



To: Members of the Communities
Scrutiny Committee

Date: 22 February 2013

Direct Dial: 01824 712554

e-mail: dcc_admin@denbighshire.gov.uk

Dear Councillor

You are invited to attend a meeting of the **COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE** to be held at **9.30 am** on **THURSDAY, 28 FEBRUARY 2013** in **CONFERENCE ROOM 1A, COUNTY HALL, RUTHIN.**

Yours sincerely

G. Williams
Head of Legal and Democratic Services

AGENDA

PART 1 - THE PRESS AND PUBLIC ARE INVITED TO ATTEND THIS PART OF THE MEETING

1 APOLOGIES

2 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

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

3 URGENT MATTERS AS AGREED BY THE CHAIR

Notice of items which, in the opinion of the Chair, should be considered at the meeting as a matter of urgency pursuant to Section 100B(4) of the Local Government Act 1972.

4 MINUTES (Pages 5 - 16)

To receive the minutes of the last meeting of the Communities Scrutiny Committee which took place on 17th January 2013.

5 REVIEW OF THE ROLL OUT OF THE X2 RECYCLING SCHEME (Pages 17 - 26)

To receive a report (copy enclosed) by the Head of Highways and Environmental Services which details the problems encountered during the introduction of new recycling arrangements in the south of the county and the measures taken to address these problems.

6 ENGAGING WITH OUR COMMUNITIES AND REDEFINING OUR APPROACH TO BEING 'AN EXCELLENT COUNCIL CLOSE TO THE COMMUNITY' (Pages 27 - 42)

To consider a report (copy enclosed) by the Corporate Director: Customers which invites members' views on how the Council progresses with the theme of Getting Closer to the Community and how best to engage with residents.

7 SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME (Pages 43 - 60)

To consider a report by the Scrutiny Coordinator (copy enclosed) seeking a review of the committee's forward work programme and updating members on relevant issues.

8 ALLOCATION OF COMMUTED SUMS AND COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY (Pages 61 - 74)

To consider a joint report (copy enclosed) from the Head of Planning & Public Protection & Head of Housing & Community Development which asks the Committee to consider and provide observations on the income received through Section 106 Agreements for open space provision and maintenance, the grant offers and payments which have been made, and the progress to date with respect to the Community Infrastructure Levy.

9 FEEDBACK FROM COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES

To receive any updates from Committee representatives on various Council Boards and Groups

MEMBERSHIP

Councillors

James Davies
Peter Evans
Carys Guy-Davies
Huw Hilditch-Roberts
Rhys Hughes
Win Mullen-James

Bob Murray
Joe Welch
Cefyn Williams
Cheryl Williams
Huw Williams

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Town and Community Councils

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COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Communities Scrutiny Committee held in Conference Room 1a, County Hall, Ruthin on Thursday, 17th January, 2013 at 9.30 a.m.

PRESENT

Councillors H. Hilditch-Roberts (Chair), P.A. Evans, C. Guy-Davies, T.R. Hughes, W. Mullen-James, R. Murray, J.S. Welch, C.H. Williams, C.L. Williams and H.O. Williams.
Councillors J. Butterfield, J. Chamberlain-Jones, M.L.I. Davies, R.L. Feeley, M.L. Holland, H.C. Irving, H.L.I. Jones, P.M. Jones, G.M. Kensler, M. McCarrol, D. Simmonds and J. Thompson-Hill attended as Observers.

ALSO PRESENT

Corporate Director: Learning and Communities (HW), Head of Adult and Business Services (PG), Strategic Regeneration Manager (MD), Rhyl Going Forward Programme Manager (TB), Section Manager–Network Management (TT), Property Manager (CD), Valuation and Estates Team Manager (DM), Scrutiny Coordinator (RE) and Administrative Officer (CW).

1 APOLOGIES

Councillor J.M. Davies.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No personal or prejudicial interests were declared.

3 URGENT MATTERS AS AGREED BY THE CHAIR

In accordance with the requirements of Section 100B(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the Chair declared that he intended to include for discussion the following matter requiring urgent attention under Part II:-

PROVISION AND SITING OF GRIT BINS

In response to concerns raised by Councillor T.R. Hughes regarding the number of yellow grit bins located in the Pentrecelyn area on a road on the highway twice daily gritting route, the Section Manager–Network Management explained that the grit bins had been placed in the location in question, at the specific request of the Environment Agency, as the stream which flowed alongside the road was particularly sensitive to run off and the saline solution was detrimental to the ecology. He confirmed that grit bins were not normally placed alongside roads on gritting routes and that the road in question and the road over the Horseshoe Pass were the only exceptions to the policy.

4 MINUTES

(i) The Minutes of a meeting of the Communities Scrutiny Committee held on Thursday, 6th December, 2012 were submitted.

Matters arising:-

4. Minutes - Councillor W.M. Mullen-James referred to the item "Review of Highway Verge Grass Cutting 2012" and informed the Members that, as agreed by the Committee, a meeting had taken place in December, 2012 to discuss the terms of the grass cutting contract, particular reference being made to the management of the contracted company. She explained that it had been the general consensus of opinion that the performance of the contractor would improve following initial investigations and that a further performance review be undertaken in July, 2013. In addition the Working Group had asked that all County Councillors and Town and Community Councils be provided with maps and schedules of the forthcoming season's grass cutting programme as soon as they were available. The Section Manager–Network Management provided details of a meeting held with the North Wales Wildlife Trust who would be assessing the impact of the grass cutting regime in the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

The Chair highlighted the importance of partnership working to ensure the efficient execution of the process of highway verge grass cutting.

RESOLVED – that the Minutes be received and approved as a correct record.

5 TOWN PLANS

A copy of a report by the Head of Housing and Community Development, which reviewed the effectiveness of Town Plans in beginning to deliver their objectives, had been circulated with the papers for the meeting.

The Strategic Regeneration Manager (SRM) summarised the report which outlined the development of economically viable and sustainable towns which would boost the local economy, improve outcomes for local businesses and residents and attract visitors to the area.

Town Plans for the seven largest settlements, apart from Rhyl, had been endorsed by Cabinet. Consultation had been undertaken with newly elected Members to familiarise them with the contents of the previously approved Town Plans and to initiate a review of their contents to ensure that they were still valid and to enable any additional priorities to be incorporated. The six Member Area Groups (MAGs), including Rhyl, had been invited to nominate a Lead Member per Town Plan to work in a Plan Co-ordination Group to update the Town Plans. The revised versions would be presented to the MAGs in their current round of meetings. The Co-ordination Group had considered the allocation of funding for delivering the Corporate Priority for improving the local economy and this would enable those priority actions identified for early implementation to proceed.

The Plans approved had not yet addressed the needs and priorities of smaller and more rural communities. Relevant ward Members had been requested to identify ini-

tial issues including the appropriate geographical coverage for Area Plans which may not necessarily correspond with the MAG boundaries, and priorities for discussion through the MAGs. Town Plans would be expanded into broader Area Plans and it had been envisaged that Area Plans would have 3 broad sections as detailed in the report. A similar consultation process would be adopted to that undertaken for the original Town Plans. MAGs would review and then recommend Area Plans for formal adoption ensuring that the needs and priorities of all communities covered by the Plan, including smaller and more rural communities were reflected appropriately. The role of the Lead Member for Rural Development in ensuring that Area Plans incorporated rural priorities, and the process for monitoring the performance of the Town and Area Plans had been developed in conjunction with the Business Planning and Performance service to complement the reporting arrangements for the Corporate Plan, had been highlighted in the report. A performance report would be presented to the MAGs on a quarterly basis highlighting the delivery confidence attached to each of the live priority actions in the relevant Town and Area Plans. A sample quarterly performance report for Rhuddlan had been attached as an Annex to the report as an example of the format which had been approved and adopted.

The information contained in the individual Town and Area reports would be aggregated and included in the Quarterly Performance Report to be submitted to Cabinet in the first quarter of the 2013/14 financial year. An annual report would be presented to County Council and Members agreed that future monitoring reports on the Plans be presented to the Scrutiny Committee.

Members were informed by the SRM that the Town Plans would support implementation of the Corporate Priority for improving the local economy and would also assist the Council in meeting its ambition of being closer to the community.

Details of the budget implications and possible effects on other services in respect of the Town and Area Plan priorities for 2012/13 and 2013/14 had been outlined in the report. It was confirmed that the Rhyl Going Forward projects would be largely funded either from the corporate allocation for regeneration made in 2011/12, or in the case of larger scale projects, through specific proposals to be considered by the Strategic Investment Group prior to decision by Cabinet. However, there may be some call on the funding allocation for Town and Area Plans for Rhyl Going Forward projects.

The risks associated with implementation of the Town Plans were highlighted. The risk of not delivering the actions identified for completion in the early years of the Town Plans had been reduced by creating the roles of Town and Area Plan Champions to drive the delivery of the priorities identified within the relevant Town and Area Plans, and by allocating budgets to enable priority actions to be funded which otherwise could not be delivered through existing service budgets.

The SRM responded to concerns raised by Councillor T.R. Hughes and confirmed that following recent Cabinet approval the delivery of the objectives of the Town Plans could now be progressed.

A number of Members expressed their support for the current structure of the Member Area Groups and it was the general consensus of opinion that the present groupings should not be reviewed as they seemed to be working well. Councillor H.LI. Jones outlined his role as Lead Member of overseeing the rural area of the County

which included 9 areas where there were no towns. He explained that Members in the rural wards had been requested to submit details of three priorities which they wished to be progressed in their respective areas, and explained that a meeting would be arranged for the Members in question to ensure their input to the relevant Town Plans. Members representing the rural areas confirmed that they would be consulting the respective Community Councils to seek their views.

In response to a question from Councillor T.R. Hughes, the SRM explained that flexible parameters had been set by the Committee with regard to the allocation of funding for schemes and projects within the Town Plans.

The Committee confirmed the need to monitor the implementation and delivery time-scales of the Town Plans, the standard service deliveries, the responsibility of elected Members to take ownership of the Plans and their implementation. The importance of involving elected Members in the redefining of the areas, if areas needed redefined, was highlighted, particular reference being made to the inclusion of the associated smaller and rural communities.

Councillor G.M. Kensler expressed the view that under the current scrutiny structure it was not clear which Scrutiny Committee should receive future reports in respect of this matter. Members agreed that future reports in respect of the Town Plans should be included on the Communities Scrutiny Committee forward work programme. Following further discussion, it was:-

RESOLVED – *that the Communities Scrutiny Committee:-*

- (a) approves the arrangements put in place to progress the delivery of Town Plans,*
- (b) supports the proposals to develop Area Plans to identify priorities in rural communities, and*
- (c) agrees that Communities Scrutiny Committee receives future reports in respect of the Town Plans.*

6 ETAPE CYMRU 2012

A copy of report by the Principal Regeneration Strategy Officer, which provided a detailed analysis of the impact of the 2012 event on the local community, local businesses and participants along with the benefits realised/impact on the wider local economy and Denbighshire as a whole, had been circulated with the papers for the meeting. The Strategic Regeneration Manager (SRM) introduced the report.

Last year the Committee had resolved that it endorsed the requested road closure to allow the Etape Cymru 2012 to take place, subject to:-

- a) full consultation with the communities and local businesses impacted by the road closures taking place, including consultation with the local Area Member Group.
- b) an impact assessment being undertaken.
- c) the Committee receiving a guarantee that the Horseshoe Pass will be re-opened to traffic by 11am.

An evaluation of the impact of the event and any benefits realised or detrimental effects caused would enable recommendations to be made with respect to the arrangements for any future major events. Denbighshire had continued with its regular communication with Human Race, the organisers of Etape Cymru, and Wrexham County Borough Council, in relation to the 2012 'closed road' cycling event held in September, 2012 and plans were now underway for the 2013 event to be held on Sunday, 8th September, 2013. Organisers had met with the Safety Advisory Group and Wrexham and Denbighshire Highways and Regeneration officers to review 2012 and they had taken on board the Group's recommendations.

Appendix 1 to the report included the review of the 2012 Etape Cymru event which provided a positive overview of the economic impact on the Wrexham/South Denbighshire area. Denbighshire's review of businesses on or near the Etape Cymru route of temporary road closures had been detailed in Appendix 2 and the minutes of the last Safety Advisory Group meeting had been included as Appendix 3 to the report. Information pertaining to the contribution of the decision in relation to the Corporate Priorities, the effect of costs on other services, consultations undertaken and details of risks and the measures implemented to reduce them, had been included in the report. A summary of the feedback from Safety Advisory Group, Ward Members and businesses had been summarised in the report.

Councillors T.R. Hughes and M.L. Holland respectively raised a number of concerns which the Committee agreed needed highlighting to the Safety Advisory Group (SAG) and which required answers and action by them prior to the report to be submitted to Cabinet in February, 2013. The Committee agreed that the following concerns and issues raised by members be conveyed by the officers to the forthcoming meeting of the Safety Advisory Group:-

- a need to improve communication with residents and businesses, particularly in rural areas, with respect to the event. The purpose and expectations of the Event, road closures and the impact on residents' everyday lives and the need for all communication to be timely.
- public liability in the event of an incident or accident involving a competitor, marshal, resident, business and live or dead farming stock.
- results of any risk assessments undertaken with respect to public liability matters.
- validity of the figures on the economic benefit to the area due to concerns raised with Members by businesses in their respective areas on the amount of time for which they had to close because of the event.
- Inadequate marshalling provision at the event.
- consideration being afforded to the possibility of the event starting earlier in the morning in order to minimise the disruption to local businesses and residents.
- whether the promotional material for the event itself helped to promote and market Denbighshire, and could this be done or improved in future.
- the possibility of a Local Member attending the SAG with officers from Denbighshire.
- the legal implications of an accident in respect of Etape's insurance liabilities.
- examination of the level and adequacy of the marshalling for the event.

