

To: Members of the Cabinet

Date: 21 July 2014

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Dear Councillor

You are invited to attend a meeting of the **CABINET** to be held at **10.00 am** on **TUESDAY, 29 JULY 2014** in **CONFERENCE ROOM 1A, COUNTY HALL, RUTHIN.**

Yours sincerely

G Williams
Head of Legal and Democratic Services

AGENDA

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

1 APOLOGIES

2 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

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

3 URGENT MATTERS

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

4 MINUTES (Pages 5 - 10)

To receive the minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on 24 June 2014 (copy enclosed).

5 MODERNISING EDUCATION PROGRAMME (Pages 11 - 66)

To consider a report by Councillor Eryl Williams, Lead Member for Education (copy enclosed) providing an update on the Modernising Education Programme and seeking Cabinet approval for projects within the Programme.

6 DENBIGHSHIRE'S LOCAL FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT STRATEGY & FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT UPDATE (Pages 67 - 188)

To consider a report by Councillor David Smith, Lead Member for Public Realm (copy enclosed) presenting the Local Flood Risk Management Strategy for approval and providing an update on the November 2012 floods and December 2013 coastal flood event.

7 FINANCE REPORT (Pages 189 - 200)

To consider a report by Councillor Julian Thompson-Hill, Lead Member for Finance and Assets (copy enclosed) detailing the latest financial position and progress against the agreed budget strategy.

8 CABINET FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME (Pages 201 - 204)

To receive the enclosed Cabinet Forward Work Programme and note the contents.

PART 2 - CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

It is recommended in accordance with Section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972, that the Press and Public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items of business because it is likely that exempt information as defined in paragraph 14 of Part 4 of Schedule 12A of the Act would be disclosed.

9 RHYL NEW SCHOOL - CONTRACT AWARDS (Pages 205 - 230)

To consider a confidential report by Councillor Eryl Williams, Lead Member for Education (copy enclosed) seeking Cabinet's approval to the award of contracts relating to the construction of the Rhyl New School.

10 WEST RHYL COASTAL DEFENCE PHASE 3 - CONTRACT AWARD (Pages 231 - 238)

To consider a confidential report by Councillor David Smith, Lead Member for Public Realm (copy enclosed) seeking Cabinet approval for the appointment of the preferred contractor for construction works on the West Rhyl Coastal Defence Scheme (Phase 3).

11 APPROVAL OF TENDER FOR WEST RHYL GREEN SPACE CONSTRUCTION (Pages 239 - 278)

To consider a confidential report by Councillor Hugh Evans, Leader and Lead Member for Economic Development (copy enclosed) seeking Cabinet's approval to award a contract for the construction of the West Rhyl Green Space Development.

MEMBERSHIP

Councillors

Hugh Evans
Julian Thompson-Hill
Eryl Williams
Bobby Feeley

Hugh Irving
Huw Jones
Barbara Smith
David Smith

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CABINET

Minutes of a meeting of the Cabinet held in Conference Room 1a, County Hall, Ruthin on Tuesday, 24 June 2014 at 10.00 am.

PRESENT

Councillors Hugh Evans, Leader and Lead Member for Economic Development; Bobby Feeley, Lead Member for Social Care, Adult and Children's Services; Hugh Irving, Lead Member for Customers and Communities; Huw Jones, Lead Member for Leisure, Youth, Tourism and Rural Development; Barbara Smith, Lead Member for Modernising and Performance; David Smith, Lead Member for Public Realm; Julian Thompson-Hill, Lead Member for Finance and Assets and Eryl Williams, Deputy Leader and Lead Member for Education

Observers: Councillors Joan Butterfield, Jeanette Chamberlain-Jones, Meirick Davies, Gwyneth Kensler, Arwel Roberts and David Simmons

ALSO PRESENT

Chief Executive (MM); Corporate Director Economic and Community Ambition (RM); Director of Social Services (NS); Heads of Service: Legal and Democratic Services (GW), Finance and Assets (PMc), Children and Family Services (LR); Corporate Improvement Officer (NK), Section Manager: Network Management (TT) and Committee Administrator (KEJ).

1 APOLOGIES

Apologies were submitted on behalf of Councillor Eryl Williams who would be arriving late for the meeting.

2 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

No declaration of personal or prejudicial interest had been raised.

3 URGENT MATTERS

No urgent matters had been raised.

4 MINUTES

The minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on 27 May 2014 were submitted.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 27 May 2014 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Leader.

5 REGIONAL AND LOCAL ARRANGEMENTS TO SAFEGUARD CHILDREN AND ADULTS

Councillor Bobby Feeley submitted a report informing members of regional developments in relation to safeguarding children and presenting the structure for the regional Safeguarding Children Board for approval.

Members were advised of the steps taken by the three North Wales sub-regional Local Safeguarding Children Boards to move towards a regional structure as required by the Social Services & Wellbeing Act. It was proposed that statutory functions would rest with the regional North Wales Safeguarding Children Board and that sub regional groups would ensure that local practice met local need.

Cabinet sought assurances that the tensions created in response to the two tier structure had been resolved and that Denbighshire would not be adversely affected by the proposals. Assurances were also sought that adequate resources were in place to move forward. The Head of Children and Family Services (HCFS) advised that any transition had elements of tension and that the structural change would provide greater flexibility and deliver more benefits. He elaborated upon the distinctions between the current and proposed structure in order to provide greater clarity of purpose between the two tiers, ensuring localism was maintained whilst also delivering gains at regional level. He also confirmed there was agreed commitment of resources from partner agencies to progress the proposals which were thought to be adequate at this stage in its development. In response to further questions the HCFS reported upon the timescale to progress the arrangements confirming there was no particular reluctance to take on the role of host authority. Copies of Sheffield University's research report into the evaluation of the models were available on request to the HCFS or the Safeguarding Project Manager.

RESOLVED that Cabinet agree the structure for the regional Safeguarding Children Board (to be known as the North Wales Safeguarding Children Board) as detailed in Diagram 2 of Appendix 1 to the report, to take effect as soon as possible.

6 CORPORATE PLAN PERFORMANCE REPORT (QUARTER 4 2013/14)

Councillor Barbara Smith presented the report updating Cabinet on delivery of the Corporate Plan 2012 - 17 at the end of quarter 4 of 2013/14. The second year of the five year plan had just been completed and overall acceptable progress had been made.

Members' attention was drawn to the key performance summary detailed within the report and the 13 key issues which had been scrutinised by the Performance Scrutiny Committee. Councillor Smith highlighted some of those issues and provided an explanation and update on progress with those particular indicators. As a point of accuracy the Leader drew attention to page 44, outcome 5 – Rhyl Going Forward projects, advising that this indicator had not been withdrawn.

In response to questions posed by members during the ensuing debate the following responses were received –

- there was a discrepancy in the way the figures for fly tipping were collected and reported to the Welsh Government which was being further examined

- the indicator for delivering dropped kerbs had not provided an accurate reflection of progress and was now being measured against a revised deadline
- a significant increase in the installation and use of ICT equipment in primary schools had been attributed to the high electricity consumption but there may also be an issue with equipment being left on standby overnight which was being looked into
- the electrification of rail services was being progressed through the Economic Community Ambition Board with an economic growth case to support investment being developed
- the activity to “further exploit the potential of OpTIC and promote St. Asaph Business Park” had been discussed by the Economic Community Ambition Board and officers were working with the Welsh Assembly in that regard
- indicators relating to the number of mobile classrooms and levels of sickness denoted an improving trend
- figures relating to education had been brought forward from quarter 2 and would not change until the July data was published this September which would provide a clearer picture of progress
- it was acknowledged that two performance measures had been identified as “unknown” for (1) % of damaged roads and pavements made safe within target time, and (2) % of road condition defects resolved within timescale – the service was working to improve information retrieved from their software system and would be asked to expedite that process – Councillor David Smith also agreed to look into the matter
- a joint project was being developed by Property & Economic Development to identify strategic development/employment sites for inward investment.

The Leader asked officers to consider the questions raised by members when producing the next progress report.

RESOLVED that Cabinet notes progress made in delivering the Corporate Plan.

7 FINANCIAL OUTTURN REPORT 2013/14

Councillor Julian Thompson-Hill presented the report detailing the final revenue outturn position for 2013/14 and proposed treatment of reserves and balances. The final Revenue Outturn figures (Appendix 1); Service Outturn Details (Appendix 2); School Balances (Appendix 3), and Transfers from/to Earmarked Reserves (Appendix 4) had been attached to the report.

Councillor Thompson-Hill guided members through the detail of the report and appendices. In brief the overall outturn position showed an underspend against the approved budget which, together with an increase in the council tax yield, strengthened the Council’s financial position. Consequently it was possible to make recommendations for the transfer of funds to specific reserves that would assist the Council in addressing the severe financial pressures of the next few years and meet the cash commitments required to deliver the Corporate Plan. The final position resulted in £1.1m cash funding and it was proposed that £885k be used to contribute to the cash reserve element in the Corporate Plan and £250k be set aside as a capital spend to save reserve to explore the possibility of investing in foster care accommodation.

During consideration of the report discussion focused on the following areas –

- schools expenditure was £1.023m below the delegated budget and members discussed possible reasons for the underspend. Individual schools were responsible for their own delegated budgets and clarification was provided on the role of the Schools Budget Forum and officers in their financial management. Discussions were taking place with schools who had particularly healthy balances and support provided to schools in deficit. The good progress made by the two Rhyl Secondary Schools in reducing negative balances was acknowledged and it was noted that a financial recovery plan was in place for Ysgol Pendref and a new head teacher would be taking up position shortly
- the Corporate Plan required approximately £25m cash and £52m borrowing to deliver the council's ambitions. It was clarified that the total funding allocated to the Corporate Plan reserve within the year was £4.3m with a further £855k proposed as part of the final position. With expenditure of £797k against the reserve during the year, the final position at year end was £14.7m and delivery of the Corporate Plan was generally on track
- Councillor David Smith was pleased that the Highways and Environmental Services budget had broken even but expressed concern that the balance had only been achieved by using funds from other sections to cover shortfalls in areas the service had no control over, such as school transport – he referred to a forthcoming Freedoms and Flexibilities meeting to address this particular issue
- Councillor Bobby Feeley referred to the way social services was transforming with people being encouraged to be more responsible for their own health, wellbeing and independence. She stressed the importance of non-statutory services such as leisure, libraries and countryside services in that regard
- the Leader raised concern about the likelihood of a worse financial settlement for 2015/16 than had been previously indicated. In view of the impact on the future provision of services he asked councillors linked to political parties to start lobbying on behalf of residents to influence that debate at a national level. The Chief Executive advised that the council had a robust financial planning strategy in place but raised serious concerns over the planning and delivery of the significant cuts which had been suggested at such a late stage in the financial year. Councillor Thompson-Hill added that a clear statement was needed from the Welsh Government as to what reductions in budget would be required.

RESOLVED that Cabinet agrees to recommend to full Council –

- (a) *the final revenue outturn position for 2013/14, and*
- (b) *the treatment of reserves and balances as detailed in the report.*

At this juncture (11.30 a.m.) the meeting adjourned for a refreshment break.

8 FINANCE REPORT

Councillor Julian Thompson-Hill presented the report detailing the latest financial position and progress against the agreed budget strategy. He provided a summary of the Council's financial position, particularly relating to –

- the council's net revenue budget – £188m for 2014/15 (£192m in 2013/14)
- individual service budgets and savings agreed for 2014/15
- there being no variances at this early stage but risks had been previously reported within the Environment and Highways Service and actions were being taken to try to contain the pressures within the service budget
- a general update on the Corporate Plan; Housing Revenue Account; Treasury Management and the Capital Plan.

