

To: Members of the County Council

Date: 6 May 2015

Direct Dial: 01824712589

e-mail: dcc_admin@denbighshire.gov.uk

Dear Councillor

You are invited to attend a meeting of the **COUNTY COUNCIL** to be held at **10.00 am** on **TUESDAY, 12 MAY 2015** in **COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNTY HALL, RUTHIN LL15 1YN.**

Yours sincerely

G Williams
Head of Legal, HR 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 (Pages 5 - 6)

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

3 APPOINTMENT OF THE CHAIR OF COUNTY COUNCIL

To appoint the Chair of the Council for the municipal year 2015/2016.

4 APPOINTMENT OF THE VICE-CHAIR OF COUNTY COUNCIL

To appoint the Vice-Chair of the Council for the municipal year 2015/2016.

5 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.

6 MINUTES (Pages 7 - 12)

To receive the minutes of the meeting of County Council held on 14 April, 2015 (copy attached).

7 ANNUAL DELIVERY DOCUMENT FOR THE CORPORATE PLAN (Pages 13 - 34)

To consider a report by the Head of Business Improvement and Modernisation (copy attached) for Members to approve the final version of the delivery document.

8 STANDARDS COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT (Pages 35 - 40)

To consider a report by the Deputy Monitoring Officer (copy attached) for Members to note the report as part of the Standards Committee's drive to increase standards of ethical behaviour and compliance with the Members Code of Conduct.

9 APPOINTMENT OF LAY MEMBERS TO THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE (Pages 41 - 42)

To consider a report by the Deputy Monitoring Officer (copy attached) for Council to consider the recommendation of the Special Appointments Panel regarding the two individuals to sit as Lay Members on the Standards Committee.

10 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COUNCIL'S SCRUTINY COMMITTEES (Pages 43 - 62)

To consider a report by the Scrutiny Co-ordinator (copy attached) for Council to consider the Annual Report of the Scrutiny Committees for 2014/2015.

11 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CORPORATE GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE (Pages 63 - 64)

To consider a report by the Head of Legal, HR and Democratic Services (copy attached) for Council to consider the Annual Report of the Corporate Governance Committee (Appendix to follow).

12 APPOINTMENT ON THE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL (Pages 65 - 68)

To consider a report by the Democratic Services Manager (copy attached) for Council to appoint one member of the Labour Group to the Police and Crime Panel.

13 NOTICE OF MOTION

Councillor Joe Welch put forward the following Notice of Motion of behalf of the Independent Group for the consideration of Full Council:

'With an aim to provide a saving for Denbighshire County Council the Independent Group would like to propose that members' expenses for attending meetings be discussed further at the Budget Workshop on 5 June 2015'.

14 COUNTY COUNCIL FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME (Pages 69 - 72)

To consider the Council's forward work programme (copy attached).

15 PAY POLICY

To consider a report for Members to approve Council Pay Policy for the municipal year 2015/2016 (copy to follow).

MEMBERSHIP

Councillors

Councillor Brian Blakeley (Chair)

Ian Armstrong
Raymond Bartley
Joan Butterfield
Jeanette Chamberlain-Jones
Bill Cowie
Ann Davies
James Davies
Meirick Davies
Richard Davies
Stuart Davies
Peter Duffy
Hugh Evans
Peter Evans
Bobby Feeley
Carys Guy
Huw Hilditch-Roberts
Martyn Holland
Colin Hughes
Rhys Hughes
Hugh Irving
Alice Jones
Huw Jones
Pat Jones

Councillor Gwyneth Kensler (Vice-Chair)

Geraint Lloyd-Williams
Jason McLellan
Barry Mellor
Win Mullen-James
Bob Murray
Peter Owen
Dewi Owens
Merfyn Parry
Paul Penlington
Pete Prendergast
Arwel Roberts
Gareth Sandilands
David Simmons
Barbara Smith
David Smith
Bill Tasker
Julian Thompson-Hill
Joe Welch
Cefyn Williams
Cheryl Williams
Eryl Williams
Huw Williams

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LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2000

Code of Conduct for Members

DISCLOSURE AND REGISTRATION OF INTERESTS

I, *(name)*

a *member/co-opted member of

*(*please delete as appropriate)*

Denbighshire County Council

CONFIRM that I have declared a ***personal / personal and prejudicial** interest not previously declared in accordance with the provisions of Part III of the Council's Code of Conduct for Members, in respect of the following:-

*(*please delete as appropriate)*

Date of Disclosure:

Committee *(please specify)*:

Agenda Item No.

Subject Matter:

Nature of Interest:

*(See the note below)**

Signed

Date

*Note: Please provide sufficient detail e.g. 'I am the owner of land adjacent to the application for planning permission made by Mr Jones', or 'My husband / wife is an employee of the company which has made an application for financial assistance'.

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COUNTY COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the County Council held in Council Chamber, County Hall, Ruthin LL15 1YN on Tuesday, 14 April 2015 at 10.00 am.

PRESENT

Councillors Ian Armstrong, Raymond Bartley, Brian Blakeley (Chair), Joan Butterfield, Jeanette Chamberlain-Jones, Ann Davies, Meirick Davies, Richard Davies, Stuart Davies, Peter Duffy, Hugh Evans, Peter Evans, Bobby Feeley, Huw Hilditch-Roberts, Martyn Holland, Colin Hughes, Rhys Hughes, Hugh Irving, Alice Jones, Huw Jones, Pat Jones, Gwyneth Kensler (Vice-Chair), Geraint Lloyd-Williams, Jason McLellan, Barry Mellor, Win Mullen-James, Bob Murray, Peter Owen, Merfyn Parry, Paul Penlington, Pete Prendergast, Arwel Roberts, Gareth Sandilands, David Simmons, Barbara Smith, David Smith, Bill Tasker, Julian Thompson-Hill, Joe Welch, Cefyn Williams, Cheryl Williams, Eryl Williams and Huw Williams

ALSO PRESENT

Chief Executive (MM), Head of Legal, HR and Democratic Services (GW), Democratic Services Manager (SP), Project Manager, Modernising Education (JC) and Committee Administrator (SLW)

1 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Bill Cowie, James Davies, Carys Guy and Dewi Owens

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Paul Penlington declared a personal interest in Item 7 – Approval of Final Business Case for Ysgol Glan Clwyd Redevelopment.

3 URGENT MATTERS AS AGREED BY THE CHAIR

No urgent matters were raised.

At this juncture, the Chair welcomed Councillor Peter Prendergast to his first Council meeting.

The Chair also offered congratulations to Councillor Peter Owen and his family on the celebration of his 63rd Wedding Anniversary today.

4 CHAIRMAN'S DIARY

A list of civic engagements undertaken by the Chair for the period 27.01.2015 to 27.03.2015 had been circulated prior to the meeting.

***RESOLVED** that the list of civic engagements undertaken for the Council by the Chair be received.*

5 MINUTES

The minutes of the Council meetings held on 29 January 2015 and 24 February 2015 were submitted.

Matters Arising - 24 February 2015 – Page 15 Item No. 5 Council Tax and Associated Matters.

Councillor Meirick Lloyd Davies requested a response following the matter being discussed by the Scrutiny Chairs and Vice Chairs Group.

Councillor Huw Hilditch-Roberts confirmed the matter had been discussed at Scrutiny Chairs and Vice Chairs Group and it had been agreed the item would be included in the Agenda of the Communities Scrutiny Committee on 9 July 2015. An invitation had been extended to the Minister for Finance and Government business, Jane Hutt, to attend the meeting on the 9 July, 2015.

Councillor Meirick Lloyd Davies also requested an update as to whether a letter had been sent out to the Police Commissioners Office for a breakdown of what had been achieved and would likely to be achieved based on the Police precept amount. An action plan produced for the region had also been requested.

Councillor Bobby Feeley confirmed a letter had been sent.

***RESOLVED** that, subject to the above, the minutes of the meetings held on 29 January 2015 and 24 February 2015 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.*

6 ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR OF COUNCIL

The Head of Legal, HR and Democratic Services presented the report (previously circulated) seeking agreement for the proposed Chair and Vice-Chair of the County Council for the municipal year 2015/16 to be formally elected at the Council's annual meeting on 12 May, 2015. Nominations for both posts had been sought.

Election of Chair – Councillor Eryl Williams proposed, seconded by Councillor Hugh Evans, that Councillor Gwyneth Kensler be nominated Chair for the 2015/16 municipal year. There were no further nominations. Councillor Kensler thanked members for their support and was congratulated upon her nomination.

Election of Vice Chair – Councillor Martyn Holland proposed, seconded by Councillor Arwel Roberts that Councillor Ann Davies be nominated for Vice Chair for the 2015/16 municipal year.

Councillor Joan Butterfield proposed, seconded by Councillor Bill Tasker that Councillor Win Mullen-James be nominated for Vice Chair for the 2015/16 municipal year.

In accordance with the Council's Constitution, a secret ballot was undertaken for the proposed Vice Chair.

23 votes for Councillor Ann Davies
19 votes for Councillor Win Mullen-James

Councillor Ann Davies was nominated as the proposed Vice Chair for the 2015/16 municipal year. Councillor Davies thanked members for their support and was congratulated upon her nomination.

RESOLVED that Councillor Gwyneth Kensler be proposed Chair and Councillor Ann Davies be proposed Vice Chair of the County Council for the municipal year 2015/16 to be formally elected at the Council's annual meeting on 12 May, 2015.

