



To: Members of the Performance
Scrutiny Committee

Date: 4 January 2013

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Dear Councillor

You are invited to attend a meeting of the **PERFORMANCE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE** to be held at **9.30 am** on **THURSDAY, 10 JANUARY 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 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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 OF THE LAST MEETING (Pages 5 - 16)

To receive the minutes of the Performance Scrutiny Committee held on the 29th November, 2012 (copy enclosed).

5 COLEG LLANDRILLO AND DENBIGHSHIRE LEARNERS

To consider a presentation from a representative from Coleg Llandrillo Cymru which details the performance of Denbighshire 16-19 year olds students enrolled at Coleg Llandrillo Cymru.

9.35 a.m.

6 KS4 EXAMINATION RESULTS (Pages 17 - 22)

To consider a report by the School Effectiveness Performance Officer: Secondary (copy attached) which verified performance of Denbighshire schools external examinations results at Key Stage 4 and post 16, and provided an analysis of results against benchmarked information and performance against other local authorities.

10.10 a.m.

Comfort Break

7 ESTYN ACTION PLAN (Pages 23 - 72)

To consider a report by the Head of Education (copy attached) which detailed the progress made in response to the recommendations made by Estyn following the 2012 Inspection.

11.00 a.m.

8 SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME (Pages 73 - 88)

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.

11.35 a.m.

9 FEEDBACK FROM COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES

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

MEMBERSHIP

Councillors

Ian Armstrong
Meirick Davies
Richard Davies
Huw Hilditch-Roberts
Colin Hughes
Geraint Lloyd-Williams

Peter Owen
Dewi Owens
Allan Pennington
Arwel Roberts
Gareth Sandilands

Voting Co-opted Members for Education (Agenda Items No. 5,6 and 7 only)

Carole Burgess
Gill Greenland
Debra Houghton

Nicola Lewis
Dr. D. Marjoram

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Press and Libraries
Town and Community Councils

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PERFORMANCE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Minutes of a meeting of the Performance Scrutiny Committee held in Conference Room 1a, County Hall, Ruthin on Thursday, 29 November 2012 at 9.30 am.

PRESENT

Councillors Meirick Davies, Richard Davies, Huw Hilditch-Roberts, Colin Hughes (Chair), Geraint Lloyd-Williams, Peter Owen, Dewi Owens and Arwel Roberts (Vice-Chair)

ALSO PRESENT

Corporate Director: Economic and Community Ambition (RM), Head of Communication, Marketing and Leisure (JG), Head of Planning, Regeneration and Regulatory Services (GB), Corporate Improvement Manager (TW), Customer Relationship Manager (JW), Corporate Complaints Officer (SG), Audit Manager (BS), Senior Licensing Officer (NJ), Wales Audit Office Representative (GB) Democratic Services Officer (RH) and Administrative Officer (CIW).

1 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Ian Armstrong and Gareth Sandilands

2 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

No Members declared any personal or prejudicial interests in any business identified to be considered at the meeting.

3 URGENT MATTERS AS AGREED BY THE CHAIR

No items were raised 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 OF THE LAST MEETING

The Minutes of a meeting of the Performance Scrutiny Committee held on Thursday, 18th October, 2012 were submitted.

Matters arising:-

Denbighshire School Funding Formula – Councillor H. Hilditch-Roberts expressed concern that the minutes had not specified that he had submitted the first four questions under responses to questions and issues raised by Members.

Councillor A. Roberts explained that the Board of Governors at Ysgol Y Castell, Rhuddlan had expressed concern that, following the hard work and improvements made to balance the school's budget, the proposed changes to the School Funding

Formula would alter the criteria to the financial detriment of the school, and that the Board of Governors were not satisfied with the level of consultation.

RESOLVED – *that, subject to the above, the Minutes be received and approved as a correct record.*

5 CORPORATE RISK REGISTER

A copy of a report by the Corporate Improvement Manager had been circulated with the papers for the meeting, which presented the latest version of the Corporate Risk Register for Denbighshire, and enabled the Scrutiny Committee to fulfill its role in ensuring that identified risks were being appropriately addressed by the implementation of effective measures to mitigate risks.

The Corporate Improvement Manager (CIM) introduced the report and outlined the main changes made to the Corporate Risk Register, since the previous presentation to the Committee, which included:-:

- The removal of DCC003: *“The risk that demographic change leads to un-resourced demands on Council services”*.
- The amendment of DCC005 from *“The risk that the time and effort invested in collaboration is disproportionate to the benefits realised”* to *“The risk that the time and effort invested in existing large-scale collaboration projects is disproportionate to the benefits realised”*.
- The removal of DCC008: *“The risk that political change impacts on the ability of the political leadership (Leader/Cabinet) to deliver a difficult agenda”*.
- The revision of DCC014: *“The risk of a health & safety incident resulting in serious injury or the loss of life”*.
- The creation of the new risk DCC015: *“The risk that the Council cannot influence the collaboration agenda and that further collaboration is forced upon rather than entered into voluntarily”*.
- The creation of the new risk DCC016: *“The risk that the impact of welfare reforms is more significant than anticipated by the Council”*.

The CIM provided a summary of the structure, changes and reviewing process of the Corporate Risk Register, Appendix 1, which been included in the report. All service risk registers were reviewed by services prior to each round of Service Performance Challenge meetings. A risk workshop would be held with CET who formally review each round of Service Performance Challenges. Any significant new or escalating risks would be brought to the attention of CET, as and when identified, and CET would then consider whether the risk identified should be included in the Corporate Risk Register.

The Corporate Risk Register would be presented to the Scrutiny Committee following each formal review. Members agreed that an item be included in the Forward Work Programme for February, 2013, following the current round of Service Performance Challenges. Actions identified to address corporate risks were included in Service Plans, where appropriate, which would enable the Committee to monitor progress. Any performance issues relating to the delivery of the activities would be highlighted in the Service Performance Challenge process.

The Council's Internal Audit function provided independent assurance on the effectiveness of the internal control procedures and mechanisms in place to mitigate risks across the Council, and offered independent challenge to ensure the principles and requirements of managing risk were consistently adopted throughout the Council.

An annual review and report on progress of the risk management policy, produced for the Corporate Governance Committee, would identify weak areas which required strengthening to improve the risk management process.

In reply to questions from Councillor M.LI. Davies, the CIM confirmed that the Corporate Risk Register could be accessed through the Denbighshire Intranet and he provided details regarding the format and categorising process of identified risks under the Risk Register.

The Corporate Director: Economic and Community Ambition (CD:ECA) responded to concerns raised by Councillor A. Roberts regarding the Council's independence in not being able to influence the collaboration agenda (DCC015). She explained that this issue had remained as a B2 risk due to actions currently being undertaken to mitigate the impact of the risk. CET had discussed this matter in detail and it had been agreed that further work would need to be undertaken with regard to the Regional Collaboration Agenda.

Councillor H. Hilditch-Roberts raised concern in respect of DCC004, the risk that the Council would be unable to develop the staff and management capability to deliver the change agenda, with one factor recognised as a resistance to change, and stated that flagging this as a risk was not sufficient and that this would require action to resolve. The CD:ECA said that the 'resistance to change' was not an issue at present, but the potential for this to present difficulty was recognised. It was confirmed that actions were still pending with work being undertaken in respect of the Modernisation Board and its agenda of projects, the delivery of the People Strategy Action Plan and the relevance of workforce and succession planning.

In response to a question from Councillor H. Hilditch-Roberts relating to the recent events following the bad weather conditions, the CD:ECA referred to DCC011 and confirmed that the identification of the Inherent and Residual Risks of E1, in respect of the risk of a severe weather event, had been at the appropriate level of risk and correctly identified. She confirmed that following completion of the recovery phase a debriefing would be held to assess the response and recovery operations.

RESOLVED – *that the Performance Scrutiny Committee:-*

- (a) confirms that the Corporate Risk Register provides full coverage of the major risks facing the Council at this time, and that the actions identified in the Corporate Risk Register were appropriate to address the identified risks; and*
- (b) agrees to receive a report to review the Corporate Risk Register following the latest round of Service Performance Challenges at its meeting on 21st February 2013.*

A copy of a report by the Corporate Improvement Manager had been circulated with the papers for the meeting.

The Corporate Improvement Manager (CIM) introduced the report which presented the Improvement Assessment Letter for Denbighshire County Council, Appendix 1, issued by the Wales Audit Office (WAO) on the 17th September, 2012. The letter was one of the key external regulatory reports received by the Council each year, and this would enable the Performance Scrutiny Committee to carry out its performance management function.

The Improvement Assessment was the main mechanism for the WAO to report its assessment of the Council's performance and prospects for improvement. Although there were no formal recommendations in the letter, Members were provided with an opportunity for discussion in order to decide whether any particular aspects of performance referenced in the letter required further scrutiny. Members agreed that the next Improvement Assessment Letter, due to be issued by the WAO before the end of November 2012, be included in the Committee's Forward Work Programme for consideration on the 10th January 2013.

Mr Gwilym Bury, the representative from the Wales Audit Office, provided a summary of the detail contained in the letter and highlighted the proposals for improvement made in the Annual Improvement Report 2012. He made particular reference to the work to be undertaken on the Annual Governance Statement, and the relevance of the Strategic Review in respect of the Rhyl Going Forward delivery plan.

He explained that a key element of the information considered by the WAO was the Council's performance in relation to delivering the priorities in its Corporate Plan. The WAO was required to formally assess the Council's Annual Performance Report and its Corporate Plan. Neither document had been available for assessment prior to the publication of the Improvement Assessment Letter, as the draft versions of both documents had been discussed and approved by Council on the 9th October, 2012. The WAO would therefore include an evaluation of both documents in its Improvement Assessment Update Letter which was due to be published before the end of November, 2012.

Mr Bury explained that the WAO had undertaken a number of interviews with relevant officers and elected members prior to drafting the Improvement Assessment Letter. The draft report had been shared with the Council, and feedback had been requested prior to publication.

The Chair commented on the positive assessment given in the letter and following further discussion, it was:-

RESOLVED – *that Performance Scrutiny Committee:-*

- (a) receives and notes the contents of the Improvement Assessment Letter, and*
- (b) agrees that the next WAO Improvement Assessment Letter be included in the Committee's Forward Work Programme for the 10th January 2013.*

7 PERFORMANCE STANDARDS REVEALED THROUGH THE COMPLAINTS PROCESS

A copy of a report by the Corporate Complaints Officer had been circulated with the papers for the meeting.

The Customer Relationship Manager introduced the report which presented an analysis of the feedback received via Denbighshire County Council's customer feedback policy 'Your Voice' for Quarter 2 of 2012/13. The Corporate Complaints Officer (CCO) summarised the report which identified the key areas detailed below:-

Highlights – The Council's response time to complaints within the 'Your Voice' timescales in Quarter 2 was down from 91% to 87% in the previous quarter and continued to be short of the corporate target of 95%.

Complaint response times - Although the overall performance of the Council had dropped there were a number of points to note.

- A number of complaints had been incorrectly allocated to services and reallocated under the heading of 'Other'. This had impacted on the overall performance figures as these complaints had been dealt with outside of target.
- Housing Services had 'stabilised' their performance following the restructure.
- Environmental Services continued to perform well despite having had the highest volume of complaints. Their performance had not suffered significantly despite a 69% increase in the complaints received during the quarter.
- The complaint volumes for Highways had increased by 38% in the quarter. However, performance had only slipped slightly.
- Stage 1 complaints were said to relate to failure to respond within the recognised timescales, with 87% of Stage 1 complaints having been responded to within an appropriate timeframe.

Improving performance - The corporate aim had been to respond to at least 95% of complaints within the stated timescales. The main area of concern had been responding to Stage 1 complaints outside the 10 working day timescale. A meeting with service complaints and performance officers had been held in November to further reinforce this aspect of performance and one aim would be to ascertain why complaints were not responded to within timescale. The findings from the meeting would assist in formulating an action plan to improve this aspect of complaint handling with the results fed back to the Committee when the next report is presented in February. A monthly report had been introduced in September for meetings of the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) highlighting performance in regards responding to complaints.

In response to a question from Councillor A. Roberts, the (CCO) confirmed that all complaints received should be directed through the Customer Relationship Management system.

The Customer Relationship Manager responded to a question from Councillor M.LI. Davies and provided an outline of how the timescales in respect of complaint

response times had been set. He confirmed that consideration was currently being afforded to adopting a two stage policy as advised by the Local Government Ombudsman. In reply to concerns raised by Councillor D. Owens it was explained that, depending on the nature of the complaint, responses could be provided within shorter timescale. In cases where timescales could not be adhered to customers would be informed accordingly.