Members discussed the following –

- West Rhyl Housing Improvement Project – Councillor Eryl Williams asked whether the Welsh only name 'Gerddi Heulwen' could be used for the new development. The Corporate Director Economic and Community Ambition understood that was the intention of the Project Board but agreed to confirm.
- Registration of Electors (Legal and Democratic Services) – Councillor Huw Jones queried the budget available to deal with the onset of individual electoral registration and the Head of Legal and Democratic Services advised that grant funding had been provided for the necessary software and the process involved data matching as opposed to employing canvassers
- Councillor Gwyneth Kensler felt that where an income column had been produced within the appendices a further breakdown into grants and/or fees and payments would be useful for future reports
- Councillor Bobby Feeley reported upon the number of full time equivalent staff employed by the authority over the last five years which showed little change from 3958.99 in 2009/10 to 3949.89 in March 2014. Possible explanations for the figures were discussed and it was agreed that a report be produced providing a definitive explanation as to jobs lost and new ones created
- Councillor Eryl Williams highlighted the Council's success in progressing projects under the 21st Century Schools programme and heralded Ysgol Maes Hyfryd Site as the first school to be built as part of that programme.

RESOLVED that Cabinet note the budgets set for 2014/15 and progress against the agreed budget strategy.

9 CABINET FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

Councillor Hugh Evans presented the Cabinet Forward Work Programme for consideration and members noted the following two additions –

- West Rhyl Coastal Defence Works Phase 3 – 29 July
- Treasury Management Report – 30 September

RESOLVED that Cabinet's Forward Work Programme be noted.

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED that under Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972, the Press and Public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds

that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 14 of Part 4 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972

10 NORTH WALES REGIONAL ADVOCACY SERVICE FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Councillor Bobby Feeley presented the confidential report seeking Cabinet approval for the commissioning of the advocacy service on a regional basis in partnership with the six North Wales local authorities.

Cabinet considered the business case for the regional advocacy project and sought clarification on the particulars of the collaborative agreement and commitment of all partners. The agreement would bind all six authorities for the period of the contract. The Chair of Partnerships Scrutiny Committee, Councillor Jeanette Chamberlain-Jones confirmed the business case had been debated at scrutiny and their recommendations had been included within the report.

RESOLVED *that Cabinet –*

- (a) approves the commissioning of the advocacy service on a regional basis in partnership with the six North Wales local authorities, and*
- (b) notes that the development of the new regional service would require the tendering process to commence in July 2014 in preparation for commissioning from April 2015 and that this option also provides an opportunity to make savings and to address some issues identified through the service specification.*

11 APPOINTMENT OF A CONTRACTOR FOR THE A548 FORYD (BLUE) BRIDGE - EAST ABUTMENT STRENGTHENING SCHEME 2014

Councillor David Smith presented the confidential report seeking Cabinet approval for the appointment of the preferred contractor.

Cabinet was advised of the works required to the Foryd Bridge to strengthen the East Reinforced Concrete Structure together with the timescale for the project. Details of the tendering process had been provided which included the result of the tender review and recommendation to award the contract.

Officers responded to questions regarding the complexities of the contract and confirmed that the local sustainability element had been included as part of the evaluation process. Assurances were also provided that sufficient notice would be given of traffic management arrangements including road closure. Officers were asked to consider the possibility of commuters leaving their vehicles in the vicinity overnight at the time of road closure and to plan accordingly.

RESOLVED *that Cabinet approves the appointment of the named contractor as recommended in the report.*

The meeting concluded at 12.20 p.m.

Report To: Cabinet

Date of Meeting: 29th July 2014

Lead Member / Officer: Councillor Eryl Williams, Lead Member for Education

Report Author: Head of Customers and Education Support

Title: Modernising Education Programme

1. What is the report about?

This report is to update Cabinet Members of the progress on the Modernising Education Programme, and in particular seek approval for projects within the Programme. It also provides an overview of potential projects to be funded as part of the Corporate Plan.

2. What is the reason for making this report?

The Council is progressing an ambitious programme for investment in the school estate. This report provides information for Members to review current progress and understand the capital required for all of the projects. It also seeks approval to progress to the next stage of work for some projects.

3. What are the Recommendations?

Cabinet are asked:

- (i) To authorise the commencement of feasibility studies in respect of the projects set out in Appendix 2, the completion of which will be subject of future budget decisions.**
- (ii) To note the authority will continue to maintain provision at Ysgol Borthyn.**
- (iii) To note the requirement to consult on the future of Ysgol Rhewl following the feasibility study of the Glasdir site.**
- (iv) To approve proceeding to formal consultation for the proposed change to a school with a religious designation for Ysgol Esgob Morgan by closing it as a community school and re-opening it as a Church in Wales Voluntary Controlled school as of the 1st September 2015.**

4. 21st Century Schools Programme

4.1 The 21st Century Schools Programme continues to make progress with the business case approval mechanisms now completed for 3 of the 5 projects as illustrated below. The current financial commitments for 21st Century Schools Programme are attached in Appendix 1.

Project	Strategic Outline Case (SOC)	Outline Business Case (OBC)	Full Business Case (FBC)	Business Justification Case (BJC)	Timelines
Rhyl New School	Approved September 2013	Combined Business Case Approved March 2014			Anticipated Completion date – January 2016
Ysgol Glan Clwyd	Approved May 2013	Approved October 2013	Scheduled to be submitted Spring 2015		Anticipated Completion date – July 2017
Shared Faith Secondary	Submitted May 2014	tbc	Tbc		Anticipated Completion date – August 2018
Ysgol Bro Dyfrdwy				Approved April 2013	Completed – March 2014
Bodnant Community School				Approved April 2013	Anticipated Completion date – July 2016

4.2 Rhyl New School Project

4.3 In February 2014 Council gave approval for the Full Business Case for the Rhyl New School project to be submitted to the Welsh Government who subsequently confirmed their approval in April 2014. A separate Part II report is on this agenda regarding the next steps for this project.

4.4 Bodnant Community School

4.5 The Bodnant Community School extension project continues to progress. Members approved the Detailed Design stage of this project in February 2013. The Business Justification Case was approved by the Welsh Government in April 2013 and this allowed the Council to enter into a contract with the Welsh Government for the sum of £1.67m as their element of match funding for the project. Approval will be sought via the Council's regular Capital reports for the remainder of the Council's contribution of approximately £1.411m towards this project.

- 4.6 The planning application was submitted in June 2014, and is scheduled to be determined in July 2014. The current project timetable suggests an award of contract by November 2014. This should enable commencement of works by the start of 2015 and an estimated completion date of July 2016.
- 4.7 Faith Schools
- 4.8 The Strategic Outline Case for the Faith Secondary School project has been submitted to the Welsh Government and this will be considered in July. The Welsh Government have confirmed that *“the funding arrangements for Voluntary Aided schools within 21st Century Schools is an intervention rate of up to 85% from Welsh Government and 15% from the VA sector. The 85% will need to be sourced at programme level from Welsh Government’s 50% of your current programme costs this means that the 35% you would have initially had earmarked as your contribution may be deployed to other projects in your band A programme. I can confirm that this percentage share will be reflected in the issue of our grant award letters for business cases already approved or to be approved to ensure Welsh Government’s 50% share of the programme remains as was approved by the Minister for Education and Skills.”* In view of this statement further dialogue is taking place with the Welsh Government.
- 4.9 The proposal endorsed by the Bishop of Wrexham and the Bishop of St Asaph is for St Brigids and Blessed Edward Jones to be closed as of August 2018 and for a new shared faith secondary school to be built for 750 pupils, of an age range 11-16 to be built in the Rhuddlan / Bodelwyddan area and to be opened on 1st September 2018. All of the promoters expressed their preferences from the long list of options which included the existing schools sites. Denbighshire expressed a preference for a Rhyl location whilst the Diocesan Authorities expressed a preference for the Rhuddlan / Bodelwyddan area. Based on these views the consensus for the Rhuddlan / Bodelwyddan area emerged. A further option to be explored with the St Brigid’s trust and the Catholic Diocesan of Wrexham would be for the retention of the primary provision of St Brigid’s on the existing site. Work is being done to assess the potential sites for the new school. Following completion of this feasibility work permission will be sought from Cabinet to commence formal consultation in early 2015.
5. **Corporate Plan Funding**
- 5.1 As part of the Council’s Corporate Plan members made a commitment to invest a further £23million to implement the area reviews, refurbishments and other improvements to our schools. Appendix 2 to this report provides an overview of the potential projects which could be developed over the next few years. The timing of these projects will be dependent upon the overall resources available. To enable projects to commence approval is sought initially for feasibility funding to develop the main options for capital investment arising from the Ruthin Primary review.

5.2 Ruthin Review

5.3 Cabinet during 2013 gave approval to a range of proposals for reviewing primary school provision in the Ruthin area. Appendix 3 provides an overview of progress for all six proposals. Three of the six areas will be dependent upon the allocation of capital resources and these are detailed below.

5.4 Ruthin Town Schools – Glasdir site

5.5 Cabinet gave their approval to consider the future of Rhos Street School, Ysgol Borthyn, Ysgol Pen Barras and Ysgol Rhewl in connection with options for the development of the Glasdir site. The findings of the Ruthin review and the subsequent proposal for the closure of Ysgol Llanbedr showed a strong commitment to the requirement to maintain Ysgol Borthyn as an English medium faith school to serve the town of Ruthin and the wider community. Current and future pupil numbers remain strong and therefore for the purpose of future proposals the focus will be on Rhos Street School, Ysgol Penbarras and Ysgol Rhewl. The progress of developing options has initially focussed on flood risk issues and land availability.

5.6 The flood line remains a sufficient distance away from the land proposed to be used for a school build. During the Strategic Flood Assessment meeting held in the spring of 2014 no significant issues were envisaged regarding the site. A potential risk around the 'overflow' route from the stream through the site (in the event of flooding) has been identified. However, Natural Resources Wales have expressed confidence that this could easily be overcome and they have requested that Denbighshire works with them at the earliest stages of any proposals to build to negate this risk.

5.7 At this stage agreement is sought to fund further feasibility works on the options. The findings of this work will provide greater clarity over a range of issues such as traffic implications, confirmation of land availability and the clarification of likely costs for this option. This will enable a full Business Case to be considered within the next 6 months. The agreement of the Business Case and the progression of this project would allow the Cabinet to give full consideration to the future status of Ysgol Rhewl. This Business Case would need to consider whether this investment in school facilities at the Glasdir site would allow the option of closing Ysgol Rhewl to be proposed at this stage. The indicative timescales suggest that this consultation would commence in early 2015.

5.8 Ysgol Carreg Emlyn - New Area school for Clocaenog and Cyffylliog

5.9 Cabinet approved the implementation of the statutory notice to amalgamate Ysgol Clocaenog and Ysgol Cyffylliog as of 1st September 2014 and for the new school, to be known as Ysgol Carreg Emlyn, to operate from their existing sites. The long term aspiration is to build a new school on one site.

5.10 As part of the discussions about the area School for Clocaenog and Cyffylliog, initial feasibility works were commenced to examine potential sites. The

findings indicate that there are a couple of suitable sites in the village of Clocaenog which could accommodate a school of a potential size of 105 full time pupils.