The Section Manager–Network Management emphasised that ownership of the Road Closure Order would remain with the organisers and they would assume any

legal responsibility, liabilities and risks, within the road closure. Details of Denbighshire's duties and responsibilities were outlined and reference was made to the role of the SAG which met on a regular basis to consider and debate any issues arising through the forum.

In reply to questions from Members, the SRM outlined the steps being taken to promote Denbighshire through the event which included extensive coverage in cycling magazines, details of the location for pre-registration of the event and links to accommodation in the area. Members supported a suggestion by Councillor H.C. Irving that guidance be sought from the Head of Communication, Marketing and Leisure regarding the inclusion of information to promote Denbighshire in the information packs.

Members considered the recommendations in the report and recommended that the Etape Cymru item be included in the Cabinet Forward Work Programme.

Councillor T.R. Hughes requested that the minutes note that he had not expressed his support for the event.

RESOLVED –

- (a) to recommend that Etape Cymru 2013 be included in the Cabinet Forward Work Programme for consideration;*
- (b) that the concerns and issues, as raised by Members, be conveyed by the officers to the forthcoming meeting of the Safety Advisory Group (SAG), and that answers to the above questions and clarification on the points raised be included in the report to Cabinet in February with a copy circulated to Communities Scrutiny Committee members ahead of the Committee's next meeting; and*
- (c) that guidance be sought from the Head of Communication, Marketing and Leisure regarding the inclusion of promotional material on Denbighshire in the information packs.*

7 RHYL GOING FORWARD UPDATE

A copy of report by the Rhyl Going Forward Programme Manager, which provided an update on the Rhyl Going Forward Regeneration Strategy, had been circulated with the papers for the meeting. The Rhyl Going Forward Programme Manager (RGFPM) introduced the report which provided information on the progress in terms implementing the Rhyl Going Forward (RGF) Regeneration Strategy, its financial implications, and the progress or prospects in terms of benefits realisation. He explained that the RGF Programme Board had undertaken a Delivery Review Workshop in November, 2012. A copy of the background report "A Review of the Rhyl Going Forward Delivery Plan", which had been circulated to attendees, had been included as Appendix 1.

Summaries of the outcomes of the November event in respect of the three workstreams which were integral to the programme had been included in the report.

It was explained that the Programme Board's Review Workshop event had also considered the constituent projects of the overall RGF strategy. The initial Project List

had been included in Appendix 2, and the outcome of the discussion had been attached as Appendix 3, Rhyl Going Forward Delivery Review. Work on project prioritisation had continued in tandem with the development of the new organisational structure for the Council's regeneration function. This would assist in ensuring that the correct staffing resources were in place to deliver the agreed strategic priorities. Details of the review of the governance arrangements had been outlined in Appendix 4. Initial work had been undertaken with the Big Plan Team at developing a more comprehensive performance management framework for the programme, and the results of the work had been included in Appendix 5, Performance Management Framework. Funding and monitoring processes for the regeneration strategy had been outlined in the report. Individual projects had their own consultation strategy and risks had been monitored by the Programme Board utilising the Programme Risk Register, which had been included as Appendix 6.

In response to concerns expressed by Councillor R.M. Murray regarding the need to secure a long term future for the Nova, Prestatyn and the lack of communication with Ward Members in Prestatyn, the RGFPM explained that Denbighshire was working with Alliance Leisure, the Council's Strategic Leisure Partner, to deliver a replacement aquatic facility to replace the Sun Centre. Members supported the view expressed by Councillor H.C. Irving regarding the importance of including the Ffrith Beach in the project. It was confirmed that there would be a need for a complementary offer across the coastal strip and this would include both Rhyl and Prestatyn areas. The RGFPM provided details of the procurement exercise undertaken to appoint partners to secure effective provision across the coastal strip and explained that there had been a need to explore alternative means of funding provision for discretionary services. He provided an assurance that the financial aspects of the investment would be scrutinised and that a balance would need to be struck with regard to the level of private investment.

Councillor H.LI. Jones outlined the work being undertaken along the coastal strip and the Committee agreed that Alliance Leisure should be invited to a future Council Briefing session to outline their relationship with the Council and their role in delivering services on the Council's behalf. It was felt that all Members should be aware of the partnership arrangements and be afforded the opportunity to submit questions to Alliance Leisure representatives in an informal setting.

The CD:LC responded to concerns raised by a number of Members regarding a lack of communication between officers and Ward Members. He outlined the process of submitting reports to Cabinet and highlighted the difficulties associated with reports being placed in the public domain.

Non-Committee Members present:

- stated that whilst there had been some concerns regarding the financial aspect of the RGF Project Rhyl Members were now confident regarding the future proposals for the coastal belt.
- questioned the proposed membership of the Board, as outlined in Appendix 3, and made reference to the need to avoid any perceived conflict of interest. The RGFPM outlined the role of the Programme Board, to observe the overall activity of the RGF Project and to provide direction for the development and

implementation of the major complex projects, and he confirmed that each individual project would have its own separate Board.

- the importance of including a reference to the proposed new faith based secondary school in all future RGF Programme documentation.
- stressed the importance of ensuring that landlords maintained, and continued to maintain, their properties located in the area

In reply to the above points, the RGFPM provided clarification regarding the role of the Clwyd Alyn Housing Association in the execution and implementation of the project. He also provided details of the partnership working undertaken with the Association to ensure the work carried out on their properties met the quality and standard expected. He explained that the maintenance of properties was a Housing rather than Regeneration issue and could be examined by the MAG. The Chair emphasised the need to provide clarity in the terms of reference on the roles of all stakeholders in the project. At the conclusion of the discussion the Chair summarised the views expressed and it was:-

RESOLVED – *that the Committee:-*

- (a) receive and note the contents of the report.*
- (b) recommend that Alliance Leisure be invited to a future Council Briefing session to outline their relationship with the Council and their role in delivering services on the Council's behalf.*
- (c) be presented with details of income generation forecast figures for the programme in future RGF monitoring report; and*
- (d) receives details pertaining to the constitution and Membership of the Programme and Project Boards as part of the next scheduled monitoring report.*

8 THE NORTH DENBIGHSHIRE DAY SERVICES REVIEW

A copy of a report by the Project Manager, Extra Care Sheltered Housing, which set out the current position with regard to the consultation and review of North Denbighshire Day Services and the proposals for changes to the way that day services are provided in North Denbighshire, had been circulated with the papers for the meeting. The Head of Adult and Business Services (HABS) introduced the report which provided feedback on the consultation and sought support for the implementation of the recommendations. The need to review current day services provision had been identified in the Reablement Moving Forward document and the 2008 Review of Day Services reiterated that there was a need to offer a wider range of options to service users.

To ensure that social service provision for Older People was sustainable and kept pace with demand, service provision for those most in need would have to be prioritised. Support would need to be reablement focused in line with Welsh Government policy as set out in Sustainable Social Services, A Framework for Action. When reviewing Day Care Services it would be important to distinguish between daytime activities and day care and the definition of the aspects of each of the service provisions had been outlined in the report

The HABS outlined the role of the staff team at Hafan Deg in undertaking in-depth assessments, and it was confirmed that wherever possible support would be provided for individuals to move into socially inclusive daytime activities in their local area. Opportunities to create meaningful links with ordinary day time activities would be built into the care plan if assessed as being required. Details of discussions undertaken with Housing Association Partners in Nant y Môr and Gorwel Newydd regarding the development of day activity groups at both Extra Care Schemes had been outlined in the report. The HABS responded to questions from Councillor R.M. Murray and outlined the timescales for the consultation process in respect of Nant y Môr, and agreed to seek clarification for Members regarding the location utilised by the Stroke Club.

The Welsh Government's Older People's Strategy indicated that in future people would prefer to be supported by inclusive local community services rather than traditional day services. To ensure provision of sustainable day services to meet the needs of increasing numbers of vulnerable people it would be vital to change the way services were provided. It was explained that the review of day services would contribute to the corporate priority of: Vulnerable People are protected and are able to live as independently as possible.

It was confirmed that the requirement to save £30k this year through the review of Day Services had been achieved through the re-organisation of the management structure across the 2 services. A summary of the consultation process undertaken with key stakeholders, and details of the feedback, had been included in Appendix 1.

The HABS outlined the recommendations contained in paragraph 3 of the report and responded to issues raised by Members from the Rhyl area which included concerns regarding the change of use of Hafan Deg from a Day Centre to a Rehabilitation Centre with a re-ablement focus, which they felt could result in service users having to pay for their own rehabilitation. He:

- confirmed that there was no charge for the provision of re-ablement services.
- provided details of the range of community services delivered by private organisations to supplement those provided by Social Services.
- confirmed that Social Services only provided services to users with eligible social care needs.
- confirmed the intention to expand the availability of community facilities for local users, with the focus for the financial year being to commission services from the third and independent sectors.
- provided an outline of the development of methods and means for self support.

Members highlighted difficulties which would confront service users who would be unable to access the services and facilities referred to under daytime activities. Reference was made to associated travel difficulties which could be encountered and the provision of funding to address the transportation issues highlighted. The HABS explained that the report did address the issues of the provision of daytime activities and day care separately and explained how these issues would be addressed by the implementation of the strategy. Councillor R.L. Feeley confirmed that the provision of nursing backup for service users attending Day Centres was an ongoing issue which would require further examination.

Having considered the proposals in the report there was a general consensus of opinion that the Committee was unable to support the recommendations on the basis that:-

- the full business case for the changes needed to be made available to Members.
- an impact assessment detailing the financial and service implications of the proposed changes for service users needed to be made available.
- details of third sector involvement in the new service models should be made available.
- estimated transport costs associated with delivering the new services being proposed should be made available.
- information should also be made available on the implications to Adult and Business Services and the risks to the Council's Medium Term Financial Plan if the proposals put forward were not approved.

During the ensuing discussion, the Committee agreed that in view of the concerns expressed by Members the recommendations contained in the report could not be supported until the supporting evidence outlined above was made available for councillors' consideration. The Committee:

RESOLVED – *that the recommendations with respect to changing the way that day services are delivered in north Denbighshire be referred to County Council for a decision once the additional supporting information listed above is available.*

9 STRATEGIC ASSEST MANAGEMENT

A copy of a joint report by the Principal Property Manager and the Valuation and Estates Manager, which outlined the Council's Asset Management and Disposal Strategy and the procedures and guidelines that are in place, had been circulated with the papers for the meeting.

Councillor J. Thompson-Hill introduced the report which provided information and sought observations on the Council's Asset Management and Disposal Strategy, and outlined the procedures and guidelines which regulate the disposal of Council assets. Details of the initial and current focus on the programme relating to the disposal of surplus assets had been outlined in the report.

The Council's standard asset management review process was summarised for Members, together with, details of the remit of the Asset Management Group (AMG). An outline of the Council scheme of delegated approvals for disposals and the Statutory Compliance on Disposal of Council Land and Buildings, Section 123, Local Government Act 1972, had been included in the report. The three main options for disposal of surplus land or buildings had been included in Appendix A to the report.

It was explained that the Council had strategies to obtain disposals from the Agricultural and Corporate Office and Miscellaneous Property portfolios, and a copy of the Agricultural Estate Service Management Plan had been attached at Appendix B. The Economic Development Estate had a draft strategy to deliver a managed rationalisation of assets from the property portfolio by April 2013 for discussion and ap-

proval and adoption, and part of this strategy would include recommendations for the disposal of assets. Lifelong Learning had a policy of Modernising Education and this could deliver surplus assets in due course. Other Services would declare assets surplus to requirements as they rationalise their respective operational portfolios.

Member involvement in asset disposals had been outlined in the report.

The Agricultural Estates Working Group had agreed an investment and disposal strategy for the Estate which guided current work. Member Area Groups would be receiving details of all properties in their area at meetings during the spring. A review of the industrial and business portfolio would involve Members and individual Members would be consulted on disposals in their ward. It was explained that the disposal of surplus assets generated capital receipts and along with the associated revenue savings would assist the delivery of Corporate Priorities which would otherwise remain unfunded. The target of £10m in capital receipts over the period 2010-2015 had been identified as a Corporate Priority.

The report included details of the costs and risks involved in the disposal of land and property. Members were assured that, prior to asset disposal, consideration was always given for alternative uses, including community use, and that all disposal transactions were open, transparent and undertaken in public interest.

