services due to ageing parents and better life expectancy of both children and adults Family Support Community Living Residential care Support for School leavers	Statutory obligation to assess and provide services.	£50k £95K £103K £52K
45	Mental Illness – Under 65 Residential & Nursing Placements Increased need for suitable high cost placements to avoid delayed discharge	Statutory obligation	£120K
46	Demography Older People Pressure on existing in house residential homes and day centres until Extra Care Housing schemes are completed Preventive measures Intermediate Care ,Adult Placement Scheme, Supporting Advice Project –Older People- Telecare, First Contact Team	Statutory obligation Long term invest to save Joint provision with Trust	£105k £145k
47	Demography People with Physical Disabilities. Drugs & Alcohol residential placements Preventive Vision Support Disability Stores, CBAS, & Equipment & Minor Adaptation spend Direct Payments –Reviewing Officer – D.R.T	Statutory obligation Meet existing need for placements Maintain people in community and avoid more costly placements	£19k £13k £51k £27k £20k
48	Fee Increases Phys Dis - Residential, Nursing and Homecare. Older People – Residential & Nursing	Maintain market provision of places for Denbighshire residents	£60k £115k
49	Corporate Child Protection Programme	Requirement from Inspection and Local Safeguarding Board implementation.	0k
50	Cefndy Enterprises	In order to continue to provide a service and generate income for the authority there needs to be research and development of new markets and products	£35K

51	Welfare Rights	Impact of Closure of benefits office resulting in greater demand for assistance with claims potential loss of income for Denbighshire	0
52	Implementation of Paris system (Post up grade/ additional I. T . officer)	High risk if not successfully implemented and run in terms of recording of data and accuracy of returns	£13k
53	Electronic document management record system	Invest to save	0
54	Children's pressures National Increase in Fostering Fees and allowances Support service development disabled children Support and housing costs leaving care Adoption Support Services Fostering – In House Leaving Care Fostering – Out of County	All these area have high impact on the long term budget strategy which focuses on prevention and reduction of costly placements. These pressures have being planned to be managed within budget for 2007/08 but the Assembly requirement to bring allowances for foster carers to national minimum standards may create a pressure if not directly funded.	
	Allocation of Supporting People Grant		- 423k
	TOTAL SOCIAL SERVICES & HOUSING		600k

	RESOURCES		
55	VAT Consultant, preparation for VAT audit, penalty avoidance.	Potential substantial penalty if non compliance with regulations is discovered	0
56	New HR system licence and maintenance costs	Delayed full implementation of system	0
57	Costs of project management not chargeable to capital schemes	Reduced ability to contribute to improving construction procurement methodology	0
58	Charge for valuation of Council's assets for year end accounting purposes	Potential delay in production of final accounts & WAO qualification	0
		Resources Total	0
	CORPORATE		
59	Coroner service – impact of increased activity & back dated cost increases	Committed increase in running costs	54k
60	Latest phase of agreed programme of improvement to the IT network	Need to keep pace with IT developments in service departments.	50k
61	Increased capacity of 3D to ensure improved pre feasibility input into schemes	To maximise external support to grant aided schemes and inform capital schemes prioritising methodology	125k
62	Increase Spend to Save fund including support for new collaboration projects	Failure to deliver maximum efficiency gains	0
		Corporate Total	229k
	£4m Prudential Borrowing for School Buildings & Highways improvements		350k
	Overall Total Bids and Pressures		2836k

DENBIGHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Savings 2007/8 (efficiency & other)

Description of Efficiency Saving (Max 25 words)	Cashable saving £k	Impact (including impact on corporate policy – vision, council priorities, aims and corporate objectives)
COUNTY CLERKS		
F24 Civics – reduction in attendances at and financial support and donations to external civic functions, events and charities.	5	Reduced civic profile.
F71 Registrars – efficiencies from the introduction of RON Registration on line system replacing manual systems.	9	Maximises use of staff time and IT to improve the service for the client.
F77 Members – reduce availability of hard copy papers, remove travel expenses for observers at meetings, co-ordinate meeting arrangements	15	Greater use of laptops needed. Possible reduced attendance of members as observers at meetings.
TOTAL of potentially acceptable savings	29	