- 5.11 The next stage will be for the options identified to be considered and for a business case to be developed on a preferred option. It is anticipated that this will be presented to the Strategic Investment Group in the autumn.
- 5.12 New Area school for Llanfair and Pentrecelyn
- 5.13 During May 2014 it became apparent that the preferred option for Ysgol Llanfair and Ysgol Pentrecelyn to federate would not be permitted under new Welsh Government regulations. Alternative options are being explored by both governing bodies including the option of moving straight to the development of a new area school for Ysgol Llanfair and Ysgol Pentrecelyn.
- 5.14 Approval is sought to provisionally allocate a sum of £10k for feasibility works to identify whether the potential sites in the Llanfair area would be capable of accommodating a new school in the region of 140 pupils. Any further investment would be dependent upon securing approval for the amalgamation of the two existing schools.
- 5.15 School Site Traffic Management
- 5.16 As part of investment plans the need to address traffic issues on school sites needs to be considered. Previously a block allocation had been made on an annual basis to address the high risk sites. All school sites have been assessed by the corporate Health and Safety Officer and there are a small number of high risk sites outstanding. The Strategic Investment Group approved £400k in principle subject to detailed business cases being approved for works for the high priority sites at Ysgol Dewi Sant, Rhyl and Ysgol Llewelyn, Rhyl to be completed by the autumn of 2015.
- 5.17 Ysgol Pendref
- 5.18 The Council amalgamated Ysgol Gwaenynog and Ysgol Heulfre in Denbigh in 2012 to create Ysgol Pendref. The school remains in two buildings on an adjoining site. The long term aspiration remains for one building to be extended to allow for the release of all or part of the other site.
- 5.19 Rhyl Primary Provision
- 5.20 There is an emerging requirement to consider the options to meet the growing demand for pupil places in the primary sector in Rhyl. Current pupil projections suggest that the overall number of pupils will increase from 2672 as of 2015 to 2785 by 2019. This will create a situation where the level of surplus places in the town will reduce from 5.7% in 2015 to 1.7% (48 places) out of a total pupil capacity of 2833.

5.21 Bodelwyddan Key Strategic Site

- 5.22 Discussions are being progressed with Barwood, the developer for the key strategic site in Bodelwyddan, regarding options for future primary school provision. The current primary school is at capacity and any growth in housing in the area will place pressures upon local schools. The discussions are focussed on seeking financial contributions to ensure that the need for additional places is met by the developer.

6. **Future Area Reviews – Primary Provision**

- 6.1 Over the last four years the Council has completed primary area reviews for the Dee Valley East, Edeyrnion and Prestatyn areas and is in the process of completing the Ruthin area based on the proposals approved by Cabinet last June and October.
- 6.2 This leaves three areas to be reviewed in the future; Denbigh, St Asaph and Rhyl. To date the focus of primary reviews has been the need to reduce surplus places. Currently on an area basis surplus places are 9.17% in Denbigh, 2.56% in St Asaph and 7.94% in Rhyl and it is forecast that due to demographic pressures the surplus will reduce further in these areas.
- 6.3 Clearly the issue of surplus places will not be a driver for these reviews and the demands of any review are likely to pose different issues. Predominately in these three areas the issues to be addressed are meeting likely growth from the Key Strategic Site at Bodelwyddan, addressing infant and junior amalgamation and the need for investment to improve the school estate.
- 6.4 It is suggested that reviews are carried out in two distinct geographical areas : North of the A55 and South of the A55. This would allow the opportunity to consider growth in areas such as Bodelwyddan and Rhyl together whilst allowing for a wider solution to emerge for the St Asaph and Denbigh area together.

7. **Religious Designation of Ysgol Esgob Morgan**

- 7.1 At present there are two primary schools in St Asaph, namely St Asaph Infants Voluntary Controlled School and Ysgol Esgob Morgan Junior school. Following representations from the Governing Body of Ysgol Esgob Morgan and the Church in Wales, Cabinet are asked to provide permission to commence consultation on proposals to alter the designation of Ysgol Esgob Morgan from Community school to Voluntary Controlled under the auspices of the Church in Wales. The draft consultation paper is included as Appendix 4. The Church in Wales Diocesan Authority as a co-promoter has been consulted on the proposal in accordance with the School Organisation Code. They met on the 8th July and have confirmed their unanimous support to the proposal.
- 7.2 The proposal would require Denbighshire to close Ysgol Esgob Morgan as a Community School as of the 31st August 2015 and concurrently the Church in Wales in partnership with the Governing Body of Ysgol Esgob Morgan would

publish proposals to open Ysgol Esgob Morgan as a Voluntary Controlled School as of the 1st September 2015. It is anticipated that the formal consultation on this proposal would commence on the 8th September until the 22nd October 2014. Following this, Cabinet and the Church in Wales Diocesan Authority would need to consider the findings of the consultation and agree whether to proceed to the next stage which would be the publication of statutory notices.

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

- 8.1 The proposal will support the corporate priority of “improving performance in education and the quality of our school buildings”.

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

- 9.1 The overall cost of the 21st Century Schools Programme is £73.4m and provisional allocations have been made by Denbighshire for its overall 50% contribution. The remaining 50% will be accessed via the Welsh Government and approvals have been received for 3 of the 5 projects to date. The allocation of funding by the Welsh Government for the faith school will have a significant impact on the programme. The Corporate Plan also included an aim to invest a further £23m to implement the outcomes of the area reviews, refurbishments and other improvements to schools.

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

The main decision within the report is to proceed towards consultation regarding the status of Ysgol Esgob Morgan of changing from a community school to a voluntary controlled school. The findings of the impact assessment suggest that the proposal would have a positive impact on religion. (see Appendix 5)

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

- 11.1 The options for investment for 21st Century Schools has previously been approved by Cabinet and discussed with Scrutiny. The options for investment in the Corporate Plan were discussed with Communities Scrutiny Committee on the 24th June and the Committee supported the ambitious vision for modernising education facilities across the County.

12. Chief Finance Officer Statement

- 12.1 The report highlights the aspiration to invest in a significant school improvement programme. The figures quoted need to be reviewed to take account of the latest assumptions in respect of both internal and external funding, costs and cash-flow. Future internal contributions will have to be assessed as part of the annual budget round.

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

13.1 There are a number of risks currently being managed at a programme level by the Modernising Education Programme Board. All individual projects will include risk management procedures.

14. Power to make the Decision

The proposals are in accordance with the Modernising Education Policy Framework.

The School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013 provides the legislative requirement for local authorities to review school proposals and to progress proposals to reconfigure school provision.

Appendix 1

	21st Century Schools time period 2014/2019										
	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/2021	Total	
21st Century Schools Band A Projects As at July 2014											
Community Schools 50/50 split											
DCC											
Rhyl High School / Ysgol Tir Morfa	£24,945	£1,053,080	£2,713,282	£8,272,073	£229,670					£12,293,050	
Ysgol Glan Clwyd		£5,057		£3,094,104	£4,560,481	£534,565	£243,826			£8,438,033	
Bodnant Community School		£69,310	£154,695	£863,877	£562,193	£60,973				£1,711,048	
Ysgol Bro Dyfrdwy	£4,770	£81,022	£38,697	£88,397						£212,886	
Total	£4,770	£105,967	£1,166,144	£2,956,374	£12,230,054	£5,352,344	£595,538	£243,826	£0	£0	£22,655,017
WG											
Rhyl High School / Ysgol Tir Morfa			£4,232,326	£7,758,397	£302,327					£12,293,050	
Ysgol Glan Clwyd			£465,443	£1,911,729	£4,560,480	£524,315				£7,461,967	
Bodnant Community School			£464,880	£1,235,120						£1,700,000	
Ysgol Bro Dyfrdwy		£1,170,000	£30,000							£1,200,000	
Total	£0	£1,170,000	£5,192,649	£10,905,246	£4,862,807	£524,315	£0	£0	£0	£22,655,017	
Faith Schools 85/15 - £28m											
DCC											
WG		£12,624	£97,376	£42,000	£2,887,503	£266,274	£266,274			£3,572,051	
Total	£0	£12,624	£97,376	£42,000	£5,104,309	£11,653,231	£6,904,131	£0	£0	£20,241,620	
Overall Requirements											
Rhyl High School / Ysgol Tir Morfa	£24,945	£1,053,080	£6,945,608	£16,030,470	£531,997	£0	£0	£0		£24,586,100	
Ysgol Glan Clwyd	£0	£5,057	£465,443	£5,005,833	£9,120,961	£1,058,880	£243,826	£0		£15,900,000	
Bodnant Community School	£0	£69,310	£619,575	£2,098,997	£562,193	£60,973	£0	£0		£3,411,048	
Ysgol Bro Dyfrdwy	£4,770	£81,022	£1,208,697	£118,397	£0	£0	£0	£0		£1,412,886	
Faith Based School		£12,624	£97,376	£42,000	£5,104,309	£11,653,231	£6,904,131	£0		£23,813,671	
Total	£4,770	£105,967	£2,348,768	£8,246,399	£23,177,300	£15,319,460	£12,773,084	£7,147,957	£0	£69,123,705	

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Appendix 2 - Corporate Plan Potential Projects - Indicative Costs - Start dates subject to capital funding availability

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Total
Costs relate to likely maximum spend within year						
Workplace Transport	£130,000	£270,000				£400,000
Ruthin Town School	£141,601	£529,203	£3,752,689	£4,427,892		£8,851,385
Clocaenog / Cyffylliog Area School	£614,911	£172,503	£1,443,815	£580,157		£2,811,386
Llanfair / Pentrecelyn Area School	£10,000	£60,998	£201,433	£2,053,778	£804,843	£3,131,052
Ysgol Pendref	£155,554	£1,167,460	£435,454			£1,758,468
Future Area Review - North of A55						
Future Area Review - South of A55						
Total	£1,052,066	£2,200,164	£5,833,391	£7,061,827	£804,843	£16,952,291
Potential Bodelwyddan Projects						
Bodelwyddan - Extension to Y y F	£500,000	£1,200,000				£1,700,000
Bodelwyddan - New School	£106,400	£391,519	£3,384,333	£2,535,550		£6,417,802

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Appendix 3 - Progress on Ruthin Proposals

Proposal	Progress	Indicative Timescale
1. Creation of new Area School to serve the communities of Clocaenog and Cyffylliog.	The proposal was approved on the 18th of February 2014. The Temporary Governing Body are progressing a number of key work areas to enable the school, to be known as Ysgol Carreg Emlyn, to operate from both sites as of 1st September.	Existing Schools to close – 31st August 2014. New School to open on existing sites – 1st September 2014
2. Closure of Ysgol Llanbedr with the transfer of pupils to Ysgol Borthyn, Ruthin subject to parental preference.	The Statutory Notice period came to an end on the 24th of February 2014. Cabinet at its meeting on the 25th March approved the implementation of the notice. The Governing Body and the St Asaph Diocesan Authority referred the decision of the local authority to the Welsh Minister.	Decision expected to be made in September 2014
3. Ruthin Town Area - Further detailed feasibility works be undertaken prior to the confirmation of any formal recommendations for Rhos Street School, Ysgol Borthyn, Ysgol Penbarras and Ysgol Rhewl .	Develop Feasibility Brief and Identify Best Practice in shared school design.	Work will be progressed in 2014.
4. To recommend to the Governing Bodies of Ysgol Pentrecelyn and Ysgol Llanfair DC that they form a federation to be in place no later than 1st September 2014	Initial discussions with both Governing Bodies have taken place. However the changes to the Federated Schools regulations will prohibit this proposal being progressed. Further discussions have commenced with the two Governing Bodies with a view to developing alternative proposals.	Currently under discussion
5. Support for retaining the Federation of Ysgol Bryn Clwyd & Ysgol Gellifor and in moving one or both schools along the language continuum.	The Education department have started to work with both schools.	Moving the schools along the continuum is a long term project.
6. Retention of Ysgol Bro Famau and review current capacity of the school.	Discussions regarding the current use of school space have started.	Capacity of the school will be re assessed for 2016.