7 APPROVAL OF FINAL BUSINESS CASE FOR YSGOL GLAN CLWYD REDEVELOPMENT

The Lead Member for Education, Councillor Eryl Williams, presented the report (previously circulated) seeking approval of the Final Business Case for Ysgol Glan Clwyd Redevelopment.

The Welsh Government had previously approved the Strategic Outline Case (May 2013) and Outline Business Case (October 2013) for this project. Approval would be required for the Final Business Case to be considered for approval by the Welsh Government.

The Ysgol Glan Clwyd project would provide an extended and refurbished school building to meet the growing demand for Welsh medium education in the north of the county.

The following points of discussion took place:

- The project had been a successful partnership between the Welsh Government and Denbighshire County Council. Members and Officers in Denbighshire felt very strongly about the Welsh language and this project needed to be promoted as "good news".
- This had been an eight year plan and figures had revealed the need for Welsh medium education was on the increase.
- Councillor Dewi Owens was the local representative on the Project Board and it had been recommended that Councillor Bill Cowie also receive copies of the Project Board papers.
- The Environmental Efficiency Officer had attended the previous Project Board meeting to clarify the future liability, maintenance and efficiency requirements.
- The design of the school had been paramount. The school had been involved in the design. Visits to other schools to inspect designs had been arranged.
- The issue of the reduction of Welsh provision for Junior schools had been raised. The Lead Member explained that the need for Welsh medium education within senior schools had been on the increase. Not only were

Welsh medium schools feeding into the senior school but also students from English medium schools and schools from bordering counties.

- The new Faith School plans were on track. There were issues regarding siting of the school but the business case would be drawn up and progress would be made by the Autumn of 2015.

Councillor Eryl Williams proposed the recommendation and expressed his gratitude to the Head of Customers and Education Support, Jackie Walley, and her team for all their work.

Seconded by Councillor Julian Thompson-Hill.

Members voted on the report recommendations as follows:

42 votes for, 0 against, 0 abstentions

RESOLVED that Council unanimously approve the Final Business Case for Ysgol Glan Clwyd.

8 WELSH GOVERNMENT WHITE PAPER - REFORMING LOCAL GOVERNMENT: POWER TO LOCAL PEOPLE

The Leader, Councillor Hugh Evans, presented the report (previously circulated) to seek Council's approval of a draft consultation response to the Welsh Government White Paper to be submitted on behalf of the Council prior to the deadline date of 28 April 2015.

The Head of Legal, HR, and Democratic Services had collated a comprehensive response setting out the main issues which the Council welcomed and providing constructive criticism where appropriate. In addition, the response set out issues which the Council disagreed with and believed may restrict the ability of newly merged authorities to perform well and improve.

In depth discussion took place and the following points were raised during debate:

- It was requested that a written request be sent to the Welsh Government on behalf of Denbighshire County Council asking for the cost of the Williams Report and the Boundary Review.
- The response to the Welsh Government White Paper to be forwarded to the appropriate Assembly Members, asking for their support.
- It was recommended that Members forward individual responses to the Welsh Government together with Group responses.

Councillor Hugh Evans proposed the recommendation, seconded by Councillor Martyn Holland.

Members voted on the report recommendations as follows:

36 votes for, 1 against, 0 abstentions

At this juncture the Leader informed Members of a joint Cabinet meeting which had taken place with Conwy last month. Conwy had approached Denbighshire with a proposal of forwarding a joint response to the Welsh Government White Paper.

The Chief Executive clarified that where there was common ground between Denbighshire's response and the response from Conwy, a joint response would be put together.

Councillor Stuart Davies proposed the joint response with Conwy County Borough Council, seconded by Councillor Peter Evans.

Members voted on the proposal as follows:

29 votes for, 7 against, 3 abstentions

RESOLVED that

- (i) *Council agreed the draft consultation response and approved its submission to the Welsh Government.*
- (ii) *the Leader and Chief Executive be authorised to discuss with Conwy County Borough Council a joint response on those issues of common support and concern and if agreement was reached, to approve a joint response following consultation with Group Leaders.*

9 INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL FOR WALES ANNUAL REPORT 2015/2016

The Democratic Services Manager, Steve Price, presented the report (previously circulated) to make Members aware of the Panel's determinations for 2015/16 in respect of payments to members and co-opted members.

The Panel's determinations would take place from the Annual Council which would be held on 12 May 2015.

An individual member could choose not to receive their basic allowance by putting the request in writing.

Councillor Julian Thompson-Hill proposed the recommendation, seconded by Councillor Martyn Holland.

Members voted on the report recommendations as follows:

34 votes for, 0 against, 2 abstentions

RESOLVED that:

- (i) *Members adopt the determinations of the Panel for the 2015/16 municipal year in respect of the payment of Basic Salaries and Senior Salaries and payment to co-opted members*

(ii) *Members determined the level of remuneration to be paid to the Chair and Vice-Chair to remain as 2014/15 for the 2015/16 municipal year*

10 COUNTY COUNCIL FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

The Head of Legal, HR and Democratic Services introduced the Council's Forward Work Programme (previously circulated).

RESOLVED that the Council Forward Work Programme be approved and noted.

Meeting concluded at 12.15 p.m.

Report To:	Council
Date of Meeting:	12 May 2015
Lead Member / Officer:	Cllr Hugh Evans, Leader, Cllr Julian Thompson-Hill, Lead Member for Finance, Corporate Plan and Performance, and Alan Smith, Head of Business Improvement & Modernisation
Report Author:	Carol Evans and Emma Horan, Strategic Planning Team
Title:	Corporate Plan 2012-17, Year 4 Delivery Document (2015-16)

1. What is the report about?

- 1.1 This report presents the Year 4 Delivery Document (2015-16) for the Corporate Plan 2012-17 and outlines Denbighshire County Council's contribution towards Denbighshire's Wellbeing Plan during 2015-16.

2. What is the reason for making this report?

- 2.1 A decision is required to approve the final draft version of the Corporate Plan Year 4 Delivery Document, attached at Appendix 1 to this report.

3. What are the Recommendations?

- 3.1 It is recommended that Members approve the final draft of the Delivery Document (Appendix 1) to enable it to be translated and published.

4. Report details.

- 4.1 A Delivery Document is created for every year of the Corporate Plan. Its purpose is to outline some of the key projects that will be started and/or delivered during the financial year for each of our priorities, with the intention of illustrating how the Corporate Plan affects the work that we're doing. We have used this opportunity to outline the council's contribution to Denbighshire's Wellbeing Plan during 2015-16. The document (appendix 1) will be published on our website so it is available for our regulators, the public and partners.
- 4.2 The activities originate from Service and Programme Plans. Progress will be reported to Performance Scrutiny and Cabinet via our Quarterly Performance Reports (Denbighshire's Wellbeing Plan is performance managed by the Conwy and Denbighshire Local Service Board). An overall evaluation of the council's progress in delivering the Corporate Plan will be included in the Annual Performance Reports published each October.

4.3 The activities highlighted within the Year 4 Delivery Document are designed to have a positive impact on our Corporate Priorities and communities' wellbeing, independence and resilience (Denbighshire's Wellbeing Plan).

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

5.1 The Delivery Document sets out the activity the council has planned for 2015-16 to support the delivery of its corporate priorities.

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

6.1 The Corporate Plan 2012-17 includes a five-year financial strategy which outlines the anticipated capital investment required to deliver the priorities. The Year 4 Delivery Document includes a section on the financial implications for 2015-16.

6.2 There is no additional funding available for the delivery of the Wellbeing Plan. Partners will carefully consider the business case for each proposed initiative, seeking opportunities for sustainable use of existing resources to meet the identified outcomes.

7. What are the main conclusions of the Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) undertaken on the decision?

7.1 An Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) was undertaken on the Corporate Plan and presented to Council on 9 October 2012. No specific Equality Impact Assessment is required for this report itself, but Heads of Service will need to consider the equality impact of individual activities mentioned in the document in order to ensure that they do not have any disproportionate detrimental impact on people who share protected characteristics.

7.2 An EqIA was undertaken for the Wellbeing Plan and concluded that the Plan does not adversely affect people from within the protected characteristics. However, EqIAs will be required for every Wellbeing Plan project.

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

8.1 The Delivery Document has been developed from activity identified from Service Plans for 2015-16 (which were agreed with Lead Members) and from Programme Plans. Activities have been further defined and refined via discussions with key personnel involved with their delivery. A draft was circulated to SLT and the Lead Member for Finance, Corporate Plan and Performance for comment before being presented to Council for approval.

8.2 In relation to the Wellbeing Plan, a detailed programme of engagement and consultation has been completed and the Wellbeing Plan has been formally endorsed by each public sector partner, including Welsh Government.

9. Chief Finance Officer Statement

9.1 Our Corporate Plan 2012-17 sets out our ambitious - but deliverable - priorities for the five year period. Some of these priorities will require significant capital investment, and the latest estimate assumes that the Authority will need to invest somewhere in the region of an additional £119 million pounds of capital funding in our priorities to deliver the Plan. It is assumed that £79m will be spent in the years 2012/13 to 2016/17 and £40m in the following two years. An update of the Corporate Plan was taken to County Council on 3 February 2015 and it was approved that the delivery of the Corporate Plan takes priority in future budget setting rounds. See Appendix 1 for more information.

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

10.1 There are no specific risks attached to this report. It is the role of our Corporate and Service Risk Registers to identify (and manage) the potential risk events which could lead to the council being unable to deliver its Corporate Plan and Wellbeing Plan.

