

**CABINET**

Minutes of the Cabinet meeting held at 10.00 a.m. on Tuesday 24 May 2011 in Conference Room 1, County Hall, Ruthin.

**PRESENT**

Councillors P A Dobb, Lead Member for Health, Social Care and Wellbeing; H H Evans, Leader; S Frobisher, Lead Member for Environment and Sustainable Development; M M Jones, Lead Member for Welsh Language, Children, Young People and Leisure; P J Marfleet, Lead Member for Modernising the Council; D A J Thomas, Lead Member for Regeneration and Tourism, J Thompson Hill, Lead Member for Finance and Efficiency and E W Williams, Lead Member for Education.

Observers: Councillors W L Cowie; G C Evans; R L Feeley; T R Hughes; H LI Jones; G M Kensler; D Owens, D I Smith and C H Williams.

**ALSO PRESENT**

Chief Executive; Corporate Directors: Demographics, Wellbeing & Planning and Learning & Communities; Acting Head of Corporate Governance and the Acting Chief Financial Officer.

**ANNOUNCEMENT**

Following the welcome to members of the public to the Cabinet meeting by Councillor H H Evans, the Acting Head of Corporate Governance outlined the procedures for the meeting and said there was no statutory right for the public to speak at Cabinet meetings.

**1 APOLOGIES**

There were no apologies.

**2 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

Members were asked to declare any personal or prejudicial interests in any business identified to be considered at the meeting.

***RESOLVED** that Cabinet note there were no declaration of interests.*

**3 URGENT MATTERS**

There were no Urgent Matters.

**4 MINUTES OF THE CABINET MEETING 26.04.2011**

The Minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on 26 April 2011 were submitted.

Item 13 New Work Connections: Procurement of Mental Illness Element: Councillor P A Dobb said “were” in the second sentence of the second paragraph should be replaced with “are” in the both instances.

**RESOLVED** that, subject to the above, the Minutes of the meeting held on 26 April 2011 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Leader.

## 5 EDEYRNION AREA REVIEW

Councillor H H Evans presented the report which detailed the outcome of the initial consultation on the review of primary school provision in the Edeyrnion area. He said the purpose of the report was to gain Cabinet agreement to commence the next stage of consultation for the Edeyrnion area. No decision would be made at the meeting on the future of schools and further consultation would be undertaken.

He referred Cabinet to section 3 of the report (on page 2 of 16) and said 4 proposals had been developed and these were detailed in the report. If Cabinet endorsed proposals 1 and 2, a formal 6 week consultation period from 7 June to 20 July would take place and this would involve consultation meetings with staff, school governors, parents and the wider community. Proposals 3 and 4 were recommendations which could only be taken forward by the school governors for the relevant schools and they would hold a public consultation before making any changes. The Authority would support the schools during the process being undertaken by the school governors.

Following discussions, Councillor Evans said he had decided to lead on the report as there was a difference of opinion between the Lead Member and the officers on one of the proposals.

It was always difficult for Councillors to make decisions which were sometimes unpopular or where some members of the public did not agree. Councillor Evans said Elected Members would respect the public’s views, listen and make a judgement based on the findings of the consultation with clear evidence and advice from officers, taking into account external influences and the future impact on the provision of the service. He felt the process to date had been open and transparent and that the proposals put forward were well thought out. He felt it was imperative to put into context why the review was being held and the process so far had been open and transparent.

The proposals put forward were well thought out and Denbighshire, like many other Local Authorities, was trying to modernise and manage school places. The Cambridge Report, commissioned by the Authority, had instigated the current debate on surplus capacity and the curriculum on offer in small primary schools. The Welsh Government definition of a small school was one of 80-90 pupils – Denbighshire did not agree with this and if this was the case, all schools in the Edeyrnion area would close. Estyn had said in their inspection of 2007 that there was surplus capacity in rural schools and suggested the Authority should use the agreed framework for managing school places and the emerging area reviews to drive forward modernisation. The 21<sup>st</sup> Century

Schools Programme had aims to improve the learning environment and make best use of resources and the Authority had to do this as any capital funding from the Welsh Government would be dependent upon how the Authority managed school places. Reference was made to the Thomas report which recommended that a national target of school surplus places was established at 10% across Wales and Local Authorities would be required to revisit their plans to rationalise the school estate, and it was clear therefore that status quo was not an option. When assessing funding proposals their impact on surplus places would probably be the criterion given most importance in assessing the bids by the Welsh Government.

Councillor Evans said he was a little apprehensive before starting the review as he felt it was important that officers and Members should be familiar with the Edeyrnion area, the logistics, culture, history and the potential and that the options put forward were ones of moving education forward in the area. It was clear however that there were clear conflicts between what was best for the community and what was best for education; what had been good in the past and what would be better in the future and the National agenda versus local expectations.

If Cabinet agreed to the proposals for formal consultation we should be looking for stability, sustainability and an improved provision for the Welsh language.

Councillor Evans said that the Edeyrnion area was a stronghold for the Welsh Language within Denbighshire and that the impact of any proposals on the Welsh Language should be carefully considered. Any proposals should improve Welsh education provision within the area to ensure that the Welsh Language continued to develop and prosper. Cabinet would have to be convinced that any proposals would improve the education provision in the Edeyrnion area.

Councillor Evans asked the Head of Modernising Education to respond to comments from the Edeyrnion Schools Alliance, which had been received outside the closing date. The Head of Modernising Education said the process had commenced in November 2010 and ended in March 2011. The Authority had to consider education provision for the area for the next 5 – 15 years. The report was asking for permission to move to the next stage of consultation, which would include discussing in detail the potential impact of the proposals on pupils and parents. The consultation would commence on 7 June and end 20 July 2011. Feedback from the consultation would be reported to Cabinet and would include detail on the consultation responses. Cabinet would then be asked whether or not to proceed to statutory consultation. At that stage if only one objection was received, the Welsh Government would make the decision on the proposals, having ensured the Authority had followed an open and transparent process.

The Head of Modernising Education discussed the report by the Edeyrnion Schools Alliance (representing the 7 Chairs of Governors in the area) and referred to the fact that there had been some debate around pupil projections, surplus capacity and maintenance figures. She said the key principles in the report mirror things that were already being progressed in Denbighshire. The role of headteachers was changing and Authorities now had to delegate more of the funding to schools which in turn would

mean more responsibility for headteachers. This could become a burden for some schools, especially smaller schools. The Authority was looking at building capacity in schools to deal with these added responsibilities which could include sharing a bursar across schools. Such issues would be progressed by the Schools' Budget Forum.

Schools' building maintenance could also be delegated to schools which would result in increased responsibility but would enable schools to use local contractors if they were on the approved contractor list.

However, the report presented by the Edeyrnion Schools Alliance would not address all the issues facing schools in the area. There would still be an issue of surplus places and headteacher recruitment which the Head of School Improvement and Inclusion would respond to. The condition of school buildings was important and it was not possible to fund all improvements, therefore rationalisation would be required.

The Head of School Improvement and Inclusion said the Authority was committed to providing high quality education with high quality leadership and management and teaching staff. The educational standards in the Edeyrnion area was good and positive and any proposals would have to deliver the same or better attainment. However retaining high quality educational provision, improving leadership and management, collaboration and sustaining school buildings was a challenge. She said that there were some key national drivers impacting on our schools, one of which was the statutory workload agreement which had to be adhered to and this would have a significant impact on staff, management of staff and also on how schools were organised.

Curriculum innovation was also a key driver, the Foundation Phase had resulted in a new way of teaching and learning which impacted on the facilities required in schools and the Key Stage 2 Skills Curriculum was also impacting on schools.

Headteacher recruitment was a national issue and although the NPQH (National Professional Qualification for Headship) had been reinstated this was still a major issue, particularly in Welsh Medium settings. Statistics had shown that over 50% of headteachers in Wales were over the age of 50, so the problem was only going to get worse. This could be evidenced locally by the fact that there were 3 acting headteachers in the Edeyrnion area. Increased delegation and autonomy for schools would mean more management and leadership and schools would be expected to work collaboratively on these issues.

The Authority faced certain key challenges – staff expertise, staff roles would need to be more diverse and pupils would have to have appropriate learning and social interaction. There were a range of positives, for example, working collaboratively would share staff expertise and learning with pupils of the same age would be improved. There would also be an improved work-life balance for teachers and enhanced development. Schools would share best practice and better decision making. The Authority had to provide the best education for pupils with an ability to secure wider benefits e.g. culture, sports, extra curricular activities and a shared sense of identity would result should the proposals be accepted.

The Head of Modernising Education outlined the 4 proposals. Proposal 1 was to open a new Welsh medium area school for Cynwyd and Llandrillo, with the closure of 2 schools and opening of 1 new school on the existing 2 sites. The Authority would seek capital funding to move the school to one site in the second phase. Federation was not considered the best model for this area, as an area school was educationally the best option. For the second phase, 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools' Funding was being sought and to improve the Authority's chances of being successful it was necessary to show that progress was being made to address surplus places, ensure the Welsh Language was a priority and deliver on other Welsh Government policies. The single school site was likely to be in Cynwyd as the majority of pupils came from that area and initial conversations had indicated planning permission would be granted to expand the current Ysgol Maes Hyfryd site but not the Ysgol Llandrillo site, as it was located in a flood zone.

The second proposal was to close Ysgol Glyndyfrdwy currently with 16 pupils and transfer them to Ysgol Gwernant, Llangollen, subject to parental preference. There were problems with site access in winter at Glyndyfrdwy and the school currently had 70% surplus places. It cost £9200 to educate each pupil at the school. It was accepted that it was more expensive to educate a child in a rural rather than urban area; however, the average cost of education in the Edeyrnion area was only £4900 per pupil. The Authority would need to consider the issue of social deprivation in rural areas and look at what pre-school facilities were required by parents in the area. There was capacity in Ysgol Gwernant to take the pupils from Ysgol Glyndyfrdwy.

The third proposal was to federate Ysgol Betws GG and Ysgol Bro Elwern, Gwyddelwern. The federation of schools could currently only be taken forward by the governing bodies. Consideration was given to an area school and closing Gwyddelwern, however it would not be practical to have one site due to the location of, and transport links between the two communities which would result in unreasonable travel for children. It was also not possible to consider an area school with Ysgol Caer Drewyn and Carrog because of the language issue as Ysgol Betws GG and Ysgol Bro Elwern are Welsh Medium Schools. The Authority wished to remove the mobile classroom at Ysgol Betws GG.

Proposal 4 was to federate Ysgol Caer Drewyn and Ysgol Carrog. The federation of schools could currently only be taken forward by the governing bodies. Consideration had been given to an area school based in Corwen, which would see Ysgol Carrog with 41 pupils close. However this would limit parental choice in the area for those wishing to access English medium education and should Ysgol Glyndyfrdwy close, would result in a large area between Corwen and Llangollen with no schools.

If the proposals were approved, an education system would be provided which could be developed to ensure better standards, parental and linguistic choice. It would strengthen the Welsh Language and reduce surplus places by an estimated 111 pupils. It would be a more cost effective and efficient education system.

Councillor E W Williams said the report was not in his name as the Lead Member for Education as he disagreed with Proposal 1. He felt federating Llandrillo and Cynwyd schools was a better option for the community. He took the opportunity to advise the public that the education team in the Authority was well qualified and the Chief Executive had specialised in education. He accepted that the principles had to be put forward to the community and the detail of the proposals would be explained to the schools. He felt that the Welsh Government was forcing Local Authorities to change the way they worked and as a result Local Authorities had to change the way schools worked.

Councillor M M Jones said rural schools were special and the 7 schools in the review were excellent schools. She suggested Cabinet Members visit each school in the Edeyrnion area to see what the proposals would involve. As an ex headteacher, she said it was a challenge to teach in small schools with all the different ages, ability and language considerations. She felt large schools had much to learn from small schools and small schools could learn from large schools. She asked when would the decision on 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools funding be made. The Head of Modernising Education said there was no assurance available on the level of capital that could become available for the Authority. There were benefits to the 2 phases of the proposal, there would be one headteacher and one governing body and it would take 3 years to plan which would give the 2 schools time to work closer before moving to one site. The Head of School Improvement and Inclusion said a shared headteacher in another area had been found to be a positive experience for the schools and the governors had requested the discussions be facilitated. It had led to many positives e.g. shared good practice, and professional development opportunities. Parents were also positive on the way it had worked. The schools' shared leadership had recently been inspected and had been commended by Estyn.

Councillor P J Marfleet said there was excess capacity in rural schools and this trend was unlikely to be reversed, this was happening nationally. He was pleased with the communications received from the public. He had been a governor of a small rural school of 16 pupils which had now closed but he assured colleagues that there was still a community in the area. The other positive was the pupils went to a Welsh medium school and the pupils were now bilingual. In 2005 the Authority had commenced Managing Schools Places, but this had not been well managed. This had led to Cambridge Education being asked to provide an education delivery strategy for Denbighshire. The broad outline had been approved but it was now time to discuss individual areas and schools and consult with all relevant parties on the proposals. There was a problem with the quality of structures and the fabric maintenance of schools. He assured the public present that the Authority would not underestimate the importance of the consultation and any concerns raised.

As a school governor, Councillor P A Dobb said a school in her Ward had recently been inspected by Estyn and she felt the inspections were getting more difficult. She asked whether any more changes were expected on Estyn inspections and if so, was there any indication of how would these affect headteachers and schools. The Head of School Improvement and Inclusion said Estyn had recently made key policy changes

taking account of the school effectiveness framework. There were key requirements to be demonstrated i.e. numeracy and literacy, Welsh Language and ICT. If the Authority did not follow the curriculum delivery it would be financially penalised. The new Estyn framework focused on resource delivery and accountability. Account would have to be taken of these changes and this would also form part of the regional collaborative agenda.

Councillor D A J Thomas thanked the public for their e-mails. He assured the public that they would be consulted and if they had any suggestions they should forward them to the education team. However, if anyone felt they were not included as part of the consultation, they were asked to let the Authority know. He agreed with Councillor M M Jones that it was a good idea for Members to visit the area. He said ensuring that all pupils received a comprehensive education was vital. Councillor J Thompson Hill thanked both the education teams for their hard work to date and he also assured the public that the local viewpoint would be taken into account.

Councillor C H Williams said he originally moved from Manchester to Gwyddelwern during the 1940s and then went to live in Cynwyd. Some years later he became a Councillor and he said it was an honour to serve the area. He felt the area had battled with various issues over the years, for example the proposed closure of the public toilets and changes to the bus services. He felt the review would be the hardest battle of all. He was primarily concerned with Ysgol Llandrillo, could not support its closure and felt that 30 pupils was sufficient to keep the school as it currently was. He was also concerned about the other schools in the area. He suggested the schools at Llandrillo and Cynwyd could federate in the same way as Betws GG and Bro Elwern and Caer Drewyn and Carrog schools. He discussed the roads in the area and said the road from Llandrillo to Cynwyd was also narrow. He suggested Cabinet withdraw the first proposal and suggested that Cynwyd and Llandrillo schools also be federated.

The Corporate Director: Learning and Communities said it was important that the Authority suggest the best way forward for the area and the 4 proposals would work well for the area. However, relevant people would be able to respond to the consultation before the information was reported at Cabinet.

Councillor H LI Jones discussed the report and asked various questions, in particular how 2 Cabinet Members who represented schools under threat could represent and vote impartially on the proposal. He challenged the legal standing of the arrangement. He said the Authority appeared to be investing heavily in other areas of the County and he felt more investment should be made in the Edeyrnion area. He reminded colleagues that Councillor E W Williams as the Lead Member for Education was also not supportive of all the proposals. He referred to the possible £92203 net savings if the proposals were approved. He suggested the Edeyrnion Alliance needed more time to consider the proposals and formulate responses. He also asked for assurances that should the proposals be agreed that the Authority would not be looking to carry out another review in the area for at least 10 years.

Responding to Councillor Jones' question, the Acting Head of Corporate Governance said as long as Members had an open mind when considering proposals and would take account of arguments both for and against any proposals, Ward Members could speak and vote on the proposals. Regarding Councillor Jones' comments on the investment in the north of the Authority, Councillor H H Evans said he was correct in his statements but the Authority wished to invest in schools in the Edeyrnion area and ensure stability so that parents and children were clear on the education to be provided. He wanted parity of education provision across the Authority and the Big Plan had highlighted issues and challenges which the Authority had to face. A level lifestyle was required for all areas of Denbighshire although the north of the County had a higher priority in many instances as funding streams were available for the deprived areas of the County.

The Head of Modernising Education said nearly £1m had been invested in Llangollen after an area review was carried out and that any savings made in education provision would be retained within education. The Edeyrnion area had been included in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools bid. Revenue savings of £92k could fund approximately £1.5m of capital funding through prudential borrowing. The review programme had already covered the Prestatyn and Dee Valley areas and once the Edeyrnion Review was completed and any proposals implemented, there was no plan to return to the area in the near future. She assured Members that there was capacity in Ysgol y Gwernant should pupils from Ysgol Glyndyfrdwy be transferred. There were population increases within the County but these were mainly in the north and the population figures were decreasing in the south of the County. Impact on the communities involved would form part of the consultation if the report was agreed. Councillor Jones said names of 2 members of the public had been included in error on the website.