Officers responded to the following questions and issues raised by Members:-

- the importance of Local Member involvement and consultation with regard to the disposal and acquisition of land and assets in their respective areas was emphasised
 - provided an update on the legal situation in respect of the former Cynwyd School.
 - regarding the possibility of Denbighshire selling land to Rhyl Town Council for the provision of a cemetery in the Rhyl area, it was explained that there was no suitable land in the area in question, this highlighted the difficulties associated with floodplains.
 - provided examples of instances where Denbighshire had acquired land or properties. Officers explained that they worked closely with the Regeneration Team to purchase land or property which would help to enhance or regenerate an area.
 - information relating to the work and remit of the Agricultural Estates Group and the proposal for a Commercial Industrial Estate Working Group were provided.
 - provided details of the steps taken to ensure that the Council would benefit from any future gains from land sold to a third party. They also confirmed that when disposing of property the up lift in value would be considered prior to being placed on the market.
- any issues relating to the Council's Agricultural Estate would be addressed though the Agricultural Estates Group.

It was:

RESOLVED – *subject to the above observations to receive and note the contents of the report on the Council's Asset Management Strategy.*

10 SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME

A copy of a report by the Scrutiny Coordinator, which requested the Committee to review and agree its Forward Work Programme and which provided an update on relevant issues, had been circulated with the papers for the meeting.

The Scrutiny Coordinator explained that, following the discussion at the meeting, an item relating to Etape Cymru had now been included for consideration by Cabinet at its February, 2013 meeting.

The Committee considered its draft work programme for future meetings, as detailed in Appendix 1, and the following amendments and additions were agreed:-

In response to concerns raised regarding the implementation of new recycling arrangements in south Denbighshire, in particular the problems that occurred during the roll-out of the new arrangements, Members agreed this matter be included in the Committee's Forward Work Programme for the February meeting. It was agreed that the report include accurate figures and details pertaining to the estimated costs of the process, the costs actually incurred, the number of complaints received and details of the process adopted for the awarding of the contract.

Members agreed that following receipt of a request, the Local Housing Strategy Update be rescheduled for the April, 2013 meeting.

Members agreed with the recommendation of the Scrutiny Chairs and Vice-Chairs Group (SCVCG), that the item on the effectiveness of the Council's Anti-Fouling Strategy and Action Plan, be included in the Communities Scrutiny Committee forward work programme for April, 2013.

The Committee agreed with the suggestion by the Corporate Director: Learning and Communities that the Getting Closer to the Community Programme item, scheduled for consideration on the 28th February, 2013, include consideration of ideas for improving and reviewing the different methods and ways of moving the Council closer to the community.

The Scrutiny Coordinator informed Members that the Peer Learning Exchange Team from Flintshire County Council, and representatives from the Wales Audit Office, would be attending the Committee's meeting in February, 2013. She explained that the Peer Group had recently attended a meeting of the Performance Scrutiny Committee and a brief summary of their findings was provided.

RESOLVED – *that, subject to the above amendments, the Committee's Work Programme be approved.*

11 FEEDBACK FROM COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES

No updates from Committee Representatives on the various Council boards and groups were given.

Meeting ended at 13.10 p.m.

Report to: Communities Scrutiny Committee

Date of Meeting: 28 February 2013

Lead Member: Lead Member for Public Realm

Report Author: Head of Highways & Environmental Services

Title: Review of the roll out of the 'X2' recycling scheme

1. What is the report about?

The November 2012 roll-out of the council's x2 recycling scheme in the south of the county.

2. What is the reason for making this report?

There were a series of problems with the roll-out. This report identifies what went wrong, what steps were taken to rectify things, and what lessons should be learnt for the future.

3. What are the Recommendations?

That the Committee discuss the report, comment on its contents, and:

- 3.1 agrees that the lessons learned are used to underpin any future service changes that might be planned;
- 3.2 agrees that the outcomes from the roll out are publicised as soon as definitive figures are available; and
- 3.3 supports the proposal that the publication of outcome figures should be accompanied by an apology for the problems that were encountered during the roll out, and an explanation of what went wrong.

4. Background

The decision to adopt the x2 recycling collection system was taken by the county council in 2005. From 2006 onwards, the system was progressively rolled out; first in the north of the county, and then into Ruthin and Denbigh. The last major components of the implementation process were the 2012 rural roll-outs; first in the north of the county, and then in the south. The southern roll out was the largest that had ever been undertaken. 16,000 properties were affected, and 10,000 of these were receiving the x2 system for the first time

5. Decisions taken in advance of the 2012 roll out

The significant decisions taken in advance of the roll out are analysed in Appendix 1. The main conclusion from Appendix 1 is that the roll-out would have been better executed if it had been delayed until the spring of 2013. However, the decisions to adopt a zoned system (in one go), and to utilise a computer based route optimisation system were felt to be appropriate (see Appendix 1 for reasons).

6. Implementation Problems

- 6.1 Bin orders were placed in July 2012, and from this point on, the council was effectively committed to an autumn roll-out. The bins were produced in Germany. Other items were produced in India. The bins were delivered on schedule, as were the information packs. The food waste caddies were delivered slightly behind schedule, but before the roll out date, so operations were not impacted.
- 6.2 The “dumpy sacks” were delayed by one month due to a dock strike in India. This caused the equipment roll out date to be put back by 2 weeks (to 5 November). The timetable could not be put back any further due to the proximity of Christmas. This was a consequence of the decision to roll-out in the autumn.
- 6.3 The dumpy sacks were actually received 5 days after the equipment roll out had started, and this delay disrupted the contractor’s delivery operations (they had to go back to places they had already been to), and also led to many CRM calls about “*why is some of my equipment missing?*”
- 6.4 The rounds that were produced from the computerised route optimisation system were analysed and appeared to be realistic and deliverable. However, it later emerged that a significant proportion of the more remote rural properties had not been captured on the new system’s database, i.e. the properties were missing.
- 6.5 Additionally; equipment delivery personnel were unable to locate/deliver to many individual rural properties. This was partly due to the standard of the maps that they had been provided with, but was also due to the difficulty in identifying properties that are set back from the highway, often without any clear names/signs to identify them.
- 6.6 The delivery sub-contractor had been selected because they had previously undertaken rural roll-outs. Nevertheless; they significantly underestimated the length of time that the delivery process would take. That fact, together with the omissions referred to under 6.4 above, resulted in the delivery period taking twice as long as expected.
- 6.7 As a result of 6.4 and 6.5 above, around 10% of properties did not receive the equipment that they were supposed to receive. This was the root cause of the majority of the incoming customer enquiries that were generated (CRMs).
- 6.8 The principle of ‘zoning’ of collection rounds is good practice. However, when zoning is implemented, it does take time for the collection crews to get to know their new areas. In previous roll outs, this has been a fairly quick process. However, the scale of the difference, in extremely rural areas, was not fully appreciated, and no additional mitigation measures were established beforehand.
- 6.9 If the roll out had been delayed until (say) April, the acclimatisation process would have been far quicker, because collection crews could have been allowed to work

into the evenings. They would have returned to any missed-collections, and would have been aware of the missed properties the following week. In November, it was dark by 4.30pm, so work had to cease. The personnel dealing with the missed collections were therefore *not* the crews from the respective rounds, and the learning process was consequently a lot slower.

- 6.10 The cumulative delays to equipment delivery resulted in Corwen residents being given their information too late to prevent the majority of people putting out their refuse (incorrectly) on Monday 19 November. Under the new scheme; the correct collection day should have been Friday 23 November. The confusion that was generated when these “missed collections” were being dealt with had knock-on effects that lasted for several weeks. This confusion undoubtedly had an adverse effect on the reputation of the service, and the Council, especially in the Dee Valley.

7. Recovery

- 7.1 In the first week of the new collection regime, it became apparent that the problems being encountered were significantly wider and more serious than had been anticipated. The service therefore developed a recovery programme, designed to tackle the problems that were emerging.
- 7.2 The Customer Services Department played a key role in managing the incoming CRM calls. Environmental Services staff analysed and categorised the customer enquiries, with particular attention being paid to assisted collections.
- 7.3 Extra delivery resources were brought-in to get the missing equipment to the affected properties, and admin. officers assisted waste officers in contacting customers to establish need etc.
- 7.4 Everybody pulled together, in what was effectively an emergency response team. Staff carried out gap analyses, identifying the root causes of the incoming CRM calls. Collection rounds were changed, however the zoning system and collection days were not changed. Updated maps and information were produced for the collection crews. The crews helped managers to develop and test the new arrangements. There was full cooperation and involvement from all staff. Everybody did what they could to help.
- 7.5 In addition to missing equipment problems, the waste team also had to deal with the more predictable (expected) roll-out issues, such as the suitability or otherwise of wheelie bins for individual properties.
- 7.6 The cost of the extra resources that had to be utilised in order to recover the situation are set out in Appendix 2. The pattern of CRM enquiry generation and resolution is shown in Appendix 3. There were 26 formal complaints about service levels during the roll out. Twenty one of these were upheld, three were partially upheld, and two were not upheld.

8. Lessons learnt

- 8.1 Over the summer of 2012; key staff were tied-up on work relating to the regional Food Waste Contract, for which Denbighshire is the lead authority. This affected the preparation work prior to the roll out, and that had knock-on consequences for the implementation process.

- 8.2 The scale of the delay to the Food Waste project was unforeseen (the preferred bidder pulled out of the contract, and negotiations had to be re-opened with the second placed bidder). The first lesson for the future is that sufficient contingency time should be allowed for all eventualities.
- 8.3 The second lesson is that major roll outs should be undertaken in the spring/summer months, not in the autumn/winter months, i.e. even if the extra delay results in disappointment for those who are awaiting the improvements to services.
- 8.4 Expectations need to be managed more carefully/conservatively.
- 8.5 The fourth lesson is that, where service changes are proposed, there is a need to capture existing knowledge from collection crews far more effectively, i.e. via a thorough, detailed, analytical process.

9. Future Actions

- 9.1 Roll outs such as this cannot be executed without a certain amount of disruption and adverse comment. There are numerous examples of this from up and down the UK, including many authorities with far more resources at their disposal than Denbighshire.
- 9.2 In Denbighshire we are fortunate that the waste management service has enjoyed very high customer feedback ratings. In part this is due to the nature of the x2 system itself. On the whole; people appreciate its convenience and ease of use.
- 9.3 The best way to repair any reputational damage is therefore to provide a really well-run service going forward, making sure that we are vigilant about service delivery levels, especially in the areas that were affected the most. If we can do this; the roll out should be seen as a short term aberration.
- 9.4 Over the next few months the service will attempt to repair some of the damage by apologising for the problems that were caused, but also by publicising the positive impact that the new scheme has had on the efficiency of recycling arrangements in the south.
- 9.5 In December the Ruthin transfer station recorded a 29% increase in the amount of dry recyclates collected (December compared to October), together with a 34% increase in the amount of food waste recycled. The consequential cost savings are summarised in Appendix 2.
- 9.6 The benefits to Denbighshire's recycling performance will become more widely known when the first set of quarterly statistics are released. It is anticipated that our recycling performance should be over well over 60%, i.e. confirming Denbighshire's position as the top recycling county in Wales and one of the best in the UK.

10. Chief Finance Officer Statement

N/A

Contact Officer:

Head of Highways and Environmental Services

Tel: 01824 712123

Decisions taken prior to roll out

Decision Taken	Analysis	Conclusion
<p>Decision to optimise the routes/working arrangements “in one-go”.</p> <p>It was felt that; doing things in one go would enable the Council to deliver the most efficient system more quickly.</p>	<p>The potential benefits of a fully optimised (zoned) system had been identified through the experiences in the north of the county, where systems had been changed piecemeal, and then been revisited and amended again (in order to optimise /zone them).</p> <p>However, a piecemeal roll out was not really feasible in the south due to the scarcity of population and the (existing) complex routing arrangements.</p>	<p>The decision to roll out in one go is therefore still considered to have been the right one.</p>
<p>Decision to utilise a computer software system to optimise routes.</p>	<p>This decision was taken because route planning is more complex in the south of the county (due to its rural nature), and because most other progressive councils already use computerised systems of this type.</p>	<p>There were difficulties with the implementation of this system, however, the decision to use it is still considered to have been the right one.</p>
<p>The roll out was planned for October, before the hour went back. The timescale was effectively fixed in July 2012 when the Council committed to the wheelie bin production schedules.</p>	<p>The decision to go for an autumn roll out was taken in order to satisfy the expectations that had been generated within communities when consultation had taken place about the planned changes. In hindsight officers should have consulted later, and not given any indication of timescale. This would have lessened the pressure for an early roll-out.</p>	<p>The roll out would have been better executed if it had been undertaken in the following spring. The choice of an autumn roll out effectively eliminated the possibility of evening working to rectify defects/omissions.</p>

A. Extra costs incurred

The cost of the extra resources that had to be utilised in order to recover the situation

Source	Extra costs incurred	Comments
Retention of delivery contractor for extra 3 weeks	£9,000	The contractor worked for 6 weeks. The original programme was 3 weeks
Use of Local contractor to assist with collections	£1,100	The contractor worked picking up refuse from properties that had reported missed collections
Collections crew overtime costs	£4,800	Overtime was worked on 4 consecutive Saturdays in the run up to Christmas. The figure includes an allowance for employer NI contributions etc.
Additional equipment delivery team employed	£6,000	External Contractor with local knowledge was used to assist with deliveries
Back office staff overtime	£120	Two admin officers worked a Saturday morning processing CRMs
TOTAL COST:	£21,020	

The majority of the extra costs shown above could have been avoided if the roll out had been delayed by 6 months. However; the extra costs should be viewed in the context of the overall cost effectiveness of the recycling system that was being deployed. The latest WLGAs benchmarking data shows Denbighshire's dry recycling scheme to be the most cost effective in Wales.