11. Power to make the Decision

11.1 The Corporate Plan is a key element of the Wales Programme for Improvement (2010), which is underpinned by the statutory requirements of the Local Government Act 1999 and Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009.

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Corporate Plan 2012-17

Annual Delivery Document
2015-2016

This document is available on request in other languages and / or formats

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Os oes arnoch angen mwy o wybodaeth, gofynnwch os gwelwch yn dda i rywun yr ydych yn gwybod sydd yn siarad Cymraeg neu Saesneg i ffonio 01824 706161

If you need further information, please ask someone you know who speaks English or Welsh to telephone 01824 706161

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To make comments and suggestions or for further information please contact:

By **EMAIL**:

corporate.improvement@denbighshire.gov.uk

Or you can **TELEPHONE** the team on:

01824 706161

Or by **POST** at:

Strategic Planning Team,
Denbighshire County Council,
County Hall,
Wynnstay Road,
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LL15 1YN

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Introduction

Denbighshire County Council's Corporate Plan 2012-17 was agreed and published in October 2012. The Corporate Plan (www.denbighshire.gov.uk/corporateplan) explains the council's priorities, why these priorities were chosen, and what we expected to achieve by 2017. This Delivery Document 2015-16 explains what we expect to do in the forthcoming year to continue to support the delivery of our priorities.

'Supporting Independence & Resilience: Denbighshire Wellbeing Plan 2014-18' (hereafter 'the Wellbeing Plan') is a partnership plan, developed after extensive engagement and consultation with communities and partners, which steers the work of public sector partners in Denbighshire. We have also included in this Delivery Document details of some of the Local Authority's activities that contribute to the delivery of the Wellbeing Plan.

Performance for the Corporate Plan is monitored closely with annual reports on our progress published by 31 October each year – these are available from our website at www.denbighshire.gov.uk. Reports on performance towards the Wellbeing Plan are available from the website: <http://wellbeingplandenbighshire.org.uk> .

The Corporate Plan was challenging when it was first published and remains ambitious in its scale. The plan's challenges have been heightened as we have had to make unprecedented cuts to budgets and we have struggled to maintain business focus on our strategic vision. As we move towards its final year we remain determined to meet our objectives and achieve still greater improvement despite further financial pressures.

Financing Year Four of the Corporate Plan (2015-16)

Our Corporate Plan 2012-17 sets out our ambitious - but deliverable - priorities for the five year period. Some of these priorities will require significant capital investment, and the latest estimate assumes that the Authority will need to invest somewhere in the region of an additional £119 million pounds of capital funding in our priorities to deliver the Plan. It is assumed that £79m will be spent in the years 2012/13 to 2016/17 and £40m in the following two years. An update of the Corporate Plan was taken to County Council on 3 February 2015 and it was approved that the delivery of the Corporate Plan takes priority in future budget setting rounds.

The table below shows the total revenue (day-to-day) and capital (investment) spends against each priority for 2015-16. It also shows the proposed additional expenditure arising from the Corporate Plan. The expenditure shown includes capital funded by Welsh Government totalling £12.2m.

Denbighshire County Council Expenditure in 2015-16 (£000s)	Local economy	Education and schools	Improving our roads	Protection of vulnerable & independent living	Clean and tidy streets	Good quality housing	Modernising
Revenue	830	70,569	3,981	40,399	7,934	13,197	2,676
Capital	549	2,187	3,635	758	0	7,883	636
Proposed Corporate Plan	0	25,078	1,750	1,341	0	0	0
Total spend	1,379	97,834	9,366	42,498	7,934	21,080	3,312

We want to help businesses go from strength to strength, offering good quality, well paid and rewarding jobs for our residents; providing them with a means to enjoy a good quality of life in our towns and communities.

For this priority we have identified six outcomes that we aim to deliver for our communities between now and 2023 in line with our Economic & Community Ambition Strategy. Below is a selection of the activities we plan to undertake in 2015 - 2016.

Outcome: The right Infrastructure for Growth

- By March 2016, we will be providing advice, support and assistance to businesses to encourage them to make best use of the improved digital and mobile communications being rolled out across the county. For example, at least 25% of business premises will be signed up to superfast broadband, the number of voice-not-spots (2G) will be reduced by at least 50% and 3G and 4G reception coverage will be increased by 25% and 10% respectively.
- By March 2016, we will promote to the open market and secure developers / plans for employment sites at Nant Hall Road, Prestatyn, and Canol y Dre, Ruthin.
- By March 2016, we will have supported landowners / developers to identify opportunities to provide further business space at Cilmedw, Llangollen; Plas Clough, Denbigh; and Abergele Road, Rhuddlan.
- We will celebrate the opening of new businesses and the creation of local job opportunities at Station Yard, Denbigh.

Outcome: Supported and connected business

- We will increase the amount of contact that both our senior and front line staff has with businesses in order to better understand business pressures.
- We will make it easier for local businesses to find the right kind of advice and support.
- Based on feedback from our 2014/15 Business Survey we will support and improve opportunities for businesses to network with each other.
- By March 2016 we will make our business regulations easier to navigate and ensure that our practices support the development of local business.

Outcome: Opportunities for Growth

- We will work with local tourism businesses and operators to strengthen tourism in the county. For example, we will encourage hospitality and tourism venues to advertise access to WiFi aiming to see at least a 20% increase in the number doing so by March 2016.
- We will support Denbighshire Voluntary Services Council (DVSC) to grow social enterprise in the county through the development of a Social Enterprise Network.
- By March 2016 we will have researched and understood where potential for growth in new sectors of the local economy exists, including setting out the priority actions we will undertake to help secure this growth.

Outcome: High quality skilled workforce

- We will have signed up a further 35 local employers to provide high quality work experience placements and will be offering best practice careers advice and support in our schools by March 2016.
- We will have identified the advanced skills needs of growth sector companies in the county and will be working with schools and colleges to increase young people's awareness of employment opportunities in these areas.

Outcome: Vibrant towns and communities

- By March 2016 we will have made good progress implementing priorities emerging from the first town centre action plans, including a pilot programme to support and encourage independent retailers.
- We will continue improvement work in Rhyl, investing significantly in physical improvements to the High Street and the completion of Coastal defence works. We'll also be building our partnership approach with Neptune Developments in order to bring about new improvements to the seafront and an improved retail offer in the town.
- As part of our coastal facilities improvements the Nova Centre in Prestatyn will have undergone a £4.4m refurbishment and will be re-opened by the end of 2015.

Outcome: Well Promoted Denbighshire

- We will have started a campaign to promote Denbighshire as a great location for business, including marketing of key investment sites across the county.
- We will have completed improvements to our investment enquiry handling processes and provided clearer investment guidance in order to make it easier for businesses to relocate to and within the county.

Priority 2:

Improve Performance In Education And The Quality Of Our School Buildings

For this priority we have identified one outcome that we aim to deliver for our communities. Below is a selection of the activities we plan to undertake in 2015 - 2016 in support of this outcome.

Outcome: Students achieve their potential

- We will work with partners to identify, early on, children and young people who are at risk of disengaging from education, training or employment. The TRAC project – a regional project led by Denbighshire County Council on behalf of North Wales Local Authorities - aims to ensure that young people gain the appropriate holistic support to achieve the skills and qualifications required to enter sustained employment including the skills needed for economic growth across the North Wales.
- We will be continuing to work with our partners in the regional school improvement service (GwE) to raise standards and ensure that children and young people experience a good quality education and achieve their potential.
- We will continue to deliver on the ambitious 21st Century Schools Programme and make major improvements to the quality of school buildings and facilities including:
 - by March 2016 we will have commenced construction works for the extension and refurbishment of Ysgol Glan Clwyd
 - by March 2016 we will have made significant progress with the programme of works for the extension and refurbishment of Bodnant Community School
 - by March 2016 we will be close to the completion of a new school building for Rhyl High School
- We will continue to reduce our reliance upon mobile classrooms.
- We will celebrate teacher achievements and good practice by developing an award scheme (Excellence Denbighshire for teachers).

Within this priority we have identified one outcome that we aim to deliver for our communities. Below is a selection of the activities that we plan to undertake in 2015 - 2016 in support of this outcome.

Outcome: Residents and visitors to Denbighshire have access to a well-managed road network

- We will resurface many of the county roads, including
 - Abbey Street, Rhyl
 - Berwyn Street, Llandrillo
 - Fern Avenue, Prestatyn
 - Ponderosa, upper Denbigh Street, St Asaph
 - School Road, Ruthin
 - Vale Street, Denbigh

- Microasphalt will be laid at many locations, including
 - Brook Street, Llangollen
 - Windermere Drive and Service Road, Prestatyn
 - Derwent Close, Prestatyn
 - Coniston Drive, Prestatyn
 - Garford Road, Rhyl
 - Rhyl Service Road (parallel to Coast Road), Rhyl

- We will dress the surface of many county routes, including
 - Pant y Dulaith, Cwm
 - Llawog Farm to Llanynys, Denbigh

Priority 4:

Vulnerable People Are Protected

And Are Able To Live As Independently As Possible

For this priority we have identified two outcomes that we aim to deliver for our communities. Below is a selection of the activities we plan to undertake in 2015 - 2016 in support of each outcome.