Following further discussion, it was:-

RESOLVED – that Performance Scrutiny Committee receives the report and notes the performance of services.

8 LIBRARY SERVICE STANDARDS: ANNUAL REPORT 2011/12

A copy of a report by the Lead Officer: Libraries, Archives and Arts, which detailed the Library Service's performance against CyMAL's Annual Assessment Framework for Welsh Public Library Authorities, had been circulated with the papers for the meeting.

The Head of Communication, Marketing and Leisure (HCML) introduced the report which summarised the Library Service's 2011/12 performance against the 9 Welsh Public Library Standards, 7 Welsh Public Library Performance Indicators and detailed the CyMAL's Annual Assessment Framework for Welsh Public Libraries. The Framework would be operational for a three-year period from April 2011 to March 2014, and would focus on the maintenance of a core library service.

CyMAL's assessment of Denbighshire's Annual Report confirmed that in 2011/12 the Authority had met 5 of the 9 Welsh Public Library Standards, partly achieved 3 of the Standards and failed to meet one Standard. Denbighshire's performance had been considered by CyMAL to be slightly below average when compared with other authorities in Wales.

A summary of the standards met, partly met and not met by Denbighshire had been included in the report. As the Welsh average for meeting the Welsh Public Library Standards was 6 it implied that Denbighshire's Library Service was below average. However, Performance Indicators provided a different perspective:-

- 2nd highest used and visited Library Service across Wales.
- 3rd highest Authority in Wales for issues of books and other materials.
- 17th for percentage of the Library Service's revenue budget spent on stock.
- 12th for percentage take up of public access PCs.

Denbighshire's high usage and issue figures for 2011-12 had reflected the success of its Summer Reading Challenge, the most successful ever in the County. Denbighshire was 4th for its net expenditure per 1,000 population on Library Services. However, it was in 20th position with a cost of £2.29 per visit and usage, compared with the Welsh average of £2.84, and the Welsh highest of £4.24.

Performance Indicator data for all Welsh Authorities had been included in Appendix A and officers confirmed that they would contact other high performing Library

Services in Wales, such as Monmouthshire, to share best practice and learn from their experience. Performance against the Assessment Framework for 2011-14 was reported annually to CyMAL. The CyMAL's most recent evaluation indicated that Denbighshire had underperformed in meeting 5 of the 9 Standards. However, Performance Indicators illustrated that Denbighshire was one of the best performing in terms of library visits, usage and issues. There were no risks involved with the current assessment and the service was confident it was addressing its own priorities in meeting the needs of local residents and communities in Denbighshire.

The Chair explained that he had met with the Lead Member, Councillor H.LI. Jones, and the Lead Officer: Libraries, Archives and Art Service, Arwyn Jones, to discuss what was most relevant to the delivery of the Library Service in Denbighshire. The HCML highlighted the importance of the Libraries Strategy, which would develop a new range of metrics with the provision of more community based services within the libraries. This would also raise the profile of the Library Service and form part of the response to CyMAL.

The HCML explained that the services of St Asaph Library had been lost due to flood damage which would have a detrimental impact on future statistics. In reply to concerns raised by Councillor M.LI. Davies regarding the need for the provision of temporary replacement facilities, it was explained that Libraries at Rhuddlan and Denbigh would provide support with the possible deployment of the Youth Mobile Unit to the area to enable local residents to access services. The HCML confirmed that consideration would not be afforded to reducing library hours until the impact on associated services was clear, with efficiencies being found through more effective use of existing resources.

In response to concerns expressed by Councillor A. Roberts, the HCML confirmed that there were no proposals within the immediate term financial plan or within the Service Challenge to close Rhuddlan Library. He confirmed that maintenance issues relating to the roof and heating system had been referred to Building Services and he agreed to pursue the matter. However, it was explained that the undertaking of maintenance work would be subject to prioritisation and the availability of funding.

During the ensuing discussion the Committee endorsed the work undertaken and it was:-

RESOLVED – that Performance Scrutiny Committee:-

- (a) receives the report and endorses the Library Service's performance against the Annual Assessment Framework; and
- (b) agrees to provide a statement to CyMAL concerning the Library Service's performance.

9 REVIEW OF LICENSING MATTERS

A copy of a report by the Head of Planning and Public Protection had been circulated with the papers for the meeting which detailed the comprehensive review

of taxi and private hire vehicles (PHV) licensing policies and procedures and advised on the reporting mechanism to the Licensing Committee.

The report was presented and summarised by the Head of Planning and Public Protection (HPPP) and the Senior Licensing Officer (SLO). The HPPP informed Members that the policies and procedures to ensure appropriate control over taxis and PHVs were being revised to provide for a robust taxi and PHV licensing system. The duties and responsibilities of the Licensing Admin Team, who work in conjunction with a number of teams and agencies, and details of the licensing system had been summarised in the report. The Licensing Committee consider and propose policy and make decisions as a quasi-judicial body on individual applications, with a number of decisions being delegated to officers or the Head of Service.

Taxi licensing was said to be a particularly complex area with co-ordination and communication between service areas of the Council and partner agencies integral to the safe operation of the system and to the protection and safety of the public. The Authority would continue to take robust action against operators and drivers who were non-compliant and failed to meet the required standards. In order to ensure that the process was as robust as possible a full review of the taxi licensing process had commenced during 2012. Details of the project management approach and the project proposal had been included in Appendix 1 to the report.

Licensing Administration Officers, Enforcement Officers, Social Services, Fleet Services, School Transport and North Wales Police had, as a Group, identified areas for improved communication and achieved the desired outcome of clarifying roles and responsibilities within the taxi licensing process. This had been facilitated by Internal Audit and revised processes were produced and circulated to the Group for final agreement. The revised process would be presented to the Head of Service and the Licensing Committee and had been included as Appendix 2a. Further work had been planned to review the scheme of delegation and areas of the Constitution.

An update report would be presented to the Licensing Committee in 2013, and the work programme for the Licensing Committee had been included as Appendix 3. Members agreed that a review of the effectiveness of the revised policies and procedures be undertaken later in 2013, and that an update report be submitted to the Scrutiny Committee in September, 2013.

The SLO responded to questions from Councillor D. Owens and provided details pertaining to the issuing and renewal of taxi driver licenses and the importance of undertaking CRB checks. She explained that licenses were renewed annually and CRB checks undertaken every three years. The SLO stressed the importance of interaction with other agencies and made particular reference to the introduction of new processes which would require applicants to provide declarations of any current or spent convictions. These processes would minimise any risks and assist in improving an already robust system.

The following responses were provided by the officers to questions submitted and issues raised by Members:-

- details of the differentiation between hackney carriage and private hire vehicles was provided by SLO.
- there being less legislative control over taxi company proprietors than taxi drivers.
- confirmation was provided that the Licensing Authority receives immediate notification of taxis which had failed their MOT tests to ensure they were not utilised as taxis.
- in response to issues raised by Councillor G. Lloyd-Williams, the SLO provided details of the process of obtaining and undertaking CRB checks on taxi drivers, the timescales involved and the impending changes to the system. The SLO informed the Committee that employers would be notified of any changes in the status of a person who had been CRB checked.
- the limit on the number of taxi plates issued had been discontinued and this had eliminated the unauthorised sale of the taxi plates between taxi operators.
- the HPPP explained that whilst taxi driver tests were not a statutory requirement, refusal by a driver to undertake the test could be referred to the Licensing Committee for consideration.
- the process adopted for revoking and suspending taxi driver licenses was outlined by the SLO together with the procedure for the removal of plates from taxis.
- in instances where applicants for licenses were found to have previous offences and convictions, each individual case would be considered on merit and the timescales and category of conviction would be taken into consideration.

Following further discussion, it was:-

RESOLVED – that Performance Scrutiny Committee:-

- (a) receives and notes the content of the report*
- (b) supports the approach undertaken to date under the review of licensing processes; and*
- (c) agrees to receive an update report in Autumn 2013 in order to review the effectiveness of the new processes once fully operational.*

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, had been circulated with the papers for the meeting. A copy of the Cabinet Forward Work Programme had been included as Appendix 2 to the report.

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

10th January, 2013:- Wales Audit Office (WAO) Improvement Assessment Letter

21st February, 2013:- Corporate Risk Register. Members agreed that the Performance Scrutiny Committee meeting commence at 10.00 a.m. with a briefing session in respect of the Corporate Risk Register commencing at 9.30 a.m.

The Corporate Improvement Manager explained that arrangements were being made to reschedule the Service Challenges meetings which had been cancelled as result of the bad weather conditions.

The Chair referred to the information report circulated in relation to the School Funding Formula. Members agreed that the Democratic Services Officer liaise with the Planning and Resources Manager to provide a table showing the revised funding formula elements and the effects on individual schools in the County.

Members agreed that issues raised by Councillors A. Roberts and M.Ll. Davies respectively regarding the problems experienced in relation to the roll-out of the x2 wheelie bin scheme, and the use of economy saving devices on vehicles, as demonstrated at the Fleet Management training sessions, be submitted to the Chairs and Vice Chairs Group for consideration for inclusion in the Forward Work Programmes of the appropriate Scrutiny Committees. The Corporate Director: Economic and Community Ambition explained that the service providers had recognised that the roll-out of the x2 wheelie bin scheme could have been executed more successfully in the South of the County. She confirmed they were currently analysing and scrutinising the process adopted, with a view to improving future arrangements, and would be prepared to attend the relevant Scrutiny Committee meeting to share the details of the work undertaken.

In response to a request from Councillor D. Owens for the inclusion of information, relating to Deeside College, in the report relating to External Examination Results and Achievements for Denbighshire Students at Llandrillo College, the Democratic Services Officer agreed to liaise with the 14-19 Network Co-ordinator regarding the possibility of obtaining the information.

RESOLVED – that:-

- (a) subject to the above amendments and agreements, the Future Work Programme as set out in Appendix 1 to the report be approved.*
- (b) the Democratic Services Officer liaise with the Planning and Resources Manager to provide a table showing the revised funding formula elements and the effects on individual schools in the County.*
- (c) issues relating to the problems experienced in relation to the roll-out of the x2 wheelie bin scheme, and the use of economy saving devices on vehicles, be submitted to the Chairs and Vice Chairs Group for consideration for inclusion in the Forward Work Programmes of the appropriate Scrutiny Committees, and*
- (d) the Democratic Services Officer liaise with the 14-19 Network Co-ordinator regarding the possibility of obtaining the information relating to External Examination Results and Achievements for Denbighshire Students at Deeside College.*

11 FEEDBACK FROM COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES

Councillor D. Owens explained that he had attended a number of Service Challenge meetings which he confirmed had been very positive.

RESOLVED – *that the position be noted.*

Meeting ended at 12.50 p.m.

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Agenda Item 6

Report to: Performance Scrutiny Committee

Date of Meeting: 10 January 2013

Lead Member/Officer: Lead Member for Education/Head of Education

Report Author: School Effectiveness Performance Officer:
Secondary

Title: KS4 Examination Results

1. What is the report about?

The verified performance of Denbighshire schools external examinations results at Key Stage 4 and post 16. The report also provides analysis of results against benchmarked information and performance against other local authorities.

2. What is the reason for making this report?

To provide information regarding the performance of Denbighshire schools teacher assessments and external examinations.

3. What are the Recommendations?

That members review and comment on the performance of schools against previous performance and the external benchmarks that are currently available, and identify any potential areas for improvement.

4. Key Stage 4 Results

4.1 All key indicators at KS 4 for external qualifications have improved this year to be top ten performing in Wales. There has been significant improvement in all indicators since 2010, particularly the Level 2 Threshold and Level 2 inc. English/Welsh and Mathematics.