The Head of Modernising Education responding to Councillor Jones' comments on names on the websites, said the first was a Christian name and the second name an initial and surname and the comments had been made in a public forum and there were no addresses or contact details. The names had immediately been removed from the website. She felt there had been no breach of data protection but apologised to the two individuals involved. This had only happened because the Authority was committed to being as transparent as possible during this process.

Councillor D I Smith commented that he had received a good education at a rural primary school of 20 pupils and 4 staff and that school was now closed. He felt there was merit in the suggestion that Cynwyd and Llandrillo schools could be federated and he felt this should be considered as building a new school in Cynwyd was a financial burden on the Authority. Regarding Early Years provision, this should form part of the consultation. The Head of Modernising Education said federation had been considered for Cynwyd and Llandrillo and it could be further discussed during the consultation period, as would the Early Years provision. Councillor R L Feeley also suggested Proposal 1 be amended so that both the schools could be federated and this would be a cheaper option than building a new school. She congratulated the local Members on representing their communities to the highest standards. Councillor D Owens suggested the process of drawing down capital funding from the Welsh Government



was flawed. He also felt that there were not many surplus places in Denbighshire and that instead of building a new school the money should be spent on improving current schools.

The Chief Executive thanked Members for articulating the concerns raised by the local community. He reminded colleagues there were 2 national challenges – the economic crisis was hitting all Local Authorities and demographics in the County had to be addressed. Jobs, opportunities and housing for the future would mean growth across the County. He urged Members not to have a divisive debate about where the budget was spent as it would be spent where it was most needed. Implementing policies was hard and it was likely any policy change would not please everyone. However, issues such as surplus places, leadership and quality of buildings had to be addressed. Options being put forward had to address these issues to ensure a sustainable future for the area. He assured the public an open debate on the Review.

Councillor H H Evans thanked the public for attending and said approval of the report meant moving the consultation to the next stage.

**RESOLVED** that Cabinet agrees:

*Proposal 1 - To approve formal consultation on the proposed new Welsh Medium area school for Cynwyd and Llandrillo. Phase 1 would see the schools operate on the existing school sites in Cynwyd and Llandrillo. Phase 2, subject to securing capital funding, would see the school move to a single school site in Cynwyd following expansion and refurbishment works while retaining some early years provision in Llandrillo as appropriate. Councillor E W Williams abstained from voting on the proposal.*

*Proposal 2 - To approve formal consultation on the proposed closure of Ysgol Glyndyfrdwy with pupils transferring to Ysgol Y Gwernant, Llangollen subject to parental preference. Some early years provision would be retained in Glyndyfrdwy as appropriate.*

*Proposal 3 – To recommend federation to the Governing Bodies of Ysgol Betws Gwerfyl Goch and Ysgol Bro Elwern, Gwyddelwern\**

*Proposal 4 – To recommend federation to the Governing Bodies of Ysgol Caer Drewyn and Ysgol Carrog\**

*\* Proposals 3 & 4 can currently only be progressed by the Governing Bodies of each school. The authority believes that it would be in the best interests of all stakeholders for these proposals to be progressed by the governors with support from the local authority. The Welsh Assembly Government is currently in the process of providing local authorities with the power to create federations. Should the Governing Bodies decide not to progress the proposals the authority would then seek to use these new powers to create the federations.*

At this juncture (12.15 p.m.) the meeting adjourned for 10 minutes to allow Members to participate in refreshments.

## **6 FORYD HARBOUR WALKING AND CYCLING BRIDGE – BRIDGE SCHEME SECTION 106(3) HIGHWAYS ACT 1980**

Councillor S Frobisher presented the report seeking formal Cabinet approval to the making of a scheme under Section 106(3) of the Highways Act 1980 and thereafter the submission of the scheme to the Welsh Government for confirmation, to authorise the Acting Head of Corporate Governance to take all necessary action to achieve confirmation of the above scheme and to obtain the above consent and approve the completion of an agreement with Conwy County Borough Council (“Conwy CBC”) pursuant to Section 8 of the Highways Act 1980 to enable Denbighshire County Council to submit the Bridge Scheme referred to above.

Councillor Frobisher said an Order from the Welsh Government was necessary to allow the Authority to cross a navigable water course (the River Clwyd at the Foryd Harbour) with the proposed Cycleway Bridge. Denbighshire and Conwy Councils had to have an agreement in place under section 8 of the Highways Act 1980, to define ownership and maintenance liability of the bridge, for the Section 106 Order to be successful. In this case Denbighshire had full ownership and maintenance liability so the agreement was straightforward. It was recommended that Cabinet approve the completion of an agreement with Conwy County Borough Council under Section 8 of the Highways Act 1980 to enable the section 106 order to be confirmed.

The Council needed to obtain the necessary consent without delay as any delay would jeopardise the project delivery timetable and the ability to complete by the target date of 31<sup>st</sup> March 2013, which was the date when the Welsh Government and Sustrans funding had to be drawn down.

**RESOLVED** that Cabinet:

- 1 *approve the making of a scheme under Section 106(3) of the Highways Act 1980 and thereafter the submission of the scheme to the Welsh Government for confirmation*
- 2 *authorise the Acting Head of Corporate Governance to take all necessary action to achieve confirmation of the scheme and to obtain the above consent as detailed in the report*
- 3 *approve the completion of an agreement with Conwy County Borough Council pursuant to Section 8 of the Highways Act 1980 to enable Denbighshire County Council to submit the Bridge Scheme referred to above.*

## **7 FINANCE REPORT**

Councillor J Thompson Hill presented the report for Cabinet to note the latest financial position and progress against the agreed budget strategy. Members were also asked to note the Corporate Executive Team’s decision to purchase 30 Abbey Street, Rhyl. The

format of the report had changed and the information would be provided on a service basis. He would welcome any comments on the new structure.

The report covered the first month of the financial year and all services were projecting a balanced budget. The savings update showed that 57% of savings had already been achieved with the other 43% being progressed. The detailed capital plan would be reported on a quarterly basis.

The Corporate Executive Team had approved the purchase of 30 Abbey Street, Rhyl which formed part of a wider proposal to help regenerate Rhyl. The Authority was now awaiting a grant offer from the Welsh Government as this could not have been provided earlier as there was no Minister owing to the elections.

The Housing Revenue Account (HRA) was forecast to be on budget.

Responding to queries from Councillor P J Marfleet, the Acting Chief Financial Officer said officers were working on the Medium Term Financial Plan. He confirmed that the figures in the report had been provided by the financial team and that the Senior Leadership Team would validate the figures in the report during the Service Challenge Reviews. Councillor H H Evans asked whether Services Challenge Reviews were linked to the report. The Acting Chief Financial Officer confirmed this was the case and if this was not the case the information would have to be brought back to the Review.

Councillor P A Dobb asked that the Acting Chief Financial Officer let Cabinet Members know when the funding for the purchase of 30 Abbey Street, Rhyl had been received from the Welsh Government. The Acting Chief Financial Officer agreed to provide the information when received and also confirmed that the Foryd Harbour report would not be presented to the next Cabinet meeting. Councillor Dobb asked that information in Appendix 1 include the date on future reports and asked whether there was sufficient information in the report on the HRA for the business plan. The Acting Chief Financial Officer agreed the date be included in the Appendix and that he would check what had previously been agreed at Cabinet and let Councillor Dobb know, with regard to the HRA business plan information.

The Acting Chief Financial Officer apologised to Councillor D A J Thomas and said he should have been consulted regarding the purchase of 30 Abbey Street, Rhyl. This was an oversight and he would ensure Councillor Thomas was consulted in future.

Responding to a query from Councillor S Frobisher on the Apollo Cinema, Rhyl, Councillor D A J Thomas said there had been a 3 week delay but this was nothing to do with the Authority and it had no financial or other implications for Denbighshire.

It was noted by Councillor R L Feeley that cemeteries was incorrectly spelt in Appendix 1. Responding to Councillor Feeley's queries on extra care, Councillor P A Dobb said there was an impact on extra care and reablement and new service provision in Prestatyn had saved monies on residential care. The closure of Llys Nant Residential Home had also allowed for savings.

Both Councillor H H Evans and Councillor P J Marfleet stressed that officers would have to provide the information as agreed and any changes to budgets would have to be reported with reasons given for any variations.

The Chief Executive confirmed that information in the status column in Appendix 2 was provided by the Section 151 Officer and not by the Service and the Acting Chief Financial Officer gave assurances that the figures were correct. Any changes in how targets would be achieved would have to be reported and tracked. It was critical that the budget was delivered and difficulties still had to be faced.

The Acting Chief Financial Officer said the Heads of Service met with senior accountants on a monthly basis, information was included in the Ledger which would show any deviations and he himself met with service accountants monthly and he was positive that the information was correct.

**RESOLVED** that Cabinet note the latest financial position and progress against the agreed budget strategy. Members also note the Corporate Executive Team's decision to purchase 30 Abbey Street, Rhyl.

## **8 ISSUES REFERRED TO CABINET BY SCRUTINY COMMITTEES**

There were no issues referred to Cabinet by Scrutiny Committees.

## **9 CABINET FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME**

Councillor H H Evans presented the Cabinet Forward Work Programme.

The Corporate Director: Demographics, Wellbeing & Planning said the Childrens' Services report would be presented to the July Cabinet whilst the Annual Council Reporting Framework would be reported to the October Cabinet.

Members briefly discussed the political process for the support services' collaboration and the Chief Executive confirmed any decision would be made by individual Cabinets as Regional Boards could not make decisions.

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

## **10 URGENT ITEMS**

There were no Urgent Items.

## **PART II 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 paragraph 13 and 14 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.*

**11 INTEGRATION OF PARKING SERVICES TEAMS: CONWY COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL AND DENBIGHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

Councillor S Frobisher presented the report seeking Cabinet approval to proceed with merging Conwy County Borough Council's (CCBC) and Denbighshire County Council's (DCC) Parking Services teams as part of the Joint Head of Services Highways Collaboration between Conwy and Denbighshire.

The Joint Head of Service confirmed that there would be a transparent and fair process between the 2 Authorities to ensure an apportionment of savings and costs. The Acting Chief Financial Officer said the 2 finance teams were meeting, for example, to agree protocol for financial management, savings and one off costs.

The Joint Head of Service discussed the significant number of benefits, which included a greater resilience for the service by operating a larger team and improved efficiency for economies of scale. Cabinet in both Authorities had to agree the report before any consultation could be held with staff.

***RESOLVED*** that Cabinet agree the Parking Services teams of Conwy County Borough Council and Denbighshire County Council be integrated as outlined within the report.

**12 NEW WORK CONNECTIONS DENBIGHSHIRE: PROCUREMENT OF SERVICES TO HELP WOMEN INTO EDUCATION, TRAINING OR EMPLOYMENT**

Councillor P A Dobb presented the report for Cabinet to appoint a company to deliver services to support women in Denbighshire with pursuing employment, education or training as part of the New Work Connections Project, funded by the Welsh European Funding Office Convergence Programme.

The New Work Connections project was for the provision of services for women who, for example had a disability, sensory impairment, who had experienced ongoing health problems, who were aged 50 and over, who had mental health needs or had endured traumatic experiences and who were in need of intensive support to move on to employment and young women who were not in education, employment or training. The company being recommended had been through a rigorous pre qualification questionnaire and tender process as well as interview and had demonstrated they had the expertise and capacity to deliver the service.

Councillor Dobb confirmed this would fit in with the Authority's Big Plan, e.g. education and skills, mental health etc. Results would be provided to the Local Service Board and the People and Places Board.

Both Councillor S Frobisher and Councillor D A J Thomas said the work carried out at the Centre was amazing and they suggested all Members visit to see the excellent works done there.

***RESOLVED*** that Cabinet appoint the company named in the report to deliver the services to support women in Denbighshire with pursuing employment, education or training element of the New Work Connections Project.

The meeting concluded at 1.30 p.m.

**Report To:** CABINET  
**Date of Meeting:** 21<sup>st</sup> June 2011  
**Lead Cabinet Member:** Councillor Julian Thompson-Hill  
**Lead Officer:** Paul McGrady, Acting Head of Finance & Assets  
**Title:** Final Outturn 2010/11

**1 What is the report about?**

Cabinet has received regular monitoring reports throughout the financial year on the performance of expenditure against budget. This report details the final position at financial year end. County Council on the 5<sup>th</sup> July will receive the figures together with the recommended treatment of reserves and provisions. The first draft of the Annual Statement of Accounts for 2010/11 will be submitted to external auditors on 30<sup>th</sup> June. The audited accounts will then be presented to the Corporate Governance Committee on 28<sup>th</sup> September 2011 for formal approval.

**2 What is the reason for making this report?**

The Council's constitution requires full Council to approve the establishment, use of and contributions to, financial reserves.

**3 What are the Recommendations?**

To consider the final revenue outturn position for 2010/11 and recommend the position to full Council.

To recommend to Council the treatment of reserves as detailed in the report.

To recommend the most appropriate use of £300k one-off funding as described at the end of Section 4 below.

**4 Report details**

The overall financial outturn position for 2010/11 is an underspend against the approved budget which together with an increase in the yield from Council Tax strengthens the financial position of the Council. As a consequence it is possible to make recommendations for the creation of specific reserves and provisions that will continue to assist the Council in addressing the severe financial pressures of the next few years.

The final Revenue Outturn figures are detailed in Appendix 1. The final position on service and corporate budgets was an underspend of £998k. This excludes spend below budget of £282k on Schools Delegated funds.

The outturn position for other services was largely in line with the previous regular monthly reports to Cabinet. As previously reported, the receipt of additional grant funding very late in the year (£772k in total), although welcome, did result in the revenue position improving too late for services to deal with properly.

Services have been proactive in planning for savings for future years, and the financial impact of some of those proposals began to take effect toward the end of 2010/11. The council budgeted to make a contribution to balances of £300k and this has been achieved.

Toward the end of the financial year, there was a significant improvement in the position of the schools in financial difficulty which has contributed toward the overall improved position for schools. During the year additional grants and some one-off funding were delegated to schools which also helped to improve the position.

Spending from schools delegated budgets was £282k less than the level of the overall LMS budgets and therefore school balances have increased by the same amount. Details of individual schools balances are shown in appendix 3. It was agreed in 2009/10 that overspends on SEN provision within schools would be funded retrospectively in 2010/11 and this has been achieved. With this adjustment, it means that total school balances are now £1.578m.

A small net overspend within elements of former culture and leisure services will be funded from general reserves.

A contribution to the EVR reserve for schools of £626k has been made to allow for the capitalisation of current EVR commitments. This was funded largely from NNDR refunds to schools and allows for some of the centrally held budgets for EVR to be delegated to schools in future.

Social Services and Housing budgets include a provision of £83k which is being set aside to fund the possible costs associated with a product recall at Cefndy. In-year surpluses on the Supporting People grant of £650k have been transferred to a capital financing reserve as agreed previously as part of the funding strategy for the council's capital plan for social care projects. The remainder of the grant surplus has been transferred to the supporting people grant reserve (£244k) as part of the strategy agreed through the service challenge process to fund possible pressures arising in 2011/12.

The final Environment Directorate under spend for 10/11 is made up of savings on vacant posts across all services (£201K) and under spends in the Highways & Infrastructure Department (£199K) and Planning & Public Protection (£66K). Environmental Services had a small under spend on its overall budget due to a significant pressure on the Free School meals budget. Contributions to the Highways winter maintenance reserve of £129k were made during the year, meaning the balance is £402k. Within Planning & public



Protection, a reserve has been established to use WAG grant funding in support of the development of the Local Development Plan.

The position on the yield from Council Tax is impacted upon by the continued increase in the number of dwellings in the County, together with a very high level of tax collection (98.2% which is among the highest in Wales). Assumptions when the budgets were set had taken account of a likely drop in collection rates as a result of the economic picture generally but the council still successfully maintained a high collection rate, which is a considerable achievement.

An assumption of the number of new properties was built into the calculation of the Council's Tax Base and used at Budget Setting time to calculate the level of Council Tax chargeable at Band D. This same assumption was used by WAG to calculate the level of Assembly funding through RSG for the year. A prudent approach was necessary as an overstated tax base would have resulted in reduced WAG funding.

The final level of Council Tax yield was £526k (1.4%) higher than these prudent assumptions and so the Council has a one off benefit.

Given the position overall within services, it is proposed that departments carry forward any net under spends to help deliver the 2011/12 budget strategy. Although the council went through a reorganisation part way through the year, it was agreed that previous financial planning assumptions based on the former four directorate structure would remain.

Services are proposing that carried forward balances are applied as follows:

Lifelong Learning – the costs of a restructure in School Improvement and Inclusion which began in 2010/11 will be fully realised in 2011/12. Match funding for capital schemes within Modernising Education that were deferred in 2010/11 will be funded in 2011/12.