Outcome: Vulnerable people can live as independently as possible

- We will develop services for Care Leavers commissioned through engagement and co-production with those in care/those who are no longer in care throughout 2015 – 2016.
- During 2015 – 2016 we will continue to develop person centred approaches to support and empower citizens to gain independence and achieve the outcomes that are important to them, including working with the Social Services Improvement Agency to test the National Outcomes Framework.
- We will test a different way of working with citizens at risk of losing their independence that is community focussed and geared towards promoting independence. This will be part of a national 'Community Led Conversations' programme run by the National Development Team for Inclusion (NDTi).
- We will develop, promote and publish the Older People's Strategy – Ageing Well in Denbighshire - which aims to work in partnership to support the development of five key areas of: age friendly communities, dementia supportive communities, falls prevention, opportunities for work and skills development and loneliness and isolation.

Outcome: Vulnerable people are protected

- We will develop a strategy by September 2015 to further strengthen the impact of early intervention services.
- During 2015 - 2016 we will develop and deliver an effective training programme for all staff in Children and Family Services to help and support vulnerable families.

For this priority we have identified one outcome that we aim to deliver for our communities. Below is a selection of the activities we plan to undertake in 2015 - 2016 in support of this outcome.

Outcome: To produce an attractive environment for residents and visitors alike

- We aim to identify and address the “Top 20 Eyesore Sites” within Denbighshire.
- We will pursue a campaign and actively engage with people in Denbighshire to tackle dog fouling with specific emphasis on patrolling “hotspot” areas.

For this priority we have identified one outcome that we aim to deliver for our communities. Below is a selection of the activities we plan to undertake in 2015 - 2016 in support of this outcome.

Outcome: Our housing market will offer a range of types and forms of housing in sufficient quantity to meet the needs of individuals and families

- We will develop new initiatives across the county to enhance tenant engagement and satisfaction. For example, implementing “tidy gardens” competitions and nominating community champions.
- We will publish the results of the 2014/15 Council Tenant survey and create an action plan to respond to any issues.
- We will develop and deliver a Housing Strategy and identify sites to become new council housing properties by March 2016. For example, by identifying vacant private sector dwellings to be converted into council housing.
- By March 2016 we will ensure as many Affordable Houses as possible are provided through the planning system and other methods of delivery, for example by the private sector.
- We will deliver an agreed strategic approach to extra care housing in Denbighshire by continuing to work with developers, housing associations and other partners to develop plans for two extra care facilities by 2017.

Priority 7:

Modernising The Council To Deliver Efficiencies And Improve Services For Our Customers

Within this priority we have identified two outcomes that we aim to deliver for our communities. Below is a selection of the activities we plan to undertake in 2015 - 2016.

Outcome: Services will continue to improve and develop

- We will start to digitise our archives service and modernise our libraries. In 2015 we will open a new customer service centre in Rhyl where customers will be able to access several services from one building. They will also be able to use the 'self- service' equipment available (with staff support) to use their on-line customer account to log enquiries, with the aim of resolving 70% at the first point of contact.
- We will develop better ways to meet customers' needs; by 2016 we will have implemented an online customer account so that customers can ask for advice/information, report problems, request services and make payments for Highways and Environmental services using self-service, with the aim of increasing the number of customers using on-line services to 70%.
- We will bring Children and Family Services and Education departments together to better meet the education, social care and health needs of children, young people and their families.
- We will set out a vision for our communities and agree actions that will address the challenges and opportunities they face, which will give them a more sustainable future. This will be published in city, town and area plans.
- We will ensure compliance with the Welsh Language Standards.
- We will keep examining the impact of budget cuts on the council's services and performance.

Outcome: More flexible and effective workforce supported by cost efficient infrastructure

- We will review our office space, implement new IT solutions and enable more staff to work flexibly. This means staff will be able to access the information they need and work from any location. This will reduce the time spent on business travel, making more efficient use of our office space, and will improve customer service. This way of working will reduce the council's running costs and carbon emissions.

- We will introduce new opportunities for people to join an apprenticeship scheme for the housing repairs and maintenance team and we will develop staff leadership skills.
- Implement the “Change Management the Denbighshire Way” project to launch support resources for managers, staff and members for managing change.

The Wellbeing Plan:



Cynllun Lles
Sir Ddinbych
Denbighshire
Wellbeing Plan



Bwrdd Gwasanaeth Lleol Conwy a Sir Ddinbych
Conwy and Denbighshire Local Service Board

Below is a selection of the activities we plan to undertake in 2015-16 to support the Wellbeing Plan. This is not an exhaustive list of what the council is delivering in relation to the Wellbeing Plan, nor does it include the activities that partners will be contributing during the financial year.

Be Active

- We will explore how we can work together to change our services so that they do not disable or restrict individuals' and communities' independence and resilience.
- We will work with partners to provide interesting and enjoyable leisure and cultural activities that improve people's health and wellbeing and increase people's independence, finding ways to encourage more people to get active and take part.

Connect

- We will work with our partners to help people make the most of their independence and resilience and reduce unplanned access to services, for example, Accident and Emergency. We will do this by identifying the small group of people who are in contact with more than one partner agency on a regular basis and may be using services in ways they were not intended.
- We will be introducing Individual Electoral Registration.
- We will extend free WiFi to all county libraries to meet the requirements of Welsh Government's Library Standards in relation to digital access and connectivity.

Give

- We will actively support community activities across the county in an innovative, coordinated and sustainable way to build upon the skills of local residents, the power of local associations and the supportive functions of local institutions. For example, using a methodology called Asset Based Community Development.

- We will improve the way we support the many valued volunteers who are involved in a range of council services, from Youth Services, Libraries, Countryside Services to Social Services. We will develop Kinetic, a new database for managing volunteering in Denbighshire County Council, which will be rolled out during June/July 2015. Subsequently a Partnership Volunteering Strategy to expand opportunities for staff to volunteer will be developed.

Keep learning

- We will promote and embed the Single Point of Access for adults who require information, advice and support regarding community health and social care. This will be further developed in 2015-16 with the creation of an information hub. This will enable people to find out about their own wellbeing and how they can improve it, for example by joining local groups, trying out a new sport, or learning new subjects.

Take notice

- We will improve the health and wellbeing of our pupils by monitoring the Estyn Inspection outcomes in relation to health and wellbeing best practice and we will continue to identify areas for improvement.

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Report To: Full Council

Date of Meeting: 12 May 2015

Lead Member / Officer: Ian Trigger, Chair of Standards Committee

Report Author: Lisa Jones – Deputy Monitoring Officer

Title: Standards Committee Annual Report

1. What is the report about?

This is the first Annual Report of Standards Committee to the Full Council and covers the calendar year January to December 2014 only. It is intended that the Chair will present their report on this basis annually from now on, to the Full Council, in order to keep Members informed of trends; issues in respect of compliance with the Members Code of Conduct generally across the County and the work of the Committee in driving up standards of behaviour at the County level, but also at Town, City and Community levels.

2. What is the reason for making this report?

It was agreed by Standards Committee that an Annual Report should be presented on the work of the committee and its findings and observations, to all Council Members as part of the Committee's drive to increase standards of ethical behaviour and compliance with the Members Code of Conduct.

3. What are the Recommendations?

That Members note the contents of the report.

4. Report details

- 4.1 Standards Committee main role is to monitor adherence to the Members Code of Conduct. All members are aware that their Code is founded (and should be read in conjunction with) the 7 Nolan Principles of Public Life. In Wales there are ten principles (those which were not included in the Nolan recommendations indicated with an *) as follows: -

Selflessness
Honesty
Integrity and propriety
Duty to uphold law *
Stewardship *
Objectivity in decision making
Equality and respect *
Openness
Accountability

Leadership

- 4.2 Standards Committee consists of the following Member types – 2 County Councillors, 4 Independent (co-opted) Members, and 1 Community Council Member (who is not also a twin hatted Member). The majority of the Members are therefore not elected, but are recruited from members of the public as per the requirements of the Standards legislation in Wales. The Committee can also only be quorate when at least half of those Members present are the independents.

Independent members are recruited via a public advert, which is open to all save for strict criteria in respect of previously being an Officer or Member of the Council within certain time frames, being of good standing and having certain attributes as laid down in the legislation. Other than this the opportunity is open to persons from all walks of life, in order to represent the views of the public with regard to the standards they expect of their elected members; and who will also then if required to do so, sit in judgement in respect of any references to the Committee from the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales, where there has been a breach of the Code of Conduct, which falls above the relevant threshold. The decision to investigate a breach, is at the discretion of the Ombudsman; based on the facts, evidence and nature of the breach and whether there is corroborative evidence or not, but also now if there is a public interest in exhausting time and public financial resources in the investigation and hearing itself; similar to the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) approach to charges and prosecutions.

The Committee which receives a reference from the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales following his investigation into the complaint, will then sit in a quasi-judicial capacity whilst they hear the matter. They have powers to suspend a Member from Office for a maximum of 6 months, during which time they will not be able to act in their capacity as an elected member and will not receive any member salary. The Committee has discretion to impose lesser sanctions such as a partial suspension from duties or a 'public censure' and to impose other conditions such as attendance at training.

There is also the option where the PSOW seeks the views of the Monitoring Officer and Standards Committee on whether in those circumstances where the Ombudsman decides not to investigate, that the Monitoring Officer may wish to investigate locally. In these circumstances, the Monitoring Officer consults the Chair and/or the Committee and each case is considered on its merits.

- 4.3 Prior to 2014 the Committee has been instrumental in the Council amending its Code of Conduct to make training on the Code a mandatory obligation for County Councillors; the introduction of a Self Regulatory Protocol, ensuring that County wide training to the County and 'Code' roadshow events are delivered by the Monitoring Officer and his deputy at the Town City and Community level, providing training to Chairs of Town City and Community Councils and publicity material to assist Clerks in the communities.