4.2 Assessments and Examinations Rankings 2008 - 2012

	Denbighshire 2010		Denbighshire 2011		Denbighshire 2012	
	%	Wales Ranking	%	Wales Ranking	%	Wales Ranking
Level 1	89.8	13	90.9	12	93.2	7
Level 2	60.7	19	71.4	5	82.7	1
Level 2 incl E/W & M	43.9	18	52.5	8	54.7	7
CSI	43.3	18	51.3	8	53.1	7
Wider Points	402.1	9	449.8	4	504.9	5
Capped Wider Points	299.4	16	317.6	9	339.2	3

4.3 Level 2 including English/Welsh & Mathematic

- 4.4 The key performance indicator at the end of key stage 4 is the Level 2 Threshold including English/Welsh and mathematics which is the number of pupils gaining 5 GCSE A*-C's or vocational equivalents and GCSE English/Welsh and mathematics A*-C's grades.
- 4.5 The percentage of pupils achieving the Level 2 incl. Eng/Welsh & Maths is 54.5% in 2012 which is 2.0% higher than 2011. This is 4.5% (50.49%) above the Welsh average and places the LA 7th in Wales from 8th in 2011.
- 4.6 The Level 2 inc. English/Welsh & Maths increased in all schools except St.Brigid's and Ysgol Dinas Bran, however the schools remain in the 1st and 2nd quartiles respectively. Denbigh and Rhyl High Schools showed the greatest improvement.

	2010	2011	2012	Difference 2012-2011	
	Level 2 incl. Eng/Welsh & Maths				Benchmarked Quartiles
St Brigids	75.0%	75.4%	72%	-3.4%	1
Denbigh High School	24.0%	40.2%	50%	9.8%	3
Ysgol Dinas Bran	46.4%	60.3%	59%	-1.3%	2
Prestatyn High School	46.8%	50.3%	53%	2.7%	2
Bl. Edward Jones	18.0%	37.3%	39%	1.7%	1
Rhyl High School	31.0%	36.3%	45%	8.7%	1
Ysgol Brynhyfryd	58.0%	67.8%	71%	3.2%	2
Ysgol Glan Clwyd	63.5%	66.5%	68%	1.5%	3

Denbighshire	44.0%	52.5%	54.5%	2.0%
WALES	49.0%	50.0%	50.5%	0.5%

- 4.7 The percentage of A* and A grades has increased to 18.9% in 2012 from 16.2% in 2011. The total percentage gaining the Level 1 Threshold of GCSE 5A*-G or vocational equivalents in Denbighshire this year is 93.0% in 2012 which is 3% higher than as 2011.

5. The Level 2 Threshold (5 GCSE 5A*-C or vocational equivalents)

- 5.1 The Level 2 Threshold is the number of pupils gaining 5 GCSE A*-C's or vocational equivalents. This replaces the 5A*- C indicator used in previous years.
- 5.2 The percentage of pupils achieving the Level 2 Threshold is 83%, which is 10% higher than last year. This is the fourth year that the Level 2 indicator has increased in Denbighshire high schools. This places Denbighshire LA 1st in Wales in 2012 a significant improvement moving from 18th in 2010.
- 5.3 All schools have improved this year with Blessed Edward Jones and Rhyl High School achieving the highest increases, 22% and 25% respectively for the Level 2 Threshold. In addition Prestatyn High (91.%), Ysgol Dinas Bran (98.%),

Ysgol Glan Clwyd (91%) and St.Brigid's (96%) all achieved over 90% for the Level 2 Threshold.

	2010	2011	2012	Difference 2012-2011	
Level 2					
St Brigids	92.9%	94.7%	96%	+1.3%	1
Denbigh High School	45.8%	53.8%	65%	+11.2%	4
Ysgol Dinas Bran	67.0%	86.8%	98%	+11.2%	1
Prestatyn High School	65.0%	80.0%	91%	+11.0%	1
Blessed Edward Jones	37.7%	45.8%	68%	+22.6%	1
Rhyl High School	39.0%	52.0%	77%	+25.0%	1
Ysgol Brynhyfryd	82.3%	82.2%	88%	+5.8%	2
Ysgol Glan Clwyd	73.0%	78.7%	91%	+12.3%	2
Denbighshire	61.0%	70.8%	80.8%	+10%	
WALES	64.0%	67.0%	70.8%	+3.8%	1st

5.4 10 pupils (0.8%) left school without a recognised qualification in 2012. This places the local authority 18th in Wales.

5.5 Pupils from Ysgol Plas Brondryffyn sit examinations when they are ready, which means few pupils gain a GCSE qualification at the age of 15 missing Welsh Government performance indicator. This year, pupils have gained D to G grades in mathematics as well as Science Foundation and English Language grades D to G. Pupils at Ysgol Tir Morfa have been successful in gaining qualifications below GCSE and Level 1.

6. Secondary Banding 2012

6.1 Banding is used by the Welsh Government as a way of using national data on school performance in context to group schools according to where they are on their improvement journey relative to other schools in Wales. Band 1 schools show good overall performance and progress and those in band 5 show weak performance and progress relative to other schools.

	2010	2011	2012
St Brigid's	2	2	2
Denbigh High School	5	4	3
Ysgol Dinas Bran	3	1	1
Prestatyn High School	3	2	2
Blessed Edward Jones	4	3	2
Rhyl High School	5	4	2
Ysgol Brynhyfryd	4	2	2
Ysgol Glan Clwyd	3	3	2

6.2 The banding profile of schools in Denbighshire in 2012 has improved; all schools are in Band 2 except for Ysgol Dinas Bran who remain in Band 1 and Denbigh High School who have improved from band 4 to Band 3.

7. Level 3 threshold results (A Level and vocational equivalent)

- 7.1 The performance indicator for post 16 is the Level 3 Threshold which equates to 2 A levels or vocational equivalents. Results at Post 16 have largely remained static.
- 7.2 The percentage of candidates achieving the Level 3 Threshold has improved by 3% to 99% in 2012. This is above the Welsh average of 97%.
- 7.3 The Average wider points score has improved to 694 in 2012 however this is below the Welsh average of 773 in 2012.
- 7.4 The percentage of A & A* grades have decreased to 19.4% in 2012 from 22.5% in 2011; the Welsh average is 23.6%.
- 7.5 There was a decrease in the number of candidates awarded the Welsh Baccalaureate Qualification's Advanced Diploma percentage of 95.6% is lower than 2011 by 2.5%, but still higher than the Welsh average of 82.8%. However the qualification was taken by significantly more pupils in 2012.
- 7.6 One student from Ysgol Plas Brondyfryn achieved an AS grade D in Mathematics at the school in 2012.

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

Improving performance in education and the quality of our school buildings is one of the Council's corporate priorities. The raising of attainment at all key stages particularly key stage 4 is a key objective.

9 What will it cost and how will it affect other services?

N/A

10. What consultations have been carried out?

N/A

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

- Challenge and support for Headteachers and Management in Schools will be provided on a regional basis from April 2013 by System Leaders.
- To reduce any risks to School Support and Challenge in Denbighshire schools, Education Officers within the Authority will need to monitor and assess the quality of the Regional support when these new systems and structures are in place April 2013.
- Sustaining the improvement in external examination results.
- Uncertainty of continued 14-19 Learning Pathways Grant and ESF Potensial funding after 2014.

12. Power to make the Decision

Article 6.3.4(b) of the Council's Constitution permits scrutiny committees to review and scrutinise performance.

Contact Officer: School Effectiveness Performance Officer: Secondary
Tel: 01824 708026

Report To:	Performance Scrutiny Committee
Date of Meeting:	10 January 2013
Lead Member / Officer:	Lead Member for Education/Head of Education
Report Author:	Head of Education
Title:	The post inspection action in response to the Estyn Inspection on the quality of Local Authority Education Services for children and young people in Denbighshire.

1. What is the report about?

- 1.1 Progress made in response to the recommendations made by Estyn following the 2012 inspection.

2. What is the reason for making this report?

- 2.1 To provide information on and consider progress to date in response to the recommendations made by Estyn following the 2012 inspection.

3. What are the Recommendations?

That the Committee:

- 3.1 considers the information provided and comments on the progress achieved to date in addressing Estyn's recommendations; and
- 3.2 determines whether further monitoring of the action plan's implementation is required.

4. Report details

- 4.1 The main findings of the Estyn Report show that the Local Authority achieved 'Good' for the three key questions:-
- How good are outcomes?
 - How good is provision?
 - How good is leadership and management?

All other indicators were also judged to be 'Good', with the exception of 3.1 'Leadership', which was judged to be 'Excellent' (please refer to Appendix 1 – Estyn Report).

- 4.2 However, in order to improve further, Estyn recommended the following:-

Recommendation 1: Improve the accuracy of Teacher Assessments at the end of Key Stage 3; and

Recommendation 2: identify all services for children and young people in Denbighshire and establish an effective system to measure the impact of these services to help the Authority and its partners know whether these offer good value for money (please refer to Appendix 2 - Estyn Action Plan)

4.3 Progress against Recommendation 1

Progress has been made against all actions identified under this recommendation in the Post Estyn Action Plan, with the exception of 1.4. The completion date for activity related to 1.4 is July 2014 (please refer to Appendix 3 - Monitoring Form and Appendix 4 – Key Stage 3 Teacher Assessments 2012).

Progress against Recommendation 2

Progress has been made against actions identified under this recommendation (please refer to Appendix 5).

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

Improving performance in education and the quality of school buildings is one of the Council's corporate priorities for 2012-17 term of office. In monitoring the delivery of the attached action plan the Committee can assist the Council to fulfil part of the above ambition.

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

6.1 All costs accrued will be supported by service budgets.

7. What are the main conclusions of the Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) undertaken on the decision? The completed EqIA template should be attached as an appendix to the report.

The purpose of the report is to review and consider progress against recommendations. Therefore, the report is not seeking a decision in response to a proposal. There are no adverse effects on any of the protected characteristics as a result of this report.

8. What consultations have been carried out with Scrutiny and others?

8.1 Consultation has been carried out with Key Stakeholders.

9. Chief Finance Officer Statement

N/A.

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

10.1 The reputational and political risks to the Authority are minimal, as the outcomes for the inspection are good. However, if the recommendations are not addressed, there could be a negative impact on the outcome of future inspections.

11. Power to make the Decision

11.1 No legal requirements but Local Authority inspections are mandatory.

11.2 Article 6.3.2 of the Council's Constitution stipulates that scrutiny committees may ensure that actions indicated in action plans are carried out.

Contact Officer:
Head of Education
Tel: 01824 708009

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**A report on the quality of local authority education
services
for children and young people**

in

**Denbighshire County Council
County Hall
Wynnstay Road
Ruthin
LL15 1YN**

January/February 2012

by

**Estyn, Her Majesty's Inspectorate for Education
and Training in Wales**

During each inspection, inspectors aim to answer three key questions:

Key Question 1: How good are the outcomes?

Key Question 2: How good is provision?

Key Question 3: How good are leadership and management?

Inspectors also provide an overall judgement on the provider's current performance and on their capacity to improve.

In these evaluations, we use a four-point scale:

Excellent

Good

Adequate

Unsatisfactory

The report was produced in accordance with section 38 of the Education Act 1997, the Children Act 2004 and the Learning and Skills Act 2000.

Every possible care has been taken to ensure that the information in this document is accurate at the time of going to press. Any enquiries or comments regarding this document/publication should be addressed to:

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Context

Context

Denbighshire is located in North East Wales. It is bordered by Wrexham and Flintshire to the east, Conwy and Gwynedd to the west and Powys to the south. The total population is 96,731.

In Denbighshire, 30.4% of people over the age of three say they can speak Welsh compared to the Wales average of 24.8%.

The employment rate in Denbighshire is 67.6%, compared to the Wales average of 66.4%. Fifteen per cent of children live in workless households. Of the working population in Denbighshire, 11.8% have no qualifications, which is lower than the Wales average of 13.7%.

The percentage of pupils of compulsory school age who are eligible for free school meals is 18.9%. This is lower than the national figure of 19.7%. This level of eligibility is the 13th lowest in Wales compared to other local authorities, where first is the lowest free-school-meals figure and 22nd is the highest (PLASC 2011). Only 10 of the 58 areas in Denbighshire are now among the 10% most deprived areas in Wales.

As of 31 March 2010, Denbighshire had 175 children being looked after by the authority. There were 75 children on the Child Protection register.

Ethnic minorities account for 1.7% of the population, which is lower than the Wales average of 3.6%

Financial context

The Welsh Government's Standard Spending Assessment (SSA)¹ per head of population for Denbighshire for 2011-2012 was £1,785, the sixth highest in Wales, and this reflects a continued increase compared to the average. The council set its overall revenue budget at 101.6% of the SSA reflecting the above-average level of Council Tax.

The council set the education budget at a level of 100.8% of the notional education component within the SSA. This produced an education budget net of grants of £4,870 per pupil, a little above the Welsh average of £4,791. The net education budget decreased by 2.9% on the previous year compared to a Wales average decrease of 0.4%.