Environment – under spend will be used to fund the costs in 2011/12 of numerous restructures that were agreed as part of the service challenge process in 2010/11. It is also proposed that contributions to system developments to improve street lighting and fuel management within the council's fleet are also made.

Governance & Efficiency – part of the under spend reported is in relation to under spends on external grant schemes. Initially, any under spend on such areas has to be earmarked in case of claw back. The under spend within Business Planning & Performance will be used to fund expenditure in relation to the ongoing development of the council's 'BIG Plan'.

The final position means that the council has £300k one-off cash funding available. This is a significant achievement and the council must ensure that the funding is used most effective way. There are two options proposed:

- to use the money to defer some budget reductions identified in the council's medium term financial plan for 2012/13 or
- the funding is made available to area member groups to fund priority projects in the local area. This would deliver £50k to each area group and would support the council's aim to be closer to the community.

A number of other contributions to and from Reserves and Provisions have been allowed for within the accounts. These are detailed in Appendix 2 and will require approval by full Council. Movements to reserves not already highlighted include £1.9m on the single status reserve as salaries have been adjusted and the Capital Financing reserve to which interest on VAT refunds that have been secured by successfully challenging regulations is placed to help finance capital expenditure going forward.

## **5 How does the decision contribute to the Corporate Priorities?**

Effective management of the council's revenue and capital budgets and delivery of the agreed budget strategy underpins activity in all areas, including corporate priorities.

## **6 What will it cost and how will it affect other services?**

The council's net revenue budget for 2010/11 was £176m. The final position excluding schools was a net under spend of £1.4m (0.7%). Included within this position is the impact of grant funding received late in the financial year. It is proposed that those services that achieved an under spend carry the net balance forward to meet specific costs in 2011/12.

## **7 What consultations have been carried out?**

The budget has been reported to cabinet throughout the year. Lead Cabinet Members have consulted on an ongoing basis with Heads of Service to agree necessary remedial action required to deliver the outturn position

## **8 Chief Finance Officer Statement**

This has been a challenging year as the council along with all of the public sector, has planned to deliver significant savings over the coming years. Services have been both prudent and very effective in identifying savings going forward, some of which have had an impact in 2010/11. This along with the receipt of grant funding late in the year and an improved council tax yield has again delivered a strong budget performance.

The principle of maintaining a suitable level of un-earmarked general balances together with specific reserves and provisions for potential commitments is key to helping the Council deliver services during a period of severe financial pressure. It is essential that good budgetary control continues

to be applied to avoid the possibility of overspends in the current and future years, particularly in the light of the extremely tight WAG settlements for the next few years.

Members have asked previously for details of the position on individual school's balances at the end of the financial year. These are shown in Appendix 3.

**9 What risks are there and is there anything we can do to reduce them?**

The general economic position and the impact upon council services in the medium term remains challenging and it is therefore prudent that the council continues to maintain adequate reserves to meet the financial challenges ahead and to deliver the agreed budget strategy.

**10 Power to make the Decision**

Local authorities are required under Section 151 of the Local Government Act 1972 to make arrangements for the proper administration of their financial affairs.

## DENBIGHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

## APPENDIX 1

Revenue Budget Outturn 2010/11

	Budget £000	2010/11 Outturn £000	Variance £000	Schools Position £000	Under & Overspends to Balances £000	Service Underspends £'000
<b>Service budgets</b>						
Lifelong Learning						
Schools Devolved	56,088	55,806	-282	-282	0	
Other Lifelong Learning	14,585	14,219	-366		65	-431
Environment	28,279	27,877	-402		0	-402
- Property maintenance	1,038	1,037	-1		0	-1
Social Services & Housing	41,034	41,034	0		0	0
Governance & Efficiency	13,317	13,132	-185		0	-185
Business Planning & Performance	811	721	-90		0	-90
<b>TOTAL SERVICE BUDGETS</b>	<b>155,152</b>	<b>153,826</b>	<b>-1,326</b>	<b>-282</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>-1,109</b>
<b>Corporate budgets</b>						
Corporate	4,441	4,341	-100		-100	
Benefits	0	-257	-257		-257	
Capital finance/investment interest	11,131	11,321	190		190	
Levies	4,602	4,602	0		0	
Contribution to other reserves/provisions	300	578	278		278	
<b>TOTAL SERVICES &amp; CORPORATE</b>	<b>175,626</b>	<b>174,411</b>	<b>-1,215</b>	<b>-282</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>-1,109</b>
<b>FUNDING</b>						
Assembly funding	138,107	138,107	0		0	
Use of Reserves	50	0	50		50	
Council Tax	37,469	37,995	-526		-526	
<b>TOTAL FUNDING</b>	<b>175,626</b>	<b>176,102</b>	<b>-476</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-476</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>TOTAL IN YEAR POSITION</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-1,692</b>	<b>-1,692</b>	<b>-282</b>	<b>-300</b>	<b>-1,109</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-1,692</b>	<b>-1,692</b>	<b>-282</b>	<b>-300</b>	<b>-1,109</b>

RESULTING POSITION AS AT 31 MARCH 2010

	£k
Schools balances brought forward	938
SEN Adjustment 2009/10	358
- plus in year position	282
<b>Schools Position as at 31 March 2010</b>	<b>1,578</b>
<b>Earmarked Balances</b>	
Service Underspends:	
Lifelong Learning	431
SSH	0
Environment	403
Governance & Efficiency	185
Business Planning & Performance	90
<b>Total Service Underspends</b>	<b>1,109</b>
Area Member Reserve or Medium Term Financial Plan Contribution	300

## Appendix 2 Reserves & Provisions

Details of significant cash backed reserves are given below:

31 Mar 10 £000s		Transfers (In) / Out £000s	31 Mar 11 £000s
(1,012)	Capital Schemes	147	(865)
(92)	Environmental Services	23	(69)
(255)	LDP Future Costs	(50)	(305)
(60)	Environment Directorate - Reserves	(106)	(166)
(273)	Winter Maintenance	(129)	(402)
(676)	Sustainable Waste Management	(1,073)	(1,749)
(160)	Major Highways Projects	0	(160)
(96)	Design and Development	70	(26)
(285)	Regeneration Project (VAT Refund)	118	(167)
(115)	External Funding Administration	(50)	(165)
(91)	Early Retirement Fund – Schools	(626)	(717)
0	Modernising Education	(153)	(153)
(50)	Leisure Strategy	0	(50)
(61)	Youth Service	0	(61)
(49)	Integrated Children’s Centre	(23)	(72)
(10)	Llys Marchan Reserve	0	(10)
(2,696)	Supporting People Reserve	(244)	(2,940)
(52)	S.117 Mental Health Act	0	(52)
(890)	Specialist PSS Placements	0	(890)
(139)	Major Events Reserve	(61)	(200)
(137)	Risk Management Fund	8	(129)
(782)	Insurance Fund	211	(571)
(2,992)	PFI Grant	(287)	(3,279)
(30)	Elections	(25)	(55)
(5,984)	Single Status	1,963	(4,021)
(148)	Spend to Save	148	0
(152)	IT Systems Developments (EDRMS)	128	(24)
(110)	IT Networks Development	(79)	(189)
(149)	LABGI Reserve	0	(149)
(1,881)	General Reserve	0	(1,881)
(2,359)	Delivering Change	(627)	(2,986)
(381)	Capital Financing (VAT refund interest)	(479)	(860)
0	Area Member Reserve/MTFP	(300)	(300)
0	CESI Pooled Budget	(90)	(90)
0	Planning Delivery for Wales	(230)	(230)
<b>(22,167)</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>(1,816)</b>	<b>(23,983)</b>

## Provisions

31 March 2010		Movement	31 March 2011
£000's		£000's	£000's
(931)	Insurance Fund	93	(838)
(43)	Other	(5)	(48)
(186)	Health & Safety	9	(177)
(142)	Fire Service Pension	0	(142)
(1,696)	Equal/Back Pay Claims	0	(1,696)
0	Cefndy Enterprises	(83)	(83)
(49)	Financial Software Developments	12	(37)
<b>(3,047)</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>(3,021)</b>

## APPENDIX 3

## PRIMARY SCHOOL BALANCES

AS AT 31.03.2011

0.5 = Nursery

COST CENTRE	SCHOOL	BALANCE AS AT 31.03.2010	BALANCE AS AT 31.03.2011	MOVEMENT IN YEAR	TOTAL PUPIL NOS. SEPT 2010	BALANCE PER PUPIL
114	YSGOL BETWS GWERFIL GOCH	14,073	6,567	(7,506)	37.00	177
116	YSGOL Y FAENOL	24,616	23,489	(1,127)	113.00	208
117	YSGOL BODFARI	11,107	12,525	1,417	33.00	380
136	YSGOL CARROG	18,063	20,930	2,868	42.50	492
140	YSGOL CEFN MEIRIADOG	23,126	25,941	2,815	75.00	346
146	YSGOL CLOCAENOG	14,145	11,198	(2,947)	31.50	355
162	YSGOL CAER DREWYN	39,434	34,156	(5,278)	82.50	414
163	YSGOL CYFFYLLIOG	15,340	9,559	(5,781)	26.00	368
164	YSGOL MAES HYFRYD	39,323	50,946	11,623	75.00	679
168	YSGOL Y PARC INFANTS	37,491	73,278	35,786	150.00	489
169	YSGOL FRONGOCH JUNIORS	13,418	31,152	17,733	189.00	165
170	YSGOL GWAENYNOG INFANTS	22,434	25,766	3,332	83.00	310
171	YSGOL HEULFRE JUNIORS	(440)	(14,554)	(14,114)	81.00	(180)
172	YSGOL TWM O'R NANT	38,033	35,818	(2,215)	225.50	159
176	YSGOL HIRADDUG	46,212	42,805	(3,407)	203.00	211
196	YSGOL GELLIFOR	10,227	16,547	6,320	76.50	216
198	YSGOL GLYNDYFRDWY	8,074	10,315	2,240	18.50	558
210	YSGOL BRO ELWERN	13,433	10,268	(3,165)	37.00	278
219	YSGOL HENLLAN	14,489	9,937	(4,552)	55.50	179
247 / 261	YSGOL BRO FAMAU	13,314	2,828	(10,486)	77.50	36
249	LLANBEDR CONTROLLED	4,817	443	(4,375)	64.00	7
251	YSGOL DYFFRYN IAL	2,136	717	(1,419)	45.00	16
252	YSGOL GYNRADD LLANDRILLO	26,113	22,820	(3,293)	30.50	748
255	YSGOL BRYN CLWYD	(2,814)	(6,500)	(3,686)	24.00	(271)
258	YSGOL LLANFAIR D.C.	32,452	32,686	234	104.00	314
266	YSGOL BRYN COLLEN	(4,280)	10,191	14,471	141.50	72
268	YSGOL BRO CINMEIRCH	20,723	9,438	(11,285)	61.50	153
272	YSGOL LLANTYSILIO CONTROLLED	31,817	0	(31,817)	0.00	0
284	YSGOL MELYD	35,214	23,026	(12,188)	138.50	166
325	YSGOL PENTRECELYN	19,900	25,231	5,331	23.50	1,074
333	CLAWDD OFFA	(74,565)	(24,375)	50,190	192.50	(127)
334	YSGOL BODNANT INFANTS	11,694	22,269	10,575	215.00	104
335	YSGOL BODNANT JUNIORS	12,635	15,680	3,045	309.00	51
336	YSGOL PENMORFA	48,192	50,557	2,365	410.00	123
337	YSGOL Y LLYS	63,018	56,173	(6,845)	284.00	198
338	YSGOL PANTPASTYNOG	13,966	15,122	1,156	54.00	280
351	YSGOL RHEWL	1,394	4,728	3,335	36.00	131
361	YSGOL Y CASTELL	6,624	(13,851)	(20,475)	197.00	(70)
364	YSGOL BRYN HEDYDD	28,273	59,285	31,012	420.00	141
365	CHRIST CHURCH C.P.	31,656	46,384	14,728	381.00	122
366	YSGOL DEWI SANT	12,333	60,389	48,057	478.50	126
367	YSGOL EMMANUEL	31,221	129,406	98,185	438.50	295
368	YSGOL LLYWELYN	2,439	4,307	1,869	493.50	9
369	YSGOL MAIR R.C.	25,823	7,923	(17,900)	280.00	28
373	YSGOL BORTHYN CONTROLLED	46,536	55,529	8,993	110.00	505
374	RHOS ST. C.P.	17,125	60,669	43,544	186.00	326
375	YSGOL PENBARRAS	26,686	15,986	(10,700)	231.50	69
390	ST. ASAPH INFANTS V.P.	(497)	13,863	14,360	95.00	146
392	YSGOL ESGOB MORGAN	21,263	20,276	(987)	102.00	199
405	YSGOL TREFNANT CONTROLLED	32,178	47,672	15,494	67.50	706
408	YSGOL TREMEIRCHION	17,782	8,181	(9,602)	43.00	190
467	YSGOL GYMRAEG Y GWERNANT	13,486	10,071	(3,415)	111.00	91
490	ST BRIGID'S	0	0	0	138.00	0

TOTAL

971,254

1,223,766

252,512

7,618

Average

161

**SECONDARY SCHOOL BALANCES AS AT 31.03.2011**

COST CENTRE	SCHOOL	BALANCE AS AT 31.03.2010	BALANCE AS AT 31.03.2011	MOVEMENT IN YEAR	TOTAL PUPIL NOS. SEPT 2010	BALANCE PER PUPIL
513	DENBIGH HIGH SCHOOL	65,398	75,729	10,331	792.00	96
527	YSGOL DINAS BRAN	144,967	148,262	3,295	1,799.00	82
537	PRESTATYN HIGH SCHOOL	166,629	255,195	88,566	975.00	262
541	RHYL HIGH SCHOOL	(66,696)	(102,031)	(35,334)	780.00	(131)
543	BLESSED EDWARD JONES HIGH SCHOOL	(149,760)	(113,244)	36,516	1,049.00	(108)
549	YSGOL BRYNHYFRYD	240,806	151,826	(88,980)	1,262.00	120
553	YSGOL GLAN CLWYD	154,518	169,442	14,924	489.00	347

**TOTAL 555,863 585,180 29,317 7,146**

Average 82

**SPECIAL SCHOOL BALANCES AS AT 31.03.2011**

COST CENTRE	SCHOOL	BALANCE AS AT 31.03.2010	BALANCE AS AT 31.03.2011	MOVEMENT IN YEAR	TOTAL PUPIL NOS. SEPT 2010	BALANCE PER PUPIL
619	YSGOL PLAS BRONDYFFRYN	(331,047)	(302,074)	28,973	117.00	(2,829)
655	YSGOL TIR MORFA	99,727	70,745	(28,983)	129.00	773

**TOTAL (231,320) (231,329) (9) 246**

Average (940)

**TOTAL ALL SCHOOLS 1,295,796 1,577,616 281,820 15,010**

**Average balance per pupil - all schools**

**86**



**Report To:** CABINET  
**Date of Meeting:** 21<sup>st</sup> June 2011  
**Lead Cabinet Member:** Councillor Julian Thompson-Hill  
**Lead Officer:** Paul McGrady, Acting Head of Finance & Assets  
**Title:** Finance Report 2011-2012

**1 What is the report about?**

The report gives the latest forecast position for the Council's revenue budget and performance against the budget strategy for 2011/12 as defined in the Medium Term Financial Plan. The report also gives a summary update of the Capital Plan and of the Housing Revenue Account and Housing Capital Plan.

**2 What is the reason for making this report?**

The report advises Members of the latest financial forecasts in order to deliver the agreed budget strategy for 2011/12.

**3 What are the Recommendations?**

That Members note the latest financial position and progress against the agreed budget strategy.

**4 Report details**

The initial revenue budget forecast is presented as Appendix 1 and shows a small overspend of £51k, which is as a result of cost pressures in Housing (homelessness budgets). At this early stage in the year, all other services are forecast to be on budget. Further details of departmental budget performance are shown below. The Housing Revenue Account summary position is also included in Appendix 1 for information but this is a separate fund and not part of the council's revenue budget.

Appendix 2 to this report gives an update showing progress against the agreed savings and pressures agreed as part of the 2011/12 budget setting process. In total, net savings of £6.359m were agreed and so far, £4.873m (77%) have been achieved as shown in the Appendix. This means that 20% more of the savings have been achieved since the last report to Cabinet. The remaining £1.486m (23%) are still in progress but thought to be achievable at this stage. If agreed savings are not achievable, these will be flagged as such and departments will be expected to offer alternative proposals. At this point however, there is no deviation from the agreed savings plan. A portfolio of evidence is being collected to demonstrate that the savings agreed as part of the service challenge process are those actually delivered.

An update of the capital plan is enclosed as Appendix 3. The agreed plan for the year totals £40m and so far, £1.5m has been spent. Appendix 4 gives a summary of the major schemes within this year's plan and a summary update for each.