4.4 During the past year the Committee scheduled to meet five times and met on 4 occasions due to the October meeting being cancelled. The table below sets out a summary of the items under discussion: -

Date of Meeting	Report Items/Area s
31/1/14	Standing Item: Attendance at meetings Registration of Members Interests online Standing Item : overview of complaints in Denbighshire against Members
21/3/14	Standing Item: Attendance at meetings Annual Report of the Adjudication Panel for Wales PSOW Code of Conduct casebook Standing Item : overview of complaints in Denbighshire against Members.
9/5/14	Standing Item: Attendance at meetings Social Media Protocol Declarations of Interests by members of the County Council (a sample review by the Monitoring Officer) Standing Item : overview of complaints in Denbighshire against Members.
18/ 7/14	Standing Item: Attendance at meetings Adoption of a Forward Work Programme Public Services Ombudsman for Wales Annual Report. Standing Item: Overview of Complaints against Members.
17/ 10/ 14	Meeting cancelled.

4.5 Standing Items

There are now 3 standing items the Committee receives: -

- (a) Reports from Standards Members in respect of their attendance and observations at Committee and Council meetings whether at County or Community level. Denbighshire County Council Standards Committee is fairly unique in it's proactive approach to raising standards and awareness of the Code of Conduct. Committee Members attend to observe conduct and general effectiveness of the meetings; will then feed back to the Committee, who may make recommendations in respect of any training needs or trends or patterns of conduct in particular communities or at County level. Attendance levels vary from 3 to 6 visits by the Committee, between Standards Committee meetings. The majority of these attendances are selected randomly and are routine observation exercises; occasionally a particular Council is selected at the request of the Monitoring Officer, whose jurisdiction in respect of the Code of Conduct extends to town, city and

community councils. On the whole, the general ethical framework functions at a good level in the community; and this is reflected in the significant downturn in complaints to the PSOW.

The Committee is also keen to make it clear that their approach in attending in person at meetings is from a support and educational angle; in order to target resources in order to improve standards and the public's confidence in the vital work being done at community level, on a voluntary basis; and not from any enforcement or critical angle. The Committee fully recognises the value such councils and their members add to local communities.

- (b) Overview of Complaints lodged against Members with the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales. The report is presented in a closed session and members are provided with a limited amount of detail in respect of the complaint but with sufficient detail to enable members to consider if training or other actions can be recommended to particular town city and community councils which are experiencing issues or an increase in complaints.
- (c) Forward Work Programme. This is new initiative in order for the committee to adopt the same strategic approach as other Committees and to target its resources into priority areas.

4.6 Finally, on a regional note, a North Wales Standards Forum has been set up, which comprises the Chairs of all six Standards Committees in North Wales with their Monitoring Officers or Deputies in attendance. The Forum's remit is to share good practice and learn from our respective approaches in raising standards; sharing the cost of any training events and developed documentation which could assist Monitoring Officers, such as self regulatory protocols or standards hearing procedures.

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

A fully functioning and representative Standards Committee which upholds the high standards expected of members helps underpin the Council's exercise of its democratic functions.

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

There are no implications for other services as a result of this report. .

7. What consultations have been carried out?

No consultations have been carried out save that Standards Committee has been consulted on the content.

8. Chief Finance Officer Statement

Not required.

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

There are no identified risks.

10. Power to make the Decision

The Local Government Act 2000; the Standards Committee (Wales) Regulations 2001 and the Standards Committee (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2006.

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Report To: Full Council

Date of Meeting: 12 May 2015

Lead Officer: Gary Williams, Head of Legal and Democratic Services/Monitoring Officer

Report Author: Lisa Jones – Deputy Monitoring Officer

Title: Appointment of Lay Members to the Standards Committee

1. What is the report about?

To appoint two independent lay members to the Standards Committee.

2. What is the reason for making this report?

The governing regulations regarding the composition of the Council's Standards Committee requires a committee of between five and nine members comprising persons who are independent of the Council, County Councillors and Town and Community Council Councillors. Due to the retirement of two independent members it is now necessary to replace these members.

3. What are the Recommendations?

The recommendation of the Special Appointments Panel regarding the two individuals they consider most appropriate to sit as Lay Members on the Standards Committee are: -

- 1) Anne Mellor
- 2) Julia Hughes

4. Report details

Full Council will recall delegating the selection process to a Special Appointments Panel at it's meeting on 11 September 2012, this panel consists of three county councillors, one community council member and one lay member, which has interviewed candidates and now makes a formal recommendation to the Full Council.

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

A fully functioning and representative Standards Committee which upholds the high standards expected of members helps underpin the Council's exercise of its democratic functions.

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

The Independent Remuneration Panel sets the daily rate for independent members. It is a legal requirement that this rate is offered to independent members.

7. What consultations have been carried out?

It is a requirement that any vacancy for an independent member is advertised in at least two newspapers circulating in the area.

As regards the community member sitting on the Special Appointments Panel all town and community councils were consulted in order to consider putting forward a community panel member.

8. Chief Finance Officer Statement

There are no additional costs directly associated with the appointments.

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

There are no identified risks in proceeding with the appointments.

10. Power to make the Decision

The Local Government Act 2000 requires all local authorities to have in place a Standards Committee.

Report to:	County Council
Date of Meeting:	12 May 2015
Member Presenting:	Councillor Huw Hilditch-Roberts
Report Authors:	Scrutiny Chairs and Vice-Chairs Group/ Scrutiny Coordinator and Democratic Services Officer
Title:	Annual Report of the Council's Scrutiny Committees

1. What is the report about?

The Scrutiny Committees' Annual Report to Council for 2014/15.

2. What is the reason for making this report?

- 2.1 To present to Council the Scrutiny Committees' annual report on their activities during 2014/15.
- 2.2 To comply with Article 6.3.7 of the Council's Constitution which stipulates that scrutiny committees must report annually to full Council on their work and make recommendations for future work programmes and amended working methods if appropriate.

3. What are the Recommendations?

That Council considers the Annual Report of the Scrutiny Committees for 2014/15 and comments accordingly.

4. Report details.

- 4.1 The Constitution of Denbighshire County Council stipulates that the Authority's scrutiny committees will report annually on their activities during the year to County Council.
- 4.2 The Scrutiny Chairs and Vice-Chairs Group (SCVCG) wanted this year's Annual Report to follow the concise format which has been used in recent years. This gives the reader a brief overview of how scrutiny operates, the work committees have undertaken, and informs residents how they can participate and contribute to the scrutiny process. A copy of the draft report can be seen at Appendix 1 to this report. The more detailed report, which forms the basis of the summary version, will be sent to councillors under separate cover. This version will also be available on the Council's website.
- 4.3 As well as containing a summary of each scrutiny committee's resolutions, this year's report concentrates on outlining scrutiny's work in challenging the Council's plans to deliver its corporate priorities by 2017. Scrutiny's objective

in examining in detail these plans is to support the delivery of the seven corporate priorities which make up the Corporate Plan and assist the Council to realise its ambition of being close to the community.

- 4.4 As in recent years the Annual Report includes a form which enables the general public to suggest areas or services for scrutiny's consideration. The rationale behind this form is to try and generate public interest and improve residents' interaction with scrutiny in line with the Welsh Government's expectations for local authorities.

Wales Audit Office (WAO) Scrutiny Improvement Study

- 4.5 At end of May 2014 the Wales Audit Office (WAO) published its findings and recommendations following its national study on scrutiny in Wales. The WAO's report *Good Scrutiny? Good Question!* highlights the need to strengthen scrutiny's role across local government and public services in general. It also stresses the benefits of using scrutiny as a means for engaging with residents and service-users in order to make better decisions which lead to better outcomes for residents.

Welsh Government's White Paper on Reforming Local Government

- 4.6 In February 2015 the Welsh Government (WG) published its White Paper called *Devolution, Democracy and Delivery – Reforming Local Government: Power to Local People*. The White Paper sets out the WG's vision for local government in future, which includes its aspirations for scrutiny. This vision closely reflects the recommendations contained in the 2014 WAO report. Both documents can be accessed by following the links below:

Good Scrutiny? Good Question! <http://www.wao.gov.uk/publication/good-scrutiny-good-question-auditor-general-wales-improvement-study-scrutiny-local>

The White Paper *Devolution, Democracy and Delivery – Reforming Local Government: Power to Local People*. The link below should take you to the document on the WG's website, Chapter 8 *Strengthening the Role of Review*, sets out the vision for scrutiny:

<http://wales.gov.uk/consultations/localgovernment/power-to-local-people/?lang=en>

- 4.7 The SCVCG has considered both documents and, having regard to the recommendations of the WAO report and the vision outlined in the White Paper, in a bid to balance national and local priorities and ensure that scrutiny works for the benefit of local residents, it has asked the Council's scrutiny committees in future to focus on four key areas when setting their work programmes. These areas are:

- the corporate priorities and delivering the Corporate Plan;
- budget savings and their impact on Denbighshire and its residents;
- other high priority areas which scrutiny can influence and effect change; and
- other urgent or unforeseen areas of high priority

4.8 In future, when considering a request for a matter to be scrutinised, the SCVCG or individual scrutiny committees will apply the following criteria to determine whether an item merits scrutiny:

- is it a matter of public interest?
- does Scrutiny have the ability to influence or change things?
- does it relate to an underperforming service?
- does the matter affect a large number of residents or a large geographical area?
- is anyone else looking at it?