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DRAFT

Consultation Document

relating to the proposed re-designation of
Ysgol Esgob Morgan Community School
as a Voluntary Controlled Faith School

[Month] 2014

Draft 0.3
14.06.2014

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Introduction – Explanation of the Consultation Exercise

1. What is being proposed?

- 1.1. The governing body of Ysgol Esgob Morgan Community School and education officers from the Anglican Diocese of St Asaph (referred to in this document as the **Diocese**) have been in discussions since 2011 to strengthen the existing relationship between the school and the Anglican Church. One way to do this would be to change Ysgol Esgob Morgan from a community school to a voluntary controlled church school having a religious character (referred to in this document as a **VC School**).
- 1.2. It is not possible simply to change the category of Ysgol Esgob Morgan from a community school to a VC School¹; this is because one of the characteristics of a community school is that it is not influenced by religious groups². In order to achieve the change, Ysgol Esgob Morgan would have to be closed and a new VC School opened.
- 1.3. This option has been discussed between the Governing Body of Ysgol Esgob Morgan and the Diocese and Denbighshire County Council (referred to in this document as **DCC**). The Diocese and DCC are each considering whether to make a proposal (two proposals in total³). However, it is important to note that no decision has yet been made. The decision as to whether to proceed with the proposals will be made by DCC's Cabinet of Elected Members (referred to in this document as DCC's Cabinet) and the St Asaph Diocesan Board of Statutory Education (referred to in this document as the **Diocesan Board**). The ultimate decision whether or not to implement the proposals will be for DCC to make⁴. However, no decision will be made without a formal consultation process⁵ first being carried out.

¹ Please see section 2.1 of the School Organisation Code.

² Department of Education Website <https://www.gov.uk/types-of-school>.

³ Please see section 2 below.

⁴ Please see section 4.9 below.

⁵ Please see section 3 below for details of the consultation process.

2. The Proposals

The Proposals being considered are:

Proposal One: Denbighshire County Council will close Ysgol Esgob Morgan *31 August 2015*; and

Proposal Two: The Anglican Diocese of St Asaph will open a new Anglican Faith Voluntary Controlled school to be known as Ysgol Esgob Morgan Voluntary Controlled School to serve the communities of St Asaph and the surrounding areas on *1 September 2015* on the existing site of Ysgol Esgob Morgan.

3. Consultation

3.1. DCC and the Diocese wish to seek the views of all those who are likely to have an interest in any change to Ysgol Esgob Morgan. This consultation will allow those views to be taken into account before a decision is made.

3.2. As part of the consultation, DCC and the Diocese have produced this consultation document containing certain information set out in the Welsh Government Guidance⁶. The consultation document follows that guidance and sets out the information people will need to participate fully in the consultation process.

3.3. This consultation document has been sent to a wide range of people, including:

- a. Parents, teachers and support staff of Ysgol Esgob Morgan;
- b. Governors and the School Council of the following schools;
 - i Ysgol Esgob Morgan;
 - ii Ysgol Y Faenol;
 - iii Ysgol Y Castell;
 - iv Ysgol Trefnant;
 - v Ysgol Cefn Meiriadog; and

⁶ School Organisation Code pages 26 – 30.

- vi St Asaph VP Infants.
 - c. The Diocese;
 - d. Headteachers and Chairs of Governors at all schools in Denbighshire;
 - e. Denbighshire Children and Young People’s Partnership and the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnerships;
 - f. All Denbighshire County Councillors;
 - g. Local and regional Assembly Members and Members of Parliament representing areas affected by the Proposals;
 - h. St Asaph City Council;
 - i. The Welsh Ministers;
 - j. Estyn;
 - k. Relevant teaching and support staff Trade Unions;
 - l. Taith;
 - m. North Wales Regional School Effectiveness and Improvement Service; and
 - n. North Wales Police and Crime Commissioner.
- 3.4. This document has also been published on the DCC website and can be found by following this link [*INSERT LINK*].

4. The Procedure and Likely Timetable

- 4.1. The first step in the process was for DCC to hold a consultation with the Diocese in respect of the Proposals. This had to be carried out before the consultation document was published⁷. It allowed the Diocese the opportunity to reflect on the Proposals and to consider whether it wished to proceed with the full consultation. This pre-consultation began on 13 June 2014 and ended on 11 July 2014 after which the Diocese confirmed it was happy for the full consultation in respect of the Proposals to be carried out.

⁷ This requirement is contained in section 3.4 of the Schools Organisation Code.

4.2. Commencement of the full consultation was approved by DCC’s Cabinet on 29 July 2014. At that meeting, it was decided that the consultation should begin on 8 September 2014 and end on 21 October 2014. The statutory requirement for this period is that it should not be less than 42 days (of which at least 20 of those must be school days i.e. not during school holidays)⁸. The consultation period approved by DCC’s Cabinet allows 43 days; all of which fall during school term time. This process has been agreed with the Diocese.

4.3. During the consultation period, officers from the Diocese and DCC will meet with the Governing Body, teachers, support staff, parents of children and the School Council of Ysgol Esgob Morgan. The provisional dates and times of those meetings are set out below.

Group	Date and time	Location
Governing Body	[] of [September] at [5:30] pm	Ysgol Esgob Morgan
Teachers and support staff	[] of [September] at [4:00] pm	Ysgol Esgob Morgan
Parents	[] of [September/October] at [6:00] pm	Ysgol Esgob Morgan
School Council	[] of [September/October] at [10:30] pm	Ysgol Esgob Morgan

4.4. During each of the meetings, officers from the Diocese and DCC will explain the Proposals and give people attending the opportunity to ask questions, put across their views and, should they wish, suggest alternatives to the Proposals.

4.5. All of the comments made⁹ during the consultation period will be collated, analysed, considered and summarised into a consultation report. This report will be published on the websites of DCC and the Diocese after the consultation period has ended. DCC and the Diocese hope to present the Consultation Report to DCC’s Cabinet and the Diocesan Board during November or December 2014.

⁸ Please see Annex A of the School Organisation Code for confirmation of the timing requirements

⁹ For details of how to respond, please see section 5 below

- 4.6. The consultation report will be carefully and conscientiously considered by DCC's Cabinet and the Diocesan Board; both of whom will receive a copy and be given time fully to consider the views expressed.
- 4.7. If, following receipt and consideration of the consultation report, DCC's Cabinet and the Diocesan Board approve the Proposals a statutory notice¹⁰ will be published in January or February 2015.
- 4.8. Following publication of the statutory notice, there will be a 28 day period in which people may object to the Proposals being implemented. If there are objections an objection report will be compiled and presented to DCC's Cabinet during March or April 2015.
- 4.9. If any objections are received and an objection report produced, DCC's Cabinet will then carefully and conscientiously consider the objection report and decide whether or not to proceed with the Proposals. The objection report will be published at the same time as DCC issues its decision in respect of the Proposals¹¹.
- 4.10. After the above procedure has been followed, and provided that DCC and the Diocese wish to proceed with the Proposals, the new VC School would open in September 2015.

5. How to Make Your Views Known

- 5.1. DCC and the Diocese welcome responses to the consultation regarding the Proposals. Responses can be submitted in the following ways:
- Completing the response form online by pressing [here](#) (on the electronic version of this document) or following¹² this link [*insert survey monkey link*]; or
 - Completing the response form as above, scan it and email a copy to [Diocese email address/modernisingeducation@denbighshire.gov.uk];

¹⁰ For an explanation of the statutory notice, please see section 19 below.

¹¹ Sections 5.3 and 5.4 of the School Organisation Code provide that where a local authority may determine a proposal such as Proposal One and must determine a proposal such as Proposal Two.

¹² You can follow the link by typing it into the address bar of your internet browser.

- By completing and returning the attached response form¹³ and returning it by post to [Rosalind Williams Director of Education and Lifelong Learning, Diocesan Office, High Street, St Asaph LL17 ORD/Jackie Walley Customers and Education Support, Denbighshire County Council, County Hall, Wynnstay Road, Ruthin, LL15 1YN]; or
- All other submissions can either be sent to the above postal or email address.

5.2. All responses must be submitted by 21 October 2014 as any late submissions may not be taken into account.

6. Arrangements for Children

6.1. A children's version of this consultation document has been produced and will be made available at Ysgol Esgob Morgan and certain other schools. It is also available on DCC's website and can be accessed from the electronic version of this document by pressing here or alternatively by following¹⁴ this link *[insert link]*.

6.2. The children's version of the consultation document has been written in a way which is appropriate to the age of the readers and will help them to understand the issues; and to participate in the consultation process.

6.3. DCC is holding a consultation meeting with the School Council of Esgob Morgan¹⁵. This will be led by an officer from DCC who has regular contact with primary school children as part of their role. It will be carried out in accordance with the principles and guidance contained within the guidance on consultation with children and young people provided by the Welsh Government¹⁶.

7. Asking Further Questions

7.1. If you would like to ask further questions about the Proposals you can do so by email or letter¹⁷. The contact details are:

Letter: [Rosalind Williams Director of Education and Lifelong Learning, Diocesan Office, High Street, St Asaph LL17 ORD/Jackie Walley Customers and

¹³ Please see page 32 below.

¹⁴ You can follow the link by typing it into the address bar of your internet browser.

¹⁵ Please see section 4.3 above for details.

¹⁶ Please see the table in section 22 below.

¹⁷ Please use the contact details set out in section 5.1 above.

Education Support, Denbighshire County Council, County Hall, Wynnstay Road, Ruthin, LL15 1YN]; and

Email: [Diocese email address/modernisingeducation@denbighshire.gov.uk].

- 7.2. DCC and the Diocese will attempt to answer your questions during the consultation period.

8. Status of Responses to the Consultation

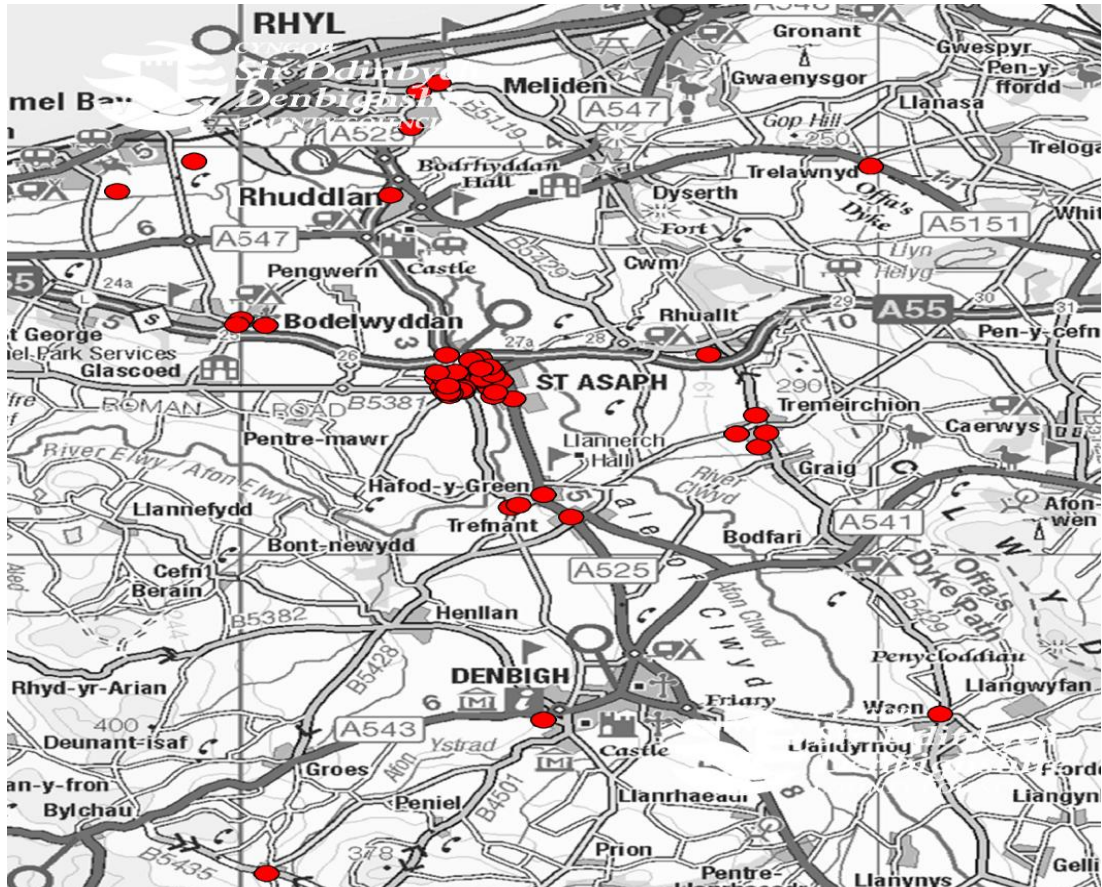
Any responses made to the consultation will not be counted as objections to the Proposals. Objections can only be registered following publication of the statutory notice¹⁸.