As an illustration; the roll out has resulted in a significant reduction in landfill costs, that will continue into the future (*figures available to date are shown below*)

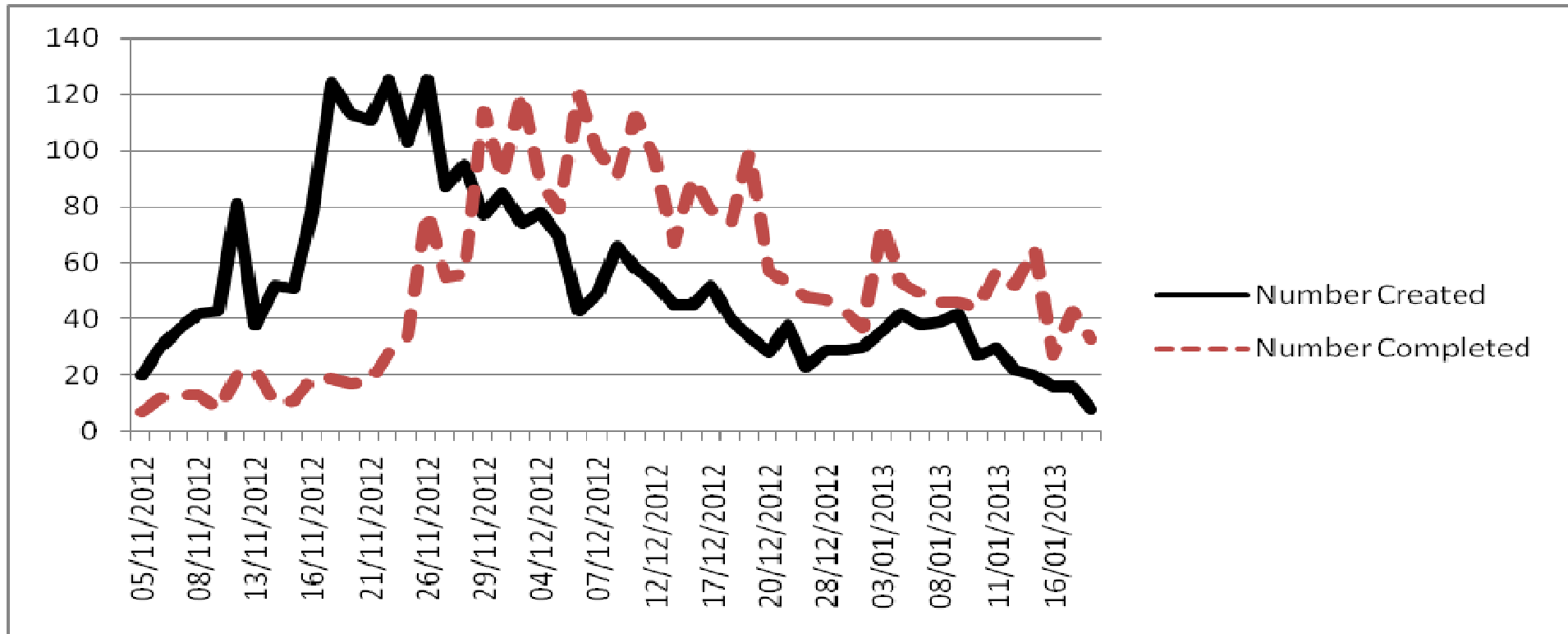
B. Disposal cost savings due to new system (Dec.12 & Jan.13 only):

Type of recycling	Quantity of <u>extra</u> material recovered (due to new system)	Disposal Cost saving (over 2 month period)	Detail
Food waste recycling	166 tonnes	£3,152	Difference between recycling cost (AD plant) and landfill cost.
Kerbside Dry recycling	148 tonnes	£15,262	Difference between selling the extra material recovered (to UPM Shotton) and the previous land-filling cost
	Total reduction:	£18,414	

Customer Enquiries generated & resolved

In cases where customers required more equipment, or had service issues that needed to be resolved, a CRM enquiry was created by the call centre, and forwarded to the service. The graph below shows the daily number of CRMs that were created / resolved.

The peak “incoming” number, of 120+ per day, is roughly three times higher than the number that had been expected. Resources were consequently significantly over-stretched, By the time that additional resources had been mobilised, there was already a backlog of enquiries waiting to be cleared. This is illustrated by the duration of “time lag” between the solid and dotted lines. Two or three days of the time lag was administrative (completions were not entered into the computer on the day the work was done), but the remainder was a genuine service delay. The fact that hundreds of calls were not resolved straight away meant that a lot of repeat calls were generated. This added to the overall level of incoming calls, and the “high level period” lasted longer than it needed to.



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Report to: Communities Scrutiny Committee

Date of Meeting: 28 February 2013

Lead Member/Officer: Lead Member for Customers and Communities

Report Author: Corporate Director: Customers

Title: Engaging with our communities and redefining our approach to being 'An Excellent Council Close to the Community'

1. What is the report about?

This report comprises of two sections, namely:

- (i) How the Council intends to engage with the communities in Denbighshire; and
- (ii) Redefining our approach to developing the 'Close to the Community' element of our mission statement of being 'An Excellent Council Close to the Community'

2. What is the reason for making this report?

To seek the Committee's views on how the Council progresses with the theme of Getting Closer to the Community and how we best engage with residents.

3. What are the recommendations?

That the Committee:

- 3.1 comments on the possible approaches to improve engagement opportunities with residents and interested groups; and
- 3.2 comments on the revised approach to the definition of being An Excellent Council **Close to the Community**

4. Report details

- 4.1 A comprehensive overview of how the Council intends to engage with the County's communities and its revised approach to fulfilling its ambition on being an 'Excellent Council Close to the Community' can be found in the Annex to this report.
- 4.2 Attached to the Annex are appendices detailing recent and forthcoming engagement exercises, and a chart outlining the themed strands developed for the purpose of securing further improvements with respect to getting close to the community.

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

This topic contributes directly to the Council's overarching mission statement of being an Excellent Council Close to the Community. This approach is expected to permeate the corporate priorities and service delivery.

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

The issues covered in this report are to be delivered through funding identified for the delivery of the seven corporate priorities and funding for direct service delivery.

7. What consultations have been carried out?

The approach proposed in this report has been discussed at CET and SLT and with the Lead Member. A number of specific aspects have been considered previously by Town & Community Councils and more generally in terms of the development of the Town/Area Plans.

8. Chief Finance Officer Statement

While there are no direct costs associated with this report, improving our engagement with communities should begin to affect where and how we deliver services in the future.

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

The absence of a clear and refreshed plan, places the Council at risk of not being able to deliver its mission statement in full. There is also a risk that the Council may distance itself from the communities.

10. Power to Make the Decision

Article 6.3 Council Constitution
S2 Local Government Act 2000
Part2 Local Government Wales Measure 2009

Article 6.3.3(c) of the Council's Constitution stipulates that "...scrutiny committees may consider and implement mechanisms to encourage and enhance community participation in the development of policy options".

Contact Officer:

Corporate Director: Customers
Tel: 01824 712501

(a) Engaging with the Community

On behalf of the Local Service Board, the Council has previously arranged a series of Community Forums across the County which had senior representatives from all of our key public / voluntary sector agencies. Although widely publicised, attendance at these meetings were poor with more Officers present than members of the public. It was agreed therefore to move away from generic public meetings unless there was a specific issue to be aired (e.g. school modernisation, Local Development Plan) and concentrate on other forms of consultation and public engagement.

Most Services are engaged in some form of public / user consultation at any one time either through surveys / questionnaires or direct contact with the community. This approach is underpinned by extensive consultation on our key corporate strategies such as the Corporate Plan, The BIG Plan (our single integrated plan) or Service led engagement e.g. faith based education and Town Plans. A mapping exercise was undertaken in 2012 of all consultation activities undertaken by individual Services demonstrating a wide ranging subject base and a 'snapshot' of recent and planned engagement for the next few months is to be found in Appendix 1.

The Council is using more creative opportunities to engage with residents or 'communities of interest' with greater emphasis on the use of social media (Twitter, Facebook and blogs) and the complete re-design of our website which will be launched in June and will improve on-line consultation questionnaires and surveys. A Residents Survey to approximately 6,000 residents will also be undertaken in 2013.

The Council will also respond positively to developing issues which arise requiring immediate public engagement e.g. the recent establishment of a St Asaph and Ruthin Community Flood Recovery Group.

Through the Town and Community Council Charter, the Council has strengthened its engagement procedures with councils which complement the Liaison meetings, Cluster meetings and Town Clerks Group meetings.

There is however, further work to be undertaken with Councillors in respect of identifying engagement opportunities between Councillors and residents either individually or on a ward basis (e.g. councillor surgeries) or as Member Area Groups (e.g. annual open meeting). The views of Scrutiny Members are sought on these two suggestions.

(b) Redefining our approach to be an 'Excellent Council Close to the Community'

The Corporate Plan 2012/2017 sets out an ambitious agenda for change within the Council, and places a clear focus on developing excellence, whilst also remaining close to our communities. Since we began to define in more detail what

being close to the community really means, a number of improvements have been achieved over the last 18 months or so. With the development of the new Corporate Plan, it is an opportune time to reflect and review what has been achieved, and refine the priorities and actions necessary to ensure that we meet the ambition and desire to be close to our community.

This document aims to reflect on the achievements to date, and also attempts to set out the focus for future actions.

Achievements to Date

In the initial Getting Closer to the Community Action Plan, three key themes were identified namely:

- ❖ Representation and Engagement
- ❖ Service Delivery
- ❖ Community Development

Representation and Engagement

The objective here was to:

“Improve the Council’s level of meaningful engagement and representation leading to improving perceptions, understanding and service delivery”

- To this end, the Council has established 6 Member Area Groups (MAGs), with an appropriate support structure and corporate leadership in place. These have been working effectively, over a period of about 18 months, and have now been given revised Terms of Reference. Members have valued this development and officers are engaging positively with the opportunities provided by Member Area Group consultations and discussions.
- A Community Engagement Strategy has been developed and agreed by Members. The outworkings of this strategy is managed by the Community Engagement Manager within the Partnership Team. A draft Participation Strategy has also been written to advise colleagues on engaging with children and young people.
- The Charter between Denbighshire County Council (DCC) and Town & Community Councils (T&CCs) has been signed by 32 out of 37 Town & Community Councils. The importance of this Charter has been discussed at Senior Leadership Team (SLT), liaison meetings between DCC and Town & Community Councils and at individual departmental team meetings. The monitoring of the effectiveness of the Charter is being carried out by the Community Engagement Manager, and a full review will take place in May 2013.
- The Council has been heavily involved in delegating certain services to the larger Town Councils. This has included the transfer of responsibility for the Llangollen Town Hall to the Town Council, the Corwen Healthy Living Centre to

a Community Partnership and a cost sharing arrangement between the Council and Denbigh Town Council for the operation of Denbigh Town Hall. A meeting has taken place with Ruthin Town and community council who have already expressed an interest in taking on more responsibility around the management of Allotments, bus shelters and the town parks/playing field, some grounds maintenance. The actual costs of the services will be shared with the clerk on the 21st February, when the council members will be in a position to consider further the devolution of the service. As one of the first town councils to pilot the scheme they are enthusiastic about taking on the responsibility of services providing it is cost effective and the standard of the services is not compromised. Prestatyn Town Council in response to the need to work more collaboratively is now working with the relocating of Prestatyn Library Project Team. The project is scheduled to complete in July 2013 and will see the relocation of the public library to a new location within Prestatyn. As part of the project it is envisaged that the library will take on a new role within the community and a centre of information. There will be a clearly defined information service operating there and the Town Council will contribute to that service. It is proposed that the CAB (Citizen's Advice Bureau) will be accommodated in the library moving from its present location currently funded by the Town Council.

- The second residents' survey has been completed and services have been requested to reflect relevant messages from our residents into their Business Plans.
- Work has begun on improving the way information is made available by the Council through the development of the new website, and a review of the way that we deal with feedback and complaints.
- Our engagement with the business community within Denbighshire has been progressed, and there are now clearer arrangements in place in terms of liaising with business groups, Chambers of Trade, etc.
- The support arrangements for the Third Sector Liaison Group have been improved by an appointment made by Denbighshire Voluntary Services' Council (DVSC) and this forum provides for an effective partnership between DVSC and the Council.

Service Delivery

The objective of this priority was to:

"Ensure that services respond effectively to the needs of residents by becoming increasingly more resident focussed"

All services were asked to carry out an initial self-assessment of the activities and processes that enabled them to work in a way that was closer to the community. Subsequently, the service challenge process has included this aspect in service position statements.