Welsh Government figures show that the authority delegates 79.1% of the available budget to schools. This is above the Welsh average of 76.2% and the third highest, although the high level of income received from other authorities for teaching pupils

¹ SSA is the means by which the Welsh Government distributes Revenue Support Grant to local authorities

with statements of SEN in Denbighshire schools tends to inflate the reported delegation rate.

The average delegated budgets of £3,868 per pupil in primary schools and £4,315 per pupil in secondary schools, including grants, are slightly above the Welsh average of £3,821 per pupil for primary schools and £4,272 per pupil for secondary schools.

The budget for primary education amounts to £4,387 per primary school pupil, a little below the average across Wales of £4,452. Similarly, the secondary school budget including non-delegated costs is £4,626 per pupil, a little below the Wales average of £4,752.

Summary

Overall judgement: Good

Current performance is good because:

- performance has improved in all key stages, particularly in key stage 4;
- performance has improved against the Welsh Government's expected benchmarks based on free-school-meal entitlement;
- attendance in primary and secondary schools is good and compares well to that of similar schools elsewhere;
- the number of exclusions has reduced and the overall number of days lost to exclusion is the lowest in Wales;
- the authority has very good arrangements to support and challenge schools and knows its schools very well;
- support for school improvement, additional learning needs and social inclusion are all good;
- the number of Denbighshire schools requiring follow-up after an inspection is among the lowest in Wales;
- the authority has made good progress in delivering its Modernising Education programme;
- the culture of very strong leadership from elected members and senior officers has driven significant change and improvement at a good pace; and
- value for money is good in education services.

However:

- teacher assessments of the core subjects in key stage 3 are not moderated precisely enough to make sure they accurately reflect learners' standards.

Capacity to improve: Good

Prospects for improvement are good because:

- effective and coherent leadership from senior officers and elected members working together has already driven significant change and improvement in education services and in outcomes for learners;
- performance data is used rigorously to evaluate the quality and impact of services, identify underperformance and plan for improvement;
- a culture of accountability and continuous review, with a consistent focus on achieving progress against priorities, is firmly embedded throughout the authority's services;
- scrutiny arrangements are highly effective in challenging underperformance and holding officers and schools to account;
- priorities for education and aspirational targets are clearly linked through strategic and operational plans; and
- the authority has already achieved significant efficiency savings and focused resources on its key priorities.

However:

- the authority does not gather and analyse enough data to measure and evaluate performance of combined partnership work.

Recommendations

In order to continue to improve, Denbighshire County Council needs to:

R1 improve the accuracy of teacher assessments at end of key stage 3; and

R2 identify all services for children and young people in Denbighshire and establish an effective system to measure the impact of these services to help the authority and its partners know whether these offer good value for money.

What happens next?

Denbighshire County Council will produce an action plan to show how it will address these recommendations within 70 days (50 working days) of receipt of the report.

Main findings

Key Question 1: How good are outcomes? Good

Standards: Good

In Denbighshire, levels of free-school-meals and other deprivation measures have increased at a faster rate than across Wales in the last three years. Despite this, performance has also improved at a faster rate than across Wales in both key stages 2 and 4 during this time. Key stage 3 performance kept pace with that across Wales until 2010, although it improved more slowly in 2011. In 2011, the percentages of learners gaining the core subject indicator in key stages 2 and 4 were above the all-Wales average. This compares better to other authorities than could be expected when contextual information is taken into account. However, in key stages 1 and 3 performance dropped below Welsh averages.

When compared to that of similar schools on the free-school-meal benchmarks, performance in 2011 was well above average in key stage 2 and below average in key stage 3. Performance in key stage 4 improved significantly in 2011 and was good. On most indicators there are more schools than average in the top 25% of similar schools and fewer than expected in the bottom 25%. On one of the five main indicators, half of the authority's schools are in the top 25%.

Denbighshire's performance against the Welsh Government's benchmarks for performance based on free-school-meal entitlement has improved over the last four years. Provisional data suggests that in 2011 the authority exceeded both the benchmarks for key stage 4.

Overall, progress between primary and secondary schools is good.

In 2011, the gap in performance on the core subject indicator between boys and girls was less than the average for Wales at all key stages. Particular groups of learners, including vulnerable groups and those with additional learning needs, generally attain their expected levels. Learners make good progress in gaining skills in first and second language Welsh and generally achieve good standards in both subjects.

The percentage of learners leaving primary school with functional literacy improved in 2011 and is better than the average across Wales. Learners who receive support to improve their literacy and numeracy skills make good progress and many maintain this improvement to end of the key stage.

In 2010, the percentage of learners leaving full-time education without any recognised qualification improved and is similar to the Welsh average. Most learners engaged with the Youth Service make steady progress and gain appropriate non-formal qualifications across a range of areas.

Wellbeing: Good

Standards of wellbeing are generally good.

Many learners participate well in a range of programmes that promote their health and wellbeing. They are increasingly involved in sports activities and their levels of participation compare well to those of learners in other authorities. Learners develop strategies and skills to help them stay safe through successful initiatives that help them understand the benefits of healthy eating, the risks of smoking and the need for road safety. These programmes enable them to improve their knowledge and develop appropriate attitudes and beliefs.

Attendance is good and has improved. When compared to similar schools on the free-school-meal benchmarks, about two thirds of primary schools are in the top 25%. Secondary school attendance is also good. When compared to similar schools, over 60% are above average.

There are very few permanent exclusions. The rate of shorter exclusions has been one of the highest in Wales although unverified data suggests that the rate reduced significantly in 2011. The number of days lost due to exclusion is the fewest in Wales.

The percentage of Year 11 learners not in education, training or employment has decreased steadily in recent years and is better than the average for Wales. The percentage of learners continuing in full-time education improved in 2010 and is also better than the Welsh average.

Children and young people contribute well to the development of service planning and policy. They use a good range of formal processes and specific events well to influence decision-making.

Key Question 2: How good is provision? Good
--

Support for school improvement: Good

Support for school improvement has improved significantly since the last inspection. The authority's school improvement and inclusion services have recently been restructured under one head of service. This restructuring has considerably strengthened joint working between officers within the authority and is helping to improve the achievement of all learners.

The authority has very good arrangements to support and challenge schools, and knows its schools very well. Data is analysed thoroughly and used effectively to challenge progress and target interventions. Officers evaluate thoroughly the quality of leadership and management in schools and compare these with headteachers' own evaluations. As a result, the rigour and consistency of officers' and members' challenge to leadership and management in schools contribute well to improving standards. Challenge is a very strong feature of the authority's work. At the time of the authority's inspection the number of Denbighshire schools requiring follow-up after an inspection is among the lowest in Wales.

The authority has reviewed its Partnership Agreement with schools. The Agreement sets out clear criteria to define an appropriate level of support and intervention. Good procedures also exist to identify areas of specific risk and respond effectively to

them. As a result, officers accurately identify schools needing additional support leading to a steady improvement in standards. Systematic weakness in school leadership and management is addressed effectively to make sure that schools improve quickly enough.

The authority has an effective range of initiatives that focus on raising standards in priority areas such as literacy. These interventions for targeted groups of learners are successful in improving learners' functional literacy. Interventions to raise standards in numeracy also have a positive impact. However, teacher assessments of the core subjects at the end of key stage 3 are not moderated consistently enough between schools to make sure that they accurately reflect pupils' achievement.

The authority gives a high priority to improving effective leadership at all levels in its schools. Training programmes, network groups and other support for senior leaders, middle managers and governors have delivered identifiable improvements. Governors now understand better how to use the core data sets to evaluate and challenge school performance.

Support for additional learning needs: Good

Statutory processes in Denbighshire are effective. Rigorous systems for moderating requests for additional support have resulted in a reduction in the number of statements of special educational needs issued. Good relationships and communication with parents and schools help keep the number of referrals to the Special Educational Needs Tribunal for Wales consistently low, with just one appeal conceded since 2009.

The authority educates just over half of the learners with statements in mainstream schools, with most of these pupils attending mainstream classes with their peers. This means that most learners are educated near to their own home. Very few learners attend independent special schools, enabling the authority to spend nearly all the special needs budget on learners in its own schools.

Denbighshire School Improvement and Inclusion Service plans and provides services to pupils with additional learning needs in a cohesive manner. Services are co-ordinated to ensure that pupils benefit from the services provided. The authority keeps careful records of all pupils' progress, although work to monitor the impact of the service on pupils' performance is not yet fully mature.

Good joint work with partner agencies provides appropriate early identification, assessment and intervention, particularly in pre-school and early years. Effective planning for school placement, including well trained support, helps pupils settle smoothly into school.

The authority has a good track record of providing a comprehensive range of suitable training. It responds well to requests from schools for specialist advice and support. This has developed the capacity of schools to meet a broader range of pupils' needs. However, not all schools are making the best use of the expertise they have developed.

Worthwhile outreach services from the special schools are helping to maintain pupils in mainstream schools across key stages. These services build on the success of earlier work supported by a grant from the Welsh Government. The schools are beginning to work together to develop a consistent framework for evaluating the success of this provision, based on the Quality Assurance Framework developed by the Welsh Government.

Accurate evaluation of the impact of services is helping the authority to identify how best to focus additional support. On the basis of this evaluation and the effective accredited training for support staff and teachers in mainstream schools, the authority has been able to close two resourced provisions and now provides speech and language services support for pupils to attend at their local mainstream schools.

Promoting social inclusion and wellbeing: Good

The authority has implemented a range of appropriate strategies that have improved learners' behaviour, attitudes and attendance. There are appropriate initiatives to make sure that all young people attend school regularly, including young carers and young parents. Officers collect and analyse data on attendance well and use this information to target support where it is needed. The authority works well with its schools to manage pupils with challenging behaviour and this has resulted in a reduction in the number of days lost through exclusions. The authority uses its legal powers well to prosecute parents if necessary in order to improve pupils' attendance.

Officers support schools well in developing appropriate policies to tackle bullying and raise awareness of all forms of cyber-bullying. However, the authority does not have robust systems to collect data on bullying in order to evaluate the effectiveness of its support to schools.

The authority has a range of appropriate support for vulnerable pupils. This includes the Education Provision in College scheme where Year 11 pupils follow vocational programmes in local colleges. These strategies have contributed to reducing the number of young people not in education, employment or training in Denbighshire.

The authority meets its statutory duties in respect of looked-after children well. It works well with other agencies to make sure that looked-after children achieve very well and continue with their education and training after leaving school.

The local authority youth service has realigned its priorities and resources effectively to provide better services, opportunities, personal support and outcomes for learners. The service and its partners have a leading role in the development of youth support services across the authority.

The authority has appropriate policies and procedures in place to safeguard learners. In addition, through the local safeguarding children's board and other partnerships, the authority makes sure that the partners that provide services on its behalf also have effective procedures in place.

Access and school places: Good

The authority has made good progress in delivering its Modernising Education programme. It has agreed an appropriate framework for school reorganisation and is

delivering this framework through an effective process of area reviews. The authority has already made good progress in addressing its identified priorities to increase Welsh medium provision and to reduce surplus capacity.

Officers keep asset management surveys up-to-date and use these to prioritise maintenance. The authority is well placed to deliver its plans for 21st century schools.

Central admissions provide good information to parents. The service works particularly well with schools and other services to make sure that vulnerable pupils are supported to reintegrate promptly.

A rigorous service review has improved the authority's capacity to make sure that there is enough early years provision available across the county. The authority has made good use of surplus places in schools to accommodate Flying Start provision. Joint working with partners is now good and continuing to improve, and officers systematically monitor and evaluate the work of all providers. The authority has robustly evaluated its range of play provision.

The authority's youth service is leading work with relevant partners based in local areas to improve access to a range of youth support services.

Key Question 3: How good are leadership and management? Good

Leadership: Excellent

Elected members and senior officers in Denbighshire make education services for children and young people a high priority. They have a clear vision and high aspirations for the authority and communicate these very well. The coherent and effective leadership means that the council's approach to becoming a 'high performing council, closer to the community' is already making a positive difference.

The council has reorganised its scrutiny arrangements into three committees for partnerships, communities and performance and all services report different aspects of their work to the relevant committee. As a result, scrutiny members have a better overview across the whole council and a wider range of members understand education issues. Members are now able to compare and challenge services more effectively and make better informed decisions. In addition, cross-party involvement in scrutiny means that all members can work towards a common goal in improving services for children and young people. Partners within the local service board also bring their contributions to delivering outcomes within partnership plans to scrutiny.