## 5 How does the decision contribute to the Corporate Priorities?

Effective management of the Council's revenue and capital budgets and delivery of the agreed budget strategy underpins activity in all areas, including corporate priorities.

## 6 What will it cost and how will it affect other services?

This section of the report is used to highlight any key variances from budget or savings targets, risks or potential additional savings that may arise throughout the year and to give a more general update on the Capital Plan and the Housing Revenue Account.

**Revenue Budget** - The revenue budget forecast to the end of May shows a projected budget pressure of £51k, which relates to **Housing Services**. There has been a budget pressure of approximately £50k within the service for the last year, caused primarily by a legislative change and loss of grant. While a pressure is currently reported, it is hoped that action taken throughout the year will reduce the pressure and achieve a balanced budget. The final position for Council funded housing services last year was an over spend of £18k.

Within **Highways & Infrastructure**, it is assumed that a one-off transfer of £250k will be made to corporate budgets in 2011/12 to recognise the impact of external grants awarded late in 2010/11.

**Adult Services** budgets are shown as balanced but assume that £134k of Supporting People grant will be used to fund pressures within the year. This was part of the strategy agreed at the service challenge in 2010 to manage in-year cost pressures. The budgets within Adults are being reviewed as a consequence of the recent management restructure which introduced locality budgets and as part of this, more detailed analysis of likely demand and cost will be completed. For example, to monitor the impact of the Fairer Charging initiative (capping non-residential charges at £50 per week) and the impact of the investment in re-ablement services, etc.

Within **Leisure Services**, there is currently an in year pressure as a result of the review of the Dual Use agreements which has seen a significant reduction in the contribution going from Schools to Leisure Services however transitional funding has been earmarked within the year to support this. The Llangollen Pavilion and Rhyl Pavilion Theatre budgets have transferred to Leisure Services in the current year. Both have carried deficits previously (£110k in total last year) but the department is considering proposals to try to ensure that the budgets are on target this year.

The **Strategic HR** budget is forecast to be on target and assumes that the savings attributable to the newly implemented restructure of the department will be achieved.

**Environment** budgets are forecast to be on target but may improve during the year as the new waste disposal contract takes effect. The department does have one-off costs to fund as part of a restructuring exercise that was agreed at the service challenge but could achieve a surplus once the full impact of the restructure is clear.

**Capital Plan** – A detailed update of major schemes is enclosed as Appendix 4. There are no new risks or issues to report against those schemes.

**The Housing Revenue Account (HRA)** – The HRA is forecast to on budget, achieving a planned in-year deficit of £1.025m, this forecast remains unchanged from last month. The in-year deficit arises as £1.3m of revenue budget is to be used to fund capital expenditure as part of the agreed Housing Stock Business Plan for 2011/12. The Business Plan remains viable. The Housing Capital Plan is forecast to be in line with the budgeted estimate of £5.969m for the year. A summary of the latest HRA position is shown in the table below. A more detailed appendix will be presented to cabinet every quarter going forward.

***Housing Revenue Account & Capital Plan Summary:***

<b><u>HRA Summary 2011/12</u></b>	
<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>£'000</b>
Housing Management & Maintenance	5,282
Capital Charges	2,614
Subsidy	3,063
Provision for Bad Debts	28
Revenue Contribution to Capital	1,341
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>12,328</b>
<b>Income</b>	
Rents	11,139
Garages	153
Interest	11
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>11,303</b>
<b>In Year Deficit</b>	<b>1,025</b>

<b>HRA Capital Plan</b>	<b>£,000</b>
Planned Expenditure	<b>5,969</b>
<b>Funded By:</b>	
Major Repairs Allowance	2,400
Revenue Contribution	1,341
Capital Receipts	16
Borrowing	2,212
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,969</b>

## **7 What consultations have been carried out?**

The revenue budget was recommended by Cabinet and agreed formally by Council after an extensive round of service challenges. The capital plan was approved by council following scrutiny by the Capital & Assets Strategy Group and recommendation by cabinet. The Housing Revenue Account has been approved following consultation with Elected Members and tenant federation representatives.

## **8 Chief Finance Officer Statement**

It is crucial that the agreed financial plan for the year is delivered and so any additional cost pressures or savings that may not be achieved must be reported early and corrective action taken. The current round of service challenges have so far been very positive and have given assurance that this year's targets ought to be achieved. It is a significant achievement to have already delivered over three-quarters of the savings target for the year.

## **9 What risks are there and is there anything we can do to reduce them?**

This is the most challenging financial period the council has faced and failure to deliver the agreed budget strategy will put further pressure on services in the current and future financial years. Effective budget monitoring and control and early reporting of variances will help ensure that the financial strategy is achieved.

Specific risks are apparent when dealing with capital projects and can include expenditure or time overruns, funding issues and other non-financial considerations. A robust approval mechanism and close financial monitoring and reporting, along with effective project management procedures, help to minimise these risks.

The HRA is undertaking a considerable capital investment to improve the housing stock and using borrowing and grants to fund the works. Any borrowing must be affordable and the regular monitoring and annual approval and viability assessment of the Housing Stock Business Plan ensures that this is so.

## **10 Power to make the Decision**

Local authorities are required under Section 151 of the Local Government Act 1972 to make arrangements for the proper administration of their financial affairs.

## Appendix 1

## DENBIGHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING REPORT 2011/12

	Budget			Projected Outturn			Variance			Variance Previous Report £'000	
	Expenditure	Income	Net	Expenditure	Income	Net	Expenditure	Income	Net		
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000		%
Business Planning & Performance	2,761	-1,867	894	2,761	-1,867	894	0	0	0	0.00%	0
Corporate Governance	2,111	-541	1,570	2,111	-541	1,570	0	0	0	0.00%	0
Finance & Assets	14,605	-7,384	7,221	14,605	-7,384	7,221	0	0	0	0.00%	0
Highways & Infrastructure	19,589	-8,670	10,919	19,589	-8,670	10,919	0	0	0	0.00%	0
Regeneration, Planning & Public Protection	5,994	-2,519	3,475	5,994	-2,519	3,475	0	0	0	0.00%	0
Adult & Business Services	46,446	-14,558	31,888	46,589	-14,701	31,888	143	-143	0	0.00%	0
Children & Family Services	9,528	-820	8,708	9,370	-663	8,707	-158	157	-1	-0.01%	0
Housing Services	2,134	-1,763	371	2,186	-1,763	423	52	0	52	14.02%	0
Leisure, Libraries & Community Development	9,989	-4,575	5,414	9,989	-4,575	5,414	0	0	0	0.00%	0
Strategic HR	1,576	-370	1,206	1,576	-370	1,206	0	0	0	0.00%	0
Customer Services	3,576	-838	2,738	3,576	-838	2,738	0	0	0	0.00%	0
Environment	15,864	-3,610	12,254	15,864	-3,610	12,254	0	0	0	0.00%	0
Modernising Education	1,302	0	1,302	1,302	0	1,302	0	0	0	0.00%	0
School Improvement & Inclusion	7,209	-2,679	4,530	7,209	-2,679	4,530	0	0	0	0.00%	0
<b>Total Services</b>	<b>142,684</b>	<b>-50,194</b>	<b>92,490</b>	<b>142,721</b>	<b>-50,180</b>	<b>92,541</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>0.06%</b>	<b>0</b>
Corporate	7,002	0	7,002	7,002	0	7,002	0	0	0	0.00%	0
Precepts & Levies	4,549	0	4,549	4,549	0	4,549	0	0	0	0.00%	0
Capital Financing	12,104	0	12,104	12,104	0	12,104	0	0	0	0.00%	0
<b>Total Corporate</b>	<b>23,655</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>23,655</b>	<b>23,655</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>23,655</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.00%</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Council Services &amp; Corporate Budget</b>	<b>166,339</b>	<b>-50,194</b>	<b>116,145</b>	<b>166,376</b>	<b>-50,180</b>	<b>116,196</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>0.04%</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Schools</b>	<b>65,845</b>	<b>-6,846</b>	<b>58,999</b>	<b>65,845</b>	<b>-6,846</b>	<b>58,999</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.00%</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total Council Budget</b>	<b>232,184</b>	<b>-57,040</b>	<b>175,144</b>	<b>232,221</b>	<b>-57,026</b>	<b>175,195</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>0.03%</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Housing Revenue Account</b>	<b>12,327</b>	<b>-11,302</b>	<b>1,025</b>	<b>12,327</b>	<b>-11,302</b>	<b>1,025</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.00%</b>	<b>0</b>

**Medium Term Financial Plan Update 2011/12**

<u>Ref</u>	<u>Action</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Saving</u> <u>£'000</u>	<u>Total</u> <u>£'000</u>
<b><u>General</u></b>				
A1	Workforce Budget Reduction 1%	In Progress	125	
A4	Reduce staff advertising	In Progress	150	
A5	Procurement savings	In Progress	200	
A7	Costs of Democracy	In Progress	25	
A8	Review of Senior Management & Exec PAs	Achieved	365	
A9	Reduce budget for Major Events	Achieved	40	
G1	Removal of one-off Budget 2010/11	Achieved	2,185	3,090
<b><u>Asset Review</u></b>				
B1	Office accommodation	In Progress	80	80
<b><u>Support Services Review</u></b>				
C1	HR review	Achieved	50	
C12	Insurance Tender	Achieved	50	
C2	Property services - phase 1	In Progress	100	
C3	Legal services - phase 1	In Progress	42	
C4	Democratic support	In Progress	52	
C5	ICT/IM	In Progress	145	
C6	ICT/IM	In Progress	126	
C7	Finance - Financial Management	Achieved	70	635
<b><u>Service Challenges</u></b>				
<b><u>Leisure, Libraries &amp; Community Development</u></b>				
Da1	Leisure services- Management System	Achieved	40	
Da2	Back office co-located with Youth	Achieved	20	
Da5	Remove subsidy by increasing income	Achieved	50	
Dk2	Merger of N Wales Bibliographic Services	Achieved	20	
Dk3	Running Costs / Income	Achieved	27	
Dk4	Family Info and Archives review	Achieved	35	
Dk5	Review of housesbound service	In Progress	10	202
<b><u>Environmental Services</u></b>				
Db11	Outsource Propagation	Achieved	30	
Db13	Cemetaries charging -	Achieved	34	
Db16	Countryside staff reduction	Achieved	24	
Db17	Tourism Service Redesign	In Progress	20	
Db18	Regeneration Service Redesign	In Progress	23	
Db2	Renegotiate recycle and disposal contracts	Achieved	220	
Db5	Regional Waste Project Procurement Budget	Achieved	94	
Db8	Reduce Overtime (Street Cleansing)	In Progress	20	
Db9	Fleet Efficiency	Achieved	50	
Db1/12	Other	Achieved	26	
Db14	WAG Waste Target Pressures	Achieved	-247	
Db15	Free School Meals Cost Pressures	Achieved	-130	164
<b><u>Planning, Regeneration &amp; Regulatory Services</u></b>				
Dc1	Review of Regeneration	In Progress	40	40
<b><u>Highways &amp; Infrastructure</u></b>				
Dd1	Road Safety	Achieved	45	45

		Status	<b>Saving</b>	<b>Total</b>
			<b>£,000</b>	<b>£'000</b>
<b>Adult &amp; Business Services</b>				
Df1	Cefndy Healthcare,	In Progress	60	
Df10	Restructure part of service	Achieved	53	
Df16	Administration Rationalisation	Achieved	47	
Df17	Systems Thinking and Vacancy Control	In Progress	40	
Df19	Workforce Development Review	Achieved	30	
Df6	Day care - review and rationalise	In Progress	60	
Df8	Impact of investment in reablement	In Progress	75	
Df9	Residential Care - Impact of Extra Care	In Progress	60	
Df99	Compensating savings within the services	In Progress	566	
Df5,12-15	Other	In Progress	51	
P1/4/6	Loss of Grant	In Progress	-294	
P2/3/5	Demographic Change	In Progress	-272	476
<b>School Improvement &amp; Inclusion</b>				
Dh1	Service Restructure	Achieved	261	261
<b>Children &amp; Family Services</b>				
Dj1	Management Changes	Achieved	105	
Dj10	TAPP Team change in funding	Achieved	93	
Dj3/6/9/13	Other Savings	Achieved	56	
Dj5	Re-shaping Suoervised Contact Service	In Progress	33	
Dj2	Admin Rationalisation	Achieved	40	
Dj20	Legislative	In Progress	-14	
Dj16/17	Social Worker & Staffing Pressures	In Progress	-117	
Dj18	In-house Fostering	In Progress	-62	
Dj19	Direct Payments	In Progress	-24	110
<b>Schools</b>				
DS1	Reduction in School Roles	Achieved	340	
DS2	Removal of Unused Pay Budget Provision	Achieved	620	960
<b>Housing Services</b>				
Dz1	Various small savings	In Progress	31	31
<b>Regional/Collaboration Projects</b>				
EC11	Street Lighting	In Progress	75	
EC14	Street Works	Achieved	20	
EC16	Winter Maintenance	In Progress	10	
EC21	Review Pest Control	In Progress	30	
EC22	Review Development Control	In Progress	20	
EC25	Review of CCTV service	Achieved	20	
EC26	Review of Pollution Control	Achieved	30	
EC27	Review of Trading Standards	Achieved	60	265
<b>Total Savings 2011/12</b>				<b>6,359</b>
<b>Summary:</b>			<b>£'000</b>	<b>%</b>
Savings Achieved			<b>4,873</b>	<b>77</b>
Savings In Progress			<b>1,486</b>	<b>23</b>
Savings Not Achieved			<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
Total			<b>6,359</b>	

**Denbighshire County Council - Capital Plan 2010/11 - 20013/14**  
**Position as at May 2011**

**APPENDIX 3**

		2011/12	2012/13	2013/14
		£000s	£000s	£000s
<b>Capital Funding:</b>				
<b>1</b>	<b>General Funding:</b>			
	Unhypothecated Supported Borrowing	11,761	4,445	4,431
	General Capital Grant	1,936	1,565	1,369
	General Capital Receipts	1,550		
	Earmarked Capital Receipts	167	0	0
		15,414	6,010	5,800
<b>2</b>	<b>Prudential Borrowing</b>	11,490	0	0
<b>3</b>	<b>Reserves and Contributions</b>	1,163	0	0
<b>4</b>	<b>Specific Grants</b>	12,609	8,452	
	<b>Total Finance</b>	40,676	14,462	5,800
	<b>Total Estimated Payments</b>	-39,776	-8,462	0
	<b>Contingency</b>	-900	-1,000	-1,000
	<b>Earmarked Contingency</b>			
	<b>Unallocated Reserve</b>	0	0	0
	<b>Funding available</b>	0	5,000	4,800



## Appendix 4 Major Capital Projects Update

### Rhyl Coastal Defence

Budget	£10.0m
Funding	WAG Grant
Expenditure to Date	£2.340m
Comments	<p>This 100% Welsh Government funded £10m coastal defence scheme will reduce the flood risk to some 2,000 properties in West Rhyl. Approval for £7.04m of works for phases 1 &amp; 2 has been given by the Welsh Government. These are the works to the inner harbour and river training wall.</p> <p>Works will commence in June 2011, and will take approximately 12 months to complete.</p> <p>Approval for phase 3 of the works, the stepped revetment towards the drift park is still awaited. The Welsh Government has asked the Environment Agency to carry out a review of the design which will therefore delay the start of this phase.</p> <p>Overall completion of the scheme is estimated to take 2 years.</p>
Forecast Expenditure 11/12	£5.2m

### Foryd Harbour Cycle & Pedestrian Bridge

Budget	£4.2m
Funding	WAG Grant
Expenditure to Date	£0.325m
Comments	<p>It is anticipated that the construction cost estimate will be known by the end of July 2011, with approval to proceed to construction being sought from Cabinet in September 2011.</p> <p>We await approval by the Welsh Government Marine Consents Unit and there is also a requirement to gain a Section 106 licence to cross a navigable watercourse from the Welsh Assembly Government.</p> <p>It is hoped to commence on-site construction early in 2012, with target completion by December 2012.</p>
Forecast Expenditure 11/12	£2.0m

### Foryd Harbour Quayside Units, Public Square & Extended Wall

Budget	£4.8m
Funding	WAG Grant
Expenditure to Date	£0.120m
Comments	<p>On-going meetings with the Council's Design service to produce detailed design of the units.</p> <p>Continuing monthly meetings with Foryd Harbour Users Forum. Planning consent submission is scheduled for July/August 2011. A detailed report will be presented to Cabinet in July.</p>
Forecast Expenditure 11/12	£2.5m

## Apollo Cinema

Budget	£2.5m
Funding	£1.6m SRA Grant, £0.9m Private Finance
Expenditure to Date	£0.498m
Comments	<p>Works on site are now progressing well, with all planning conditions discharged.</p> <p>The programme is currently two weeks behind schedule but the contractor will make every endeavour to claw back this time as the project progresses.</p>
Forecast Expenditure 11/12	£2.0m

## Property Acquisition & Demolitions

Budget	£1.6m
Funding	£1.6m SRA Grant
Expenditure to Date	£1.4m
Comments	<p>Council have previously approved the purchase of a number of properties in Rhyl with a view to demolition and the provision of public realm works:</p> <p><b>Abbey Street</b> The buildings demolition has been completed and suitable fill is being sourced to re-instate the site.</p> <p><b>Brighton Road</b> The buildings demolition has been completed and enhancement work to the adjacent property is progressing well. The public realm works are also underway.</p> <p>Both schemes are on programme and within budget.</p>
Forecast Expenditure 11/12	£0.200m

**Report To: CABINET**

**Date of Meeting: 21 June 2011**

**Lead Cabinet Member: Councillor Julian Thompson-Hill, Lead Member for Finance and Efficiency**

**Lead Officer: Paul McGrady, Acting Head of Finance & Assets**

**Title: Medium Term Financial Plan 2011 – 14**

**1 What is the report about?**

The Medium Term Financial Plan sets out an overview of the Council's financial position for three years. It gives the context for future years' budget plans and highlights assumptions and possible financial pressures facing the Council over the period.