Whilst it is not possible to specifically measure improvements in the way services are delivered to reflect the needs of our customers and residents, services have become more customer focussed over the last 18 months, and there are some clear examples of where services have attempted to become more community focussed. These include:

- ➔ Bringing the regulatory Planning processes closer to the communities, community based deployment of staff and the mapping of provision within Youth Services, and now the emerging structure for the new Highways and Environmental Services Department
- ➔ The priorities within the Corporate Plan and The Big Plan are largely based on what the community has been stating as important issues
- ➔ New Corporate Plan includes a commitment that we will work with all of our councillors through MAGs to develop the road maintenance programme
- ➔ The involvement of services in participatory budgeting schemes
- ➔ The Town Plans have been agreed for our main towns and these are currently being further reviewed with the additional requirement to consider the needs of rural communities beyond the towns
- ➔ Work on developing the customer standards for all services has been undertaken with a view to finalise the standards in early 2013
- ➔ The budget planning process has been managed in a way that has seen frontline services largely protected from cuts
- ➔ Social care services have been developing a single point of access and community champion scheme, and developing Extra Care Housing facilities in our main towns
- ➔ During the recent flooding emergency, the Council responded in a way that brought it closer to the communities affected by the floods, both in the response and recovery phases

Community Development Role

The objective under this priority was:

“To provide an improved infrastructure to enable community development and enrichment to take place coherently within DCC”

- ➔ The funding that has been available for community revenue and capital projects has been secured for the foreseeable future, and forms part of the funding strategy for the Corporate Plan. A review of how this funding is to be allocated in the future has been undertaken in order to make funding decisions that are more strategic in nature than has been the case in the past.

- Funding has also been agreed within this element to support the infrastructure required for future participatory budgeting opportunities within the Council
- Through a partnership with the Community Foundation in Wales, a Community Development Fund has been set up which will make use of 57 redundant trust funds that the Council has not been utilising effectively in the past
- The Council has developed a Covenant with the Armed Services community which identifies opportunities for engagement with serving personnel and veterans
- The Communications, Marketing and Leisure Department have developed a Denbighshire Volunteering Strategy, which will become a Council wide strategy in the near future
- Locality based mapping, planning and delivery structures has enabled the Council to better understand the needs of the communities and where there are gaps in provision
- Ongoing active support is provided to aid the development of the Communities First Cluster in Denbighshire

Securing Further Improvements

In order to build on the work that has already been undertaken, four new strands have been developed, which clearly overlap with the priorities identified in the initial plan. The proposed revised strands are as follows:

- 1) Democratic and community engagement
- 2) Putting our customers first
- 3) Mapping community needs and aspirations and building capacity
- 4) Service improvement – this involves 2 sub-strands:
 - a) Developing the right culture; and
 - b) Designing services to be physically close to their communities

The element under these four themes are summarised further in Appendix 2. Once agreed, these elements will be included in relevant Service Business Plans and monitored accordingly in order to ensure full and effective implementation.

‘Snapshot’ of recent, current and future consultations

List of Statutory Consultations

Service	Purpose	Comments
Highways & Infrastructure	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Vale Street, Denbigh - Limited waiting/residents' parking bays 2) Rhyl Road, Denbigh - Double yellow lines 3) St Asaph Town Centre - Various changes to parking restrictions 4) Ruthin Town Centre - Amendments to parking restriction changes made last year 5) Ffordd Derwen, Rhyl - Double yellow lines 	On-going public consultation re traffic orders etc.
Business Planning & Performance – Corporate Improvement	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Council's Public Sector Equality Duty. We are partners in a regional consultation event in spring 2013 2) Planned equalities consultation with various County organisations and groups 	
Business Planning & Performance – Project Management	Rhyl Harbour redevelopment To invite comment on the draft operational plan for the new pedestrian and cycle bridge.	Statutory: ➡ Marine Consents Unit- email/letter
	Rhyl Harbour redevelopment To invite comment regarding the scope and implementation of a Harbour Empowerment Order	Statutory: ➡ Marine Consents Unit- email/ letter
Libraries	CIPFA PLUS (Public Library User Survey)	Required every 3 years. Completed Children's survey Nov 2011 surveying 971 children. Completed Adult survey Nov 2012 surveying 2373.
Housing & Community Development	Housing requirements of Gypsies and Travellers	We will be carrying out a public consultation in the next few months to develop the Local Housing

		Strategy
Business Planning & Performance – Partnerships & Communities	Single Integrated Plan	We will be consulting on Part 2 of our 'BIG Plan in 2013 using similar techniques to the Part 1 consultation but learning from what proved successful and what did not in terms of public engagement opportunities.

List of Non-Statutory Consultations

Service	Purpose	Comments
Highways & Infrastructure	1) 1.Trellewelyn Road, Rhyl - Pedestrian safety scheme 2) Vale of Clwyd Cycle Route (commencing Feb 2013)	May become statutory dependant on land acquisition
Regeneration Services	To inform the adjacent businesses and residential properties of the procedures and programme of demolition and re development of the site on Rhyl promenade known as the Honey Club (21-24 West Parade Rhyl)	26.11.12 Very poorly attended despite public notices, and hand delivery to immediate adjacent streets
Regeneration Services	To garner the public's views on proposals to improve and develop Marine Lake, Rhyl in order to advise Members and assist with the planning application	6.12.12 Fairly well attended and the proposals for a "cableski system" and changing rooms were well received
Planning & Public Protection Service -	Wind Energy Development Interim Planning Guidance To consult with the public on an interim planning guidance document. The guidance document will enable a consistent approach to submitting planning applications and definition of terms relating to wind energy development proposals.	Letters and emails sent out to targeted public organisations and open to all members of the public. Consultation lasted 9 weeks, one additional week because of Christmas holidays. Press release issued at the start of the consultation. DCC website and links updated with the information and how to contact us. No drop-in sessions scheduled because the

		document was not location specific. Approximately 25 responses received.
Business Planning & Performance – Project Management	Construction/Procurement for the 6 NW authorities Consultation with the Construction Industry regarding approach to procurement of construction projects across North Wales. Developing a framework for NW authorities to use for the projects in the 21 st Century schools programme.	Positive feedback from the construction industry. Project team changed the lotting strategy as a result of the consultation. Method: Questionnaire, OJEU PIN (Prior Information Notice)(72 completed), Feedback event/Engagement event to feedback result from the questionnaire and highlight key drivers for the project (Nov 2012), meetings and monthly updates about progress with the project. Feedback about consultation event: The event was very positive with 98% of delegates who returned a feedback form (49) stating that the event was either excellent or good and attendance was well represented across North Wales and nationally, over 120 delegates attended.
Business Planning & Performance – Partnerships & Communities	LSB Engagement Strategy	Lead organisation on developing a joint strategy. Currently engaging with partner organisations with the establishment of an LSB Engagement Working Group
	Anti-Fouling Strategy	Engagement with Town & Community Councils and interested stakeholders
	On-going engagement with our 37 Town & Community Councils	We have a Liaison meeting (CEO / Leader), Cluster meetings and Town Clerks Liaison meetings

	We partner or lead on Participatory Budgeting events throughout the year	Using Participatory Budgeting as a forum for identifying the priorities within communities
	Regular consultation on delivering our obligations in the Town & Community Council Charter with DCC	Reviewing the Charter and its effectiveness
	Adoption of an Armed Services Covenant	Consultation programmed with the Armed Services and British Legion.
Business Planning & Performance – Project Management Team	Rhyl Harbour redevelopment To invite comment on the draft operational plan for the new pedestrian and cycle bridge.	Non statutory: ➤ Harbour Forum face to face at meeting
	To invite comment regarding the scope and implementation of a Harbour Empowerment Order	Non statutory: ➤ Harbour Forum- face to face at meeting
	External evaluation of the 'P5T1 Physical Regeneration of North Wales programme' which is being managed by WG to gain feedback re the project.	➤ Face to face interviews with Members of the Public ➤ Telephone survey of local businesses.
	General consultation regarding the drawings/design detail for the harbour	➤ Face to face at Harbour Forum meetings ➤ Face to face with Members of the Marine Lake Users Forum
Business Planning & Performance – Corporate Improvement	Denbighshire Residents' Survey To ascertain resident satisfaction and opinions about council services and life in Denbighshire.	The residents' survey is a biennial general survey delivered to 6,000 households in the county. The survey design is to enable statistically significant results for each of 6 area divisions of the county. The focus is to provide data to support our corporate plan priorities, to indicate service performance and broader community satisfaction with Denbighshire as a

		place to live. In this respect it has similarities with the English 'Place' surveys and Best Value General Surveys which were antecedent.
Business Planning & Performance – Corporate Improvement	Town and Community Council Public realm and roads qualitative surveys To support corporate priorities on roads and cleaner towns and villages	This work is still in the design stage and we hope to utilise the knowledge of Town & Community Councillors to provide more detailed qualitative evidence to support the quantitative data derived from the residents' survey.
Libraries	User input into future direction of service as part of Library Strategy	Held 16 stakeholder workshops across the county late 2012
	Summer Reading Challenge - feedback on programme	Children and adults encouraged to complete feedback slips
	Bookstart – feedback on programme	Families attending rhymetimes are surveyed twice a year to measure impact.
	User survey on Xmas opening hours	Feedback boxes in all Leisure Centres
	User input into future priorities as part of Leisure Strategy	Held 14 stakeholder workshops across the county early 2011
	Mapping day held with 50 partners late 2010	Results fed into Leisure Strategy
Youth Service	User survey	Annual survey of young people
	Input into corporate priorities	Surveys completed at all Youth Centres
	Input into BIG Plan	Surveys completed at all Youth Centres
	Input into Youth Work programme and local issues	Surveys completed at all Youth Centres and projects
	Input into Transport issues	Surveys completed at all Youth Centres
	Feedback on Anti Bullying	Consultation in partnership with schools
	Social use of Welsh	Consultation in partnership with Urdd
Housing & Community Development	Destination Management Plan for Denbighshire	

Housing & Community Development	Area Plans	Development of existing Town Plans to include the wider rural area
Housing & Community Development	Public Consultation on European Structural and Rural Development Funds 2014-2020, currently being undertaken by the Welsh Government	
Social Services	<p>i. to understand the experience of service users accessing the service</p> <p>ii. to identify how well service users have been involved in the development and delivery of services</p> <p>iii. to identify areas for improvement within the service</p>	There is an established 'Have Your Say' survey with children, young people and parent appropriate versions. The survey is sent to families at key intervals depending on how long they have been receiving services AND at the point of cases being closed
	To develop a comprehensive profile of children with disabilities and their families with a better understanding of their needs, the services they access, the impact of the disability on their own lives and those of their family members	A detailed scoping tool (series of key questions) has been developed and is being completed by Social Workers, Teachers and key education staff who work with children with disabilities. To date in the region of 350 children have been profiled.
	<p>Team Around the Family and Families First Panel</p> <p>To undertake an evaluation of the TAF and Families First Panel and identify:</p> <p>i. experience and contribution of all key stakeholders</p> <p>ii. strengths and areas for development of the two elements</p> <p>iii. identify impact on outcomes for families</p>	<p>The methodology being used includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - data analysis on activity (numbers) - focus groups with TAF team - survey/ 1:1 and focus groups with key stakeholders - consultation with service users in receipt of the service
	<p>Leaving care service evaluation</p> <p>To identify experience of care leavers, foster carers, Social Workers and Personal Advisors within the externally commissioned</p>	<p>A range of methods were used which included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - surveys to all key stakeholders (relevant questions for each groups) - focus groups with staff

	<p>service to identify:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. experience of service users receiving the service ii. identify impact on outcomes for care leavers iii. requirements for new personal advisor service currently being commissioned 	<p>groups</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - focus groups with care leavers. <p>This evaluation saw real engagement from care leavers through the various methods and the value of their contributions has helped shape the service specification for the personal advisor service to be re-commissioned. In addition a series of improvements to the way in which the Social Work element of the care leaver service is delivered</p>
	Regular formal and informal engagement with service users	
Customers and Education Support	<p>Consultation with parents at Blessed Edward Jones and St Brigid's to discuss the future of faith education in North Denbighshire</p>	<p>Letters sent to all parents, consultation to end 29th January anticipate over 100 responses to questionnaires plus additional letters. Parents meetings held at both schools attended by approximately 160 people.</p> <p>Consultation also held with the school council's for both schools.</p>
	<p>Consultation with parents to consider the future primary provision in the Ruthin area</p>	<p>Letters will be sent to all parents, approximately 900 at the start of February. Consultation to end 22nd March. Meetings will be held at all 11 schools for parents and online survey will be available to gain opinions in addition to paper based questionnaire and requesting comments by e-mail and letter.</p>

1. Democratic and Community Engagement

- Member Area Groups (MAGs) – continue to support and develop the MAGs as effective local, political fora
- T&CC Charter – monitor the implementation of the T&CC Charter and review its effectiveness in May 2013.
- T&CC Delegation of Services - continue to work with T&CCs on the delegation and/or shared management of assets and functions
- Communication with Members (Member/Officer protocol) – further improve the way that we work with Members on local ward issues
- Community Engagement Strategy – in line with the Local Government Measure, ensure that the Community Engagement Strategy is implemented effectively

4. Service Improvement

- New corporate self-evaluation framework – develop a new corporate self-evaluation framework that gives greater emphasis on monitoring how close the service is to its community
- Service statement on what Bringing the Council Closer to the Community (BCCC) means for the service - require services to produce a service statement defining what BCCC means for that particular service
- Welsh Language Standards – the development of Welsh Language standards to reflect new levels of expectations from the Language Commissioner and our bilingual community
- Structural design and operation to enhance closeness to the community – how the structural design and operation of services enhances the ability of that service to be close to its community
- Assets – how can the way we use our assets promote community development and sustainability

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2. Putting Customers First

- Customer Standards – publish the newly created Customer Standards for all services in April 2013, and begin to monitor their effective implementation as from September 2013
- Access to Information – launch the new interactive website in June 2013 and improving access to information and the ability of customers to interact with the Council
- Feedback and Complaints – improve the feedback and complaints procedures.
- Reviews of One Stop Shops
- Community Hubs - consider how we can improve the access to information within communities, using community hubs or mobile provision, especially in rural areas
- Residents Survey (3) - carry out a third residents survey in 2013
- CRM System -improve the way that the current Call Centre operates, in order to improve and speed up responses to queries from services by locating call centre staff within service areas

3. Mapping needs and aspirations and building capacity

- Town Plans/Area Plans – review the current approach to community based planning
- Community based funding strategy – the development of community based planning and associated funding strategy as defined in Town/Area Plans
- Community Endowment Fund – support the implementation of the Denbighshire Community Endowment Fund
- Locality mapping e.g. YS, others – promote the use of locality mapping such as the pilots undertaken within the Youth Service
- Participatory budgeting schemes – support the infrastructure requirements for additional participatory budgeting schemes
- Volunteering strategy and voluntary sector engagement – develop a Denbighshire wide volunteering strategy to both encourage volunteering activity for staff, together with making effective use of volunteers within the Council
- Engagement with businesses – further develop our engagement and support function for local businesses

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Report to: Communities Scrutiny Committee

Date of Meeting: 28 February 2013

Report Author: Scrutiny Coordinator

Title: Scrutiny Work Programme

1. What is the report about?

The report presents the Communities Scrutiny Committee with its draft forward work programme for members' consideration.