Appendix 3

LIFELONG LEARNING	£000	
Non Devolved Repairs and Maintenance	2	Budget not controlled by Countryside and Leisure. 1% efficiency saving would have to be made by Building Services.
Clwyd Leisure Ltd Tapering Grant	3	Passported 1% reduction in annual grant to CLL.
Countryside Management Fees	2	New Income from S.106 and Commuted Sum planning agreements with developers to manage new countryside sites for wildlife conservation and public access. The saving is net of the cost of managing these sites.
Leisure Vehicles Review	3	Alternative service delivery. Review specification and procure cheaper replacement vehicles.
Forestry Commission and AONB Partnerships	2	New income via renegotiated partnerships with FCC & FC to secure enhanced contributions for services delivered by Denbighshire Countryside Service
Leisure Centre Restructuring	3	Reduced costs arising from staff restructuring at Denbigh Leisure Centre
New Leisure Facilities	23	New income from the provision of all weather pitches at St Asaph & Llangollen Leisure Centre
Non devolved repair and maintenance	1	Budget not controlled by THC. 1% efficiency saving would have to be made by Building Services
1% passported efficiency savings to all grant aided bodies	3	Bodelwydden Castle Trust, ECTARC, NW International Music Festival, NEW Dance, LIME
Ruthin Craft Centre - unmanned TIP	20	Unmanned TIP in new national centre will generate £20k savings provided bid for £25k is kept in pressures
Rhyl Pavilion	5	Enhanced e-marketing & integration of booking system
Llangollen RIP Parking pay & display income	3	Dependant upon confirmation of financial support from Building Services for the project
Assorted efficiencies across the service e.g. vacancies	5	Will arise following vacancy management and savings on supplies & services budgets etc
County Voice develop income from advertising	1	Develop advertising potential by offering small adverts at £25 each in County Voice with a target of 10 in each edition
Photocopier Contract Savings	4	Efficiency savings to be achieved through reduced photocopying/printing costs and greater use of electronic information

Appendix 3

Project Management Fees recharge	27	Savings achieved by charging some cost of Directorate Project Management to individual projects
Review of SEN transport contracts	10	Review of SEN transport contracts and related escort costs by the Transport Unit is forecast £10k saving
Assorted efficiencies across the service e.g. vacancies	66	Will arise following vacancy management and savings on a post not being replaced when member of staff retires
TOTAL – to be reviewed	182.1	

Appendix 3

Description of Further Saving	£000	Impact (including impact on corporate policy - vision, council priorities, aims and corporate objectives)
Non devolved Repairs & Maintenance	2	Reduced ability to maintain buildings and facilities. Possible health and safety, business continuity issues etc
Clwyd Leisure Ltd Grant	2	Possible adverse impact on performance of CLL and the facilities they manage on behalf of the Council
Increased Fees & Charges over inflation	28	No cushion of additional income to compensate for leisure centre closures whilst improvements are carried out. Continuing budget pressures in 2007-08
Passported to grant aided bodies	4	Bodelwydden Castle Trust, ECTARC, NW International Music Festival, NEW Dance, LIME
Non devolved R&M	1	Reduced ability to maintain buildings and facilities. Possible health and safety, business continuity issues etc
Reduction in Rhyl Pavilion Programme	10	Less effective programming, reduction in quality, number of events, risk of not meeting revenue targets. Dilution of Rhyl Going Forward, maintenance of Arts provision is a key element of regeneration
Reduction in RIP Programme	5	Less effective programming, reduction in quality, number of events, risk of not meeting revenue targets. Would put at risk current plans to assist local school capacity problems which would be a major embarrassment in the educational area. Would dilute plans to revive Helicon Redevelopment project
Review in One Stop Shop Network working	5	Would meet local opposition as the reduction would not be a part of streamlined rationalisation programme which could potentially be linked to Tourism Information Network rationalisation and reorganisation of other DCC run information provision operations
Reduction in Arts Service	2	Less effective delivery of Arts Community Services and possible impact on the Arts in Health Programme, potentially a key element of the evolving DCC "Route to Health Programme". Small services with small operational budgets can be severely damaged even by small cuts
Reduced corporate presence at LIME in July 07	5	Potential lower corporate profile at the County's most prestigious annual event
County Voice increased income from advertising	2	Increase advertising potential for County Voice by increasing targets suggested in efficiency savings
Home working staff in Trem Clwyd & Middle Lane	93	Home working initiative for Education staff via a whole county pilot scheme following appointment of appropriate consultants
Total other saving	158.0	