**2 What is the reason for making this report?**

Members need to understand the Council's medium term financial position to allow robust decisions to be made about future years' budgets.

**3 What are the Recommendations?**

That members approve the Medium Term Financial Plan.

**4 Report details**

The Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) is attached as Appendix 1 and summarises the Council's position.

**5 How does the decision contribute to the Corporate Priorities?**

Effective management of the council's revenue and capital budgets and delivery of the agreed budget strategy underpins activity in all areas, including corporate priorities. The MTFP assumes an additional £1m is invested in priorities in 2012/13 and 2013/14.

**6 What will it cost and how will it affect other services?**

There are no direct costs arising from this report, but it does give guidance on what savings will be required and where investment may take place.

**7 What consultations have been carried out?**

The revenue budget was recommended by cabinet and agreed formally by council after an extensive round of service challenges and member events. The capital plan was approved by council following scrutiny by the Capital & Assets Strategy Group and recommendation by cabinet. The Housing Revenue Account has been approved following consultation with elected members and tenant federation representatives.

**8 Chief Finance Officer Statement**

The MTFP lays out the Council's assumptions for the coming three years. Given the current financial climate, it is important that the Council looks beyond one year when making any key decisions. Clearly future years' assumptions are not as clear as current year, but give an indicator of the likely pressures that will be faced.

**9 What risks are there and is there anything we can do to reduce them?**

This is the most challenging financial period the Council has faced and failure to plan adequately will put the Council under increased pressure. The MTFP sets out the context against which decisions can be made and reduces the risk of decisions purely being taken on short-term criteria and also it shows the implications of putting off difficult decisions.

**10 Power to make the Decision**

Local authorities are required under Section 151 of the Local Government Act 1972 to make arrangements for the proper administration of their financial affairs.



# **DENBIGHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

## **MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN**

**2011/2014**

# 1 BACKGROUND

## Introduction

It is important that the Council looks at its finances for more than one year ahead. This allows it to plan properly for things like savings, inflation, service changes and changes in income. Denbighshire County Council does this through its Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP). The plan takes a look at the coming three years and estimates what might happen to the Council during that time and what might that mean for its finances.

It follows closely the plans put forward by services and corporately during the business plan and corporate plan processes.

The MTFP will:

- Identify what cost increases there might be in services, staff costs and supplies and services generally
- Set out estimated future levels of Government funding and the likely impact on Council Tax
- Identify the potential levels of savings needed to be delivered
- Identify any risks to the achievement of the plan.

Although it is always difficult to forecast these things it allows a broad view of the Council's financial future to be determined. The MTFP is not intended to be a detailed explanation of all the Council services or their budgets, but to provide an overview and context for decision making.

# 2 EXPENDITURE

## Services

Expenditure in the Council is driven by the services that it provides. During the summer and autumn each service goes through a 'Service Challenge'. This is where they present their plans for the coming years to a panel consisting of senior managers and Councillors. The results of these challenges form the basis of each year's MTFP and annual budget.

Each service produces a service business plan that gives more detail on what they will do and how much it may cost. The Corporate Plan then summarises the Council's overall aspirations and sets out how it will measure its progress.

The table below shows the agreed budget for 2011/12 for each service:

	2011/12 Budget		
	Exp £000	Inc £000	Net £000
Business Planning & Performance	2,510	-1,867	644
Corporate Governance	2,218	-541	1,677
Finance & Assets	14,594	-7,384	7,210
Highways & Infrastructure	19,381	-8,670	10,711
Regeneration, Planning & Public Protection	6,063	-2,519	3,544
Adult & Business Services	46,475	-14,182	32,292
Children & Family Services	9,375	-821	8,554
Housing Services	2,134	-1,763	372
Leisure, Libraries & Community Development	9,844	-4,575	5,269
Strategic HR	1,576	-370	1,206
Customer Services	3,576	-838	2,738
Environment	16,155	-3,610	12,545
Modernising Education	1,302	0	1,302
School Improvement & Inclusion	7,226	-2,679	4,548
<b>Total Services</b>	<b>142,429</b>	<b>-49,817</b>	<b>92,612</b>
Corporate	6,881	0	6,881
Precepts & Levies	4,549	0	4,549
Capital Finance/Interest received	12,104	0	12,104
<b>Total Corporate</b>	<b>23,534</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>23,534</b>
<b>Council Services &amp; Corporate Budget</b>	<b>165,963</b>	<b>-49,817</b>	<b>116,146</b>
<b>Schools Delegated</b>	<b>65,845</b>	<b>-6,846</b>	<b>58,999</b>
<b>Total Council Budget</b>	<b>231,808</b>	<b>-56,663</b>	<b>175,145</b>
<b>Housing Revenue Account</b>	<b>12,327</b>	<b>-11,302</b>	<b>1,025</b>

## **Inflation and Other Pressures**

As well as changes to demand the Council also needs to be aware of the changes in the cost of goods and services or additional taxes. For Example in 2012/13, the UK Government has decided to introduce a 'Carbon Tax' on energy consumption and to increase National Insurance contributions by 0.3%. These two changes alone will cost the Council £500k in one year. In addition to this there are likely to be significant increases in fuel and energy costs. General inflation as measured by the Consumer Price Index (CPI) which is currently running at around 5% is also likely to add significantly to the Council's costs. After a two year pay freeze the Council must also consider the possibility of increases in staff pay.

In addition to general inflationary pressures, there are pressures that relate to specific services which are considered during service challenges, such as:

- the increased costs of waste disposal,
- an ageing population,
- pupil numbers are significantly decreasing in some areas of the County while increasing in other areas,
- increased costs of residential care

## **Priorities**

The Council's Corporate Plan shows that the Council has 5 Improvement Objectives:

- Adapting service delivery to address demographic changes
- Reducing deprivation, and growing Denbighshire's economy sustainably, by strategically targeting resources
- Modernising the education service to achieve a high level of performance across the county
- Securing a sustainable road network and flood defences
- Improving the way the council works

To ensure it can tackle these improvement objectives, the MTFP assumes money will be set aside to be spent on these priorities in each of the three years in the plan, based on business cases submitted by the relevant departments.

<b>Year</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Priority</b>
2011/12	£0.65m £0.25m £0.25m £0.175m £0.175m	Road Network Modernising Education Addressing Demographic Change Reducing Deprivation Improving the Way the Council Works With Communities
2012/13	£1.0m	tbc
2013/14	£1.0m	tbc



### 3 INCOME

#### Welsh Government Financial Settlements

The Council is reliant on Welsh Government grants for around 78% of its net revenue income. This means it is crucial that the Council understands what grants it might get in future years. In the past the Welsh Government has only given Councils notification of grants for the following year. However for 2011/12 they have now given 3 year notifications (although years 2 and 3 are indicative). For Denbighshire the three year settlement announced was:

Year	Movement %	Movement £
2011/12	-1.6%	-£2.5m
2012/13	+0.55%	+£0.75m
2013/14	+1.22%	+£1.7m

In addition to this, the Welsh Government has also announced that it expects Councils to increase funding to schools at a rate of 1% above the amount it gives to them. This means that, broadly, schools cash position will improve more quickly than other services as the Council has to move funds from other services to meet this requirement.

While the increases in grant settlement are clearly positive for the Council, they will still lag significantly behind the government's forecast inflation increases with CPI currently at 4.5% and likely to rise to 5% before falling back. This means that there will be a significant income gap for the Council each year.

#### Council Tax

Historically, Denbighshire County Council has had a high Council Tax and has successfully made efforts to reduce this relative to other Councils. However, the current financial situation makes it difficult to continue this strategy. A balance needs to be struck between the ability to raise enough money to fund important services to the right level and the impact increasing taxation will have on residents of the County. Throughout the plan, it has been assumed that Council Tax will rise at 3% each year, although this is obviously a decision that elected members make each year having considered the financial and service plans in detail and its impact on residents.

#### Investments

The Council has a clear Treasury Management Strategy that sets out how it will invest and what risks are involved. This is presented to full Council each February with regular updates reported during the year. It is assumed that over the next 3 years interest rates will rise and that income from investments will also begin to increase.

#### Grants

Other than its main revenue grant, the Council also relies on numerous other grants for service delivery. Some of these will be reduced over the next 3 years and will impact on services. These services are expected to have clear exit strategies in place to deal with this and these are examined during service challenges.

## **Balances and Reserves**

The Council sets aside money to allow it to meet known or unforeseen issues. This money is put into reserves when the Council wants to fund a specific project at some point in the future, for example a new IT system. It keeps general balances for use in emergency situations when no other funding is available. In the past the Council's general balances were far too low and it worked hard to rebuild them. Although they are not yet at a level recommended by the Wales Audit Office, they are now much more robust.

During a time of financial difficulty it is tempting to use balances and reserves to meet normal expenditure requirements rather than make difficult budget decisions. It is important therefore that balances are maintained at a sufficient level for the Council to ensure it is in a safe financial position.

The plan assumes there will not be any use of general balances during this period. The Council has always budgeted to contribute to general balances each year however as part of its 3 year savings target it will begin to phase this out over 2 years starting in 2013/14.

## **4 SAVINGS**

The Council must make savings of around £15m during the next 3 years. Rather than try to spread savings out or 'salami slice' services, the Council has adopted a set of principles that determine how it will approach its savings proposals:

- To make sure the way we work across the whole council ensures good value in the way we spend money.
- To reduce the cost of management, democracy and bureaucracy to what is necessary to deliver good services.
- To work with others where this can save us money or keep a small, important service working.
- To make sure we get the best out of our staff.
- To increase income to the council.
- To minimise the impact on our priority areas and on services which we legally have to deliver that work with vulnerable individuals.
- To challenge whether we should continue to fund non-essential, non-statutory services where others also provide these.
- To understand the impact of our proposals on Denbighshire and its residents.

As part of its 2011/12 budget setting process, each service participated in a 'Service Challenge'. At these challenges all Heads of Service were expected to lay out their service plans for the coming minimum of three years and to show what efficiency savings they could make. These proposals were checked and revised and eventually became part of the budget.

The table below shows a summary of the estimated level of savings required and the total of proposed savings. It shows that for years 2 and 3 of the plan there is a total of around £1m of savings still to be identified. Services are currently working on proposals for the next set of Service Challenges and these should identify savings to address this shortfall.

### THREE YEAR SAVINGS REQUIREMENTS

	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14
Net Cost of Services	175,626	175,145	177,037
Inflation	4,376	4,905	5,444
Priorities	1,500	1,000	1,000
<b>TOTAL NET EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>181,502</b>	<b>181,050</b>	<b>183,481</b>
Government Funding	136,536	137,282	138,964
Council Tax and Other	38,607	39,755	40,906
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>175,143</b>	<b>177,037</b>	<b>179,870</b>
Savings Required	6,359	4,013	3,611
Savings Identified	-6,359	-3,452	-3,111
<b>Further Savings Required</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>561</b>	<b>500</b>

### Collaboration

As part of its service development, the Council is continuing its work on collaboration with other Councils and public bodies. It currently has arrangements in place for the joint management of its highways, planning and public protection departments with Conwy County Borough Council. It also has arrangements for joint service in smaller departments such as Emergency Planning and Procurement.

As part of its future savings plans the Council expects to enter into more collaborative projects and the MTFP assumes that these will begin to deliver more savings each year so that by 2014/15 around £1.7m per year will be saved by joint working in various forms.

### Risks

The Council has a clear risk management strategy that includes service and corporate risk registers, detailing key risks, what their impact may be and how they are being managed.

The Medium Term Financial Plan is a forecast of what the Council's financial position will be in future years. The further the plan looks ahead the more uncertain its forecasts become. Also savings proposals are less robust as they have not been worked up to a detailed level. This is why the MTFP can only give the Council an overview of its direction of travel. To ensure that the plan remains credible, it is backed up by a robust service challenge process, regular in year monitoring of agreed savings, and regular review of underlying assumptions and the external environment.

Services have already prepared 3 year plans showing potential savings and pressures and these are regularly reviewed to ensure they are still relevant. These plans also show how services are working regionally and what opportunities there are for savings through joint and collaborative working. The plan assumes that in future years there will be savings delivered from these areas.

Collaboration forms a key part of the savings plans for future years. This brings with it risks around deliverability, governance, robustness of business cases and timing of savings. As each collaborative proposal is put forward the business case will be assessed to ensure it is robust enough to be included in any budget assumptions. A number of regional programme boards have been set up to manage these projects and their associated risks.

Undoubtedly as pressure for savings continues, more unpopular and politically difficult decisions will be required. There is a risk that these decisions may not be acceptable to Councillors. To reduce the risk that unacceptable proposals are developed, the service challenges are attended by members of each scrutiny committee and Cabinet and regular updates are provided to Cabinet and full Council.

The Council has set out its priorities and its aspirations. However, in 12 months time there will be elections and the new Council may wish to make changes to these which will impact on the plan. Any new councillors will go through an induction programme to ensure they understand the issues so that any changes are manageable and deliverable.

### **Housing Revenue Account**

By law, the finances for the Council's housing stock are kept separate from the rest of the Council. Any expenditure must be financed from rents or grant from the Welsh Government. The Council currently has a 30 year housing stock business plan that is reviewed each year and subject to scrutiny by the Wales Audi Office and the Welsh Government. There are no anticipated major issues arising over the next 3 years.

## **5 CAPITAL**

The money that the Council spends on looking after its buildings, roads, equipment, vehicles and other assets, is called capital expenditure. By law it must keep its day to day expenditure (revenue) and its capital expenditure separate. The council pays for expenditure on its assets in three main ways – grants, borrowing and selling off unwanted property and equipment (capital receipts). Each of these ways of raising money has been badly hit recently.

Each year the Welsh Government gives the Council money to spend on capital projects that are decided by the Council. This is called general capital funding. As part of its annual settlement the Welsh Government cut this grant by 20% (£1.58m). It is likely that further cuts will take place in future years although they should be at a much lower level.

The Welsh Government also made it clear to councils that any project specific grants would be funded at a much lower level than previously. This means that, where in the past they may have paid 100% of the cost of a project they may now only pay 70%. It is difficult to predict what grants for specific projects may be available for future years as they are only generally announced on an annual basis and can be quite late. In 2010/11, over £1m of grants were allocated to Denbighshire in the last month of the financial year (to be spent in that year).

The Council currently has substantial bids for over £30m of education projects that are currently being considered by the Welsh Government, with an announcement expected in the summer as to whether they have been successful. Should they be successful, it is likely that the Council will have to find substantial match funding.

The cost of borrowing has increased over the last twelve months due to market conditions but also by the UK Government's decision to impose a 1% additional charge on all borrowing undertaken by the Council. The Council relies on 'Prudential Borrowing' (borrowing paid for from its own resources) to ensure it can deliver its priorities. In 2011/12, the Council decided to allocate £7m to highways improvements and £1m to regeneration acquisitions. Each year the Council sets Prudential Indicators that determine prudent limits on its borrowing. These are set out in the Council's Treasury Management Strategy to ensure that borrowing remains affordable.

The table below shows the current forecast for available capital funds.

<b>Resource</b>	<b>2010/11 £000</b>	<b>2011/12 £000</b>	<b>2012/13 £000</b>	<b>2013/14 £000</b>
Supported Capital / General Grant	5,200	13,700	6,000	5,800
Government Grants	13,800	12,600	8,500	7,000
Revenue/ other contributions	1,000	1,200	0	0
Prudential Borrowing	7,700	11,500	4,000	3,000
Capital Receipts	1,100	1,700	2,500	2,500
<b>Total Resources</b>	<b>28,800</b>	<b>40,700</b>	<b>21,000</b>	<b>18,300</b>

Note: This excludes the HRA

The Council has a current backlog of works to its buildings of around £30m and significant backlog of works to highways. This, coupled with increasing need to invest in ICT infrastructure, increased match funding requirements and investment in priorities means that there will not be enough funding to meet all of these aspirations.