The transformational changes at member level are reflected in the Corporate Executive Team where three corporate directors have whole-authority responsibilities. They manage a group of heads of service but do not have directorates. As a result, they have a better understanding of all corporate priorities. This leads to purposeful and effective collaboration between services. Priorities for education are consistently presented across service areas with clear links between strategic plans and operational plans. Officers set appropriate aspirational targets to improve outcomes for children and young people.

This transformation in the way that the authority works has given greater focus to corporate strategic priorities and has overcome previous service silos. The changes in the culture and leadership of the authority, together with very strong leadership from elected members and senior officers, have driven significant change and continuous improvement at a fast pace. This has enabled the authority to recover very well from failings identified during previous inspections. This is sector-leading practice.

Members and senior officers have a track record of making difficult decisions in order to improve provision for learners. There is a culture of transparency and openness within the local authority and this has led to excellent relationships between members and officers, and with external partners.

The local authority has mature relationships with its schools. Relationships with headteachers have improved significantly since previous inspections and the authority consults well with its schools. The School Standards Monitoring Group, consisting of both members and officers, brings effective support and challenge to headteachers and governing bodies. They make a strong contribution to improving leadership, provision and standards in schools.

The authority has taken the successful practices developed locally and is sharing this good practice beyond its boundaries.

Quality improvement: Good

The authority has firmly embedded self-evaluation throughout its services. There is a culture of accountability and continuous review and a consistent focus on achieving progress against priorities. The authority has a robust evaluation framework, including twice-yearly performance challenges by key elected members and senior officers which link to improvement planning and the setting of challenging targets. Performance reporting to elected members is good and the authority has an open culture where areas for improvement are acknowledged and addressed. Elected members and senior officers understand well the strengths and shortcomings in service areas and challenge officers robustly to bring about improvement. As a result, for example, performance at key stage 4 in Denbighshire secondary schools and attendance in both primary and secondary schools have all improved.

The authority consults well with children and young people and the wider community. It has commissioned a series of useful independent reports to evaluate the quality of its work with partners. Performance data is used rigorously to evaluate the quality and impact of services, identify underperformance and plan for improvement. Initiatives are evaluated systematically using first-hand evidence and performance data. At present the authority does not gather and analyse enough relevant data to fully measure performance across all partners, although developing this database is included in priorities for its current single plan.

Performance management arrangements are effective in bringing about improvement and staff have performance related targets clearly linked to strategic priorities.

Officers challenge underperforming schools well and the authority is willing to use its full range of statutory powers to bring about improvement where necessary. No school has been identified in a category of concern during an Estyn inspection for the last two years.

The authority has addressed well many of the recommendations from previous Estyn inspections of education and youth support services. Ongoing work to fully meet other recommendations is a key action within The Big Plan.

The authority has established a good range professional learning communities to share good practice and raise standards. Many of these learning communities are appropriately focused on improving literacy and numeracy. The authority's evaluation of the impact of these groups has already identified improvements in teaching and learning and in learners' standards of achievement.

Footnote: Denbighshire, along with two other authorities is piloting the Single Integrated Plan, which aims to bring together all the authority's corporate plans into a single overarching document. Denbighshire's The Big Plan is an overarching strategy document for the next three years that integrates the Community Strategy, the Children and Young People's plan, the Health Social Care and Wellbeing strategy and the Community Safety plan.

Partnership working: Good

The authority is continuing to develop arrangements for collaboration and partnership with neighbouring councils and other organisations in order to secure improvements in learning outcomes for children and young people.

The authority has made significant changes to partnership working across four of the main strategic partnerships, and developed its single integrated plan, The Big Plan. As a result of extensive consultative work, there is good support and ownership of The Big Plan across communities, strategic partners and the authority.

The Big Plan has a specific focus to improve the processes and performance of the Children and Young People's Partnership. The authority has carried out rigorous reviews to identify priorities from all four of these plans to include in The Big Plan. One of these is the comprehensive performance review of the 2008-2011 Children and Young People's Plan 'Making a Difference'. This demonstrated outcomes from grant and project funded activities well. However, there was not enough focus on the analysis of outcomes to identify how well the work of the Children and Young People's Partnership had contributed to achieving its strategic objectives, or on planning for improvements.

A new Partnerships and Communities Team gives high levels of support to the developing Big Plan processes. The team is located within the Business Planning and Performance unit, and the head of the unit is a member of the Corporate Executive Team. This demonstrates well the authority's commitment to the change process, and makes sure that performance improvement is at the centre of the changes.

Since September 2011, Denbighshire and Conwy have one joint local service board. The board has appropriately commissioned a joint performance management framework for The Big Plan and One Conwy. Denbighshire County Council is working well with the five other authorities in North Wales to establish the Regional School Improvement Service for the area. Senior officers and elected members give very clear direction to this work to make sure it reflects their priority to improve outcomes for learners and continue the good progress the authority has already made.

Resource management: Good

Financial management is sound and supported well by a four-year medium-term plan and efficiencies programme. This has enabled the council to achieve significant efficiency savings and apply additional revenue and capital funding to its top priorities, including its 'Modernising Education' plan.

The authority has restructured various services effectively. This includes its Improvement and Inclusion service, which has achieved efficiency savings and re-focused the service to intervene in schools more effectively.

The authority and its schools have worked well to increase the level of delegation to schools and to improve the capacity of schools to manage resources more effectively. Action taken includes the appointment of finance managers for clusters of schools and the delegation to schools of additional funding and responsibility for premature retirement and redundancy. Service level agreements for services provided to schools have been revised to give clear information about quality, cost and responsibility. Although some of these measures are recent, there are early indications that they are helping schools to improve longstanding issues.

The authority has strengthened its arrangements to support schools in financial difficulties and improved the effectiveness of monitoring and management of recovery plans. Good progress has been made in developing workforce planning arrangements in the authority and for schools.

The authority robustly reviews and challenges its services annually to secure improvement and value for money. The authority has also appropriately reviewed the effectiveness and value for money of a range of specific projects and developments.

Overall value for money in education services is good. The budgets per pupil for both primary and secondary education are just below the Wales average, although attainment at most key stages is above average.

The authority is developing its arrangements to assess the outcomes and value for money from services commissioned from external agencies, although these are not yet in place for all such services.

Appendix 1

The inspection team

Mererid Stone HMI	Reporting Inspector
Iwan Roberts HMI	Team Inspector
Jane Taylor HMI	Team Inspector
Stephen Lamb HMI	Team Inspector
Huw Collins HMI	Team Inspector
Susan Roberts HMI	Team Inspector
Betsan O'Connor HMI	Team Inspector
Steve Martin	WAO
Karl Napieralla	Peer Inspector
Karen Evans	Nominee

Copies of the report

Copies of this report are available on the Estyn website (www.estyn.gov.uk)

Glossary of terms

National Curriculum

Expected National Curriculum levels

- By the end of the key stage 1, at the age of seven, learners are expected to reach level 2 and the more able to reach level 3.
- By the end of the key stage 2, at the age of eleven, learners are expected to reach level 4 and the more able to reach level 5.
- By the end of the key stage 3, at the age of fourteen, learners are expected to reach level 5 and the more able to reach level 6 or level 7.

Core subject indicator in all key stages

The core subject indicator relates to the expected performance in English or Welsh first language, mathematics and science, the core subjects of the National Curriculum. Learners must gain at least the expected level in either English or Welsh first language together with mathematics and science to gain the core subject indicator.

External examinations at key stage 4 or post-16

Core subject indicator – as above.

Level 1 qualification – the equivalent of a GCSE at grade D to G.

The Level 1 threshold – learners must have gained a volume of qualifications equivalent to five GCSEs at grades D to G.

Level 2 qualification – the equivalent of a GCSE at grade A* to C.

The Level 2 threshold – learners must have gained a volume of qualifications equivalent to five GCSEs at grade A* to C.

The Level 2 threshold including English or Welsh first language and mathematics – learners must have gained level 2 qualifications in English or Welsh first language and in mathematics as part of their threshold.

Level 3 qualification – the equivalent of an A level at A* to C.

The Level 3 threshold – learners must have gained a volume of qualifications equivalent to two A levels at grade A* to E.

The **average wider points score** includes all external qualifications approved for use in Wales at the relevant age – for example at age 16 or 18. To calculate this, the total points gained by all learners in the cohort is divided by the number of learners.

The **capped average points score** only includes the best eight results for each pupil from all qualifications approved for use in Wales at age 16.

All-Wales Core Data sets

Schools and local authorities may refer to performance relative to their family of schools. These families of schools have been created to enable schools to compare their performance to similar schools across Wales. Families include schools with similar proportions of pupils entitled to free school meals, living in 20% most deprived areas of Wales, having special education needs at school action plus or statemented and with English as an additional language acquisition less than competent.

Denbighshire County Council Estyn Action Plan - Draft May 2012



1. Foreword and Purpose

Foreword / Introduction

Denbighshire has come a long way since the low point following the 2007 Estyn Inspection. Improvements in standards, quality of provision, leadership and accountability at all levels are clearly visible, as indeed are the levels of satisfaction expressed by the vast majority of service users. Greater confidence in the whole system has brought more energy and innovation into our work, despite a climate where resources are diminishing rapidly. Education and the broader Children & Young People's agenda make key contributions to the Big Plan outcomes, and to the broader corporate priorities now being developed by officers and Members.

The Estyn Inspection in January 2012 confirmed this and graded all services 'Good' with strategic leadership graded 'Excellent'. Estyn also confirmed that the prospects for improvement were firmly good. However, whilst progress has been good, there is much more to do in all areas and this Action Plan responds specifically to the two recommendations stemming from the Estyn Inspection.

The Authority has also taken on board other feedback contained within the Estyn report in order to ensure that further progress is made in the coming year. Other documents, such as the new Corporate Plan, Commissioning Framework for the new Regional Service for School Improvement, the Service Challenge and Performance Management processes of the Authority, will also be used in order to drive improvement further.

The Chief Executive's restructuring proposals (May 2012) have not only set high expectations for the Council as a whole, between 2012 and 2016; these proposals are also a response to the priorities that the Council now needs to set itself in order to become an excellent Council.

The second recommendation within this Action Plan has, and is being, considered further by the sound partnerships that exist to deliver the Children & Young People services across the age between 0 - 25

Hywn Williams
Corporate Director : Learning and Communities
May 2012

Purpose

Recommendation One

Improve the accuracy of teacher assessments at the end of Key Stage 3

Context

Standards at Key Stage 3 have been consistently below national and FSM benchmarks. Schools have improved but at a slower rate than schools in other authorities. This has also been at a slower rate than at KS2 and 4. The performance of higher ability learners at level 6 and 7 are well below national and FSM benchmarks and is contributing to the below average number of A* and A's at KS 4.

There is evidence of successful implementation of a curriculum that is learner-centred and skills-focused in some schools. However all schools need to fully embrace the requirements of 2008 National Curriculum to meeting the changing needs of young people at KS4 and PISA.

Recommendation Two

Identify all services for children and young people in Denbighshire and establish an effective system to measure the impact of these services to help the authority and its partners know whether these offer good value for money

Context

CYPSP has been aware of the challenge of resource mapping for a number of years. The need for the partnership to have a clear understanding about who is providing services to children and young people in Denbighshire is fundamental to the work of the

partnership and its role in service coordination and future planning. The creation of an effective system that identifies services for children and young people will therefore assist the partnership with this.

In relation to the system, it's essential that there is a tool in place to measure the impact of the services contained within which will feed into the Conwy and Denbighshire Joint Performance Framework for the Big Plan reporting to CYPSP and LSB.

Alongside the system will sit a Quality Performance Framework (QPF) tool which will be used to ensure that provision for children and young people are effectively measured in terms of their impact and value for money, which will in turn support the partnership with service coordination and future planning as agreed. The QPF will incorporate outcome focussed approaches to measure performance (e.g. Outcome Star, balanced scorecard and the recorded learning outcomes QES system)

2. Summary of Plan

Recommendation One				
<i>Improve the accuracy of teacher assessments at the end of Key Stage 3</i>				
Activity	Purpose	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15
Extend the use of the Rapid Improvement Planning (RAP) used successfully at KS4 to improve	All assessments at KS3 are consistent and inline with WG assessment guidance to ensure that the LA is in the top 10 in Wales.	Improve CSI to FFT D +1	All schools improve CSI to FFT D +2	All schools improve CSI to FFT D +3

pupil performance in the core subjects at KS3.					
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Recommendation Two

Identify all services for children and young people in Denbighshire and establish an effective system to measure the impact of these services to help the authority and its partners know whether these offer good value for money.