Background to the Proposals

9. Current provision at Ysgol Esgob Morgan

- 9.1. Ysgol Esgob Morgan is a Community School serving St Asaph and the surrounding areas; its pupils are aged between 7 and 11 years old.
- 9.2. The school attracts children largely from the St Asaph area; as shown in the map below (based on the January 2014 Pupil Level Annual School Census (**PLASC**) figures).

¹⁸ Please see section 19 below for an explanation of the statutory notice.



9.3. The January 2014 PLASC showed that Ysgol Esgob Morgan had 108 full-time pupils. The table below shows the full time pupil numbers at the school for each of the past 5 years.

2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	Trend 2010-2013
111	103	96	99	108	-3

9.4. Ysgol Esgob Morgan has the capacity¹⁹ for 108 full-time pupils and at present has 108 full-time pupils. This means that the school is fully subscribed; having neither a surplus nor deficit of places.

9.5. DCC's pupil number forecast suggests that there will be an increase in numbers at Ysgol Esgob Morgan: this is demonstrated in the table below²⁰. DCC and the Diocese do not believe that the Proposals will have an impact on pupil numbers;

¹⁹ This is assessed in accordance with the Welsh Government Circular: Measuring Capacity of Schools in Wales.

accordingly, no projections have been prepared to demonstrate the position should the Proposals be implemented.

Actual 2014	Projected 2015	Projected 2016	Projected 2017	Projected 2018	Projected 2019	Projected Trend 13-18
108	107	110	112	111	116	+8

9.6. When condition surveys are carried out on schools, they are given a condition category rating. The meaning of the category rating is explained in the table below.

Condition Category Rating	Meaning
A (Good)	No deterioration since the last survey
B (Satisfactory)	Minor deterioration since the last inspection
C (Poor)	Major deterioration since the last inspection
D (Bad)	Life expired

9.7. The condition of the school building was rated as category C (Poor) in a condition survey carried out in December 2009. This survey was carried out to provide data for Welsh Government for the purposes of 21st Century Schools. However, a survey was also carried out by DCC in June 2014, the details of which will be reported to Welsh Government. In this most recent survey the condition was rated as category B (Satisfactory).

9.8. The school facilities are set out in the table below.

Class-rooms	Mobiles	Small Group Areas	Hall	Library	ICT area	Outdoor hard play area	Playing Field
5	1*	6	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

*This mobile is no longer used as teaching or resource space

9.9. Ysgol Esgob Morgan is an English medium²¹ school.

²¹ Referred to as a Category 5 school in the Welsh Government Guidance relating to Welsh Medium Provision

10. Details of Other Schools Likely to be Affected

10.1. The statutory guidance²² requires details of schools which are likely to be affected by the Proposals to be included in the consultation document. As Proposal One concerns the closure of an English medium school with an age range of 7 – 11, it is reasonable to assume that should any pupils wish to transfer to other schools, they would look to transfer to English medium Primary schools which are reasonably close to Ysgol Esgob Morgan. Accordingly, this section considers such schools within a 4 mile radius. It is also reasonable to assume that pupils at St Asaph VP Infants School are likely to be affected as it is the principal ‘feeder’²³ school to Ysgol Esgob Morgan.

10.2. The schools which, for the purposes of the statutory guidance, are likely to be affected by the Proposals are:

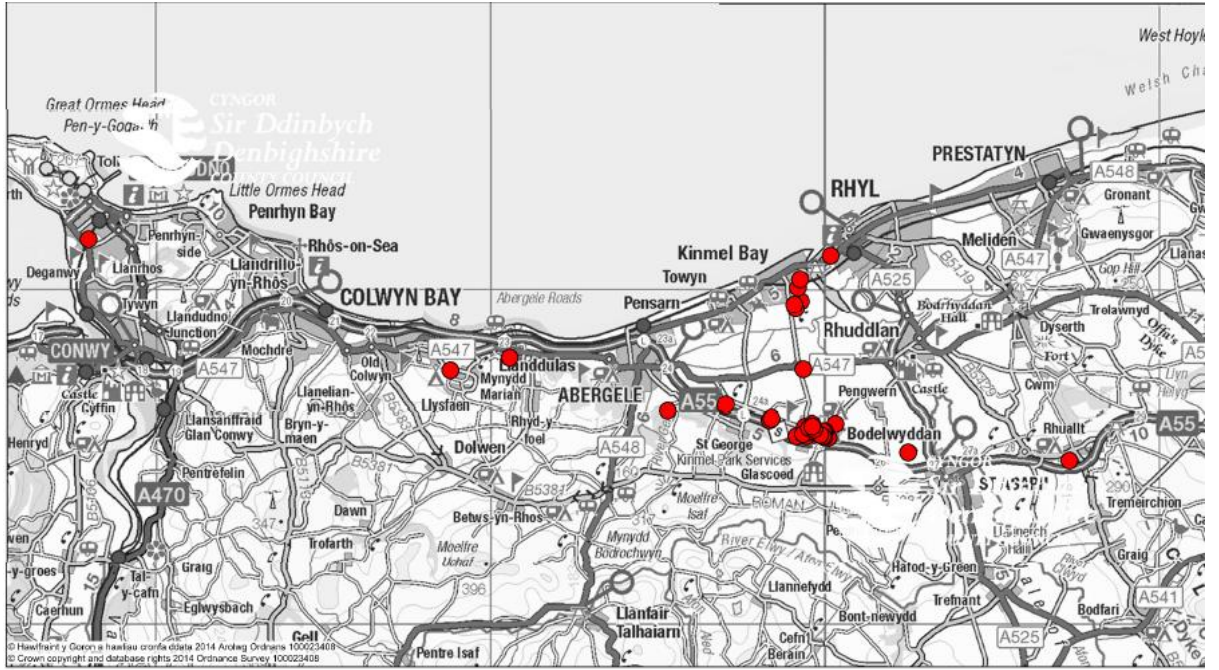
- a. Ysgol Y Faenol: a Community Primary School in Bodelwyddan: 3.3 miles away;
- b. Ysgol Y Castell: a Community Primary School in Rhuddlan: 3.3 miles away;
- c. Ysgol Trefnant: a Church in Wales Voluntary Aided Primary School in Trefnant: 3.3 miles away;
- d. Ysgol Cefn Meiriadog: a Community Primary School in Marli, Cefn Meiriadog: 2.6 miles away; and
- e. St Asaph VP Infants: a Church in Wales Voluntary Controlled Infants School in St Asaph: the infants school from which many pupils transfer to Ysgol Esgob Morgan.

(Referred to in this document as the **Schools Likely to be Affected**).

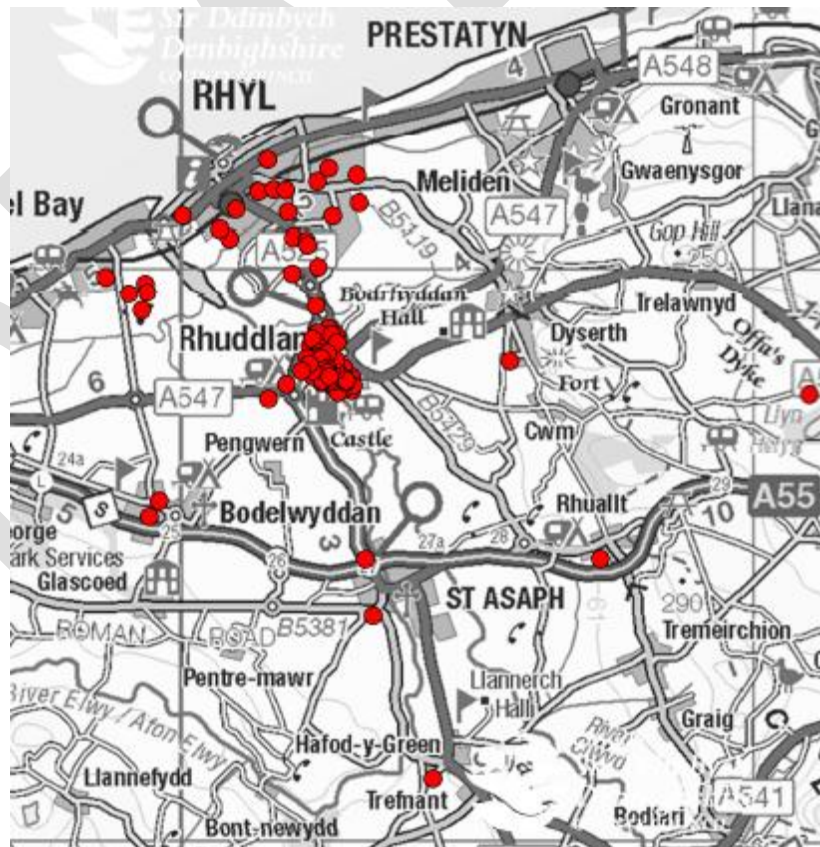
10.3. Each of the Schools Likely to be Affected, attracts children largely from the immediate surrounding areas; as shown in the maps below (based on the January 2014 PLASC figures).

²² School Organisation Code, page 26

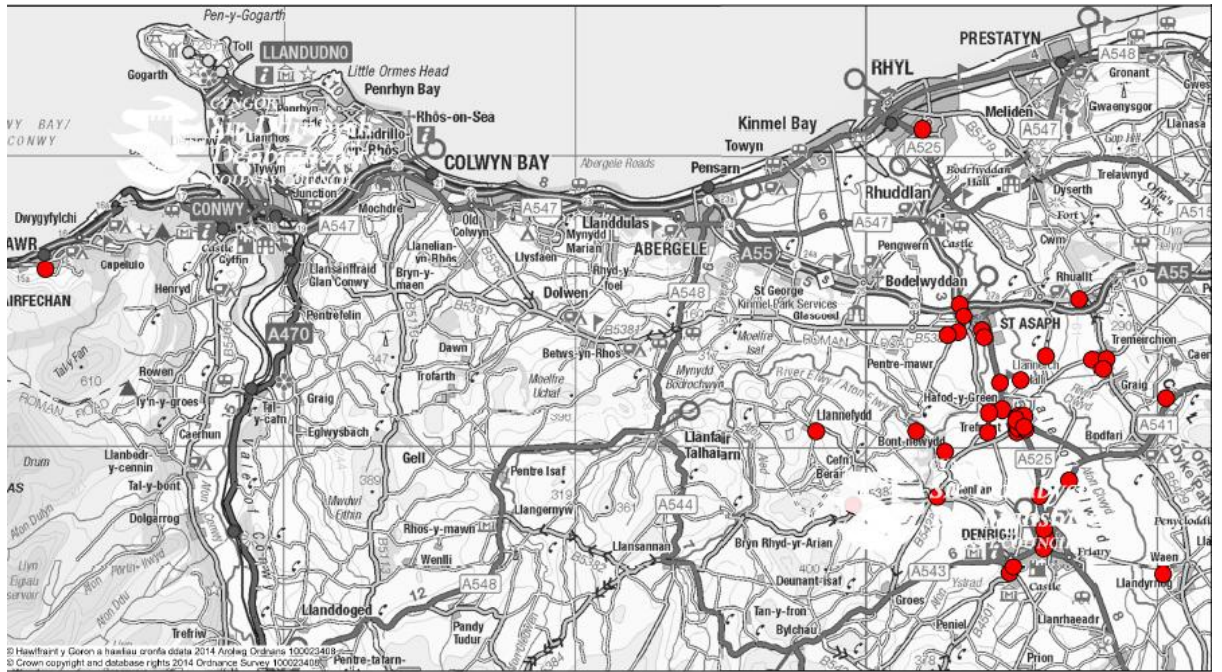
²³ Please see sections 13.6 and 13.7 below for evidence of the relationship between the two schools.