Appendix 3

SOCIAL SERVICES & HOUSING	£000	
Reduction in Foster placement costs (Children's Services)	75	Reduction of children admitted into care and smart commissioning and contracting with the Independent sector.
Re-configure Posts (Children's Services)	25	A review of posts and skill mix is currently in hand to complement the admin review.
Hospital Discharge service	40	A review of the service is in progress with plans for more cost effective service delivery to generate this saving.
Re configure posts/ skills mix	20	Effective use of skills mix across a wider range of teams and services.
Joint Commissioning - Adults	26	Continued drive to share costs with partner agencies through joint commissioning and review of nursing care invoices
Implementation of the PARIS system – improved processing	5	By the last quarter of the year there should be a saving in time of MIS officers in verifying and checking data which should translate into actual cash savings
Improved staff retention -	24	Savings on agency costs , recruitment costs and managers time
Complaints Investigation collaboration and focus on resolution at stage 1	3	Early resolution to avoid the need for formal investigation at stage 2 and benefits from joint work across North Wales being led by Denbighshire on the recruitment of Independent Investigators which should reduce costs.
Deletion of ½ post in Senior management admin	10	Re design of some other admin posts will assist with this together with increasingly efficient working of the Directorate administration office.
Sickness Absence management	30	This figure is based on the saving to the authority of cover for sickness absence in direct care posts.
Staff Travel savings across Directorate	15	Continued drive to reduce staff travel costs through tighter monitoring of spend and use of hire cars.
Housing Savings - Efficiency savings to be achieved by reduction in Bed & Breakfast Accommodation	2	The Council is using leased properties as a more cost effective replacement
Increased preventative work	20	The cost per week for residential care is £288 and for Very Dependent Elderly £360.50 so the target would be to reduce the admissions by at least 3 people despite the increase in numbers of older people, by following through on rehabilitation and health promotion strategies .
Total Savings	295	

Appendix 3

Additional % Savings Target		
Description of Efficiency Gain (Max 25 words)	Cashable saving	Impact (including impact on corporate policy, if applicable)
Housing Savings - Efficiency savings to be achieved by reduction in Bed & Breakfast Accommodation	15	The Council is using leased properties as a more cost effective replacement
Increased preventative work	20	The cost per week for residential care is £288 and for Very Dependent Elderly £360.50 so the target would be to reduce the admissions by at least 3 people despite the increase in numbers of older people, by following through on rehabilitation and health promotion strategies .
Homecare reductions due to Telecare	30	Result of capital investment in electronic aids for protecting safety and maintaining independence for older people. Estimated savings based on other authorities.
Re configure ABER project eligible for Supporting People funding	60	This project meets the criteria for Supporting People funding and would allow us to re configure an existing service more in keeping with the reablement agenda .
Llys Marchan Draft mgt agreement and savings by negotiation 4 with Clwyd Alyn		The negotiations on this matter need to be concluded which would save yearly legal costs.
Llys Marchan Draft mgt agreement and savings by negotiation 2 with Clwyd Alyn		Negotiation with Clwyd Alyn has resulted in a saving on the contract .
Review of use of external work opportunities services which are higher cost than in house	8	There is evidence that external work opportunities are higher in costs than internal due partly to the income generation so a review of contracts and a drive to place more people in internal work opportunities would reduce costs
Increase Income	30	The review of charges in 2006/07 will generate additional income in 2007/08
Transport savings across Directorate	50	The target is to reduce the high cost of transport through the transport review , this is a specific project for the Senior Administrative Officer.
Efficiencies in office accommodation - Brighton Road	18	Savings from cleaning, caretaking shared facilities and repair costs
Receivership reconfigure post/generate additional income	10	Invest to save re design of a post which should mean a greater recovery of costs for the authority
Total Savings both sheets	542	

Appendix 3

ENVIRONMENT	£000	
Rationalisation of office accommodation following acquisition of Brighton Road	50	Needs to be supported by roll forward of first year savings
Station caretaker to also take responsibility for Children's Village	7	Better use of resources. Extending hands on supervision
Business grant assessment to be carried out in-house	8	Will take longer but a low cost solution.
Energy/water efficiency net of additional costs	5	Closer monitoring
Restructure	8	Reduction in rates activity as peak passed.
Remove Coastal Protection Agency post	6	
Saving in salt procurement	20	
Review of streetworks recharges – skips, traffic lights, scaffold etc	5	
Review of School Crossing Patrols	5	
Increased income from increased workload	30	
Not replacing Section Manager. This will include having to “promote” certain Team Leaders who will now report direct to HoS which in turn will increase their existing grades.	12	Re-organisation of management structure. Satisfied this re-organisation will have little overall impact on priorities/vision etc.
Recent early retirement not to be replaced on a like for like basis. Initially use of consultants, eventually appoint Trainee BC on lower grade with consultants covering times of peak work/holidays	10	May impact on speed of dealing with building regulation matters – no significant impact on Corporate priorities/objectives/vision.
Additional areas of new income from Statutory legislation (Gambling Act, Housing Enf etc) and Discretionary charges (Charging for DC pre application advise, more Scientific Service charges – water sampling etc) as part of on going fees & charges review.	10	Complies with Council priority of providing front line statutory services and maximising income through fees and charges.
Absorb new legislation/powers within existing workforce by introducing more collaborative working across our own enforcement functions and with other partners e.g.new smoking legislation, licensing work, issuing of more Fixed Penalty Notices etc.	12	High profile enforcement activities to comply with Corporate priority (front line statutory services) through ‘smaller working’ and collaboration with partners.