4.9 Looking ahead to the forthcoming year, representatives from the three scrutiny committees will be working together on the 'Cutting Our Cloth' Task and Finish Group, established to evaluate the impact of the budget cuts on the Corporate Plan, on residents and on the Council's performance.

5. 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, residents' wishes and within budget.

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

6.1 The publication of the Annual Report forms part of the regular committee reports despatch to county councillors and other recipients, therefore there are no additional costs entailed with its publication. The Annual Report upon approval and translation will be distributed to Council outlets such as libraries, One Stop Shops, leisure centres and to town and community councils, with electronic versions sent to all school councils within the County. It will also be available on the Council's intranet and website.

6.2 Any costs incurred with respect to the work of task and finish groups will be met from within the existing budgets.

7. What are the main conclusions of the Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) undertaken on the decision?

Effective scrutiny of Council policies, procedures and decisions should mitigate the risk of there being any adverse impact on people who share protected characteristics.

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

Members of the Scrutiny Chairs and Vice-Chairs Group have been involved with the drafting of the Annual Report and have been consulted on its contents.

9. Chief Finance Officer Statement

There are no significant financial implications resulting from this report. As mentioned in paragraph 6 above any costs relating to the production of the Report will be contained within existing budgets, as will any costs arising from the establishment of task and finish groups.

10. 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 Committees' Annual Report.

11. Power to make the Decision

Article 6.3.7 of the Council's Constitution stipulates that the Council's scrutiny committees must report annually on their activities to full Council.

Contact Officer:

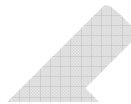
Scrutiny Coordinator

Tel: 01824 712554

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**Annual Report of Denbighshire County Council's Scrutiny
Committees 2014/15**



Summary Version

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Foreword

Denbighshire County Council's Scrutiny Committees examine the work of the Council and other public service providers across a range of topics to help ensure the delivery of quality services for the County's residents. In this Annual Report we give a summary of our Scrutiny Committees' activities during 2014/15, a year when difficult decisions had to be made on how services will be delivered in future.

Whilst councillors, Council officers and external partners contribute regularly to our activities we also welcome public attendance at our meetings. We want to encourage more members of the public to attend and contribute to our work to secure the best possible public services. This will help us make sure we are dealing with the matters that are most important to the community and that we are delivering quality services to you.

If you feel that there is a topic that we should look at, please let us know by completing the 'Scrutiny Request Form' or by contacting the Scrutiny Co-ordinator on 01824 712554 or email to dcc_admin@denbighshire.gov.uk

We hope that this document gives an insight into our work and we look forward to hearing from you soon.

Chairs and Vice-Chairs of Scrutiny

Communities Scrutiny Committee	Partnerships Scrutiny Committee	Performance Scrutiny Committee
		
Chair Cllr. Hilditch - Roberts	Chair Cllr. Chamberlain-Jones	Chair Cllr. Simmons
		
Vice-Chair Cllr. Mullen-James	Vice-Chair Cllr. Bartley	Vice-Chair Cllr. Roberts

This is a summary version of the Annual Report. The full report, which includes more information on committees' work and included details of all topics examined by the Committees, can be found on the Council's website on the link below:

<https://www.denbighshire.gov.uk/en/your-council/about-the-council/scrutiny-committees-annual-report-2014-15-en.pdf>

What is Scrutiny?

- 🌐 The Oxford English Dictionary defines 'scrutiny' as critical observation or examination. It derives from the Latin word 'scrutinium'/'scrutari' which means 'to search'

In the context of local government Scrutiny is:

- 🌐 a key part of the Council's political structure;
- 🌐 the Council's 'critical friend' – who is there to help improve services and make sure that the concerns of the public are heard

In Denbighshire many of the Council's important decisions are taken by the Cabinet - a group of elected councillors who take decisions about policy and procedures:

Scrutiny committees:

- 🌐 give the non-Cabinet councillors an opportunity to influence policies, review decisions, make recommendations, and examine a range of matters that affect residents.
- 🌐 hold the Cabinet and other decision makers to account on the decisions they take; and
- 🌐 if they believe that an issue should be looked at in more depth before a decision is implemented, can request a review through "Calling-In" the decision. Doing this allows Scrutiny Committees to formulate alternative proposals – this option is usually the last resort

How does scrutiny work in Denbighshire?

- 🌐 the Council's scrutiny work is undertaken by three thematic, cross-cutting scrutiny Committees:
 - Communities Scrutiny Committee;
 - Partnerships Scrutiny Committee
 - Performance Scrutiny Committee
- 🌐 that meet approximately every 6 weeks and comprise from members of all political parties/groups on the Council;
- 🌐 scrutiny committee operate on a non-political party/group basis (councillors political allegiances should be put on one side when serving on scrutiny committees);
- 🌐 In addition representatives appointed by the Church in Wales and the Catholic Church, along with representatives elected by parent governors also serve on scrutiny committees when education matters are discussed.

What have we been up to in the last 12 months?

Despite experiencing one of the most testing economic times within living memory the Council continues to be ambitious for its residents and committed to delivering its Corporate Plan by the time of the next county council elections in 2017. To realise this ambition it has had to rethink and revise ways to deliver the Plan.

Scrutiny has continued examining plans and proposals aimed at delivering the 7 corporate priorities which makes up the Corporate Plan. The examples below and overleaf illustrate some of the work scrutiny has undertaken to support the delivery of each corporate priority during 2014/15

Developing the local economy

- 🌱 monitoring the progress with the work to regenerate and reinvigorate Rhyl through the Rhyl Going Forward Programme;
- 🌱 examining the progress made in delivering the town and area plans for the County's market towns;
- 🌱 considering the findings of the traffic and parking review for the County's towns and making recommendations to develop a parking strategy aimed at supporting economic growth;
- 🌱 recommending that a Caravan Sites Strategy is developed for the County which will ensure that the area maximises the economic benefits from tourism by caravan sites operating as holiday sites and not residential sites;
- 🌱 assessing the impact of central government and European Government funding cuts on both the urban and rural economies and major regeneration projects, and exploring other potential funding sources for community projects e.g. windfarm community funding opportunities



Improving performance in education and the quality of school buildings

- regularly monitoring the results of pupils' internal and external examinations;
- monitoring the performance of individual schools through the School Standards Monitoring Group (SSMG);
- examining the statistics and the reasons behind the numbers for those students identified as 'not in education, employment or training' (NEET) to ensure that every effort is made to offer them the support they need to gain the necessary skills to realise their potential;
- monitoring the delivery of the 'Modernising Education Programme' which aims to provide high quality fit for purpose facilities to deliver education to 21st Century students;
- looking at whether all of our schools are delivering the curriculum in line with their language delivery designation i.e. Welsh medium, English medium or bilingual. This work identified a handful of anomalies which scrutiny will be involved with examining further in the forthcoming year;
- budget cuts identified inconsistencies with the interpretation of the Council's 'Home to School Transport Eligibility Policy', this resulted in the policy being reviewed making it clearer who would in future be eligible for free transport to their 'nearest suitable' school. Scrutiny supported the revised policy but requested that all current free transport undertakings are honoured until those pupils have completed their compulsory education.



Improving our roads

- 🌱 scrutiny acknowledges that a good, well-maintained road network is vital if we are to develop and grow our local economy, therefore it has examined the Highways Service's maintenance prioritisation process and recommended that a clear strategy is developed for the County's road network;
- 🌱 road safety is of the utmost importance, that's why scrutiny has been looking closely at the proliferation of unauthorised signs on roadsides and their potential dangers to road users and pedestrians. To deal with this problem scrutiny supported the implementation of a policy to remove unauthorised signs while at the same time working with businesses and community groups to permit certain types of signs to be erected;
- 🌱 the Highways Service, like all services, has been affected by budget cuts. Scrutiny examined and supported the Service's proposals to reduce the number of routes which will be precautionary gritted during the winter of 2015/16 – these routes will still be gritted when snow is forecast or falls.



Ensuring that vulnerable people are protected and are able to live as independently as possible

- 🌱 Denbighshire has an ageing population and the Welsh Government has a vision that in future vulnerable people, both young and old, should wherever possible be supported to live their lives as independently as possible. This vision has necessitated that the Council has had to redesign its social care services ready for the future. Scrutiny has been heavily involved with this work, particularly how adult social care services will be delivered. A Task and Finish Group was established to develop proposals on how these services can be delivered in future ;
- 🌱 In order for people to safely live an independent life the Council has to work closely with partner organisations, such as the Health Service. Scrutiny

meets periodically with representative from Health to ensure that the services both the Council and the Health Service provide support and complement each other e.g. the Single Point of Access for Health and Social Care Services;

- 🌍 Work to safeguard both adults and children has been monitored during the year as has the plan to establish a North Wales Regional Advocacy Service for Children and Young People;
- 🌍 Proposals to extend the licensing scheme for houses in multiple occupation in Rhyl were also examined and supported in a bid to ensure that people have decent homes to live in;
- 🌍 Vulnerability is defined as being at risk of emotional or physical harm, this means that every citizen of the County is potentially at risk of some type of harm i.e. flooding, anti-social behaviour or even food poisoning. Scrutiny therefore has looked at the County's Flood Risk Management Strategy, the work of the Community Safety Partnership, CCTV and compliance work in relation to food safety;



Making sure our streets are clean and tidy

- 🌍 Clean and tidy streets make life more pleasant for residents and visitors, that's why we have been monitoring the Council's performance in delivering its 'Streetscene Strategy' – making sure that enforcement action is taken against those who continually flout the rules on dog fouling, fly-tipping, littering etc.;
- 🌍 we have considered and supported a policy on the removal of unauthorised signs on the county's highways to make sure that they do not compromise road safety or make Denbighshire look untidy. However, we also want to make sure that people know that 'Denbighshire is open for business' therefore we recommended that a 'common sense' approach is taken with signs that do not pose a risk to road users' safety, signs immediately outside businesses

advertising what they offer as long as they do not obstruct users' thoroughfare, and temporary signs advertising community events.