Activity	Purpose	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15
Develop system / database to map resources available to children and YP within Denbighshire.	Enable children and young people within Denbighshire to have access to an overall view of activities available to them within their specific localities	Data base established and populated	Baseline of provision is established and improvement plans agreed.	Improvement targets are delivered
Develop Quality Progression Framework (QPF) to review quality indicators for each service within the database. This includes the roll out Outcome Star across the Family First programme.	Current impact of services can be measured and results shared within authority / partners to ensure the value each service is offering	QPF framework and process established and used by partners	Baseline of the quality of provision is established and improvement plans agreed.	Improvement Targets are delivered

3. Monitoring

Monitoring the plan

Recommendation One

- Termly meeting with schools to monitor progress against schools KS3 improvement plans
- Review of schools progress by School Improvement and Inclusion each term.
- Bi-annual reports to Performance Scrutiny

Recommendation Two

- Monthly monitoring against the plan and outcomes reported to Early and Extending Entitlement on a 6 weekly cycle.
- 6 monthly and annual outcome focussed performance management reports to CYPSP in line with the Big Plan Performance Management Framework

4. Recommendations & Outcomes

Abbreviation Lead Column	Meaning
SEO	Schools Effectiveness Officer Julian Malloy

<i>Improve the accuracy of teacher assessments at the end of Key Stage 3</i>						
Recommendation One	Ref no	Target	Action	When	Lead	Resources
	1.1	All assessments at KS3 are consistent and in line with WG assessment guidance to ensure that the LA is in the top 10 in Wales.	Collect teacher assessments each term to accurately track individual pupils' progress. Analysis of pupil level data to compare teacher assessments against FFT D predictions.	June 2013 July 2012	SEO SEO	SI&I Time SI&I Time

Recommendation One					
<i>Improve the accuracy of teacher assessments at the end of Key Stage 3</i>					
Ref no	Target	Action	When	Lead	Resources
1.2		Subject teachers from each school to meet twice a year to work together to agree standards for each subject.	June 2013	SEO	SIG funding
1.3	Increase the number Level 5, 6 and 7 grades so that the LA is top 10 performing and inline with FFT D.	Extend the use of the Rapid Improvement Planning (RAP) to improve pupil performance in the core subjects. PLC's in NC subjects to share and develop good practice to increase numbers of pupils gaining Levels 5,6 and 7 in line with FFT D predictions.	March 2013	SEO	SIG funding £6000
1.4	To provide teachers with a wide range of moderated pupils work and assessments as a reference.	Use Moodle to host (PDF) levelled exemplar materials in all subjects and levels. Provide training for teachers in the use of Moodle.	July 2014 July 2014	SEO SEO	SI&I Time SI&I Time

Recommendation One						
<i>Improve the accuracy of teacher assessments at the end of Key Stage 3</i>						
Ref no	Target	Action	When	Lead	Resources	
1.5	All schools have a curriculum that is more learner-centred and skills-focused.	Work with SLT's to review current KS3 provision as part of school self-evaluation processes.	July 2014	SEO	SIG funding	
1.6	All schools are above the median at KS3 for the CSI.	SI&I to support and challenge schools that are not improving.	July 2014	SEO	SI&I Time	
1.7	Best practice is shared with all schools.	Use training days to share their best curriculum and teaching practice with other schools.	July 2013	SEO	SI&I Time	
1.8	Improve the effectiveness of senior and middle leaders.	Training in the use of RAP to improve pupil performance.	July 2013	SEO	£2000	

Outcome	Measure		
	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15
Core Subject Indicator (CSI) at KS3	73%	75%	78%

Abbreviation Lead Column	Meaning
CDLC	Corporate Director – Learning and Communities Hywyn Williams
PYO	Principal Youth Officer Roger Ellerton
PCM	Partnerships & Communities Manager Diane Hesketh
ICSFIM	Integrated Children's Service and Family Information Manager Tracey Evans

<i>Identify all services for children and young people in Denbighshire and establish an effective system to measure the impact of these services to help the authority and its partners know whether these offer good value for money.</i>						
Recommendation Two	Ref no	Target	Action	When	Lead	Resources
	1.1	Establish a system / database to map resources available to children and YP within Denbighshire.	Identify core data set based on current fields within the FIS/MCA database Identify a number of data collection mechanisms, this would include an MCA online facility entry system (preferred option as would allow direct import into MCA database) if this can be funded. It may also include spreadsheets and other options that might be proposed by Denbighshire ICT.	July 2012 July 2012	CDLC CDLC	Staff time MCA Data Base Staff time

<p><i>Identify all services for children and young people in Denbighshire and establish an effective system to measure the impact of these services to help the authority and its partners know whether these offer good value for money.</i></p>						
Recommendation Two	Ref no	Target	Action	When	Lead	Resources
			Present plan and timeline to Early and Extending Entitlement	July 2012	CDLC	Staff Time
			Promote the new FIS Family Services Directory (FSD) within localities, together with information and guidance on inclusion on the FSD. This would include promotion to partner orgs and the public.	From September 2012 – August 2013	ICSFIM	FIS Team, LLCD staff
			In support of the above promote and pilot within the Rhyl & Denbigh localities - the use of the MCA updating mechanism whereby each organisation on the database can update their own details as they change.	By September 2012	CDCL	FIS Team, LLCD staff
			Review options for longer term resources and funding in order to sustain a wide role out.	September 2012	PCM	Staff time

<p><i>Identify all services for children and young people in Denbighshire and establish an effective system to measure the impact of these services to help the authority and its partners know whether these offer good value for money.</i></p>					
Ref no	Target	Action	When	Lead	Resources
		(This may include the option of key services / orgs contributing a small amount of money on an annual basis to cover additional functionality. This functionality could include a funding module that would allow individual organisations and the Partnership Team to track and monitor funding arrangements in order to inform future planning.)			
		Review the implementation of the MCA database process over a period of 4 months with a final evaluation report to CYPSP.	January 2013	CDCL	Staff Time
1.2	Develop Quality Progression Framework (QPF) incorporating Outcome Star to review quality indicators for each service within the	Agree small working group to propose core areas for Scorecard/Quality Progression Framework (QPF) based on the Youth Service 'scorecard' matrix. This will include the Outcome Star model.	July 2012	CDCL	Staff Time

<p><i>Identify all services for children and young people in Denbighshire and establish an effective system to measure the impact of these services to help the authority and its partners know whether these offer good value for money.</i></p>						
Recommendation Two	Ref no	Target	Action	When	Lead	Resources
		database	Pilot the QPF (or alternatively agreed name) in 2 localities engaging a range of volunteer organisations / services.	December 2012	PYO	Staff time
			Review pilots and improve QPF (if appropriate) and present a final report with evaluation and recommendations to CYPSP	February 2013	CDCL	Staff Time
			Produce an action plan to support implementation across partnerships.	March 2013	CDLC	Staff Time
			Review data arising from roll out in order to improve planning, provision and provision delivery	September 2013	PCM	Staff Time

<i>Identify all services for children and young people in Denbighshire and establish an effective system to measure the impact of these services to help the authority and its partners know whether these offer good value for money.</i>					
Ref no	Target	Action	When	Lead	Resources
		Make recommendations in order to improve the process and data analysis process	October 2013	PCM	Staff Time
		Review 12 months data and incorporate into partnerships planning processes	March 2014	PCM	Staff Time

Outcome	Measure		
	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15
An effective system that identifies services for children and young people is established	Data base established and populated	Baseline of provision is established and improvement plans agreed.	Improvement targets are delivered
Denbighshire and its partners are able to effectively measure services in terms of their impact and value for money	QPF framework and process established and used by partners	Baseline of the quality of provision is established and improvement plans agreed.	Improvement Targets are delivered

APPENDIX 3 - Improve the accuracy of teacher assessments at the end of Key Stage 3							
Recommendation	Ref No	Target	Actions	Due Date	Owner	Actual	Comments
	1.1	All assessments at KS3 are consistent and in line with WG assessment guidance to ensure that the LA is in the top 10 in Wales.	Collect teacher assessments each term to accurately track individual pupils' progress. Analysis of pupil level data to compare teacher assessments against FFT D predictions. Subject teachers from each school to meet twice a year to work together to agree standards for each subject.	Jun-13 Jun-12	SEO SEO	Heads of English, Welsh and maths have met to review standards and moderate pupils work. This process will be repeated during the spring term. A data sheet for each school have been prepared and has identified pupils at risk of not achieving Level 5	
	1.2		Extend the use of the Rapid Improvement Planning (RAP) to improve pupil performance in the core subjects. PLC's in NC subjects to share and develop good practice to increase numbers of pupils gaining Levels 5, 6 and 7 in line with FFT D predictions.	Jun-13	SEO	Teachers to meet during spring term	
	1.3	Increase the number Level 5, 6 and 7 grades so that the LA is top 10 performing and in line with FFT D.	Use Moodle to host (PDF) levelled exemplar materials in all subjects and levels. Provide training for teachers in the use of Moodle.	Mar-13	SEO	RAP improvement planning has been extended to 4/8 schools so far this year. PLC's have been set up in literacy and numeracy in 7/8 schools. PLC in remaining school in place by February 2013.	
	1.4	To provide teachers with a wide range of moderated pupils work and assessments as a reference.		Jul-14	SEO	No progress to date.	Collection of verified materials and post on Moodle will start summer 2012
	1.5	All schools have a curriculum that is more learner-centred and skills-focused.	Work with SLT's to review current KS3 provision as part of school self-evaluation processes.	Jul-14	SEO	SLT members have received training. Training for teachers will roll out once materials have been produced late in 2013. Curriculum deputy teachers have set up a working group to review statutory age curriculums to ensure they meet the needs of a skills based curriculum to ensure young people are prepared for PISA focused KS4.	
	1.6	All schools are above the median at KS3 for the CSI.	SLT to support and challenge schools that are not improving.	Jul-14	SEO	Half termly review meetings take place to challenge performance at KS3	
	1.7	Best practice is shared with all schools.	Use training days to share their best curriculum and teaching practice with other schools.	Jul-13	SEO	High schools are using planned training days to moderate pupils work. Meetings with heads and officers will ensure common standards across the LA.	
	1.8	Improve the effectiveness of senior and middle leaders.	Training in the use of RAP to improve pupil performance.	Jul-13	SEO	An education consultant is working with 6/8 to train schools in the RAP process this academic year.	

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Key Stage 3 - Core Subjects - 2012 - Teacher Assessments

Trends over 4 Years & Benchmarking

Teacher Assessments - Level 5+	Saesneg English				Mathemateg Maths				Gwyddoniaeth Science				Cymraeg				Core Subject Indicator			
	09	10	11	12	09	10	11	12	09	10	11	12	09	10	11	12	09	10	11	12
St Brigid's	98.3	89.5	87.9	91.2	94.7	98.2	89.7	96.5	94.7	93.0	87.9	96.5	100.	83.3	62.5	#DIV/	91.2	84.2	82.8	91.2
Denbigh High	70.7	73.3	74.5	82.0	77.4	75.6	80.5	86.9	72.9	71.8	74.5	90.2	41.7	66.7	75.0	82.6%	58.7	59.5	65.1	78.7
Ysgol Dinas Bran	76.5	72.2	72.7	82.2	70.1	76.7	75.3	81.5	83.8	76.1	80.5	82.8	89.7	92.0	86.1	87.7	65.2	65.3	66.2	74.5
Prestatyn High	75.5	74.6	74.2	77.4	72.5	75.7	79.7	85.4	75.5	80.4	81.0	87.1	64.4	66.4	74.2	80.6	59.4	63.9	64.1	73.2
Bl. Edward Jones High	54.4	61.0	61.3	65.2	66.3	64.6	66.3	75.8	58.7	65.9	68.8	83.3	89.7	92.0	86.1	87.7	44.6	54.9	51.3	59.1
Rhyl High	46.9	60.3	61.0	62.6	52.0	63.8	66.0	71.8	55.9	70.1	72.3	74.8	89.7	92.0	86.1	87.7	36.7	51.1	50.9	54.6
Ysgol Brynhyfryd	83.6	86.7	87.6	88.8	87.6	90.0	88.1	90.2	86.6	86.2	85.6	93.2	64.4	66.4	74.2	80.6	78.1	78.1	79.2	81.5
Ysgol Glan Clwyd	77.5	77.6	86.5	88.4	75.6	79.2	82.6	84.5	75.6	82.4	87.1	91.6	0	0	0	0	65.6	70.4	77.5	81.3
Ysgol Tŷ Morfa	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	27.3	7.7	0	27.3	0	0	0	0
Ysgol Plas Brondyffryn	27.3	7.7	0	0	27.3	0	0	0	9.1	7.7	0	0	9.1	0	0	9.1	0	0	0	0