Appendix 3

Modest reduction in budget would not prejudice work in future years, Contaminated Land Officer gaining in experience, use of WAG grants etc.	4	No major impact on Corporate priorities.
DC have an existing agreement that Flintshire will assist with Mineral Planning. This agreement to be formalised into an SLA, which will result in anticipated savings.	5	Statutory function provided through collaboration with neighbouring authority.
Reductions in overtime	5	Introduction of new management methodology
Rationalise sweeper hire costs	5	Possible purchase through prudential borrowing
Transfer of officer to Leisure (not replaced – half salary saving net).	13	Workload shared by others
Replace Team Leader(due to retire) with lower graded employee (net saving).	10	Reorganisation needed to facilitate.
Savings following refurbishment of Corwen PC (dependent on using prudential borrowing)	3	Worst PC site –subject to regular vandalism on main tourist route
Reduce hours of officer in performance management team	12	Revision, and minor restructuring, of workload will be required to minimise impact
Delete vacant Economic Development Officer post	25	Reduction – activity in direct support for business
Remove provision for additional econometric analysis required to measure outputs of Objective 1 tourism project finishing March 2007	7	
Modern apprentice on to rotational system	4	
Increase burial charges by 10%	7	
Reduce new installations.	10	Stock condition will remain poor
Ban rubble from CA sites.	17	Demands on officer time. Increased possibility of fly tipping
Possible merger of certain Licensing functions with Conwy CBC. Initial discussions have taken place. Savings could be generated through staff, IT, better use of income etc.	10	High profile function. If merger progresses no reduction in service despite efficiency. Although high degree of uncertainty.
Could contribute less to LDP Public Inquiry Fund. Significant risk as crucial funds made available, as £5k lost every year until Public Inquiry 2009/2010?	5	Potential major impact on a key strategic policy document.

Appendix 3

As a number of vacancies could take the opportunity to provide some of the service in a different way (e.g. use of consultants) and reduce existing salary commitment. Significant risk due to making efficiencies in a poor performing area of the Service.	5	Potential impact on high profile front line statutory function, identified as an area in need of improvement given poor comparison performance with other authorities.
Stop nighttime inspections.	5	Lamps out for longer periods (until the public report them) collection of performance figures will cease.
Reduce scope of phase 2 roll-out (restrict to Ruthin & Denbigh only).	10	Only £10k has been listed because most of the finance is coming from the WAG waste grant.
Terminate financial contribution to the North Wales Economic Forum and the Coalfields Communities Campaign	9	Potential implications, undesirable
Lex Commercials – servicing of contractor vehicles and MOTs	4	Need to treat as budgeted income in Transport and Infrastructure
Income from taxi testing 300 X £40	12	Need to treat as budgeted income in Transport and Infrastructure
Arriva – service and MOT contract	4	Need to treat as budgeted income in Transport and Infrastructure
Terminate remuneration sum for office building managers – this will have serious Health and Safety implications	9	Significant legal potential consequences for DCC
Stop most winter bedding next year (except A525 roundabouts)	12	
TOTAL – to be reviewed	400	