2. What is the reason for making this report?

To seek the Committee to review and agree on its programme of future work, and to update members on relevant issues.

3. What are the recommendations?

That the Committee considers the information provided and approves, revises or amends its forward work programme as it deems appropriate

4. Report details.

4.1 Article 6 of the Council's Constitution sets out each Scrutiny Committee's terms of reference, functions and membership, whilst the rules of procedure for scrutiny committees are laid out in Part 4 of the Constitution.

4.2 Denbighshire County Council's Constitution requires scrutiny committees to prepare and keep under review a programme for their future work. By reviewing and prioritising issues, members are able to ensure that the work programme delivers a member-led agenda.

4.3 For a number of years it has been an adopted practice in Denbighshire for scrutiny committees to limit the number of reports considered at any one meeting to a maximum of four plus the Committee's own work programme report. The objective of this approach is to facilitate detailed and effective debate on each topic.

4.4 The Committee is requested to consider its draft work programme for future meetings as detailed in appendix 1 and approve, revise or amend it as it deems appropriate taking into consideration:

- issues raised by members of the Committee
- matters referred to it by the Scrutiny Chairs and Vice-Chairs Group
- relevance to the Committee's/Council's/community priorities

- the Council's Corporate Plan and the Director of Social Services' Annual Report
 - meeting workload
 - timeliness
 - outcomes
 - key issues and information to be included in reports
 - officers and/or lead Cabinet members who should be invited (having regard to whether their attendance is necessary or would add value)
 - questions to be put to officers/lead Cabinet members
- 4.5 In addition, when considering items for inclusion on the future forward work programme members may also find it helpful to have regard to the following questions when determining a subject's suitability for inclusion:
- what is the issue?
 - who are the stakeholders?
 - what is being looked at elsewhere
 - what does scrutiny need to know? and
 - who may be able to assist?
- 4.6 As mentioned in paragraph 4.2 the Constitution of Denbighshire County Council requires scrutiny committees to prepare and keep under review a programme for their future work. To assist the process of prioritising reports, if officers are of the view that a subject merits time for discussion on the Committee's business agenda they have to formally request the Committee to consider receiving a report on that topic. This is done via the submission of a 'proposal form' which clarifies the purpose, importance and potential outcomes of suggested topics. No such proposal forms have been received for consideration by the Committee at the current meeting.
- 4.7 Cabinet Forward Work Programme
When deciding on their programme of future work it is useful for scrutiny committees to have regard to Cabinet's scheduled programme of future work. For this purpose a copy of the Cabinet's forward work programme is attached at Appendix 2.
- 4.8 Progress on Committee Resolutions
A table summarising recent Committee resolutions and advising members on progress with their implementation is attached at Appendix 3 to this report.
- 4.9 Supporting People Strategy Update
A report was scheduled for submission to the current meeting evaluating the impact of the new Supporting People arrangements on the delivery and funding of Supporting People services in Denbighshire. This report was requested in response to Cabinet's request that Scrutiny analysed the effect of the new arrangements on

Denbighshire's residents. It has since transpired that March 2013 is too soon following the establishment of the new arrangements to compile a comprehensive analysis of their impact locally. Consequently officers requested the Chair's permission for the report's presentation to be deferred until the summer. The request was granted and the report has been rescheduled for the Committee's July meeting.

5. Scrutiny Chairs and Vice-Chairs Group

- 5.1 Under the Council's scrutiny arrangements the Scrutiny Chairs and Vice-Chairs Group (SCVCG) performs the role of a coordinating committee. In performing this role it can seek individual scrutiny committees to take ownership of specific topics.

Play Sufficiency Assessment and Action Plan

- 5.2 At its meeting on 24 January the Group considered a request from officers for the Council's Play Sufficiency Assessment and Action Plan to be scrutinised. The Group agreed that it would be appropriate for this topic to be scrutinised to ensure that the Authority is fulfilling its statutory duties in this area. Therefore it recommended that Communities Scrutiny Committee should examine the topic and, in order to comply with the undertaking given to the Welsh Government that scrutiny would consider the draft assessment in April, schedule the item into its forward work programme for its April 2013 meeting. The Committee is asked to confirm these arrangements and also to consider whether it wishes to reschedule any of the other items scheduled for April to a future date in order to alleviate agenda pressures.

Access to the Countryside

- 5.3 The SCVCG also discussed the above item which appears under the 'Future Issues' section of this Committee's forward work programme. This item is a historical one inherited from the pre-2012 local authority elections Committee. Members are asked to consider whether the topic is still pertinent, and if so to scope the information required and the objectives of scrutinising the issue.

6. How does the decision contribute to the Corporate Priorities?

Effective scrutiny will assist the Council to deliver its corporate priorities in line with community needs and residents' wishes. Continual development and review of a coordinated work programme will assist the Council in monitoring and reviewing policy issues.

7. What will it cost and how will it affect other services?

Services may need to allocate officer time to assist the Committee with the activities identified in the forward work programme, and with any actions that may result following consideration of those items.

8. What consultations have been carried out?

None required for this report. However, the report itself and the consideration of the forward work programme represent a consultation process with the Committee with respect to its programme of future work.

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

No risks have been identified with respect to the consideration of the Committee's forward work programme. However, by regularly reviewing its forward work programme the Committee can ensure that areas of risk are considered and examined as and when they are identified, and recommendations are made with a view to addressing those risks.

10. Power to make the decision

Article 6.3.7 of the Council's Constitution stipulates that the Council's scrutiny committees must prepare and keep under review a programme for their future work.

Contact Officer: Scrutiny Coordinator
Tel No: (01824) 712554
Email: dcc_admin@denbighshire.gov.uk

Communities Scrutiny Committee Forward Work Plan

Note: Items entered in italics have not been approved for submission by the Committee. Such reports are listed here for information, pending formal approval.

Meeting	Item (description / title)	Purpose of report	Expected Outcomes	Author	Date Entered
18 April	1 Rhyl Going Forward Programme (Quarterly Report)	To evaluate and monitor the Programme's progress and achievements in delivering its anticipated outcomes; and (ii) identify any slippages with the Programme's delivery (iii) to provide clarification on the roles of the various Boards charged with delivering the various workstreams and the Programme itself and individual members' roles on those Boards	Ensuring that the Programme: (i) has sufficient capacity, resources and the necessary commitment to deliver the intended outcomes for the Rhyl area; (ii) supports the future vision for Rhyl, and is conducive with the wider regeneration agenda for Denbighshire; and (iii) delivers a viable, sustainable future for the area and county in general, with improved long-term employment prospects and outcomes for residents	Tom Booty	September 2012
	2 Control of Caravan Sites	To present the proposed standard conditions and procedures developed by the Working Group for the purpose of controlling and monitoring caravan sites in both Denbighshire and Conwy as well as the feedback received at the Operators' Seminar	The development of a robust and collaborative approach to ensure that tourist sites contribute to the local economy and the delivery of the regeneration corporate priority	Graham Boase/Neil Jones (CCBC)	July 2011 (rescheduled Dec 2012)
	3. Anti Fouling Strategy	To review the effectiveness of the strategy and action plan three months after its implementation	An understanding of the progress made to date with the Strategy and identify any shortcomings or amendments required to the Strategy at an	Hywyn Williams	By SCVCG December 2012

Communities Scrutiny Committee Forward Work Plan

Meeting	Item (description / title)	Purpose of report	Expected Outcomes	Author	Date Entered	
			early stage			
	4	Local Housing Strategy Update	To review the draft version of the revised the Local Housing Strategy, which provides strategic direction for the provision of housing in Denbighshire for the next 5 years.	Members contribute to developing an effective and viable Local Housing Strategy	Sue Lewis	October 2012 (rescheduled January 2013)
	5	<i>Play Sufficiency Assessment and Action Plan</i> [Lead Member to be invited]	<i>To scrutinise the availability of play opportunities for Denbighshire's children</i>	<i>To ensure that the Council is fulfilling its statutory duties with respect to the provision of play opportunities for its children and young people, the identification of any gaps in the provision and the financial implications of meeting the statutory obligations</i>	<i>Siân Bennett/Tracey Evans</i>	<i>January 2013 (scheduled by SCVCG)</i>
23 May	1	Local Housing Strategy	To consider the final version of the revised the Local Housing Strategy, which provides strategic direction for the provision of housing in Denbighshire for the next 5 years.	Members contribute to developing an effective and viable Local Housing Strategy	Sue Lewis	October 2012
	2	Town Plans	To monitor the Council's performance in delivering its town plans and their benefit to the towns themselves and outlying communities	(i) identification of any slippages with the plans' deliveries and actions to improve performance; (ii) assist the Council to come closer to its communities	Mark Dixon	January 2013
4 July	1	Rhyl Going Forward Programme (Quarterly)	To evaluate and monitor the Programme's progress and	Ensuring that the Programme: (i) has sufficient capacity,	Tom Booty	September 2012

Communities Scrutiny Committee Forward Work Plan

Meeting		Item (description / title)	Purpose of report	Expected Outcomes	Author	Date Entered
		Report)	achievements in delivering its anticipated outcomes; and (ii) identify any slippages with the Programme's delivery	resources and the necessary commitment to deliver the intended outcomes for the Rhyl area; (ii) supports the future vision for Rhyl, and is conducive with the wider regeneration agenda for Denbighshire; and (iii) delivers a viable, sustainable future for the area and county in general, with improved long-term employment prospects and outcomes for residents		
	2	<i>Supporting People Strategy Update</i>	<i>As per Cabinet's request to consider the impact of the new Supporting People arrangements on the delivery and funding of Supporting People services in Denbighshire following the publishing of local authorities' 3 Year Spend Plans.</i>	<i>Identification of pressures caused by the new arrangements for the Supporting People Programme and potential solutions to alleviate any pressures identified</i>	<i>Sally Ellis/Anne Hughes-Jones</i>	<i>October 2012 (rescheduled February 2012)</i>
12 September	1	Town Plans (Quarterly Report)	To monitor the Council's performance in delivering its town plans and their benefit to the towns themselves and outlying communities	(i) identification of any slippages with the plans' deliveries and actions to improve performance; (ii) assist the Council to come closer to its communities	Mark Dixon	January 2013
17 October	1	Rhyl Going Forward Programme (Quarterly Report)	To evaluate and monitor the Programme's progress and achievements in delivering its	Ensuring that the Programme: (i) has sufficient capacity, resources and the necessary	Tom Booty	September 2012

Communities Scrutiny Committee Forward Work Plan

Meeting		Item (description / title)	Purpose of report	Expected Outcomes	Author	Date Entered
			anticipated outcomes; and (ii) identify any slippages with the Programme's delivery	commitment to deliver the intended outcomes for the Rhyl area; (ii) supports the future vision for Rhyl, and is conducive with the wider regeneration agenda for Denbighshire; and (iii) delivers a viable, sustainable future for the area and county in general, with improved long-term employment prospects and outcomes for residents		
28 November	1	Heritage and Arts Assets	To give an update on the effectiveness of new business practices put in place under the review of the service	Evidence based recommendations with a view to further improving the offer to the public with limited resources	Steve Parker/Samantha Williams	Dec 2012
	2	Community Covenant with the Armed Forces (Nov/Dec 2013)	To give an annual update on how the measures introduced under the covenant have supported the armed forces community in Denbighshire, and for the Committee to consider any changes to provision	Identification of improvements to the covenant and the formulation of recommendations to strengthen it	David Davies	Dec 2012
23 January 2014	1	Town Plans (Quarterly Report)	To monitor the Council's performance in delivering its town plans and their benefit to the towns themselves and outlying communities	(i) identification of any slippages with the plans' deliveries and actions to improve performance; (ii) assist the Council to come closer to its communities	Mark Dixon	January 2013
	2	Rhyl Going Forward	To evaluate and monitor the	Ensuring that the Programme:	Tom Booty	September