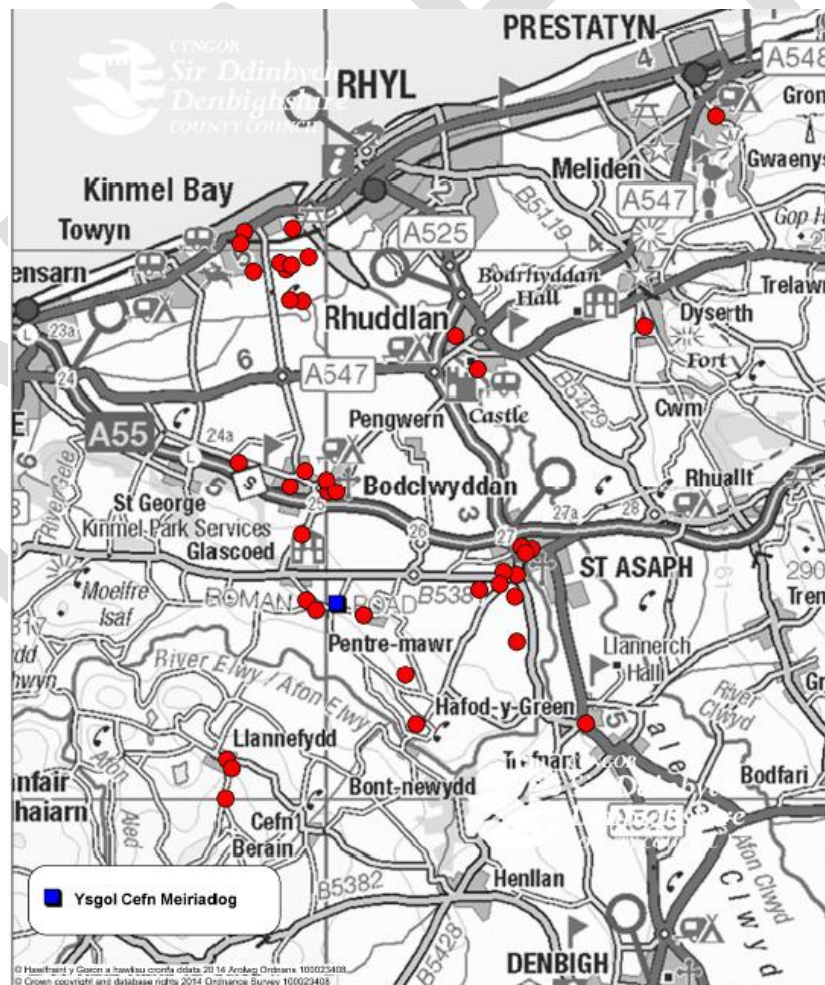
Ysgol Y Faenol



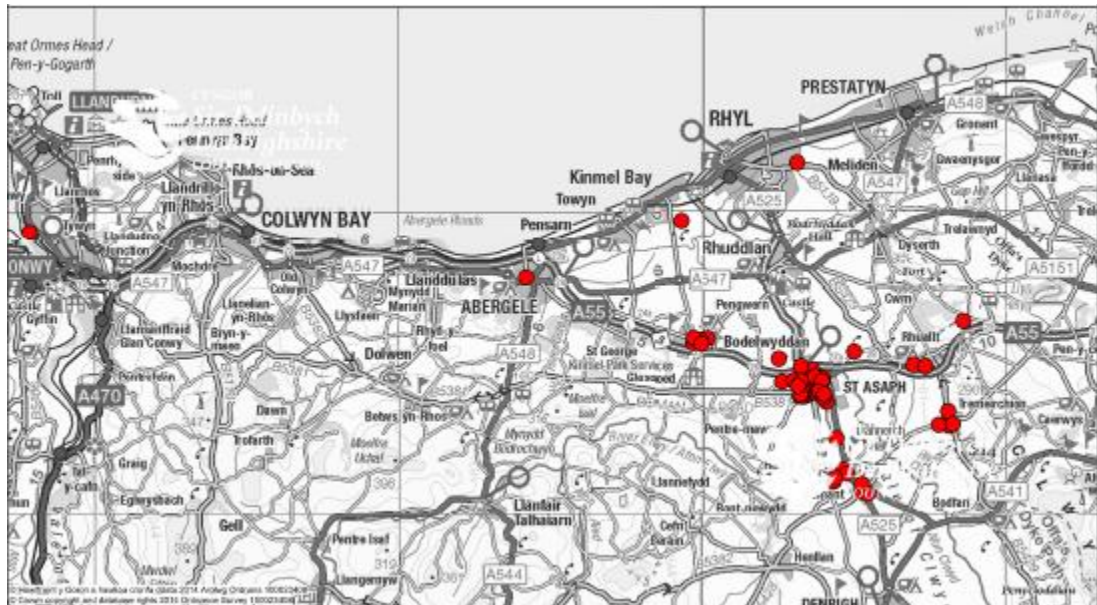
Ysgol Y Castell



Ysgol Trefnant



Ysgol Cefn Meiriadog



St Asaph VP Infants School

10.4. The table below shows the full time pupil²⁴ numbers at each of the Schools Likely to be Affected, for each of the past 5 years.

School	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	Trend 2010-2014
Y Faenol	105	109	105	115	113	-2
Y Castell	176	188	180	178	189	+13
Trefnant	63	62	64	56	66	+3
Cefn Meiriadog	77	68	64	61	62	-15
St. Asaph	82	85	85	86	83	+1

10.5. The nursery figures for the Schools Likely to be Affected, for each of the past 5 years are set out in the table below.

School	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	Trend 2010-2014
Y Faenol	13	20	15	15	17	+4
Y Castell	29	21	27	30	22	-7

²⁴ These figures are for the full-time pupils from Reception to Year 6 but do not include the part-time nursery pupils

Trefnant	12	11	8	12	13	+1
Cefn Meiriadog	8	9	6	16	8	0
St. Asaph	34	29	26	30	28	-6

- 10.6. The table below shows the capacity of each of the Schools Likely to be Affected and whether and to what extent they have a surplus or deficit of places.

School	Capacity (Full-time pupils)	Number on roll	Surplus Places (Actual)	Deficit Places (Actual)	Surplus Places (%)	Deficit Places (%)
Y Faenol	109	113	-	4	-	3.7
Y Castell	178	189	-	11	-	6.2
Trefnant	59	66	-	7	-	11.9
Cefn Meiriadog	67	62	5	-	7.5	-
St. Asaph	83	83	0	-	0	-

- 10.7. DCC's pupil projection forecast for the numbers of full-time pupils at each of the Schools Likely to be Affected, is set out in the table below.

School	Actual 2014	Projected 2015	Projected 2016	Projected 2017	Projected 2018	Projected 2019	Projected Trend 13-18
Y Castell	189	188	189	186	182	186	-3
Y Faenol	113	115	120	119	114	115	+2
Trefnant	66	71	79	83	80	81	+15
Cefn Meiriadog	62	64	60	61	62	63	+1
St. Asaph	83	87	88	86	87	87	+4

10.8. The table below shows the condition of the buildings of each of the Schools Likely to be Affected, as stated in the condition surveys carried out in December 2009 and June 2014.

School	2009		2014	
	Date	Category	Date	Category
Ysgol y Faenol	November 2009	B (Satisfactory) ²⁵	June 2014	A (Good)
Ysgol Y Castell	November 2009	B (Satisfactory)	June 2014	A (Good)
Ysgol Trefnant	March 2010	B (Satisfactory)	June 2014	B (Satisfactory)
Ysgol Cefn Meiriadog	November 2009	B (Satisfactory)	June 2014	B (Satisfactory)
St. Asaph Infants	December 2009	B (Satisfactory)	June 2014	B (Satisfactory)

10.9. The facilities at the Schools Likely to be Affected are as follows.

School	Class-rooms	Mobiles	Small Group Areas	Hall	Library	ICT area	Outdoor hard play area	Playing Field
Y Faenol	6	x	2	✓	✓`	✓	✓	✓
Y Castell	8	x	2	✓	2	✓	✓	✓
Trefnant	4	x	3	✓	✓	x	✓	✓
Cefn Meiriadog	4	x	1	x	✓ *	x	✓	✓
St Asaph	4	x	6	✓	1	x	✓	✓

` Small library within ICT Suite

*Library within classroom

10.10. Each of the Schools Likely to be Affected is an English medium²⁶ school.

²⁵ Please see the table in section 9.6 above for an explanation of the condition category rating.

11. Likely Impact on Standards in Education: Ysgol Esgob Morgan

11.1. Ysgol Esgob Morgan was last inspected in April 2013. Estyn's key questions and the school's performance as evidenced in the Inspection Report are set out in the table below.

Key Question	School's performance
How good are outcomes? - Standards - Wellbeing	Good - Good - Good
How good is provision? - Learning experiences - Teaching - Care, support & guidance - Learning Environment	Good - Good - Adequate - Good - Good
How good are leadership & management? - Leadership - Improving quality - Partnership working - Resource management	Good - Good - Adequate - Good - Good

11.2. The performance ratings are explained in the table below.

Judgment	Meaning
Excellent	Many strengths, including significant examples of sector-leading practice
Good	Many strengths and no improvement areas requiring significant improvement
Adequate	Strengths outweigh areas for improvement
Unsatisfactory	Important areas for improvement outweigh strengths

11.3. DCC and the Diocese of St Asaph believe that Ysgol Esgob Morgan is a learning community. Each member of this community is respected and encouraged in all they do, and each contribution is valued. In seeking partnership with the church,

²⁶ Referred to as a Category 5 school in the Welsh Government Guidance Document relating to Welsh Medium Provision.

Ysgol Esgob Morgan would continue to ensure that pupils are prepared to become citizens of the future, respecting the rich diversity of the communities in which they live and have an understanding of Christian values. This partnership will help Ysgol Esgob Morgan to develop its already strong loving, caring atmosphere where clear Christian values are at the heart of all that is done.

- 11.4. As a church school, Ysgol Esgob Morgan would undergo an inspection by the Diocese in the same academic year as its Estyn Inspection²⁷. This inspection looks at the Christian ethos of the school and how it helps its learners' progress and provides guidance and support in conjunction with the Diocese in order to secure improvement.
- 11.5. If it joined the family of Church schools, Ysgol Esgob Morgan would have access to the services of the Diocesan Education team, who can provide advice and support on curriculum and ethos matters, and who provide regular training for staff. They will have a named 'Bishop's Visitor', who will support and challenge the school; embodying the pastoral concern that the Bishop of St Asaph has for the schools in his diocese.
- 11.6. [Specific comments on the likely impact on the key questions to follow]
- 11.7. A copy of the Estyn Inspection Report relating to the inspection in April 2013 can be found at www.estyn.gov.uk.

12. Likely Impact on Standards in Education: Other schools likely to be affected

- 12.1. Details of the most recent Estyn inspections of the Schools Likely to be Affected are set out in the tables below.