The Council has a prioritisation process which ensures that all proposed capital investment is appraised and prioritised and funds allocated to the most appropriate projects.

REPORT TO CABINET

CABINET MEMBER: COUNCILLOR P J MARFLEET, LEAD MEMBER FOR MODERNISING THE COUNCIL

DATE: 21 June 2011

SUBJECT: ROUTINE REPORTING ON PERSONNEL

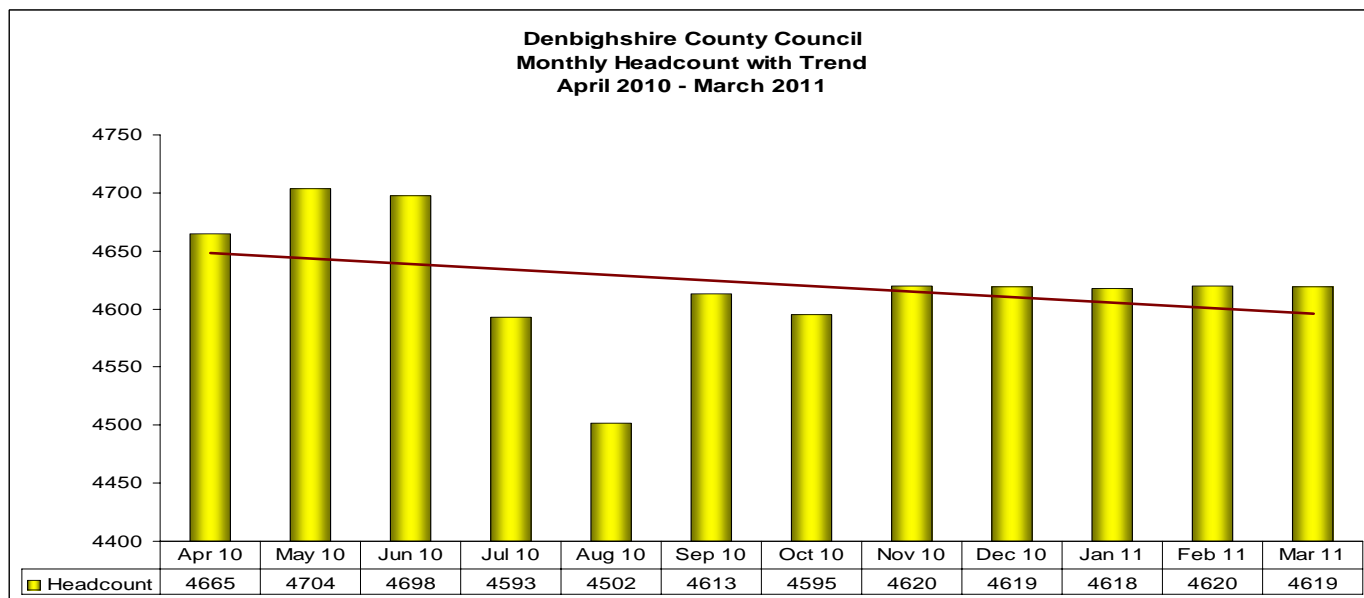
1. DECISION SOUGHT

For Members to note and comment on the content of the enclosed overview report on Personnel Statistics which provides Headcount Analysis for the period April 2010 to March 2011 and a comparison of collated data for Sickness Absence within the authority between April 2009 and March 2011. It should be noted that it has not been possible to compare individual services with 2009/10 data due to recent restructures.

**2010-2011 YEAR END REPORT SUMMARY**

**2.1 Headcount analysis / starters & leavers analysis**

The overall trend in headcount has been downward during the April 2010-March 2011, as per the chart below.

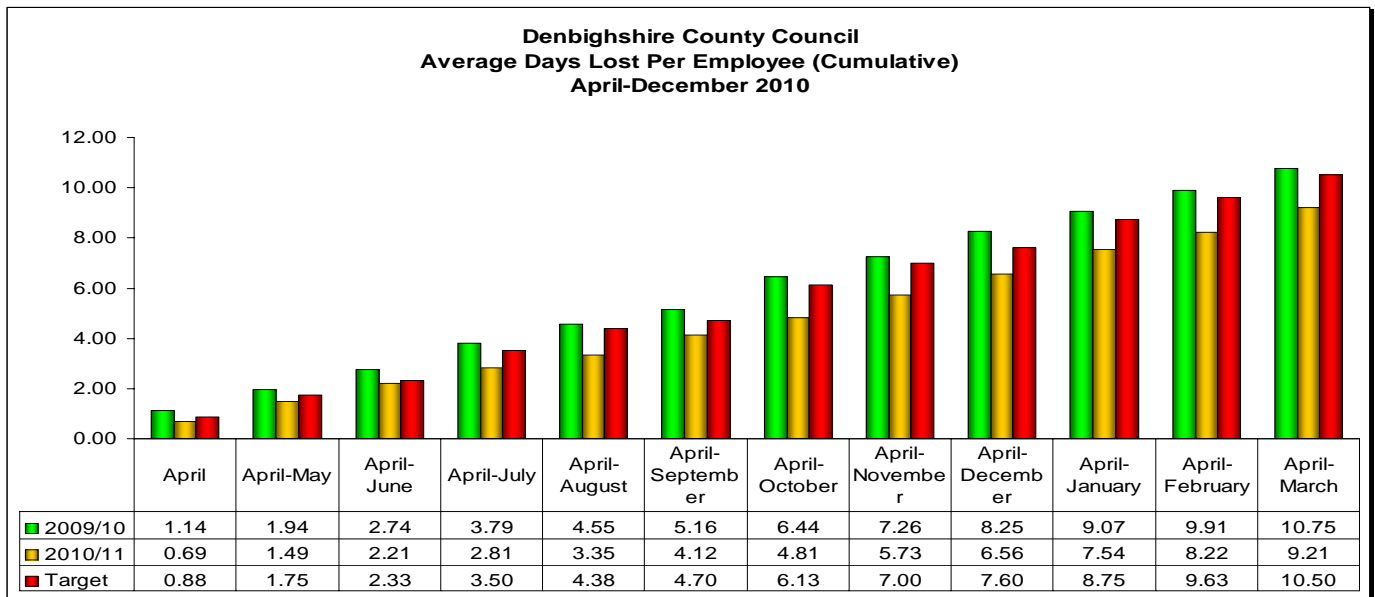


The starters and leavers figures for each month are shown in the table below.

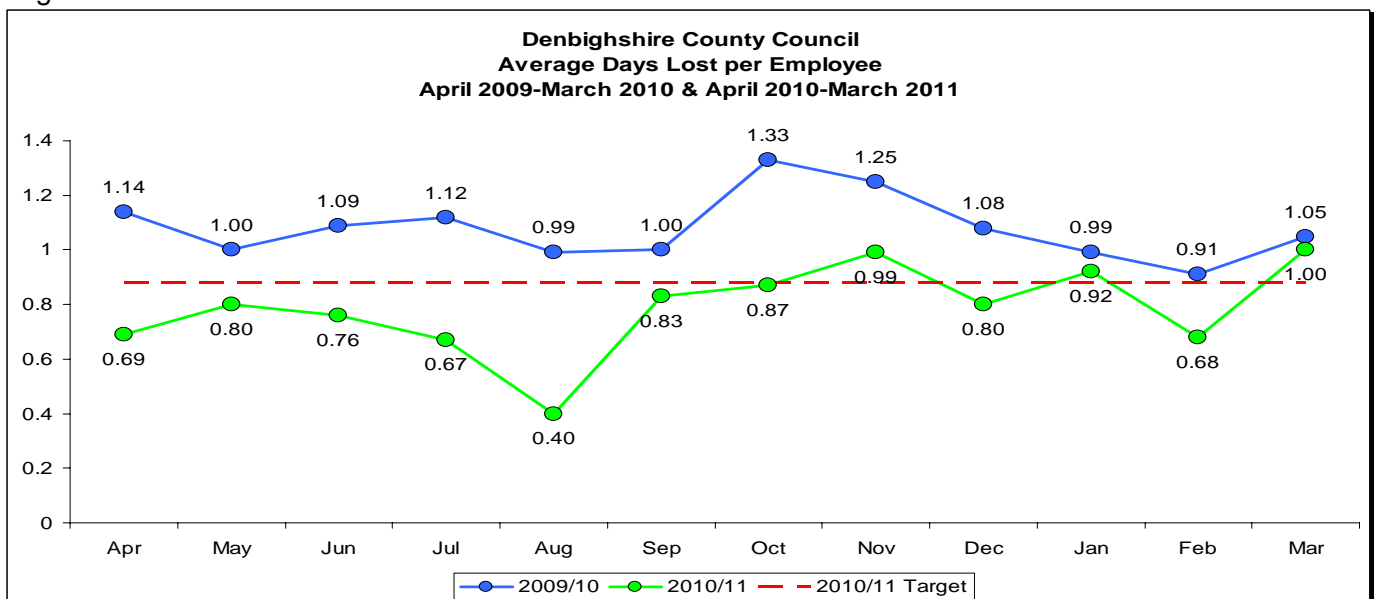
Month	People		Jobs Filled/Vacated	
	Leavers	Starters	Leavers	Starters
April	32	26	37	33
May	16	32	18	44
June	26	10	27	10
July	31	17	32	19
August	105	17	112	20
September	31	82	46	87
October	33	14	34	14
November	23	19	25	21
December	32	5	34	5
January	14	19	16	20
February	19	19	22	19
March	38	17	41	20
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>277</b>	<b>444</b>	<b>312</b>

## 2.2 Average Working Days Lost

The cumulative average number of working days lost per employee for the authority as a whole during April 2010-March 2011 is shown in the chart below, with last year's figures and the 2011/11 target included for comparison. The authority as a whole has shown a considerable improvement.

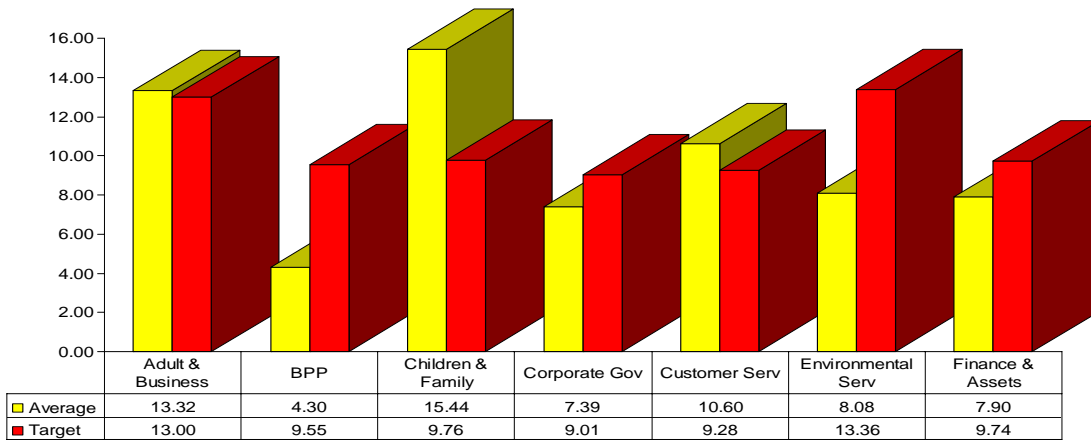


The non-cumulative averages for DCC are shown below, together with last year's figures and the 2010/11 target.

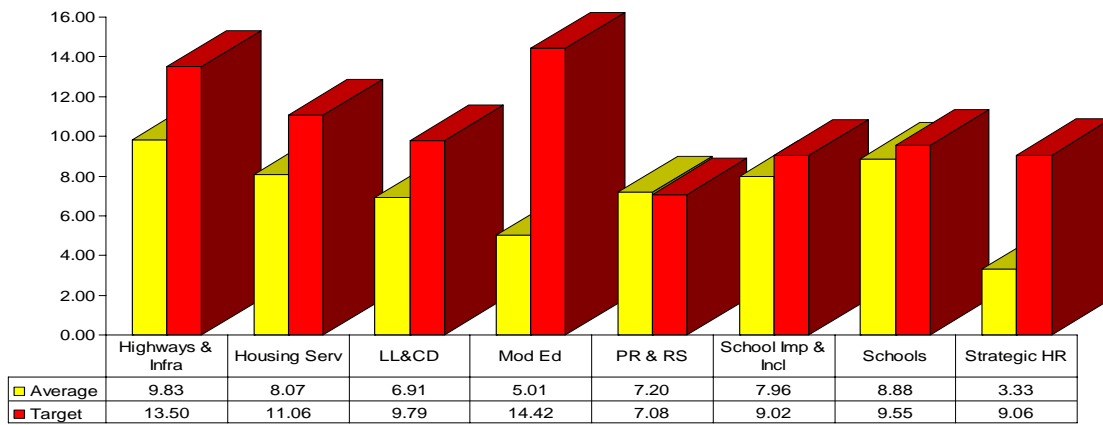


An analysis of the services' year end averages are illustrated in the next two charts, matched against their respective targets.

**Denbighshire County Council (pt2)**  
**Average Number of Days Lost due to Sickness Absence per Employee**  
**April 2010-March 2011**

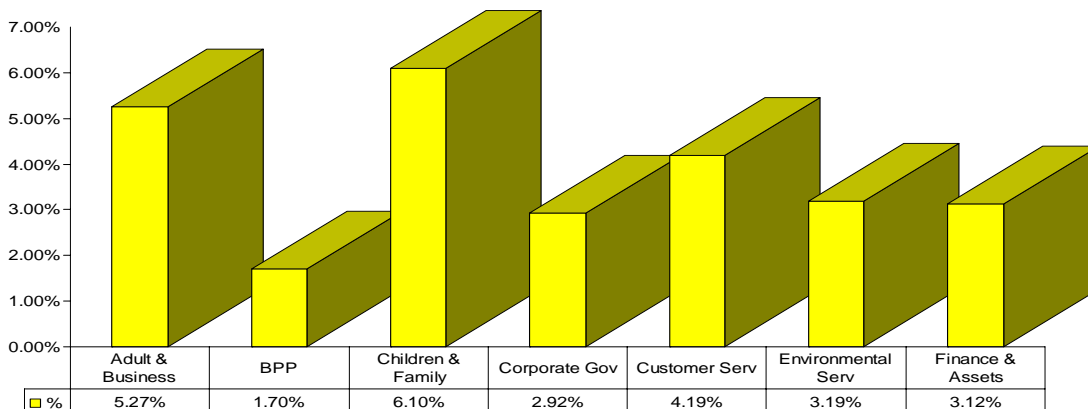


**Denbighshire County Council (pt2)**  
**Average Number of Days Lost due to Sickness Absence per Employee**  
**April 2010-March 2011**



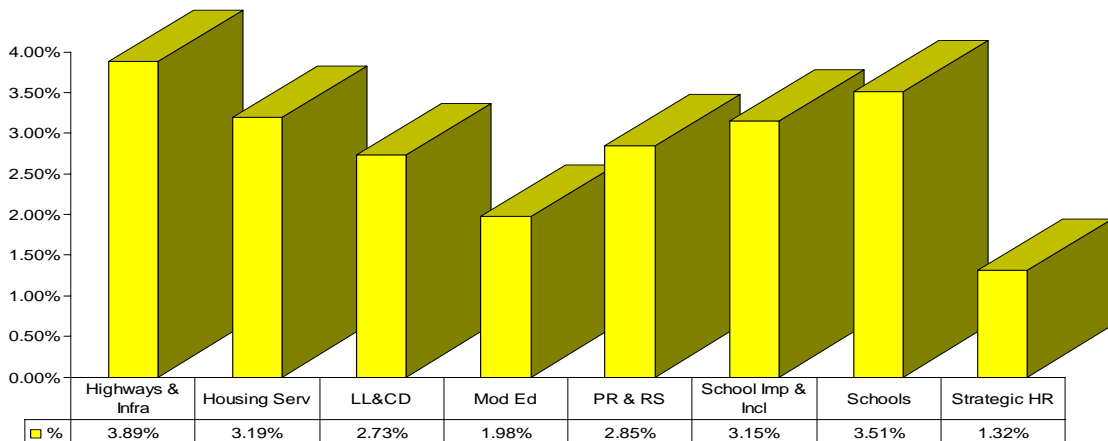
The next two charts show the percentage of available days lost by each service during April 2010-March 2011.