Communities Scrutiny Committee Forward Work Plan

Meeting		Item (description / title)	Purpose of report	Expected Outcomes	Author	Date Entered
		Programme (Quarterly Report)	<p>Programme's progress and achievements in delivering its anticipated outcomes; and</p> <p>(ii) identify any slippages with the Programme's delivery</p>	<p>(i) has sufficient capacity, resources and the necessary commitment to deliver the intended outcomes for the Rhyl area;</p> <p>(ii) supports the future vision for Rhyl, and is conducive with the wider regeneration agenda for Denbighshire; and</p> <p>(iii) delivers a viable, sustainable future for the area and county in general, with improved long-term employment prospects and outcomes for residents</p>		2012
6 March						
3 April	1	Town Plans (Quarterly Report)	To monitor the Council's performance in delivering its town plans and their benefit to the towns themselves and outlying communities	<p>(i) identification of any slippages with the plans' deliveries and actions to improve performance;</p> <p>(ii) assist the Council to come closer to its communities</p>	Mark Dixon	January 2013
15 May	1	Rhyl Going Forward Programme (Quarterly Report)	<p>To evaluate and monitor the Programme's progress and achievements in delivering its anticipated outcomes; and</p> <p>(ii) identify any slippages with the Programme's delivery</p>	<p>Ensuring that the Programme:</p> <p>(i) has sufficient capacity, resources and the necessary commitment to deliver the intended outcomes for the Rhyl area;</p> <p>(ii) supports the future vision for Rhyl, and is conducive with the wider regeneration agenda for Denbighshire; and</p>	Tom Booty	September 2012

Communities Scrutiny Committee Forward Work Plan

Meeting	Item (description / title)	Purpose of report	Expected Outcomes	Author	Date Entered
			(iii) delivers a viable, sustainable future for the area and county in general, with improved long-term employment prospects and outcomes for residents		

Future Issues

Item (description / title)	Purpose of report	Expected Outcomes	Author	Date Entered
<i>The Quality and Provision of Community and Education Facilities [Education]</i> <i>Possibly to be scheduled post May 2012 after the Member Area Groups (MAGs) have considered the Council's Asset Register</i>	<i>To outline the extent and quality of community and education facilities across the county (including sports grounds and village halls and the assistance the Council can give local groups/communities to maintain and access community facilities)</i>	<i>That all residents have access to good quality and affordable community/education facilities within a reasonable distance of their local community</i>	<i>Jackie Walley/Jamie Groves</i>	<i>May 2011</i>
<i>Access to the Countryside</i>	<i>Committee to scope</i>		<i>Mark Dixon/Huw Rees/Adrian Walls</i>	<i>May 2011</i>

For future years

Communities Scrutiny Committee Forward Work Plan

Information/Consultation Reports

Information / Consultation	Item (description / title)	Purpose of report	Author	Date Entered
Information (April 2013)	School Transport [to be shared with education coopted members]	Information on the costs of school transport in Denbighshire, number of bus/taxi routes operated, number of pupils on each hired bus/taxi, any services under utilised and any services carrying children to schools which are not the nearest school (unless they are Welsh medium or faith-based schools) and which are not recharged to parents	Peter Daniels	June 2012

Note for officers – Committee Report Deadlines

Meeting	Deadline	Meeting	Deadline	Meeting	Deadline
18 April	4 April	23 May	9 May	4 July	20 June

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Cabinet Forward Work Plan

Appendix 2

Meeting		Item (description / title)	Purpose of report	Cabinet Decision required (yes/no)	Author – Lead member and contact officer
19 March	1	Finance Update Report	To update Cabinet on the current financial position of the Council	tbc	Cllr Julian Thompson-Hill / Paul McGrady
	2	Capital Plan	To consider the Council's Capital Plan	Yes	Cllr Julian Thompson-Hill / Paul McGrady
	3	Recommendations of the Strategic Investment Group 2013 / 14	To consider the recommendations		Cllr Julian Thompson-Hill / Paul McGrady
	4	Young Carers North Wales Contract	Seeking approval to develop a north Wales contract	Yes	Cllr Bobby Feeley / Rhian Allen
	5	Emergency Planning	To consider a report on Emergency Planning procedures	tbc	Cllr David Smith / Rebecca Maxwell
	6	Items from Scrutiny Committees	To consider any issues raised by Scrutiny for Cabinet's attention.	tbc	Scrutiny Coordinator
16 April	1	Finance Update Report	To update Cabinet on the current financial position of the Council	tbc	Cllr Julian Thompson-Hill / Paul McGrady
	2	WG Consultation on 2014-2020	DCC's response to the	Yes	Cllr Hugh Evans /

Cabinet Forward Work Plan

Meeting	Item (description / title)		Purpose of report	Cabinet Decision required (yes/no)	Author – Lead member and contact officer
		ESF and ERDF Structural Funds Programmes	consultation to be ratified by Cabinet		Rebecca Maxwell / Sian Morgan Jones
	3	Town and Area Plans	To receive a progress report on expanding the Town Plans into wider Area Plans		Cllrs Hugh Evans & Huw Jones / Rebecca Maxwell
	4	Adoption of LDP Steering Group	To consider the adoption of LDP Steering Group	tbc	Cllr Eryl Williams / Angela Loftus
	5	Items from Scrutiny Committees	To consider any issues raised by Scrutiny for Cabinet's attention.	tbc	Scrutiny Coordinator
14 May	1	Finance Update Report	To update Cabinet on the current financial position of the Council	tbc	Cllr Julian Thompson-Hill / Paul McGrady
	2	Outsourcing ICT Services to Schools	To give an overview of the tendering process, evaluation and scoring and request the final decision from Cabinet.	Yes	Cllr Eryl Williams / Jackie Walley / Stephanie O'Donnell
	3	Review of Faith Based Education Provision	To consider proposals for provision in the north of the county.	Tbc	Cllr Eryl Williams / Jackie Walley
	4	Items from Scrutiny Committees	To consider any issues raised by Scrutiny for Cabinet's attention.	Tbc	Scrutiny Coordinator

Cabinet Forward Work Plan

Meeting		Item (description / title)	Purpose of report	Cabinet Decision required (yes/no)	Author – Lead member and contact officer
June	1	Follow-up report on Outsourcing ICT Services to Schools	Possible follow-up report with additional information on the tendering process, evaluation and scoring and request the final decision from Cabinet.	Yes	Cllr Eryl Williams / Jackie Walley / Stephanie O'Donnell
	2	Mental Health Partnership	to ask Cabinet to consider and agree to a new partnership between the Council and BCU to deliver Adult Mental Health services to the citizens of Denbighshire.		Phil Gilroy/Cllr Bobby Feeley
	3	Cefndy Healthcare: Future Direction & Impact of Potential loss of DWP funding	To consider options in light of risks from loss of DWP funding & need to maintain employment for vulnerable & disabled people		Cllr Bobby Feeley / Phil Gilroy / Deborah Holmes-Langstone
	4	Ruthin Area Primary Schools Review	To seek approval for starting a formal consultation period with Ruthin Primary schools	Yes	Cllr Eryl Williams / Jackie Walley
	5	Items from Scrutiny Committees	To consider any issues raised by Scrutiny for Cabinet's attention.	Tbc	Scrutiny Coordinator

Cabinet Forward Work Plan

Meeting	Item (description / title)	Purpose of report	Cabinet Decision required (yes/no)	Author – Lead member and contact officer

Note for officers – Cabinet Report Deadlines

<i>Meeting</i>	<i>Deadline</i>	<i>Meeting</i>	<i>Deadline</i>	<i>Meeting</i>	<i>Deadline</i>
<i>February</i>	5 February	<i>March</i>	5 March	<i>April</i>	2 April

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Date of Meeting	Item number and title	Resolution	Progress
17 January 2013	5. Town Plans	<p>RESOLVED – that the Communities Scrutiny Committee:-</p> <p>(a) approves the arrangements put in place to progress the delivery of Town Plans,</p> <p>(b) supports the proposals to develop Area Plans to identify priorities in rural communities, and</p> <p>(c) agrees that Communities Scrutiny Committee receives future reports in respect of the Town Plans.</p>	Future reports scheduled into the Committee's forward work programme on a quarterly basis from May 2013 onwards
	6. Etape Cymru	<p>RESOLVED –</p> <p>(a) to recommend that Etape Cymru 2013 be included in the Cabinet Forward Work Programme for consideration;</p> <p>(b) that the concerns and issues, as raised by Members, be conveyed by the officers to the forthcoming meeting of the Safety Advisory Group (SAG), and that answers to the above questions and clarification on the points raised be included in the report to Cabinet in February with a copy circulated to Communities Scrutiny Committee members ahead of the Committee's next meeting; and</p> <p>(c) that guidance be sought from the Head of Communication, Marketing and Leisure regarding the inclusion of promotional material on Denbighshire in the information packs.</p>	A report was presented to Cabinet on 19 February 2013 which included the concerns raised by the Committee. The report can be viewed on the Council's website by following this Link
	7. Rhyl	RESOLVED – that the Committee:-	

	Going Forward Update	<p><i>(a) receive and note the contents of the report.</i></p> <p><i>(b) recommend that Alliance Leisure be invited to a future Council Briefing session to outline their relationship with the Council and their role in delivering services on the Council's behalf.</i></p> <p><i>(c) be presented with details of income generation forecast figures for the programme in future RGF monitoring report; and</i></p> <p><i>(d) receives details pertaining to the constitution and Membership of the Programme and Project Boards as part of the next scheduled monitoring report.</i></p>	<p>Alliance Leisure are due to attend Council Briefing on 22 April 2013</p> <p>Next monitoring report scheduled for presentation to the Committee on 18 April 2013</p>
	8. The North Denbighshire Day Services Review	<p>RESOLVED – <i>that the recommendations with respect to changing the way that day services are delivered in north Denbighshire be referred to County Council for a decision once the additional supporting information listed above is available.</i></p>	<p>A report with the supporting information requested by Communities Scrutiny Committee will initially be presented to Cabinet Briefing in early March.</p>

Agenda Item 8

Report To: Communities Scrutiny Committee

Date of Meeting: 28th February 2013

Lead Member/Officer: Lead Member for Public Realm

Joint Report Authors: Head of Planning & Public Protection & Head of Housing & Community Development

Title: Update on allocation of Section 106 Commuted Sums for open space provision and maintenance & progress on the Community Infrastructure Levy

1. What is the report about?

- 1.1 This report explains the background to planning obligations and outlines the current arrangements in Denbighshire for the requirement for Section 106 agreements and the management of the allocation of commuted sums received for open space provision and maintenance. The report also provides an update on progress on the Community Infrastructure Levy.

2 What is the reason for making this report?

- 2.1 The purpose of this report is to outline current legislation and guidance relating to planning obligations, together with current practice in Denbighshire and an update of monies received and spent over the last year.

3. What are the Recommendations?

That Members consider the update on income received through Section 106 Agreements for open space provision and maintenance, the grant offers and payments which have been made, the latest information with respect to the Community Infrastructure Levy and comment accordingly.

4. Report details.

- 4.1 The Council's Unitary Development Plan sets out the open space requirements for all new residential developments of 10 or more dwellings. The Open Space Commuted Sum Scheme started in 2004 following adoption of Supplementary Planning Guidance Note 4 "Open Space Requirements in New Developments", which sets out further guidance on the application of the requirements.
- 4.2 Open space provision can be made in 3 sequentially preferable ways:
1. On site
 2. Off site but close to and accessible to the new development
 3. Via a commuted sum payment to enable the required provision or agreed equivalent to be made within the locality – normally the community/town council area.
- 4.3 On-site provision is clearly the normal and preferred option. The Commuted Sum payments method should be treated more as exceptions than the rule. Where a commuted sum payment is made, these funds are held by the Council and allocated in line with the agreed procedure.

Payments into the Scheme

- 4.4 Payments from developers are made at an agreed point in the development process, following the signing of a Section 106 agreement. Due to the nature of the requirements in relation to planning obligations, the funding is ring fenced by town/community council area, specifically for spending on open space projects. Maintenance payments are calculated to cover a 25 year period. Contributions are calculated based on a standard formula calculating potential occupancy as set out in Supplementary Planning Guidance 4: Recreational Public Open Space. Figures are regularly updated to reflect inflation.

Applications for funding

- 4.5 When funds are received in a town/community council area the local members and town/community councils are informed. Funds can be used to lay out new open space or to enhance existing provision, thereby increasing usage. Valid improvements to existing provision could include improvements to accessibility, upgrading facilities, & providing changing facilities, parking or other services to increase or extend use.

Amounts Received and Payments Made.

- 4.6 The Open Space Commuted Sum Scheme has so far received over £1 million in contributions from developers through Section 106 Agreements as contributions towards provision and maintenance of open space in Denbighshire. So far over £600,000 has been either allocated or spent on providing new open space and improvements to existing open space.

Off Site Payments and Grant Offers.