Inspections carried out under the current regime			
Criteria	Y Faenol	Trefnant	Cefn Meiriadog
Date of inspection	May 2012	October 2013	October 2013
Outcomes?	Good	Good	Good

²⁷ This inspection would take place by virtue of section 50 of the Education Act 2005.

Standards	Good	Good	Good
Wellbeing	Good	Good	Good
Provision?	Good	Good	Good
Learning experiences	Good	Good	Adequate
Teaching	Good	Good	Good
Care, support & guidance	Good	Good	Good
Learning environment	Good	Good	Good
Leadership & Management?	Good	Good	Adequate
Leadership	Good	Good	Adequate
Improving quality	Good	Good	Good
Partnership working	Good	Good	Good
Resource management	Good	Good	Adequate

Inspections carried out under the previous regime		
Criteria	Y Castell	St Asaph
Date of inspection	April 2008	January 2009
How well do learners achieve?	Grade 3	Grade 2
How effective are teaching, training and assessment?	Grade 3	Grade 2
How well do the learning experiences meet the needs and interests of learners and the wider community?	Grade 2	Grade 2
How well are learners cared for, guided and supported?	Grade 2	Grade 2
How effective are leadership and strategic management?	Grade 3	Grade 2
How well do leaders and managers evaluate and improve quality and standards?	Grade 3	Grade 2
How efficient are leaders and managers in using resources?	Grade 3	Grade 2

12.2. The performance ratings in the *second* table in section 12.1 above are set out in the table below.

Grade	Meaning
1	Good with outstanding features

2	Good features and no important shortcomings
3	Good features outweigh shortcomings
4	Some good features, but shortcomings in important areas
5	Many important shortcomings

12.3. DCC and the Diocese do not believe that the Proposals are likely to have an impact on the ability of the Schools Likely to be Affected to perform against any of the above quality criteria.

12.4. Copies of the most recent Estyn Inspection reports for the Schools Likely to be Affected can be found on www.estyn.gov.uk.

The Proposals – Description and rationale

13. Why the Proposals are Being Made

13.1. DCC and the Diocese believe there is much to be gained by strengthening the existing relationship between Ysgol Esgob Morgan and the Anglican Church. It is believed that the advantages of making the proposed changes outweigh the advantages of keeping things as they are.

13.2. The Church in Wales is the second largest provider of schools in Wales, after the local authorities themselves: 15% of the all schools in Wales are Church schools. In the Diocese of St Asaph there are 49 Church schools, providing just over 6450 primary places in the Diocese²⁸. These schools were founded to provide the best possible education for all children within their local communities, and Ysgol Esgob Morgan as a new Church school would maintain that tradition and provide excellent education within a distinctively Christian context. Ysgol Esgob Morgan already has a strong ethos and links with the local church and the Proposals would enhance and strengthen those elements.

13.3. Church in Wales' schools seek to provide the highest possible standard of education within a distinctively Christian context. They are not seeking to convert,

²⁸ These figures were accurate at June 2014.

but to serve, and evidence shows that a strong Christian ethos and educational vision help to raise standards and achievement and enable every child to fulfil their potential. This is articulated in both the Church in Wales Education Review²⁹ and the Church School of the Future Review³⁰, produced by the National Society, and GWELLA³¹ and SIAMS³² inspection reporting.

- 13.4. As a member of the family of church schools in the Diocese, Ysgol Esgob Morgan will receive support from the Diocesan Education Department in addition to DCC. Ysgol Esgob Morgan will have access to a network of advisers and consultants commissioned by the Diocese, and will also have access to training, resources and activities.
- 13.5. Many pupils at Ysgol Esgob Morgan have attended St Asaph VP Infants which is a Voluntary Controlled school. The Proposals would ensure that pupils received continuity in their learning journey.
- 13.6. The table below shows that over the past three years a consistently high percentage (an average of 88%) of year 2 pupils from St Asaph VP Infants (a voluntary controlled, Church in Wales school) transited to year 3 at Ysgol Esgob Morgan.

	13/14	12/13	11/12
YEM (Yr 3 pupils on roll)	29 (Jan 14)	31 (Jan 13)	19 (Jan 12)
Number of Yr 2 pupils who transited	26 (90%)	24 (92%)	15 (83%)
SAVP (Yr 2 pupils on roll)	29 (Jan 13)	26 (Jan 12)	23 (Jan 11)

²⁹ Church In Wales Review July 2012

³⁰ The Church school of the Future Review March 2012

³¹ Section 50 of the Education Act 2005 refers to the inspection of faith schools in Wales. The inspection reports are available on the following website www.churchschoolscymru.org

³² Section 48 of the Education Act 2005 refers to the inspection of faith schools in England. The inspection reports are available on the following website www.churchofengland.org

- 13.7. 78.6% of all of the children (years 3 to 6) who currently attend Ysgol Esgob Morgan came up from St Asaph VP Infants. Implementation of the Proposals would be a clear benefit to children making that transition in future.
- 13.8. If the Proposals are not approved, Ysgol Esgob Morgan would, nonetheless, carry on the learning journey as currently prescribed. However, many of the pupils who make the transition from St Asaph VP Infants, with its Christian ethos, would not be able to continue their learning journey within the same distinctiveness and ethos. Also, should the Proposals progress, foundation governors will be appointed to the Board of Governors. The foundation governors will be representatives of the Church in Wales whose appointment will help Ysgol Esgob Morgan live out its mission as a Church school, where Christian values are embedded into school life.
- 13.9. It is possible that parents, who intend to send their children to Ysgol Esgob Morgan and who do not want their children to have a faith education, may seek an alternative non faith-based school. However, any parent who chooses to send their child to the new VC school will have the right to opt out of collective worship and religious education.
- 13.10. DCC and the Diocese have discussed and considered the Proposals against the only alternative, which is to keep things as they are. There are no other options which would achieve the aim of building on the existing relationship between Ysgol Esgob Morgan and the Diocese. The options which have been considered are set out in the table below.

Option	Description
Option 1	Maintain the status quo
Option 2	Close Ysgol Esgob Morgan and open the Proposed New VC School

13.11. The advantages and disadvantages of the options considered are set out in the table below.

Option 1: Status quo	
Advantages	Disadvantages
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The current provision will continue. • The current relationship with the Diocese would continue. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The existing relationship with the Diocese will not be enhanced and strengthened. • The faith option for pupils from St Asaph VP Infants school will be disrupted.
Option 2: Open new VC school	
Advantages	Disadvantages
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhance and strengthen the existing relationship with the church. • Pupils transitioning from St Asaph VP Infants will be able to attend a junior school with the same ethos as the infants' school they attended. • Adds a layer of accountability via the section 50³³ inspection regime. • The revised structure of the Board of Governors will further support the headteacher. • The parental right of withdrawal of their children from collective worship and religious education remains unchanged. • Forges an explicit link between the school and the Church. • Provides the school with access to the support and resources offered by the Diocese. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adds a faith element to the school with which some parents may not feel comfortable. • Parents who do not want their child to receive a faith based education may wish to choose an alternative, non-faith based school.

13.12. The preferred option is Option 2 because it offers pupils the continuation of their faith based Early Years Foundation Stage learning. It provides a more cohesive and joined-up means of primary education in St Asaph. However, the Proposals are at an early stage and the consultation allows people the chance to consider the Proposals and suggest any alternatives which DCC and the Diocese should consider.

³³ Section 50 of the Education Act 2005.

DCC's Cabinet and the Diocesan Board will consider all options before making a decision.

14. Finance

14.1. Ysgol Esgob Morgan's delegated annual budget for 2014/15 is £385,000. This equates to a budget per pupil of £3,531³⁴ compared to the Denbighshire primary school average per pupil of £3,931.

14.2. If implemented, the Proposals would have no financial impact on Ysgol Esgob Morgan. Whether a school is a Community School or a VC School has no bearing on its delegated budget. Accordingly, should the Proposals be implemented, the new VC School would inherit precisely the financial position of Ysgol Esgob Morgan.

15. Ownership of Ysgol Esgob Morgan's Land and Buildings

15.1. The land and buildings from which Ysgol Esgob Morgan operates are owned by DCC.

15.2. The law relating to school reorganisation³⁵ provides that when a community school becomes a voluntary controlled school, any land (other than playing fields) held by a local authority must be transferred to the relevant diocesan body; in this case, the Diocese. If the Proposals are progressed, it will be recommended that the land and buildings of Ysgol Esgob Morgan are transferred to the Diocese on the condition that they will be transferred back to DCC if at any time they stop being used as a faith school.

16. Details of the Proposed New VC School

16.1. Should the decision to implement the Proposals be made, the proposed new VC School would be very much like the existing Ysgol Esgob Morgan. Details of the proposed new VC school are set out in the table below.

Feature	Description
Admission number (for school year	30

³⁴ This is based on there being 109 pupils registered at the school when the statement of planned expenditure was prepared by DCC in respect of the school in compliance with section 52 of the 1998 Act.

³⁵ Part 3 of Schedule 4 of the 2013 Act.

2015/16)	
Age range	7 – 11
Pupil places capacity	108
Location	Ffordd Siarl, Ashly Court, St Asaph LL17 OPT
Category	Voluntary Controlled
Language Category	English Medium ³⁶
Proposed accommodation	As at present ³⁷
SEN provision	26% of the current pupils on roll are on the SEN register.
Home to school transport arrangements	As per DCC's Transport Policy ³⁸ – pupils who live 2 or more miles away from their nearest suitable school are entitled to free home to school transport.

17. Impact of closing Ysgol Esgob Morgan

Alternatives considered

- 17.1. The closure of Ysgol Esgob Morgan is being proposed to enable the school to operate as a Voluntary Controlled church school. The daily life of the school community will be enriched by a closer relationship with the Anglican Church. However, very little else will change. Accordingly, the only other option to the Proposals which has been considered by DCC and the Diocese is to do nothing.
- 17.2. The benefits of a closer relationship with the Anglican Church far outweigh any disadvantages and will certainly amount to an improvement for the school. Accordingly the option of doing nothing has been rejected³⁹.

³⁶ This is Category 5 within the Welsh Government Guidance relating to Welsh Medium Provision.

³⁷ Please see section 9.8 above.

³⁸ Information on DCC's Transport Policy can be found in the DCC Schools Booklet – please see section 22 below.

³⁹ For a fuller consideration of the options, please see section 13 above.

Impact on the local community

- 17.3. The impact on the local community will be limited to the effect of the closer relationship with the Anglican Church.
- 17.4. Ysgol Esgob Morgan already enjoys close links with the local church, attending services regularly and enjoying visits from the Reverend Val Rowlands for acts of collective worship. The Proposals will enhance and strengthen these links allowing closer co-operation and strengthening the ethos and values of the whole school community. Ysgol Esgob Morgan would also benefit from the support of the Diocese.
- 17.5. The Community and Welsh Language Impact Assessment for the Proposals is available on DCC's website by navigating to the Education section and then to the Current Consultations section where you will find the Ysgol Esgob Morgan section and the document. If you are accessing this consultation document electronically, you can view the document by clicking [here](#) ***[insert link]***.
- 17.6. The findings of the Community and Welsh Language Impact Assessment are as follows:
- a. [To follow];
 - b. [To follow].

Likely impact on staff

- 17.7. The changes contemplated by the Proposals relate to the relationship between Ysgol Esgob Morgan and the Diocese. Although the school will close and a new one re-open, the staffing requirements will be the same. If the Proposals are accepted, all employees will receive letters to confirm their employment has transferred from the community school to the new VC school. There will be no break in continuity of employment; the Proposals, if implemented, will not impact on the length of service of staff at the school.

- 17.8. The temporary Governing Body (see below) of Ysgol Esgob Morgan VC may decide to appoint the current headteacher of the community school to become the headteacher of the new VC school. It may, instead, decide to advertise the post externally. This, though, is a decision for the Governing Body.