**Denbighshire County Council (pt1)**  
**Percentage of Available Days Lost due to Sickness Absence**  
**April 2010-March 2011**





**Denbighshire County Council (pt2)**  
**Percentage of Available Days Lost due to Sickness Absence**  
**April 2010-March 2011**

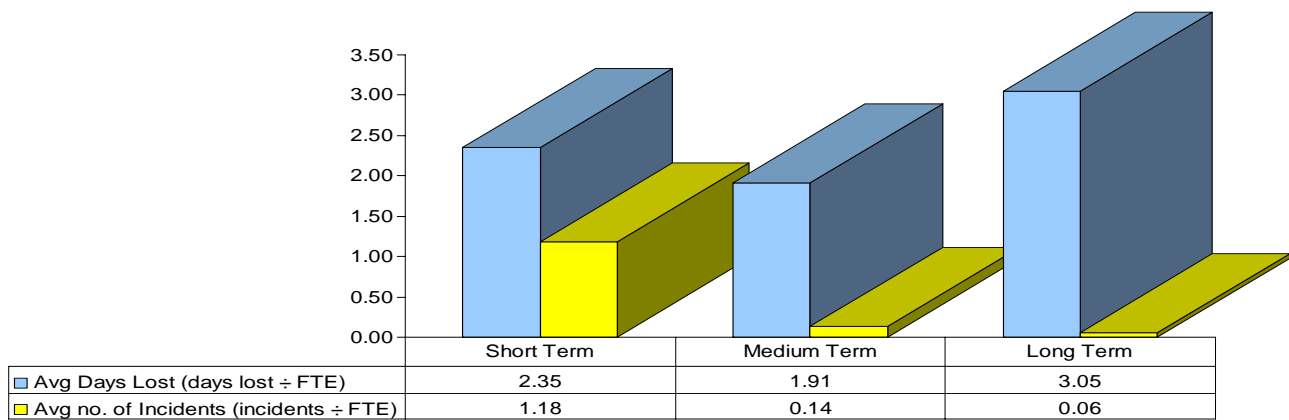


### 2.3 Short, Medium and Long Term Absence Analysis

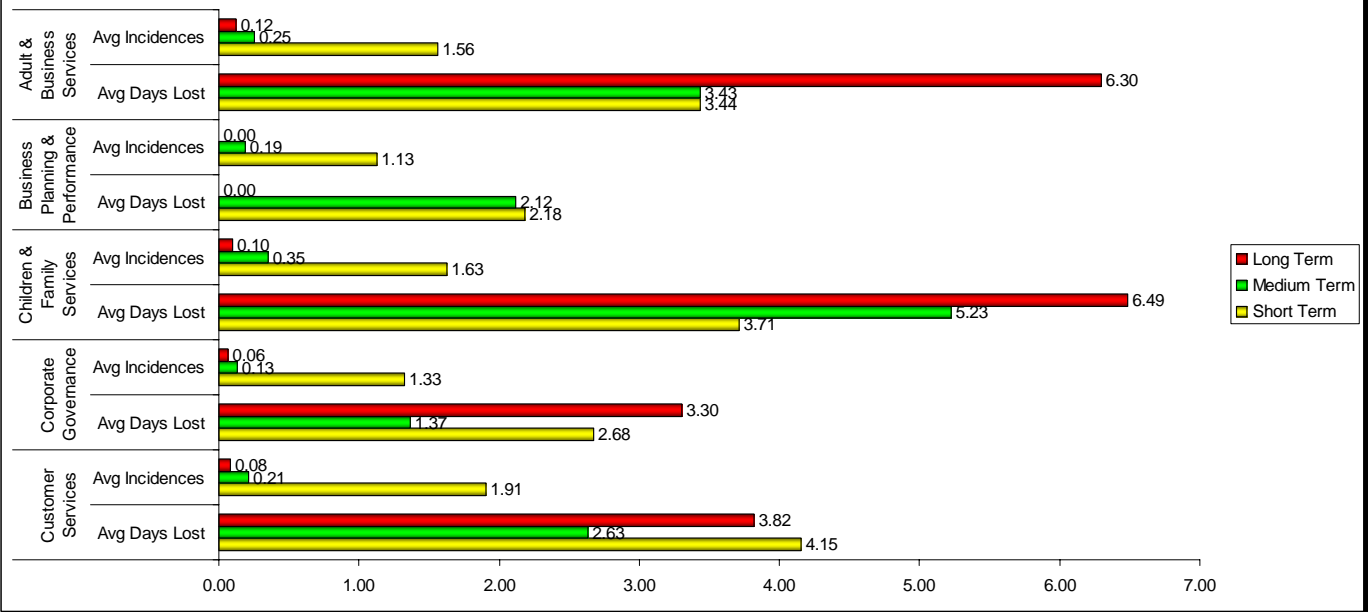
Short term absence is by far the most common type of absence, whilst long term absence accounts for the largest amount of days lost. In terms of percentages, short term absence accounts for 30% of all days lost during April 2010-March 2011, medium term absence accounts for 27% and 43% of all days lost is attributable to long term absence.

Short, medium and long term absence is examined further in the next four graphs.

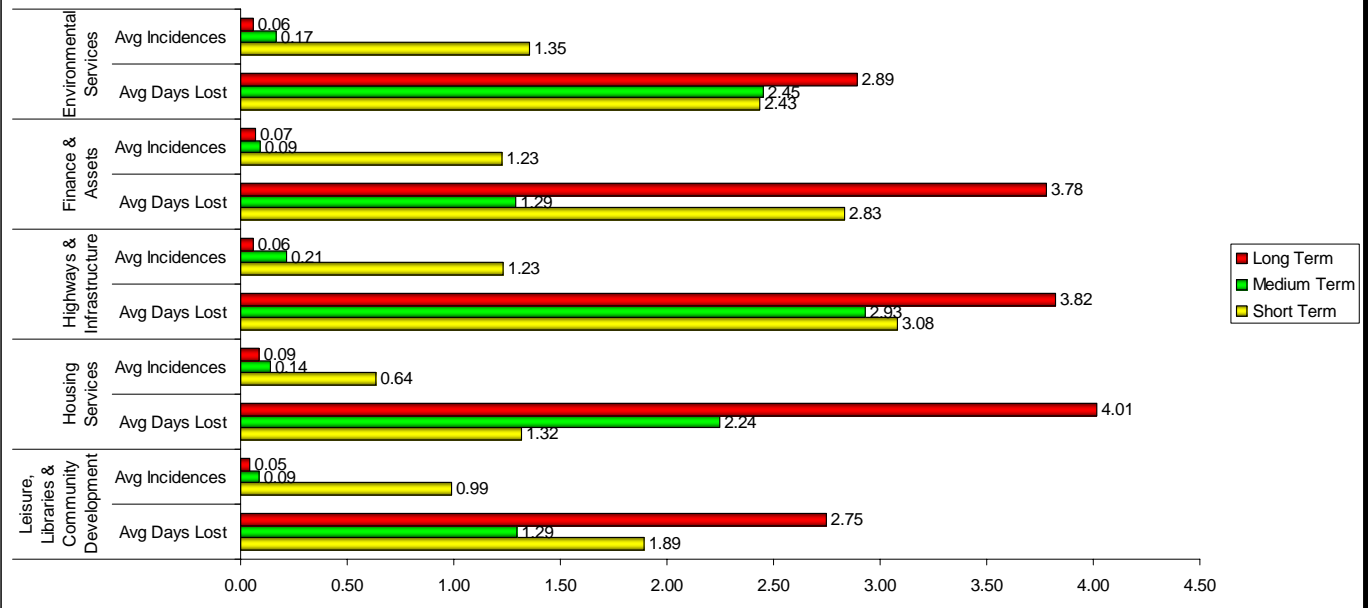
**Denbighshire County Council**  
**Short, Medium & Long Term Absence - Average no. of Days Lost & Incidence per Employee**  
**April 2010-March 2011**

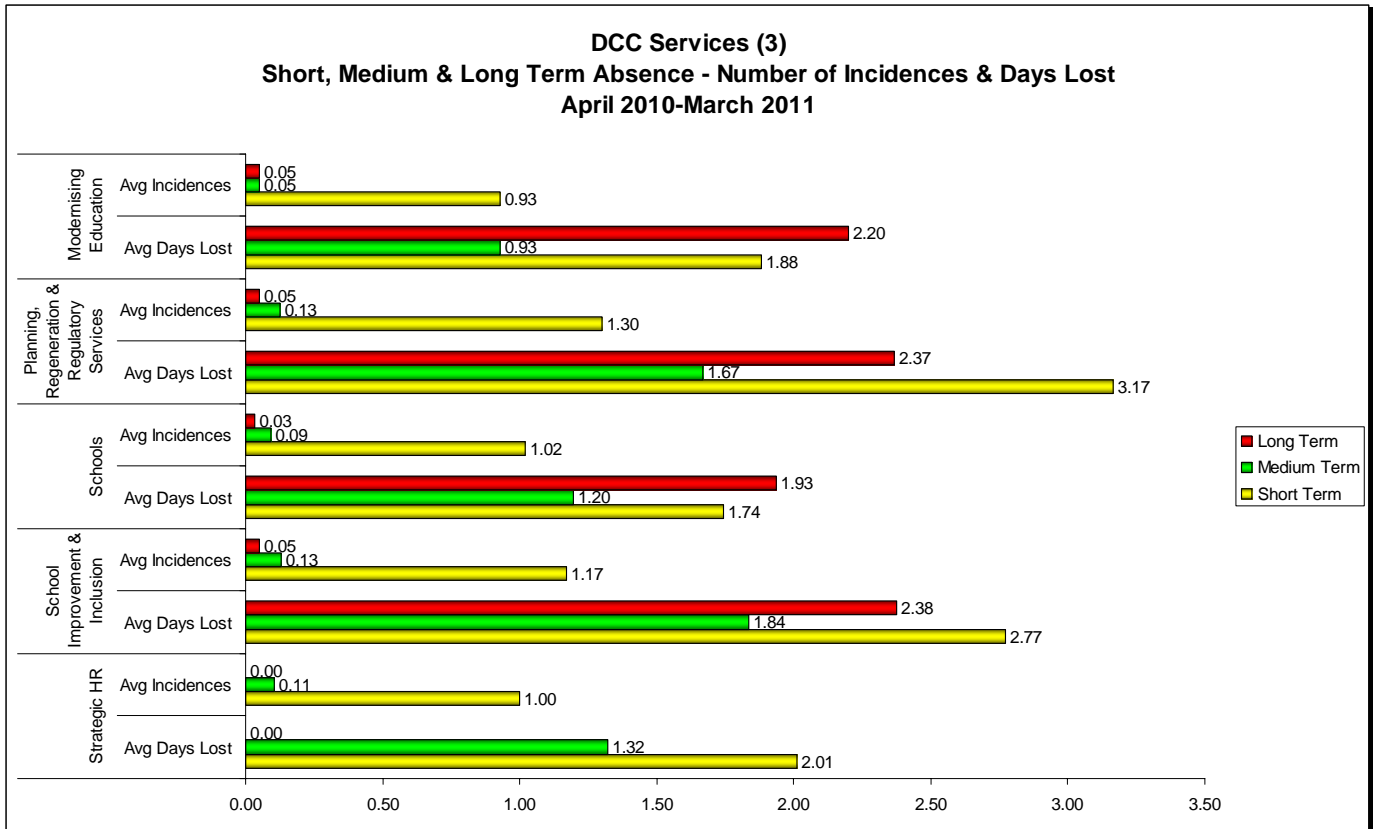


**DCC Services (1)**  
**Short, Medium & Long Term Absence - Number of Incidences & Days Lost**  
**April 2010-March 2011**



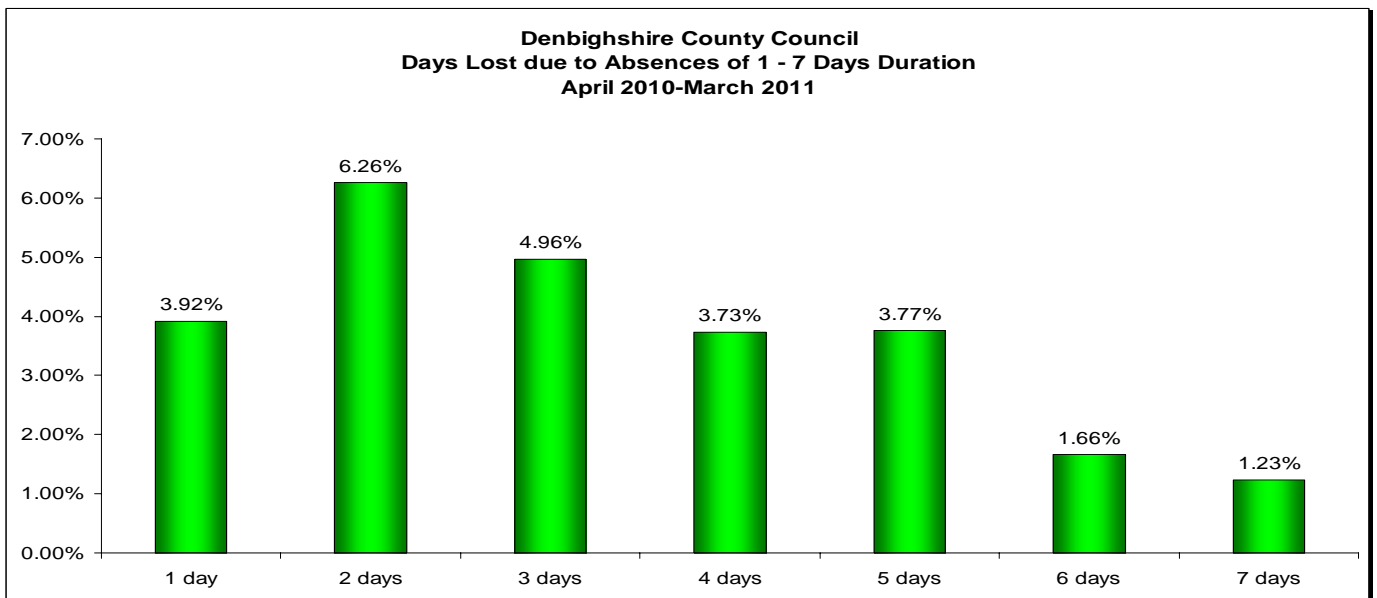
**DCC Services (2)**  
**Short, Medium & Long Term Absence - Number of Incidences & Days Lost**  
**April 2010-March 2011**





## 2.4 Absences of One to Seven Days Duration

As mentioned above, short term absence accounts for 30% of all days lost due to sickness absence within the authority. A more detailed analysis, as per the chart below, shows that absences of one to five days account for the majority of that 30%.



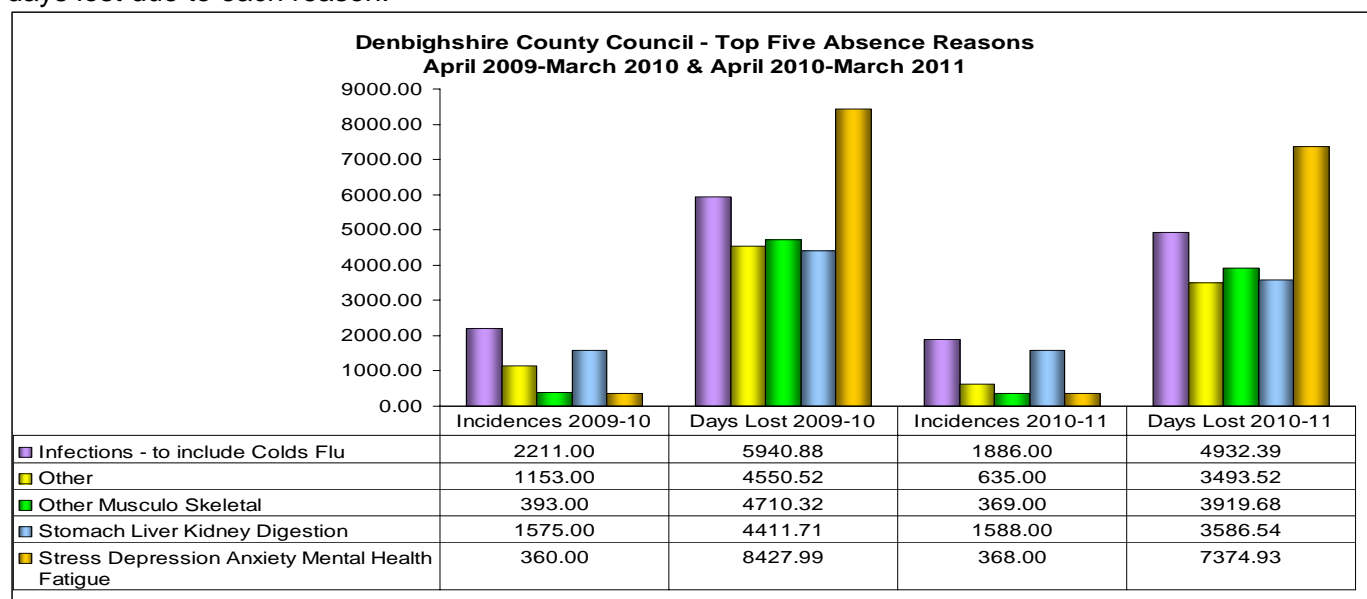
## 2.5 Absence Reason Analysis

The top five absence reasons in terms of the number of actual working days lost are the same in both April 2009-March 2010 and April 2010-March 2011:

- Infections - to include Colds Flu
- Other
- Other Musculo Skeletal
- Stomach Liver Kidney Digestion
- Stress Depression Anxiety Mental Health Fatigue

Together, these five absence reasons were responsible for 65.41% of actual days lost due to sickness absence in April 2009-March 2010 and 64.28% in April 2010-March 2011.