Ensuring access to good quality housing

- as part of monitoring progress of the Rhyl Going Forward Programme scrutiny has monitored the delivery of the West Rhyl Housing Regeneration Scheme – which aims to renovate and bring back into use former houses in multiple occupation, as an appropriate mix of single person and family housing with adequate green spaces;
- proposals to extend the licensing scheme for houses in multiple occupation in Rhyl have also been considered and supported by scrutiny. This should ensure that people are not living in sub-standard accommodation;
- we have examined the work of contractors who undertook the refurbishment work on the Council's housing stock to bring it up to the Welsh Housing Quality Standard (WHQS) to ensure that they complied with their contract specifications. As a result we have recommended measures to improve contract award and monitoring processes for future large scale contracts;
- affordable housing to suit residents' needs is crucial if we are to develop our economy and retain our young people. Scrutiny members and other councillors have been working on developing proposals in this area during the year. The proposals should be available in the spring of 2015.

Modernising the Council to deliver efficiencies and improve services to customers

- delivering the Corporate Plan with ever decreasing financial resources is a particularly difficult task. To achieve this the Council has had to withdraw some services, redesign others, change long established working practices and sell some of its assets to enable it to deliver the services it is required by law to provide and those that will deliver the Corporate Plan. Scrutiny has

been actively involved with developing these through its work in budget workshops and various working groups;

- one of the budget cuts which has received particular attention is the withdrawal of the free green waste service and the introduction of the 'paid green waste' service. Prior to the new service's introduction scrutiny examined the initial take-up figures for the service, its potential for income generation and the estimated staffing reductions. As a result they have asked that the tonnage of residual (black bin) waste is monitored closely in case there is a marked increase which could incur extra landfill tax costs for the Council;
- throughout the year scrutiny members have been monitoring the delivery of the Agricultural Estate's Strategy for 2010-14 and the development of a future strategy for the Estate. This work culminated in a working group presenting a future management plan for the Estate to Scrutiny. The management plan, which scrutiny supported, will see Council owned farms sold over time as agricultural holdings, with the monies from the sales being invested in Council services and into delivering the Corporate Plan;
- through regular monitoring of the number and nature of complaints (and compliments) received by the Council, scrutiny is able to identify any problem areas and recommend changes that will improve services to residents



What else have we done?

Councillors who serve on scrutiny committees regularly sit on other groups or participate in a variety of other events such as the following

- 🌐 **Service Challenge Groups** (there is one of these for each Council service and a representative from each of the scrutiny committees serve on these groups where the heads of service and relevant officers are challenged about their performance and future plans for their services);
- 🌐 **Budget Workshops** (where future service provision within the money available to deliver them is discussed in detail)
- 🌐 **Strategic Investment Group** (where projects submitted for capital funding are discussed in detail, risk assessed, challenged and recommended for approval or refusal)
- 🌐 **School Standards Monitoring Group** (where individual schools' performance is monitored and challenged in the presence of the headteacher and chair of governors)
- 🌐 **Economic and Community Ambition Board** (at which proposals for delivering economic and community ambitions for Denbighshire are developed and the progress with their delivery is monitored);
- 🌐 **Corporate Equalities Group** (this Group oversees the Council's duties with respect to all types of equality matters)
- 🌐 **Other Task and Finish or Working Groups** (as and when Scrutiny or other Council bodies establish them. These groups exist for a limited period of time or for the duration of a review of a certain service or topic area)



Scrutiny members report back to their committees on the activities of the above groups and on other groups on which they serve.

Improving what we do

Across Wales there is a drive to improve scrutiny and get the public more involved with local authority scrutiny committees.

During the last year a number of national reports have been written which emphasise the need to strengthen scrutiny's role across local government and public services in general. They also highlight the benefits of using scrutiny as a means for engaging with residents and service-users.

If you are interested in reading these documents they can be found by following the links below:

-  Wales Audit Office (WAO) national study on scrutiny - *Good Scrutiny? Good Question!* <http://www.wao.gov.uk/publication/good-scrutiny-good-question-auditor-general-wales-improvement-study-scrutiny-local>
-  The Welsh Government's White Paper *Devolution, Democracy and Delivery – Reforming Local Government: Power to Local People*. (the link below should take you to the document on the Welsh Government's website, Chapter 8 *Strengthening the Role of Review*, sets out the vision for scrutiny:
<http://wales.gov.uk/consultations/localgovernment/power-to-local-people/?lang=en>

Here in Denbighshire, in an attempt to balance national and local priorities and ensure that scrutiny works for the benefit of residents, the Scrutiny Chairs and Vice-Chairs Group which co-ordinates scrutiny committees' work has asked the Council's scrutiny committees to focus on four key areas when setting their work programmes. These areas are:

- the corporate priorities and delivering the Corporate Plan;
- budget savings and their impact on Denbighshire and its residents;
- other high priority areas which scrutiny can influence and effect change; and
- other urgent or unforeseen areas of high priority

For this to work as effectively as possible we need the County's citizens to get involved with our work. We will be focussing on this aspect during the forthcoming year through our detailed work in evaluating the impact of the budget cuts, work which will be undertaken by the 'Cutting Our Cloth Task and Finish Group'.

If residents have a matter which they think could benefit from close examination by one of the scrutiny committees they can request scrutiny to consider it. To instigate a request they need to complete a 'scrutiny request' form, a copy of which can be found on 16 of this document. If you do have a matter of concern which you think may benefit from being examined please complete the form and return it to the

Scrutiny Co-ordinator at the address shown. If you need any advice about the process, the matter's suitability for scrutiny, or have any other enquiries with regards to scrutiny please contact the Scrutiny Co-ordinator. The contact details are shown below:

Scrutiny Co-ordinator, Legal, HR and Democratic Services, Denbighshire County Council, County Hall, Wynnstay Road, RUTHIN, LL15 1YN.

Tel: 01824 712554 (direct dial) e-mail: dcc_admin@denbighshire.gov.uk

Any request received for a matter to be examined will be considered by the Scrutiny Chairs and Vice-Chairs Group, who will apply the following criteria to determine whether one of the committees should examine the matter:

- is it a matter of public interest?
- does Scrutiny have the ability to influence or change things?
- does it relate to an underperforming service?
- does the matter affect a large number of residents or a large geographical area?
- is anyone else looking at it?



Now we really do want to hear from you - how you can participate in Scrutiny?

Would you like scrutiny to look at a particular matter?

You can raise a matter for consideration by one of Denbighshire County Council's scrutiny committees by filling out the Scrutiny Request Form (overleaf). The Chairs and Vice-Chairs of the three scrutiny committees meet every 6 weeks to decide how to allocate the work of the scrutiny committees and will consider if any matter raised should be examined in detail by one of the committees, or if another course of action should be pursued. This can range from a referral to the service responsible, to full scrutiny of the matter by one of the scrutiny committees, or even the establishment of a specialist 'task and finish group' to investigate and report on a particular matter.

Would you like to attend a meeting of a scrutiny committee?

Denbighshire County Council's scrutiny committee meetings are generally open to the public, and residents of Denbighshire and the general public are encouraged to attend. A list of upcoming scrutiny committee meetings and the matters to be discussed are available on the 'Scrutiny' page of the Council's website.

If you wish to take part in the discussion on a particular matter you will require the permission of the Chair of the committee (further details below).

Occasionally some items being discussed by a committee will contain confidential information and cannot be discussed in the usual public forum. Any such items (referred to as 'Part Two (II)') will be clearly identified when the meeting papers are published, and the Chair of the committee meeting discussing a 'Part II' item will make it clear that the meeting should continue without the press and public in attendance in order to avoid divulging confidential information.

Would you like to speak to a committee on an item being discussed?

Members of the public are very welcome to attend scrutiny committee meetings but will require the permission of the Chair of the committee if they wish to speak or make representations at a committee meeting. If you wish to submit evidence to a committee, or address members on your experience in relation to a subject under discussion, please contact the Scrutiny Co-ordinator in advance of the meeting so that this can be arranged and any paperwork can be circulated to members of the committee.

Occasionally scrutiny committees may wish to 'co-opt' an individual with particular experience or expertise to become a temporary member of the committee or ask them to contribute to an inquiry as an expert witness.

Keeping up to speed with decisions made by Denbighshire's scrutiny committees

You can keep track of what is being discussed at each scrutiny committee meeting, as well as any other public Council meeting, by visiting the 'meetings' page of the Council's website. The latest 'work programme' for each of the scrutiny committees is available with the meeting papers for each meeting and the confirmed agenda for each meeting will usually be available 5 - 7 days before the meeting is due to take place.

The minutes of previous scrutiny meetings and a record of the decisions made are also available on the Council's website.

Further advice or information is available by contacting the Scrutiny Co-ordinator, Rhian Evans on rhian.evans@denbighshire.gov.uk (01824 712554) or the Democratic Services Officer, Karen Evans, on karen.a.evans@denbighshire.gov.uk (01824 712575) or e-mailing: dcc_admin@denbighsire.gov.uk.