Appendix 3

RESOURCES	£000	
Benefits – Staffing review	6	Saving available following reduction in hours of part time worker
Audit – latest phase of reduction in outsourcing arrangements	9	Internal staff now experienced to undertake more of Audit plan
H R – training to be provided in house rather than by external providers	8	In house staff more fully experienced to deliver greater proportion of training needs.
delivery of Health & Safety training in house	15	
Policy Unit – Staffing structure review	6	Review pending
reduced printing/publication costs	3	Saving on production of corporate documents.
Benefits – reduced software costs	2	Already in place
Revenues – increased income for Bailiff service and freezing vacant post	14	Bailiff service negotiating with DCC & Ynys Mon Highways depts. over parking fines collection.
Exchequer – Fye of staffing restructure	6	In place
- reduced software costs	12	In place
Management Accounts – various small efficiency savings	11	
Total of potentially acceptable savings	92	
CORPORATE		
Corporate – reduced external audit fees from BV reviews, grant claims etc	30	In place
Renegotiate bank charges	20	In place
Improved investment income £400k less cost of additional senior management accountant	350	In place
Total of potentially acceptable savings	400	
TOTAL	1802	

**CABINET
FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME**

REPORT TITLE	REPORT LEAD MEMBER / AUTHOR
30 JANUARY 2007	
Revenue Budget Monitoring	Councillor G O Rowlands R Parry
Capital Plan	Councillor G O Rowlands R Parry
Housing Revenue Account Budget	Councillor P A Dobb P Quirk
Learning Disability Commissioning Strategy	Councillor P A Dobb N Ayling
Affordable Warmth / Warm Wales Scheme	Councillor P A Dobb Gareth Roberts
Housing Renewal and Houseproud Scheme: A New Direction	Councillor P A Dobb Gareth Roberts
Disabled / Equalities Scheme Approval	Councillor S A Davies C Bennett
Transport – Sarn Lane Traffic Signals	Councillor E W Williams Mike Jones
Cycleway / Footway Reinstatement between Grange Road and Clifton Park Road Rhyl	Councillor E W Williams Mike Jones
Routine Reporting on Personnel	Councillor S A Davies L Atkin
FEBRUARY 2007	
Revenue Budget Monitoring Report	Councillor G O Rowlands R Parry
Capital Plan	Councillor G O Rowlands R Parry
Treasury Management Strategy	Councillor G O Rowlands R Parry
Corporate Quarterly Performance Report	Councillor G O Rowlands J Williams
Housing Revenue Account Budget	Councillor P A Dobb P Quirk
Routine Reporting on Personnel	Councillor S A Davies L Atkin
Economic Growth Strategy for Denbighshire	Councillor R W Hughes M Dixon
Rural Development Plan Local Development Strategy for Rural Denbighshire	Councillor R W Hughes M Dixon
MARCH 2007	
Revenue Budget Monitoring Report	Councillor G O Rowlands R Parry
Capital Plan	Councillor G O Rowlands R Parry
Housing Revenue Account Budget	Councillor P A Dobb P Quirk
Modernising Education Update	Councillor D Owens H W Griffiths
Routine Reporting on Personnel	Councillor S A Davies L Atkin
Affordable Housing Local Needs Connection Policy	Councillor E W Williams M Pender
Approval of LDP Preferred Strategy and Strategic Options	Councillor E W Williams M Pender

REPORT TITLE	REPORT LEAD MEMBER / AUTHOR
European Union Convergence Programme Action Plan for Denbighshire	Councillor R W Hughes G Evans
Sustainable Development Strategy and Action Plan	Councillor E W Williams J Williams
Efficiency Strategy	Councillor R W Hughes J Williams
APRIL 2007	
Revenue Budget Monitoring Report	Councillor G O Rowlands R Parry
Capital Plan	Councillor G O Rowlands R Parry
Use of the £200k 'Spend to Save' Efficiencies Budget	Councillor G O Rowlands A Evans
Housing Revenue Account Budget	Councillor P A Dobb P Quirk
Routine Reporting on Personnel	Councillor S A Davies L Atkin
Conwy Denbighshire Spatial Framework	Councillor R W Hughes M Dixon
Improvement Plan	Councillor R W Hughes J Williams
MAY 2007	
Revenue Budget Monitoring Report	Councillor G O Rowlands R Parry
Capital Plan	Councillor G O Rowlands R Parry
Routine Reporting on Personnel	Councillor S A Davies L Atkin
Housing Revenue Account Budget	Councillor P A Dobb P Quirk
Community Vision	Councillor R W Hughes J Williams
JUNE 2007	
Revenue Budget Monitoring Report	Councillor G O Rowlands R Parry
Capital Plan	Councillor G O Rowlands R Parry
Community Capital Grants 2007-2008	Councillor R W Hughes M Dixon
Routine Reporting on Personnel	Councillor S A Davies L Atkin
Housing Revenue Account Budget	Councillor P A Dobb P Quirk
Improvement Planning	Councillor R W Hughes J Williams