The chart below provides a breakdown of the top five absence reasons for April-December 2009 and April 2010-March 2011 in terms of the number of absences caused by each reason and the number of actual days lost due to each reason.



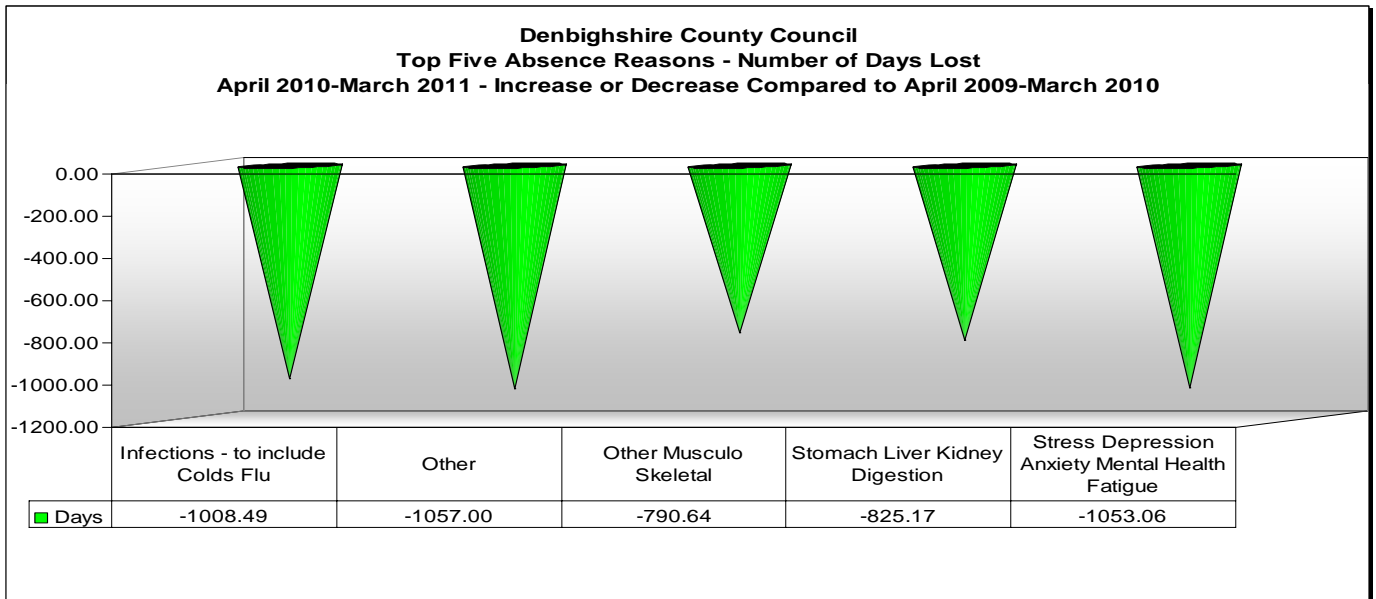
The table below lists all absence reasons for the April 2010-March 2011 period, arranged in alphabetical order dependent on the number of actual working days lost per absence reason, together with percentages. Also included are the increases or decreases in actual days lost and percentages compared to April 2009-March 2010

**Table 5**

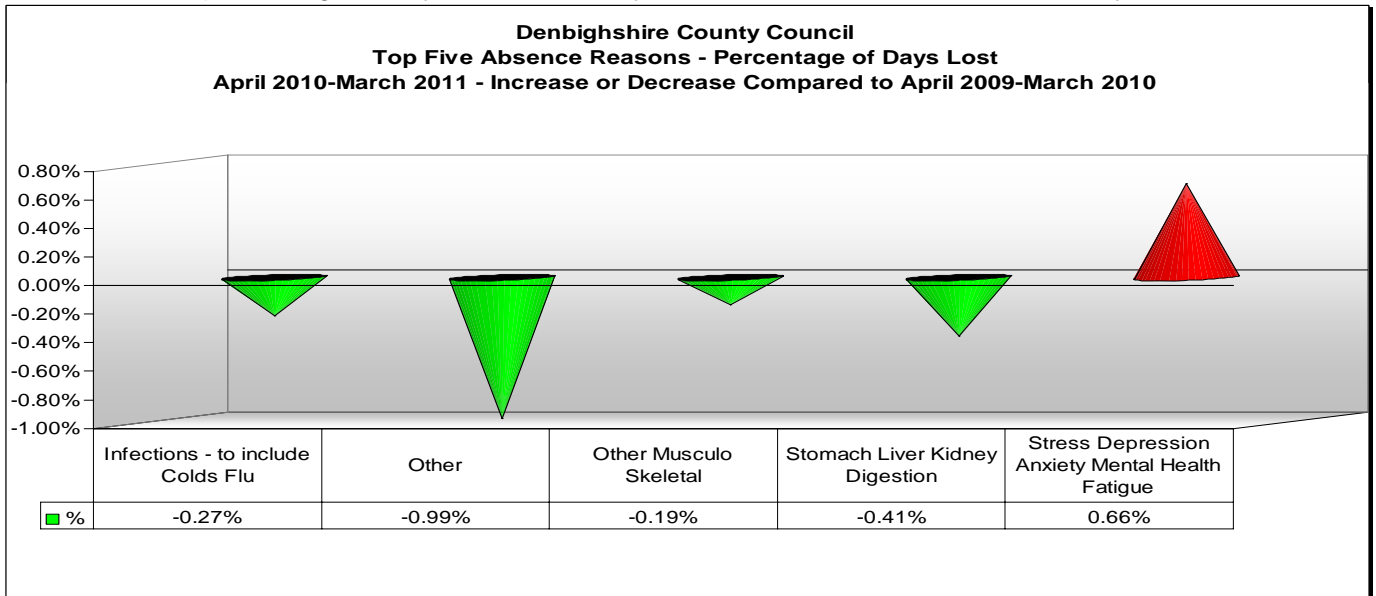
<b>Denbighshire County Council</b> <b>Absence Reasons (Days Lost (reduced))</b> <b>April 2010-March 2011</b>				
<b>Absence Reason</b>	<b>Total Days Lost</b>	<b>Percentage of all Days Lost</b>	<b>Increase/Decrease Days Lost</b> <b>Apr 09-Mar 10 to Apr 10-Mar 11</b>	<b>Percentage Increase/Decrease</b> <b>Apr 09-Mar 10 to Apr 10-Mar 11</b>
Back Neck Problems	2407.38	6.64%	-952.77	-1.21%
Chest Respiratory - to Include Chest Infections	1715.28	4.73%	441.22	1.76%
Disability Related	271.904	0.75%	-51.36	0.00%
Ear Eye Nose Mouth Dental - to include Sinusitis	914.775	2.52%	-150.62	0.04%
Genito-Urinary - to include Menstrual Problems	830.369	2.29%	273.47	0.99%
Heart Blood Pressure Circulation	654.179	1.80%	-192.68	-0.17%
Hospital Appointment	180.429	0.50%	-103.50	-0.17%
Infections - to include Colds Flu	4932.39	13.60%	-1008.49	-0.27%
Neurological - to include Headaches Migraine	1286.22	3.55%	-478.05	-0.57%
No reason recorded	924.067	2.55%	924.07	2.55%
Other	3493.52	9.63%	-1057.00	-0.99%
Other Musculo Skeletal	3919.68	10.81%	-790.64	-0.19%
Pregnancy Related	519.81	1.43%	179.01	0.64%
Skin Related Disorders	166.631	0.46%	-219.54	-0.44%
Stomach Liver Kidney Digestion	3586.54	9.89%	-825.17	-0.41%
Stress Depression Anxiety Mental Health Fatigue	7374.93	20.34%	-1053.06	0.66%
Surgery	2718.19	7.50%	-1217.52	-1.69%

Swine Flu	72.3914	0.20%	-59.69	-0.11%
Unknown Reason - Awaiting Certificate	290.851	0.80%	-232.96	-0.42%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>36259.5</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>-6575.28</b>	<b>0.00%</b>

The next chart examines the top five absence reasons during April 2010-March 2011 in terms of increase or decrease in the number of actual working days lost per absence reason compared to April 2009-March 2010.



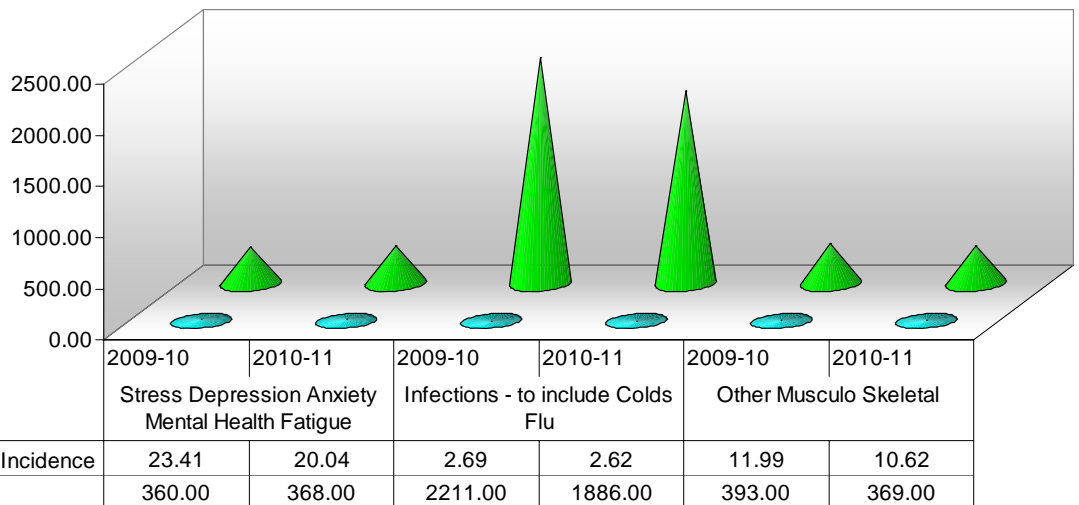
Whilst the chart above gives a positive impression of the situation for the top five absence reasons, it should be remembered that this chart reflects the overall downward trend in the number of days lost due to sickness absence between the two periods. However, the next chart, which examines the same data in terms of percentage increases or decreases, shows that whilst the overall number of days lost has decreased, the percentage of days lost caused by stress related absences has actually increased.



### 2.6 Top Three Reasons for Sickness Absence

The next chart provides a more detailed analysis of the top three reasons for sickness absence.

**Denbighshire County Council - Top Three Absence Reasons  
Comparison of Frequency & Days Lost per Incidence  
April 2009-March 2010 & April 2010-March 2011**



### 2.7 Occupational Health Referrals – Stress

25.45% of all occupational health referrals were for stress related absences during April 2010-March 2011.

### 3 POWER TO MAKE THE DECISION

3.1. Section III of the Local Government Act 1972

### 4 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

4.1 **Cost Implications:** There are no significant cost implications associated with the preparation of this information.

4.2 **Staffing / Accommodation Implications:** There are no direct staffing implications however sickness levels do impact on the ability to provide services.

4.3 **IT Implications:** There are no IT implications associated with the preparation of this information.

### 5 RISK ASSESSMENT

5.1 **Risks associated with not agreeing the recommendation/s** N/A

5.2 **Risks associated with agreeing the recommendation/s** N/A

### 6 FINANCIAL CONTROLLER STATEMENT

6.1 Payroll costs are one of the largest costs faced by the Council and therefore any further actions to monitor and control expenditure are beneficial.

### 7 CONSULTATION CARRIED OUT

7.1. The headcount & absence information has been prepared by the Strategic HR team directly from the HR system.

### 8 IMPLICATIONS

8.1 **Assessment of Impact on Corporate Priorities:**

Attendance and performance of employees is fundamental to achieving our Corporate priorities.

**8.2 Assessment of impact on the Vision, Community Strategy, Equalities and Sustainability:**

Being able to deliver the vision depends on having the right number of employees in the right job with the right skills.

**8.3 Assessment of Impact on Climate Change - Mitigation and Adaptation:**

There are no Climate Change implications associated with the preparation of this information.

**9 ACTION PLAN**

<b>ACTION</b>	<b>RESPONSIBLE OFFICER / DATE BY WHEN ACTION TO BE COMPLETED</b>	<b>ACTION TO BE REVIEWED &amp; MONITORED BY / DATE TO BE MONITORED</b>
No actions at present		

**10 RECOMMENDATIONS**

10.1. Members note the information considered in this report and identify issues which future reports should focus upon.

**CABINET: FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME**

<b>26 JULY 2011</b>	
Finance Report 2011 -2012	Councillor J Thompson Hill P McGrady
Capital Plan 2011-2012	Councillor J Thompson Hill P McGrady
HR / People Strategy	Councillor P J Marfleet L Atkin
Village Green Applications - land known as "The Park" off Ffordd Elan, Rhyl	Councillor S Frobisher S Cordiner
Proposed Infant and Junior Amalgamation of Ysgol Gwaenynog and Ysgol Heulfre, Denbigh	Councillor E W Williams H Williams / J Walley
People and Places Board Report on Demographic change	Councillor P A Dobb S Ellis
New Work Connections: Training and Education - Procurement of accredited training courses across the project – up to 1620 people could be involved in the training e.g. a one day confidence building course or an NVQ Level 4 course.	Councillor P A Dobb Gwynfor Griffiths / Carina Edwards 708307
Child Protection	Councillor M M Jones S Ellis / Leighton Rees
Phase II Construction of the Foryd Harbour Walking and Cycling Bridge	Councillor S Frobisher / Councillor D A J Thomas S Davies / Bob Humphreys
Selection of Preferred Bidder - N E Wales Regional Food Waste Treatment Project	Councillor S Frobisher S Parker / J Espley
Monitoring Performance Against the Corporate Plan	Councillor H H Evans T Ward
Annual Council Reporting Framework (ACRF) – The Statutory Director of Social Services will be responsible for publishing an annual report setting out her assessment of the effectiveness of social care services and priority areas for improvement in the year ahead	Councillors P A Dobb / M M Jones S Ellis / C O’Gorman
Recommendations from Scrutiny Committees	Scrutiny Officers
<b>6 SEPTEMBER 2011</b>	
Finance Report 2011 -2012 ( <b>OR</b> on 27.09.2011)	Councillor J Thompson Hill P McGrady
Treasury Management Update	Councillor J Thompson Hill P McGrady
DCC Annual Report 2010-2011	Councillor H H Evans A Smith / T Ward
Application for an Option to purchase DCC land in Rhyl on Quay Street and Wellington Road for incorporation into the Ocean Plaza Development	Councillor P J Marfleet C Davies / K Bowler
Routine Report on Personnel to include Sickness Management	Councillor P J Marfleet L Atkin / G Humphreys
Rhyl Going Forward Delivery Plan	Councillor D A J Thomas T Booty
Regional Commissioning Hub – Outline Business Case	Councillor P A Dobb S Ellis
Recommendations from Scrutiny Committees	Scrutiny Officers



<b>27 SEPTEMBER 2011</b>	
Finance Report 2011 -2012 (OR on 06.09.2011)	Councillor J Thompson Hill P McGrady
Proposed Joint Conwy & Denbighshire Adoption Panel	Councillor M M Jones Julie Moss, Corporate Parenting
Regional Social Services Project	Councillor P A Dobb S Ellis
Regional Support Services Project	Councillor P J Marfleet B E Jones
Regional Education Project	Councillor E W Williams H Williams
Edeyrnion Education Review	Councillor E W Williams H Williams / J Walley
Regional Collaboration Boards	Councillor H H Evans P McGrady
Procurement Review Business Case: Fleet	Councillor J Thompson Hill P McGrady
Recommendations from Scrutiny Committees	Scrutiny Officers
<b>25 OCTOBER 2011</b>	
Finance Report 2011 -2012	Councillor J Thompson Hill P McGrady
Capital Plan 2011-2012	Councillor J Thompson Hill P McGrady
Scala Cinema and Arts Centre: Update	Councillor P A Dobb P McGrady
Recommendations from Scrutiny Committees	Scrutiny Officers
<b>22 NOVEMBER 2011</b>	
Finance Report 2011 -2012	Councillor J Thompson Hill P McGrady
Community Capital Grants	Councillor D A J Thomas M Dixon / Brian Evans
Recommendations from Scrutiny Committees	Scrutiny Officers
<b>13 DECEMBER 2011</b>	
Finance Report 2011 -2012	Councillor J Thompson Hill P McGrady
Destination Management - Tourism Partnership North Wales have offered to work with the Council to undertake an audit of the experience which a visitor gets when they come to the County and this item will provide an opportunity for Cabinet to receive the results of the audit and consider actions which need to be taken to improve the experience	Councillor D A J Thomas G Boase / M Dixon
Recommendations from Scrutiny Committees	Scrutiny Officers