DRAFT

SCRUTINY REQUEST FORM

Is there something you would like scrutiny to have a look at?

Please give a brief description of the topic you would like to be considered by one of the Scrutiny Committees and why you think it should be considered

Would you like to attend a meeting of a Scrutiny Committee?

YES/NO

It would be useful if you could give us the following details so that we may respond to your request

Your name:
Address:

Postcode:
Email:
Telephone number:

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM TO: SCRUTINY CO-ORDINATOR, LEGAL AND DEMOCRATIC SERVICES, COUNTY HALL, WYNNSTAY ROAD, RUTHIN LL15 1YN or e-mail it to dcc_admin@denbighshire.gov.uk

Report To: County Council

Date of Meeting: 12th May 2015

Lead Member / Officer: Councillor Jason McLellan

Report Author: Head of Legal, HR and Democratic Services

Title: Annual Report of the Corporate Governance Committee

1. What is the report about?

1.1 The report is about the activities of the Corporate Governance Committee (the Committee) for the Financial Year 2014/15.

2. What is the reason for making this report?

2.1 To inform all members of the work of the Committee.

3. What are the Recommendations?

3.1 That members note the content of the report.

4. Report details.

4.1 The Council is statutorily required under the provisions of the Local Government Wales Measure 2011 to have an Audit Committee. The Committee is the Council's designated committee for this purpose. The statutory role of the Audit Committee is to review and scrutinise the authority's financial affairs, make reports and recommendations in relation to the authority's financial affairs, review and assess the risk management, internal control and corporate governance arrangements of the authority and make reports and recommendations to the authority on the adequacy and effectiveness of those arrangements.

The Committee is required to oversee the authority's internal and external audit arrangements, and review the financial statements prepared by the authority. The Committee is also the body that is responsible for keeping the Constitution under review.

4.2 The Council's Constitution provides that the membership of the Committee is made up of six elected members on a politically balanced basis. There is no statutory requirement for the Committee to be politically balanced. There is a statutory requirement to have at least one independent lay member of the Committee and the current lay member is Mr. Paul Witham.

4.3 Each meeting of the Committee is attended by the Council's s151 Officer, Monitoring Officer and Head of Internal Audit or their representatives. In addition each meeting is attended by officers of the Wales Audit Office.

4.4 The Chair of the Committee has prepared a report of the Committee's activities over the past year which is attached as Appendix 1.

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

5.1 The Committee's work in scrutinising the Council's financial affairs, risk management and corporate governance controls assists the Council in delivering the Corporate Priorities.

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

6.1 There are no direct costs associated with this report.

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.

7.1 An Equality Impact Assessment is not required for this report.

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

8.1 The Chair has provided a verbal report to the Committee.

9. Chief Finance Officer Statement

9.1 The Committee is a key part of the council's governance arrangements. Effective scrutiny of significant financial processes, systems and transactions is a vital element of internal control and provides a level of assurance to the wider council and other stake holders.

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

10.1 The risk of not having an effective Corporate Governance or Audit Committee is that there is no oversight of the Council's corporate governance which is a key component of good performance. Weak Corporate Governance can contribute to failures in service delivery.

11. Power to make the Decision

11.1 There is no decision required as a result of this report.

Report To: Council

Date of Meeting: 12 May 2015

Lead Officer: Head of Legal, HR and Democratic Services

Report Author: Democratic Services Manager

Title: Appointment to the North Wales Police and Crime Panel

1. What is the report about?

To appoint one member to the North Wales Police and Crime Panel (the Panel) for a minimum of one municipal year.

2. What is the reason for making this report?

The Panel membership includes elected members drawn from the six North Wales local authorities based on a politically balanced calculation and the resignation of Councillor Bill Tasker from the Panel necessitates a new appointment by Denbighshire County Council.

3. What are the Recommendations?

That:

- (i) the Council appoints one member of the Labour Group to the Police and Crime Panel;
- (ii) the appointment period extends until any subsequent decision by Council is taken to appoint to the Panel

4. Report details.

- 4.1 In line with the terms of reference for the North Wales Police and Crime Panel, each of the six local authorities in north Wales is able to nominate a member or members to sit on the Panel. This would normally be undertaken at the Annual Meeting of Council where timescales permitted.
- 4.2 The Panel consists of 10 elected members and 2 independent co-opted members. Conwy County Borough Council is the host authority for the Panel and provides its support services. The allocation of seats to each authority is based on the political balance and population distributions across North Wales as a whole. The *d'hondt* methodology is used to identify the number of seats each local authority is allocated and to which political group(s) they apply.
- 4.3 Based on population, Conwy, Flintshire, Gwynedd and Wrexham appoint 2 members each whilst Denbighshire and Anglesey appoint 1 member each. The size of the main political groupings across the councils in North Wales

determines how many seats each group or grouping is entitled to take. Labour and Independent have 3 seats each, Plaid Cymru has 2 seats, and the Conservatives and Liberal Democrats 1 seat each. To determine which authority appoints individual seats the Panel looks at how many seats a political party or grouping has in all the authorities combined and then sees which council or councils has the best claim to take the available seats. For example, Plaid Cymru has 69 seats across North Wales with 53.6% of them in Gwynedd. The Panel therefore allocated the 2 Plaid Cymru places to Gwynedd Council. Similarly, Conwy has the largest number (40%) of the Conservative councillors in North Wales and therefore takes the 1 Conservative seat on the Panel.

4.4 Following the 2012 local government election results (and the 2013 Anglesey elections) Denbighshire is allocated 1 labour member seat.

4.5 The Council can determine the period of time that the appointment is made, although this should not be less than 1 municipal year.

5 How does the decision contribute to the Corporate Priorities?

The Council has community safety responsibilities which are linked to the aims and activities of the North Wales Police and Crime Panel.

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

The appointment of a new councillor to the Panel is not expected to impact on services or create additional costs.

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.

An equality impact assessment is not required for this decision.

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

As the proposed appointment is a ring-fenced position Denbighshire's Labour Group have been made aware of the issues raised.

9 Chief Finance Officer Statement

There should be no additional costs to the council as a result of the appointment.

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

Failure to appoint a member would mean that Denbighshire's interests might not be adequately represented at the Panel.

11 Power to make the Decision

The terms of reference of the North Wales Police and Crime Panel in accordance with the *Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011*

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COUNCIL FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

Meeting	Item (Description / Title)		Purpose of Report	Council Decision Required (yes/no)	Lead member and Contact Officer
Council Briefing 1 June 2015	1	Looked After Children	A presentation from Children's Services	N/A	Cllr Bobby Feeley / Rhian Morlle / Liz Griffin
	2	Supporting Independence in Denbighshire	A presentation from Adult Services	N/A	Cllr Bobby Feeley / Phil Gilroy
7 July 2015					
8 September 2015					
20 October 2015	1	Annual Performance Report		Yes	Liz Grieve
	2	Annual Improvement Report		Yes	Alan Smith
Council Briefing 2 November 2015	1	Safeguarding and Protection		N/A	Cllr Bobby Feeley / Phil Gilroy / Leighton Rees
<i>(actual timing of this item is dependent on the WG's publication of its proposals in respect of the responses to the consultation on the Prof. Donaldson report which closed on 8 May</i>	2	<i>Successful Futures: Independent Review of Curriculum and Assessment Arrangements in Wales (Professor Donaldson Report)</i>	<i>To discuss the potential implications of the recommendations arising from the approved recommendations for children and young people in Denbighshire and for the local education authority</i>	<i>N?A</i>	<i>Cllr. Eryl Williams/Karen Evans</i>

COUNCIL FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

2015)					
1 December 2015					
26 January 2016	1	Budget for 2016/17	To agree the Council's budget for the 2016/17 financial year	Yes	CLlr Julian Thompson-Hill / Paul McGrady
23 February 2016	1	Council Tax	For Council to set the level of Council Tax for 2016/17	Yes	CLlr Julian Thompson-Hill / Paul McGrady
	2	Committee Timetable / Annual Review of Political Balance	To approve the committee timetable until the end of 2017 and review the political balance of the committees	Yes	Steve Price
Council Briefing 7 March 2016	1	Child Sexual Exploitation		N/A	CLlr Bobby Feeley / Nicola Stubbins / Colin Tucker
12 April 2016	1	Nominations for the Posts of Chair and Vice of Council	To agree the nominations.	Yes	Gary Williams
Annual Meeting 10 May 2016	1	Appointment of the Chair and Vice Chair of Council	For Council to appoint the Council's civic leaders for the 2016/17 municipal year	Yes	Gary Williams
COUNCIL BRIEFING 6 June 2016	1	Learning from Rotherham – Corporate Safeguarding Panel		N/A	CLlr Bobby Feeley / Nicola Stubbins
5 July 2016					
6 September 2016					

COUNCIL FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

18 October 2016	1	Annual Improvement Report		Yes	Alan Smith
COUNCIL BRIEFING 14 November 2016					
6 December 2016					

Note for Officers – Full Council Report Deadlines

<i>Meeting</i>	<i>Deadline</i>	<i>Meeting</i>	<i>Deadline</i>	<i>Meeting</i>	<i>Deadline</i>
		<i>May</i>	24 April 2015	<i>July</i>	22 June 2015
<i>September</i>	21 Aug 2015	<i>October</i>	5 Oct 2015	<i>December</i>	16 Nov 2015
<i>January 2016</i>	11 Jan 2016	<i>February</i>	8 Feb 2016	<i>April</i>	24 Mar 2016

Updated 6/5/2015 RhE

Council Work Programme.doc

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