Teacher Assessments - Level 6+	Saesneg English				Mathemateg Maths				Gwyddoniaeth Science				Cymraeg				I6+ in all Core Subjects			
	09	10	11	12	09	10	11	12	09	10	11	12	09	10	11	12	09	10	11	12
St Brigid's	6.0	52.6	51.7	77.2	73.7	78.9	72.4	86.0	61.4	42.1	55.2	63.2							43.1	57.9
Denbigh High	16.5	27.5	28.2	37.7	50.4	39.7	40.3	54.1	33.1	14.5	14.1	54.1	0.0%	33.3	0.0%	#DIV/0			10.1	32.0
Ysgol Dinas Bran	22.1	28.4	21.4	40.1	41.7	38.1	39.6	35.0	32.8	21.6	21.4	30.6	16.7	0.0%	16.7	17.4%			9.7	24.2
Prestatyn High	35.6	21.4	11.5	24.4	28.5	52.9	49.5	58.5	21.5	28.9	21.0	33.1							8.1	15.3
Bl. Edward Jones High	13.	25.6	17.5	23.5	30.4	37.8	38.8	30.3	22.8	23.2	21.3	37.1							13.8	13.6
Rhyl High	8.5	9.8	12.6	16.0	26.6	40.2	43.4	29.4	20.9	27.0	11.9	22.7							4.4	11.0
Ysgol Brynhyfryd	51.7	40.5	41.6	46.3	65.2	58.1	66.3	67.3	40.3	35.7	40.6	55.1	37.9	48.0	43.1	38.5			29.2	36.1
Ysgol Tir Morfa	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0							0	0
Ysgol Plas Brondyffryn	9.1	0	0	0	27.3	0	0	0	9.1	0	0	0							0	0

Teacher Assessments - Level 7+	Saesneg English				Mathemateg Maths				Gwyddoniaeth Science				Cymraeg				L7+ in all Core Subjects			
	09	10	11	12	09	10	11	12	09	10	11	12	09	10	11	12	09	10	11	12
St Brigid's	17.5	15.8	8.6	22.8	21.0	33.3	36.2	35.1	7.0	5.3	19.0	14.0							0.0	0.0
Denbigh High	3.0	10.	6.0	1.6	21.0	19.8	12.8	8.2	11.3	0.0	0.0	9.0			0.0	#DIV/0			6.9	12.3
Ysgol Dinas Bran	5.9	9.1	5.2	15.3	14.2	18.7	14.3	16.6	2.0	0.6	0.0	11.5			0.0	8.3			0.0	8.3
Prestatyn High	6.0	0.7	0.7	2.8	13.8	17.5	15.	35	4.4	3.9	2.7	4.2							0.7	0.3
Bl. Edward Jones High	2.2	4.9	6.3	5.3	5.4	9.8	6.3	10.6	2.2	1.2	6.3	5.3							3.8	3.0
Rhyl High	0.6	0.6	0.0	2.5	9.0	12.6	12.6	10.4	1.1	2.9	0.0	2.5							0.0	1.2
Ysgol Brynhyfryd	12.9	13.8	6.9	13.7	32.8	23.8	30.2	27.8	10.0	10.5	16.3	17.1		5.2	12.0	8.3			5.0	9.8
Ysgol Glan Clwyd	6.2	4.0	6.7	12.3	18.	21.6	24.2	20.0	19.4	8.8	10.1	12.9		6.2	4.8	5.6			3.9	8.4
Ysgol Tŷ Morfa	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0							0	0
Ysgol Plas Brondyffryn	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0							0	0

Benchmark	Saesneg			English			Mathemateg			Maths			Gwyddoniaeth			Science			Cymraeg			Core Subject Indicator		
	09	10	11	12	09	10	11	12	09	10	11	12	09	10	11	12	09	10	11	12	09	10	11	12
St Brigid's	1	1	2	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	3	1												
Denbigh High	3	3	4	2	3	3	3	1	4	4	4	1	1	2	4									
Ysgol Dinas Bran	2	3	4	3	4	3	4	4	1	4	4	4	4	4	4	3								
Prestatyn High	2	2	3	3	4	2	1	1	3	1	2	1												
Bl. Edward Jones High	3	2	3	3	1	2	3	2	3	3	2	1												
Rhyl High	4	3	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	3	3	4												
Ysgol Brynhyfryd	2	2	3	3	2	1	2	2	2	3	4	2	1	1	2	2								
Ysgol Glan Clwyd	4	3	3	3	4	4	4	4	4	3	3	3	4	4	4	4								

Note : Benchmarking Information not available for Special Schools.

APPENDIX 5

Recommendation Two: Identify all services for children and young people in Denbighshire and establish an effective system to measure the impact of these services to help the authority and its partners know whether these offer good value for money

Activity	Aim for 2012/13	Monitoring progress	Overall progress
1.1 Develop system/database to map resources available to children and young people within Denbighshire.	Database established and populated.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reports to Early and Extending Entitlement on a six weekly cycle 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Progressing well with no major obstacles.
1.2 Develop Quality Progression Framework (QPF) to review quality indicators for each service within the database. This includes the roll out of Outcomes Star across the Families First Programme.	QPF framework and process established and improvement plans agreed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> BIG Plan performance report to partnerships/LSB and Scrutiny Committee 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The BIG Plan performance management framework, use of Outcomes Star and other impact assessment tools will support this work. There is confidence this recommendation will be achieved.

Ref.	Target	Action	Due Date	Progress
1.1	Establish a system / database to map resources available to children and YP within Denbighshire.	Identify core data set based on current fields within the FIS/MCA database Identify a number of data collection mechanisms, this would include an MCA online facility entry system (preferred option as would allow direct import into MCA database) if this can be funded. It may also include spreadsheets and other options that might be proposed by Denbighshire ICT.	Jul-2012 Jul-2012	Complete. This infrastructure has received significant investment. Resource Mapping Service Profile Checklist (Word document) has been drafted and is being piloted. It includes mechanisms to identify organisations that need support to achieve a higher level. The pilot will ascertain which method of obtaining the information is most effective and we will then improve our methodology. This information will be fed into the FIS database.
		Present plan and timeline to Early and Extending Entitlement	Jul-2012	Complete.
		Promote the new FIS Family Services Directory (FSD) within localities, together with information and guidance on inclusion on the FSD. This would include promotion to	Sep-12 to Aug-13	Under development. A promotional campaign via the FIS website is planned for New Year 2013.

	<p>partner orgs and the public.</p> <p>In support of the above promote and pilot within the Rhyl & Denbigh localities - the use of the MCA updating mechanism whereby each organisation on the database can update their own details as they change.</p>	<p>Sep-12</p>	<p>Pilots have been designated in Denbigh (mapping and service profile) and Rhyl (mapping only)</p> <p>A meeting was held in November to identify as many providers as possible. A promotional campaign via the FIS website is planned.</p>
	<p>Review options for longer term resources and funding in order to sustain a wide role out (This may include the option of key services / orgs contributing a small amount of money on an annual basis to cover additional functionality. This functionality could include a funding module that would allow individual organisations and the Partnership Team to track and monitor funding arrangements in order to inform future planning.)</p>	<p>Sep-12</p>	<p>Work began on phase one of the Resource Mapping Project for The BIG Plan in September 2012, scoping current grant funding available for service provision within Denbighshire County Council. The Project is split into five phases, aiming to find out where funds come from, how long they exist for, where gaps in funding exist, and auditing the single integrated plan in terms of funding available. The data collated will be analysed and used to influence and improve strategic commissioning of services, gaining best value for money. The Project aims to understand performance and financial reporting requirements in order to have a fully coordinated approach for funding for the future. The five phases of the project will, in turn, incorporate research into internal funding data, funding for Families First and external services working within The BIG Plan, later developing to explore core funding, and match funding availability with a view to resulting in a full and clear picture of resources.</p> <p>Phase One is near completion, scheduled for end of November. It is envisaged that the project will be complete in May 2013.</p>
	<p>Review the implementation of the MCA database process over a period of 4 months with a final evaluation</p>	<p>Jan-13</p>	<p>To be completed.</p>

1.2	Develop Quality Progression Framework (QPF) incorporating Outcome Star to review quality indicators for each service within the database	report to CYPSP. Agree small working group to propose core areas for Scorecard/Quality Progression Framework (QPF) based on the Youth Service 'scorecard' matrix. This will include the Outcome Star model. Pilot the QPF (or alternatively agreed name) in 2 localities engaging a range of volunteer organisations / services. Review pilots and improve QPF (if appropriate) and present a final report with evaluation and recommendations to CYPSP Produce an action plan to support implementation across partnerships. Review data arising from roll out in order to improve planning, provision and provision delivery Make recommendations in order to improve the process and data analysis process Review 12 months data and incorporate into partnerships planning processes	Jul-12 Dec-12 Feb-13 Mar-13 Sep-13 Oct-13 Mar-14	Complete. The two approaches will be complementary (one functioning more as an organisational self-assessment and the other focused on outcomes for the individual). Pilot planned. Data not yet available. To be completed once pilot is complete. To be completed once pilot is complete. Data not yet available. To be reviewed following roll out. Recommendations to be provided following review of data as per action above. 12 months' data not yet available, data to be reviewed once available as per actions above.
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A report on progress in delivering The BIG Plan's eight outcomes will be presented to Partnerships Scrutiny Committee on 20 December 2012. For more information, contact Rhian Evans, Scrutiny Coordinator or Rhys Hughes, Democratic Services Officer, or contact Emma Horan, Planning and Performance Officer at emma.horan@denbighshire.gov.uk.

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Report to: Performance Scrutiny Committee

Date of Meeting: 10 January 2013

Report Author: Scrutiny Coordinator

Title: Scrutiny Work Programme

1. What is the report about?

The report presents the Performance 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 Denbighshire County 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 The Constitution stipulates that the Council's scrutiny committees must 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 aim 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 When considering future items for inclusion on the forward work programme members may also find it helpful to have regard to the following questions when determining a subject's suitability for inclusion on the work programme:
- 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 above the Council's Constitution 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 subjects. One such proposal form has been received for consideration at the current meeting, this relates to the Wales Audit Office's Annual Improvement Report and can be seen at Appendix 2 to this report.
- Cabinet Forward Work Programme
- 4.7 When determining their programme of future work it is useful for scrutiny committees to have regard to Cabinet's scheduled programme of work. For this purpose a copy of the Cabinet's forward work programme is attached at Appendix 3.
- 4.8 Progress on Committee Resolutions
A table summarising recent Committee resolutions and advising members on progress with their implementation is attached at Appendix 4 to this report.
- 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. The SCVCG met on 20 December and at that meeting it

was decided that a report on CCTV should be transferred from Partnerships Scrutiny Committee's work programme for March 2013 to Performance Scrutiny Committee's forward work programme for April 2013.

- 5.2 At the same meeting the Group considered a request from Performance Scrutiny Committee's Vice-Chair, following a recent visit to the Council's Fleet Department, that scrutiny examine the potential benefits and costs of introducing speed limiting/rev counting devices on Council vehicles. The Group was of the view that this topic did merit examination by scrutiny and has therefore asked that Performance Scrutiny considers the matter. A preliminary report on the subject has been provisionally scheduled into the Committee's work programme for its February meeting. However, this will bring the number of reports for consideration at that meeting to five, which exceeds the preferred number of reports per meeting as outlined in paragraph 4.3 above. Members are therefore asked to consider the recommendations of the SCVCG and the scheduling of the above reports.