- 4.7 Appendix 1 sets out an update of the grant offers and payments that have been made from the open space commuted sum scheme from the off site provision and maintenance funds to date. All grant offers made have corresponded to the town/community council area from which the funds were originally generated.

Operation of the Scheme

- 4.8 The scheme generates funding via the granting of planning permission, and as such there is an obligation on the Planning Service of the Council to ensure that the money is discharged in an appropriate manner. For example, to ensure that schemes comply with the approved guidance notes and that the funding is ring fenced by town/community council area and only used for appropriate open space provision or improvements.
- 4.9 Over the last year the administration of the distributions of funds received has been managed by the Community Grants & Rural Development Plan Officer, in the Housing & Community Development Service. The Planning & Public Protection Service will continue to manage the collection and receipt of commuted sums.

Denbighshire Local Development Plan

- 4.10 The Local Development Plan (LDP) sets out the Council's future requirements for contributions towards infrastructure provision and the order of priority which would be applied, as follows:
- Affordable housing
 - Recreation and open space
 - Sustainable transport facilities
 - Regeneration
 - Other measures in line with the Council's current priorities
 - Other issues identified in the LDP or by the local community
- 4.11 The LDP is currently going through Public Examination. Following the Examination the intention is to prepare further detailed guidance on these requirements and progress work on the Community Infrastructure Levy, as a means of funding infrastructure requirements.

Community Infrastructure Levy

- 4.12 The Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Regulations came into force in England and Wales in April 2010, with reforms approved in March 2011 and further guidance published in December 2012. This allows for local authorities to introduce a new charging mechanism to fund the costs of new or improved infrastructure needs that arise as a result of new development and to support growth. The CIL is a fixed sum levy per square metre of floorspace which all liable development would have to pay. It is intended to provide infrastructure to support the development of an area rather than to make individual planning applications acceptable in planning terms.
- 4.13 The introduction of the CIL is discretionary and authorities wishing to charge CIL have to produce a charging schedule that sets out the rates to be applied. This must be based on evidence of need for infrastructure and an assessment of economic viability of development. The schedule has to go through a process of consultation and public examination (similar to the process for the LDP) and would sit alongside the LDP. Infrastructure which could be funded by CIL includes: roads and other transport facilities; flood defences; schools and other educational facilities; medical facilities; recreational facilities and open spaces. It currently excludes affordable housing. A "meaningful proportion" of the funds raised in each neighbourhood would be passed on to the town or community council for the area.
- 4.14 Although CIL is an optional charge, the CIL Regulations significantly limit the use of S106 agreements after April 2014 particularly in relation to the ability to 'pool' contributions from different developments to fund infrastructure, including open space/recreation schemes. Authorities must have an adopted LDP in place in order to be able to adopt a CIL. The risk is that post April 2014, the Council will not be able to collect money through a number of different S106 agreements to fund a project, for example a new open space. It is therefore important that work on the CIL is progressed as soon as possible. CIL does have the potential to generate far higher contributions to support infrastructure than S106 agreements have in the past.

Future Actions

- 4.15 The 7 North Wales authorities (Denbighshire, Flintshire, Gwynedd, Wrexham, Conwy, Isle of Anglesey Councils & Snowdonia National Park Authority) are currently jointly looking at how the CIL could be implemented across North Wales and consultants were commissioned to undertake initial research into how a CIL charging schedule could be introduced at a North Wales level. It has been agreed by North Wales Planning Officers Group to create a new temporary post to progress this work and recruitment is currently underway. The post will be hosted by Denbighshire and jointly funded by all 7 authorities. The conclusions from this work will be reported to SLT and Members in due course and the Council will need to decide whether or not to implement the CIL in Denbighshire. There would still be a requirement for planning obligations, albeit more limited (for example to secure open space on site or affordable housing).
- 4.16 Further detailed guidance on planning obligations will be drafted following the LDP Public Examination. This will undergo public consultation and member involvement before adoption as Supplementary Planning Guidance. This could sit alongside the CIL, should the Council decide to proceed with implementation of the levy.
- 5. How does the decision contribute to the Corporate Priorities?**
The Open Space Commuted Sums Scheme contributes to the Clean & Tidy Streets priority by enabling the provision of additional open space and improvement of existing open space to meet community needs.
- 6. What will it cost and how will it affect other services?**
There are no direct cost implications associated with the information contained in this report.
- 7. What are the main conclusions of the Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) undertaken on the decision?**
Not applicable at this stage. Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) will inform the future development of Supplementary Planning Guidance & Community Infrastructure Levy.
- 8. What consultations have been carried out with Scrutiny and others?**
This report has been prepared with assistance from the Community Grants & Rural Development Plan Officer.
- 9. Chief Finance Officer Statement**
There are no direct cost implications.
- 10. What risks are there and is there anything we can do to reduce them?**
It is important that the current Scheme is carefully monitored to ensure that commuted sums are collected and that grants paid out are related to the specific development from which they were collected. The Council must be able to provide a direct link between the obligation requested and the proposed development. Failure to do so could result in challenge through the appeals process.

11. Power to make the Decision

Not applicable at this stage.

Contact Officer:

Planning and Public Protection Policy Manager

Tel: 01824 706912

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APPENDIX 1

UPDATE ON ALLOCATION OF SECTION 106 COMMUTED SUMS FOR OPEN SPACE PROVISION AND MAINTENANCE

Amounts Received and Payments Made.

- The table below shows the total sums that have been received to date from all developments. Figures are correct as at 21.01.2013 and include interest earned.
- As can be seen, the scheme has obtained funding for open space improvement and provision totalling around seven hundred thousand pounds for capital investment in open space since its commencement in 2004.
- It must be remembered that the sums collected for off site provision and maintenance are not 'Council' money; but sums collected on behalf of the communities for open space provision, improvement and maintenance.

Off Site Payments and Grant Offers.

- To date 85% of the capital money received has been either spent or is allocated to live projects, if the pending applications are included this rises to 96%. All monies have been spent on schemes within the town/community council area that generated the funds.
- The following table illustrates the grant offers and payments that have been made from the open space commuted sum scheme from the off site provision and maintenance funds to date. All grant offers made have corresponded to the town/community council area from which the funds were originally generated.

Community area and contributing schemes	Off site Payments Received		Schemes Supported		Grant Offers Made/Applications Approved	
	Funds Received (£'s)		Schemes Supported		Funds spent/committed (£'s)	
	Provision	Maintenance			Provision	Maintenance
Bodelwyddan Ffordd Parc Castell	32,243	35,227	New play park adjacent to Bodelwyddan Community Centre.	32,041	35,117	
Bodfari Quarry Bank	9,020	0	<i>Application pending for play area improvements.</i>	0	0	
Denbigh Parc Alafowlia	34,129	36,536	New Skate park in Lower Denbigh.	34,129	36,536	
Gwyddeiwnern Bryn Llan	1,048	728	No application received to date.	0	0	
Llandyrnog Ty'n Llan	13,689	14,634	New multi-use sports facility	13,600	14,500	
Llangollen Greenacres, Maesmawr Road, Abbey Road Garage, Lower Dee Mill	21,000 21,029 6,724 14,388 Total £63,141	28,717 16,568 0 8,617 Total £53,902	Riverside Park – new skate park and toilets. Llangollen cricket club new pavilion, Llangollen Sports Clubs, changing room improvements.	21,000 13,181 13,000 15,000 Total £62,181	0 7,367 7,000 7,000 Total £21,367	
Prestatyn Tower Beach, Bodnant Park, Llys Nant, Tip Lane	68,968 33,809 30,006 52,766 Total £254,517	0 0 0	New play area, Bodnant Estate. Ffrith new multi—use games area. Additional equipment for MUGA in Meliden. Improvements to promenade. Funding contribution approved for new BMX track in Prestatyn. <i>Applications pending for Coronation</i>	26,343 68,968 1,250 8,500 20,000 Total £125,061	0 0 0 0 0 Total £25,000	

Rhuddlan Tir Morfa, Abbey Nurseries, Abbey House	17,518 17,478 33,471 Total £68,467	19,152 19,435 0 Total £38,587	<i>Gardens and Pen Tywyn Play Area</i> New play areas at Vicarage Lane and Admiral's Fields <i>Applications pending for bike racks and rest benches</i>	30,000 40,000 28,000 Total £68,000 1,400 700 30,000 5,000 30,000 8,422 Total £73,422 12,500 3,280 10,800 4,000 2,200 Total £17,000 <i>No costings supplied</i>	35,100 0 Total £35,100
Rhyl Avondale Drive, Fron Ffraith 63/64 West Parade, 76-83 West Parade, Morville Garage, Westbourne Avenue, Marina Hotel	21,001 18,634 13,947 16,910 16,152 15,486 14,850 Total £116,980	0 0 0 18,086 12,279 11,773 11,288 Total £53,426	Refurbishment of Vaughan Street playground. Improvements to Coronation Gardens. New toilet facilities Rhyl Adventure Playground Association. Marine Lake CCTV.		0 0 0 0 0
Ruthin Awelon	19,249	0	<i>Applications pending for Marine Lake changing facilities and East Parade Bowls Club</i> Improvements to Cae Ddol Installation of kissing gates Llanfwrog Community Centre Lighting Scheme.		0 0 0
St Asaph & Cefn			<i>Application pending for bridge improvements at Cae Ddol</i> Improved play area Lower Park, St	80,000	0

Meiriadog Former Pilkington's Playing Field	95,570	0	Asaph. Improvements to changing facilities Neuadd Owen, Cefn Meiriadog.	15,000	0
Totals	£708,053	£233,040		£600,204	£142,620

A call for applications was made in December 2012 and the applications received have been outlined in the table above. The applications have been circulated for consultation with relevant officers within the Council (Planning, Public Realm, Leisure etc) and also the relevant town or community council. The respective Member Area Groups (MAGs) will consider the applications submitted at future meetings and if approved, under current arrangements will then be signed off by the Head of Planning and Public Protection.

If all the above applications are approved, the following amounts will remain to be allocated to future applications. Please note that figures may not tally with the table above due to interest being earned on monies received after original sums have been submitted.

Area	Provision after allocation of projects from DEC 2012	Maintenance (to be applied for after project approval if applicable)
Bodelwyddan	154.94	
Llandyrnog	112.73	
St Asaph	26.05	
Denbigh	193.23	
Prestatyn	23,091.20	52,765.76
Rhyl	15,779.92	42,325.39
Total	39,358.07	95,091.15

With regards to any remaining monies after the projects submitted in December 2012 have been committed, this money will re-advertised as soon as possible in order to get the money committed and spent within the timescales of the 106 agreements. We aim to have the current projects approved in the next few weeks with the view to advertising the remaining money towards the end of February 2013.

Examples of Open Space Schemes Supported by Commuted Sums

Projects that can be supported through the open space commuted sums scheme are restricted to those within the areas that have generated the financial contribution in the first place. Below are a number of examples of projects that have received financial contributions via the scheme.

Llangollen Sports Clubs Pavilion Extension

An application from the Llangollen Sports Association for an extension to their pavilion. This extension now allows for a variety of sports clubs to have changing facilities which were lacking previously. A capital grant offer of £15,000 was made along with £7,000 in maintenance funding to be paid out over 25 years.



The scheme is now completed, capital money claimed and annual maintenance claims submitted.

Bodelwyddan Play Area

An application received from Bodelwyddan Town Council for the installation of a new play area adjacent to the community centre. The scheme had been designed in partnership with the local school and was situated on Town Council land. The Town Council also contributed £5,000 of their own money towards the scheme. A capital grant offer of £32,000 was made along with £35,000 in maintenance money to be paid out over 25 years. The scheme is now complete and the capital money claimed in full.



Vaughan Street Play Area - Rhyl

This scheme was put together by Denbighshire County Council on behalf of the Bedford Street Residents Association. The existing play area, owned and maintained by DCC was in very poor condition and offered little in the way of a quality play experience in an area of west Rhyl that is very limited in terms of play opportunities. A grant offer of £30,000 capital money was made, on-going maintenance being funded from within existing DCC budgets. The scheme is now complete and all capital money claimed.

Before



After



The following projects have also been supported via the Open Space Commuted Sums Scheme.

Community	Projects
Llangollen	<input type="checkbox"/> Riverside Toilets <input type="checkbox"/> Riverside Skate Park <input type="checkbox"/> Tower Fields Cricket Pavilion
Ruthin	<input type="checkbox"/> Cae Ddol footpath Improvements <input type="checkbox"/> Ruthin Kissing Gate Project <input type="checkbox"/> Llanfwrog Community Centre Lighting
Llandyrnog	<input type="checkbox"/> Multi use Sports Facility
Denbigh	<input type="checkbox"/> Ramps and Rails Skate Park
Rhyl	<input type="checkbox"/> Rhyl Adventure Playground toilets <input type="checkbox"/> Coronation Gardens fencing <input type="checkbox"/> Marine Lake CCTV
Prestatyn	<input type="checkbox"/> West Meliden MUGA <input type="checkbox"/> Ffrith MUGA <input type="checkbox"/> Bodnant Park play area <input type="checkbox"/> Promenade access improvements
Cefn Meiriadog	<input type="checkbox"/> Changing Facilities
St Asaph	<input type="checkbox"/> Lower Park
Rhuddlan	<input type="checkbox"/> Admiral's Fields play area <input type="checkbox"/> Vicarage Lane Play area

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