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

Note: Any items entered in italics have not been approved for inclusion at the meeting shown 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
21 February <i>Briefing before meeting on Corporate Risk Register measures</i>	1 Your Voice' complaints performance (Q3)	To scrutinise Services' performance in complying with the Council's complaints process	Identification of areas of poor performance with a view to the development of recommendations to address weaknesses.	Jackie Walley/Steven Goodrum	July 2012
	2 Corporate Plan 2012/13 (Q2)	To monitor the Council's performance in delivering its Corporate Plan 2012/13	Ensuring that the Council meets its targets, delivers its Corporate Plan and the Council's services in line with its aspirations and to the satisfaction of local residents	Tony Ward	July 2012 (Transferred from Jan 2012)
	3 CSSIW Annual Council Performance Evaluation 2011-12	To consider the formal annual letter from CSSIW, the regulators of both Adult and Children's Social Services, about performance of Social Services in 2011/12.	The letter responds to the Director's annual report submitted to Council in July 2012. It is a key performance judgement of one of the Council's core services and as such should be subject to regular scrutiny.	Sally Ellis / Craig Macleod	October 2012
	4 Corporate Risk Register	To consider the latest version of the Council's Corporate Risk Register following the last round of Service Performance Challenges	Identification of effective measures to address the high level risks	Tony Ward	November 2012
	5 Introduction of Speed Limiters/Rev Counters on	To outline the potential benefits of fitting speed limiting/rev	Elected member support for a pilot project to explore the	Graham Taylor	By SCVCG December

Meeting	Item (description / title)	Purpose of report	Expected Outcomes	Author	Date Entered
	Council Vehicles	counting devices on Council owned vehicles	feasibility of rolling out the fitting of these devices to all Council vehicles in due course		2012
11 April	Corporate Plan 2012/13 (Q3)	To monitor the Council's performance in delivering its Corporate Plan 2012/13	Ensuring that the Council meets its targets, delivers its Corporate Plan and the Council's services in line with its aspirations and to the satisfaction of local residents	Tony Ward	July 2012
2	Provision of CCTV in Denbighshire	To consider options available and the potential impact of changes to the structure and provision of CCTV in Denbighshire resulting from the identified £100K of savings from the CCTV budget	(i) effective delivery of safer communities/town centres/retail areas within constrained budgets; (ii) improved living environments for citizens and visitors and a safer environment which will assist businesses to invest and flourish	Graham Boase/Julian Sandham [CCBC]	June 2012 (Partnerships SC - deferred July 2012) transferred by SCVCG to Performance SC (Dec 2012)
3	WAO Annual Improvement Report	To consider the main annual report from the WAO about the performance of the Council	Consideration of the findings of the report and any associated recommendations will assist the Committee to propose measures that will support the Council on its continual journey of improvement and to deliver effective and efficient services to residents	Tony Ward	January 2013
23 May	Your Voice' complaints performance (Q4)	To scrutinise Services' performance in complying with the Council's complaints process	Identification of areas of poor performance with a view to the development of recommendations to address	Jackie Walley/Steven Goodrum	July 2012

Meeting	Item (description / title)	Purpose of report	Expected Outcomes	Author	Date Entered
June/July (tbc)	1 Corporate Plan 2012/13 (Q4)	To monitor the Council's performance in delivering its Corporate Plan 2012/13	Ensuring that the Council meets its targets, delivers its Corporate Plan and the Council's services in line with its aspirations and to the satisfaction of local residents	Tony Ward	July 2012
Sept/Oct (tbc)	1 Annual Performance Review Report 2011/12	To report the Council's performance against the set PIs for 2011/12	Identification of trends or areas of poor performance leading to recommendations to address declining performance and realise the Council's ambition to be a high performing authority	Tony Ward	July 2012
	2 Licensing Matters	To consider the effectiveness of the new procedures for licensing following the implementation of the findings of the review of licensing matters conducted by the Internal Audit Department (with specific emphasis on taxi licensing and safeguarding responsibilities)	Monitoring of the new licensing policies and procedures to ensure that the processes are robust and effective in supporting the Council's compliance with all licensing and safeguarding legislation, and in mitigating risks to vulnerable groups who use services licensed by the Authority	Graham Boase/Nicky Jones	November 2012
Nov/Dec (tbc)					

Future Issues

Item (description / title)	Purpose of report	Expected Outcomes	Author	Date Entered

Information/Consultation Reports

Date	Item (description / title)	Purpose of report	Author	Date Entered
Information Report ahead of the presentation of the WAO Annual Improvement Report to the Committee in April 2013 (rescheduled from January's business agenda) [February 2013]	Wales Audit Office (WAO) Improvement Assessment of Denbighshire County Council	To determine whether there are any particular aspects of performance that require further scrutiny following the latest Improvement Assessment letter from WAO after the publishing of the Corporate Plan	Tony Ward	November 2012 (rescheduled from January 2013)

Note for officers – Committee Report Deadlines

Meeting	Deadline	Meeting	Deadline
21 February 2013	7 February 2013	11 April 2013	28th March 2013
		23 May 2013	9 May 2013

Performance Scrutiny Work Programme.doc

Updated 21/12/12 RhE

PROPOSAL FORM FOR AGENDA ITEMS FOR SCRUTINY COMMITTEES		
NAME OF SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	Performance Scrutiny	
DATE OF MEETING / TIMESCALE FOR CONSIDERATION	April 2013	
TITLE OF REPORT	WAO Annual Improvement Report	
P U R P O S E	1. Why is the report being proposed? (see also the checklist overleaf)	It is the main annual report from the WAO about the performance of the council.
	2. What issues are to be scrutinised?	The report may contain proposals for improvement, or more formal recommendations, for the council to consider.
	3. Is it necessary/desirable for witnesses to attend e.g. lead members, officers/external experts?	Lead Member for Performance WAO representative.
	4. What will the committee achieve by considering the report?	It will enable the committee to identify areas of performance that require further scrutiny
	5. Score the topic from 0 – 4 on aims & priorities and impact (see overleaf)*	Aims & Priorities
ADDITIONAL COMMENTS	4	
REPORTING PATH – what is the next step? Are Scrutiny’s recommendations to be reported elsewhere?	This is a statutory report from the WAO about the performance of the council.	
REPORTING PATH – what is the next step? Are Scrutiny’s recommendations to be reported elsewhere?	The report will also be presented to the Corporate Governance Committee, who will be informed that issues of performance are being looked at by Performance Scrutiny.	
AUTHOR	Tony Ward, Corporate Improvement Team Manager	

Please complete the following checklist:

	Yes	No
Is the topic already being addressed satisfactorily?		x
Is Scrutiny likely to result in service improvements or other measurable benefits?	x	
Does the topic concern a poor performing service or a high budgetary commitment?	x	
Are there adequate resources / realistic possibility of adequate resources to achieve the objective(s)?	x	
Is the Scrutiny activity timely, i.e. will scrutiny be able to recommend changes to the service delivery, policy, strategy, etc?	x	
Is the topic linked to corporate or scrutiny aims and priorities?	x	
Has the topic been identified as a risk in the Corporate Risk Register or is it the subject of an adverse internal audit or external regulator report?	x	

*The following table is to be used to guide the scores given:

Score	Aims & Priorities	Impact
0	No links to corporate/scrutiny aims and priorities	No potential benefits
1	No links to corporate/scrutiny aims and priorities but a subject of high public concern	Minor potential benefits affecting only one ward/customer/client group
2	Some evidence of links, but indirect	Minor benefits to two groups/moderate benefits to one
3	Good evidence linking the topic to both aims and priorities	Moderate benefits to more than one group/substantial benefits to one
4	Strong evidence linking both aims and priorities, and has a high level of public concern	Substantial community-wide benefits

SCORING

Aims & Priorities

4	Possible topic for Scrutiny – to be timetabled appropriately	Priority topic for Scrutiny – for urgent consideration
3		
2	Reject topic for Scrutiny – topic to be circulated to members for information purposes	Possible topic for Scrutiny – to be timetabled appropriately
1		

0

1

2

3

4

CABINET: FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

15 JANUARY 2013	
Financial Update Report	Cllr Julian Thompson-Hill / Paul McGrady
Budget Proposals	Cllr Julian Thompson-Hill / Paul McGrady
Community Fund	Rebecca Maxwell
Communications Strategy	Cllrs Hugh Irving & Hugh Jones / Jamie Groves / Gareth Watson
Rhyl Front Projects (including Sky Tower)	Cllr Hugh Evans / Tom Booty
Pension Auto-enrolment	Cllr Julian Thompson-Hill / Richard Weigh
Review of LDP Steering Group	Cllr Eryl Williams / Angela Loftus
Items from Scrutiny Committees	Scrutiny Coordinator
19 FEBRUARY 2013	
Financial Update Report	Cllr Julian Thompson-Hill / Paul McGrady
Cefndy Healthcare: Potential loss of DWP funding and site move	Cllr Bobby Feeley / Phil Gilroy / Deborah Holmes-Langstone
Annual Report on the Housing Revenue Account / Housing Rent Increases	Cllr Hugh Irving / Peter McHugh
BCU response to the consultation on "Healthcare in North Wales is changing"	Cllr Bobby Feeley / Sally Ellis
Items from Scrutiny Committees	Scrutiny Coordinator
19 MARCH 2013	
Financial Update Report	Cllr Julian Thompson-Hill / Paul McGrady
Items from Scrutiny Committees	Scrutiny Coordinator
16 APRIL 2013	
Financial Update Report	Cllr Julian Thompson-Hill / Paul McGrady
Items from Scrutiny Committees	Scrutiny Coordinator
14 MAY 2013	
Financial Update Report	Cllr Julian Thompson-Hill / Paul McGrady
Ruthin Schools Review	Cllr Eryl Williams / Jackie Walley
Items from Scrutiny Committees	Scrutiny Coordinator

Updated 18/12/2012

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Progress with Committee Resolutions

Date of Meeting	Item number and title	Resolution	Progress
29 November 2012	5. Corporate Risk Register	<p>RESOLVED – that the Performance Scrutiny Committee:</p> <p>i) confirms that the Corporate Risk Register provides full coverage of the major risks facing the Council at this time, and that the actions identified in the Corporate Risk Register were appropriate to address the identified risks; and</p> <p>ii) agrees to receive a report to review the Corporate Risk Register following the latest round of Service Performance Challenges at its meeting on 21st February 2013.</p>	Register scheduled on the Committee's work programme for 21 February 2013 meeting
	6. Denbighshire County Council Improvement Letter	<p>RESOLVED – that Performance Scrutiny Committee:-</p> <p>(a) receives and notes the contents of the Improvement Assessment Letter, and</p> <p>(b) agrees that the next WAO Improvement Assessment Letter be included in the Committee's Forward Work Programme for the 10th January 2013.</p>	Letter was originally scheduled for consideration on the business agenda for the current meeting. However, the letter was not available in time for it to be submitted to the Committee at the current meeting. It will now be circulated to Members

			for information in February 2013 ahead of the presentation of the next Annual Improvement Report in April 2013 (see request in Appendix 2)
	8. Library Service Standards: Annual Report 2011/12	<p>RESOLVED – that Performance Scrutiny Committee:-</p> <p>(i) receives the report and endorses the Library Service's performance against the Annual Assessment Framework; and</p> <p>(ii) agrees to provide a statement to CyMAL concerning the Library Service's performance.</p>	Extract from Minutes forwarded to the Head of Service on 7 December 2012 to inform him of the Committee's statement for incorporation into the Council's response to CyMAL
	9. Review of Licensing Matters	<p>RESOLVED – that Performance Scrutiny Committee:</p> <p>i) receives and notes the content of the report;</p> <p>ii) supports the approach undertaken to date under the review of licensing processes; and</p> <p>iii) agrees to receive an update report in Autumn 2013 in order to review the effectiveness of the new processes once fully operational.</p>	Report scheduled into the Committee's forward work programme for September/October 2013
	10. Scrutiny Work Programme	<p>RESOLVED – that:-</p> <p>(i) subject to the above amendments and agreements, the</p>	

		<p><i>Future Work Programme as set out in Appendix 1 to the report be approved.</i></p> <p><i>(ii) the Democratic Services Officer liaise with the Planning and Resources Manager to provide a table showing the revised funding formula elements and the effects on individual schools in the County.</i></p> <p><i>(iii) issues relating to the problems experienced in relation to the roll-out of the x2 wheelie bin scheme, and the use of economy saving devices on vehicles, be submitted to the Chairs and Vice Chairs Group for consideration for inclusion in the Forward Work Programmes of the appropriate Scrutiny Committees, and</i></p> <p><i>(iv) the Democratic Services Officer liaise with the 14-19 Network Co-ordinator regarding the possibility of obtaining the information relating to External Examination Results and Achievements for Denbighshire Students at Deeside College.</i></p>	<p>Information circulated to Committee members on 4 December 2012</p> <p>Scrutiny Chairs and Vice-Chairs Group considered the request at its meeting on 13 December and Communities Scrutiny Committee has agreed to consider a report on the matter at its February 2013 meeting</p> <p>Information can be obtained if required, but was not appropriate for inclusion in the business item on 'External Examinations Results and Achievements for Denbighshire Students at Llandrillo College' which will be considered at the meeting on 10 January 2013</p>
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