Governing Body

- 17.9. Should the Proposals be implemented, the current Ysgol Esgob Morgan would close and the current Governing Body would cease to exist. DCC, in consultation with the Diocese, would appoint the initial members of a temporary Governing Body before the new VC school opened. Those initial members would then appoint the rest of the temporary Governing Body.
- 17.10. The temporary Governing Body would be responsible for preparing for the opening of the new VC school and would carry out tasks including:
- a. Appointing a head teacher and deputy head teacher;
 - b. Creating the school identity: name, uniform and ethos; and
 - c. Devising the staffing structure.
- 17.11. A permanent Governing Body would be put in place by no later than the end of the first term of the new VC school. Some of the members of the permanent Governing Body would be appointed by DCC and the Diocese and others appointed following an election.

Admissions

- 17.12. The admissions arrangements for Ysgol Esgob Morgan are currently administered by DCC's Admissions Team. This would continue to be the case if the Proposals are implemented.
- 17.13. Details of the admissions arrangements for Ysgol Esgob Morgan are set out in the DCC Schools Booklet.

Required building works

- 17.14. DCC and the Diocese do not believe that the Proposals will cause parents to want to transfer their children from Ysgol Esgob Morgan. Accordingly, there will be no need for building works to any of the Schools Likely to Be Affected to accommodate an increase in pupil numbers.

Home to school travel

- 17.15. Although little will change from a practical point of view, the change in status from a community school to a church school could have an impact on home to school travel entitlement.
- 17.16. As at June 2014 DCC pays the cost of transporting 4 pupils. One pupil travels with a pupil from another school at a daily cost of £62.00. The remaining 3 pupils travel together at a daily cost of £22.50. DCC is currently reviewing its policy with regards to the provision of free home to school travel for faith schools. It is impossible to predict the outcome of this review but it is likely that any such transport costs will be paid for new pupils who request a faith school, for whom Ysgol Esgob Morgan is the nearest faith primary school and who live 2 or more miles away. It is unlikely that pupils attending Ysgol Esgob Morgan at the time of the change for who the school becomes the nearest faith school would receive free home to school transport.

Impact on parents

- 17.17. Some parents may choose to send their children to a non-faith school for their Key Stage 2 education. However, there are two key factors which suggest this is unlikely:
- a. A high percentage of children each year make the transition from St Asaph VP Infants (a Church in Wales church school). Those parents chose a church school for their children's foundation phase education; it is unlikely that their choice will change for Key Stage 2; and

- b. Any parent who would have chosen Ysgol Esgob Morgan but does not want a faith education for their child may opt out of shared worship and religious education.

Impact on pupils

17.18. Pupils will benefit from the strong Christian ethos and educational vision of the new VC school. This can help to raise standards and achievement and allow them to fulfil their potential.

17.19. [Awaiting input from DCC Primary schools effectiveness performance officer].

18. Alternative Provision

18.1. DCC and the Diocese hope that the existing pupils of Ysgol Esgob Morgan will attend the proposed new VC School. However, it is possible that some parents may choose to send their children elsewhere.

18.2. The table below sets out details of alternative schools offering 7 – 11 provision and to which parents could send their children should they wish.

Name	Location	Distance (miles) from Esgob Morgan	Category	Current Capacity	Surplus Places (Actual)	Deficit Places (Actual)
Y Faenol	Bodelwyddan	3.3	English medium/Community Primary	109	-	4
Y Castell	Rhuddlan	3.3	English medium/Community Primary	178	-	11
Trefnant	Trefnant	3.3	English medium/faith voluntary aided	59	-	7
Cefn Meiriadog	Cefn Meiriadog	2.6	English medium/Community Primary	67	5	-

- 18.3. The table below sets out a comparison of the standards of education provided at Ysgol Esgob Morgan and the 5 potential alternative schools.

Achieving Level 4+ at Key Stage 2					
School Name	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Esgob Morgan	79.3%	88.9%	80.8%	88.9%	90.5%
Y Faenol	70.6%	75.0%	77.3%	80.0%	70.6%
Y Castell	83.3%	73.9%	78.3%	81.5%	95.7%
Trefnant	88.9%	80.0%	77.8%	100.0%	88.9%
Cefn Meiriadog	76.9%	85.7%	90.0%	83.3%	85.7%

- 18.4. Details of the admission arrangements of each of the 4 potential alternative schools can be found on DCC's website www.denbighshire.gov.uk by navigating to the Education section and then to the Admissions section where you will find the Denbighshire Schools Booklet. Alternatively you can contact the School Admissions Team at DCC⁴⁰ to request a copy of the information contained in the Denbighshire Schools Booklet.
- 18.5. Details of the quality of the accommodation at the potential alternative schools are set out in sections 10.8 and 10.9 above.

Statutory Process

19. Statutory Notice

- 19.1. Once the consultation period⁴¹ has come to an end, DCC's Cabinet and the Diocesan Board will decide whether or not to proceed with the Proposals. If they decide to proceed, the Proposals must be published by way of a statutory notice⁴².

⁴⁰ Please see section 5.1 above for the contact details.

⁴¹ For confirmation of the consultation period, please see section 4.2 above

⁴² The 2013 Act section 48

- 19.2. If the statutory notice is published it must contain details such as the planned implementation date for the Proposals, how to object to the Proposals and how to obtain a copy of the objection report⁴³.
- 19.3. If the decision is taken to proceed with the Proposals, the statutory notice will be published in the following ways:
- a. Publication on the websites of DCC and the Diocese;
 - b. Displayed near or on the main entrance of Ysgol Esgob Morgan; and
 - c. By providing Ysgol Esgob Morgan with copies to distribute to pupils, parents carers and guardians, and staff members (Ysgol Esgob Morgan may distribute the notice by email).

20. Objections

- 20.1. Once the statutory notice has been published, anyone wishing to register an objection has 28 days to do so. Objections must be made in writing and sent to DCC either by email or letter⁴⁴.
- 20.2. Any objections registered within the 28 day period will be collated, analysed, considered and summarised into an objection report⁴⁵ containing a summary of any objections together with responses from DCC and the Diocese. The report will be published by being placed on the websites of DCC and the Diocese; a hard copy will be available on request to DCC's Modernising Education Team.

21. Determining the Proposals

- 21.1. DCC⁴⁶ has 16 weeks from the end of the objection period to decide whether or not to implement the Proposals: this is known as 'determining the Proposals'.
- 21.2. DCC will make and issue its decision in relation to the Proposals in writing; setting out the reasons for the decision. The decision will be published on the websites of DCC and the Diocese. As DCC will determine the Proposals, the objection report

⁴³ The full requirements for the contents of the statutory notice are set out in section 4 of the School Organisation Code

⁴⁴ Please refer to section 5.1 above for contact details.

⁴⁵ The 2013 Act section 49.

⁴⁶ Sections 5.3 and 5.4 of the School Organisation Code provide that where a local authority may determine a proposal such as Proposal One and must determine a proposal such as Proposal Two.

must be published at the same time as the decision to determine the Proposals is issued.

22. References

Throughout this document there is reference to Welsh Government legislation, guidance and other documents. The full references are set out in the table below.

Document Reference	Full Reference
DCC Schools Booklet.	Denbighshire Schools Information for parents, guardians & carers School year 2013 – 2014. (Available on DCC's website by pressing here or by visiting the School Admissions section of the Education page, or on request from DCC's Admissions Team).
School Organisation Code.	School Organisation Code: Statutory Code document no: 006/2013 Date of issue: July 2013.
The 1998 Act.	The School Standards and Framework Act 1998.
The 2013 Act.	School Standards and Organisation Act 2013.
Welsh Government Circular: Measuring Capacity of Schools in Wales.	Measuring the capacity of schools in Wales. Welsh Government Circular No: 021/2011. Date of Issue: October 2011.
Welsh Government Guidance relating to consultation with children and young people.	School organisation: consultation with children and young people. Guidance document no: 119/2013. Date of issue: November 2013.
Welsh Government Guidance relating to Welsh Medium Provision.	Defining schools according to Welsh medium provision. Information document No: 023/2007. Date of issue: October 2007.

Please click [here](#) if you are viewing this document electronically and would like to see any of the above documents.

Appendix

Consultation Response Form

Denbighshire County Council and the Anglican Diocese of St Asaph wish to consult on a proposal to close Ysgol Esgob Morgan on 31 August 2015 and to open Ysgol Esgob Morgan VC (a voluntary controlled school with a religious character) on 1 September 2015.

We would like to hear your views regarding the proposals. You can let us have your views in the following ways:

- If you are accessing this form online then please click **here [insert hyperlink]** to complete the online survey;
- If you have a hard copy of the response form please complete and return it to **Modernising Education Programme Team, Denbighshire County Council, County Hall, Wynnstay Road, Ruthin, LL15 1YN;**
- Visit our website at www.denbighshire.gov.uk/modernisingeducation and follow the survey link via the current consultations link;
- Alternatively you can complete this form, scan and email it to us at modernisingeducation@denbighshire.gov.uk; or
- If you do not have access to a scanner, simply send an email to the address provided above with your responses, using the same numbering as set out below.

Please let us have your responses by **no later than 21 October 2014**. If you would like us to acknowledge receipt of your response please provide your email address in the box for question 9 below.

1. Are you in favour of the Proposals?

(Please tick one box)

Yes	
No	

2. Please tell us whether you are responding as a:

Pupil of Ysgol Esgob Morgan	Parent of pupil of Ysgol Esgob Morgan	Staff Member of Ysgol Esgob Morgan	Community Member	Other

If other, please describe below.

Other:

3. With which school are you most closely associated?

Ysgol Esgob Morgan	
Other	

If other, please say which one below.

Other:

4. Please tell us if any of the following have had an influence on your view of the Proposals

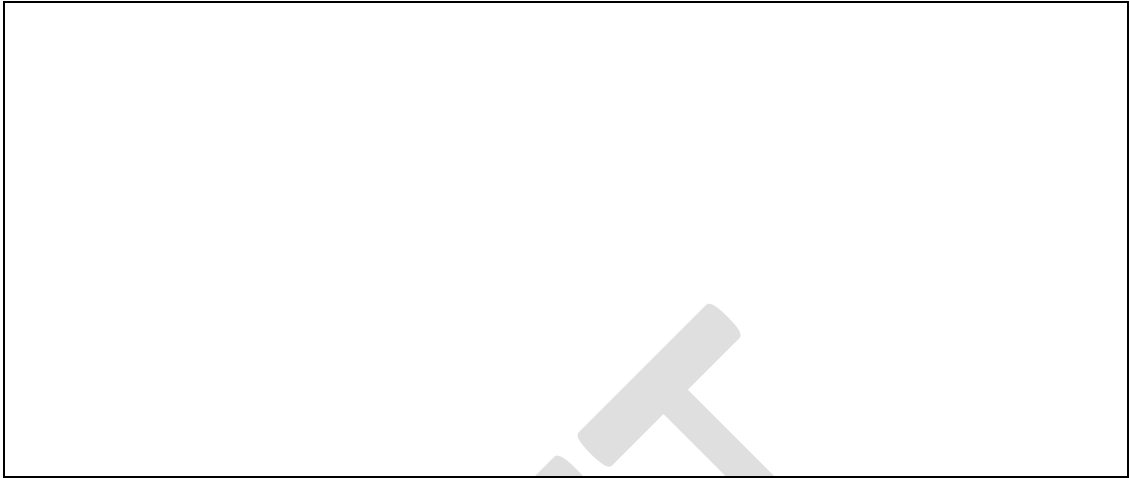
Change from Community School to a Faith School	
Impact on Education	
Other	

If other, please say what below. Also, if you would like to explain your response, please use the box below.

Other:

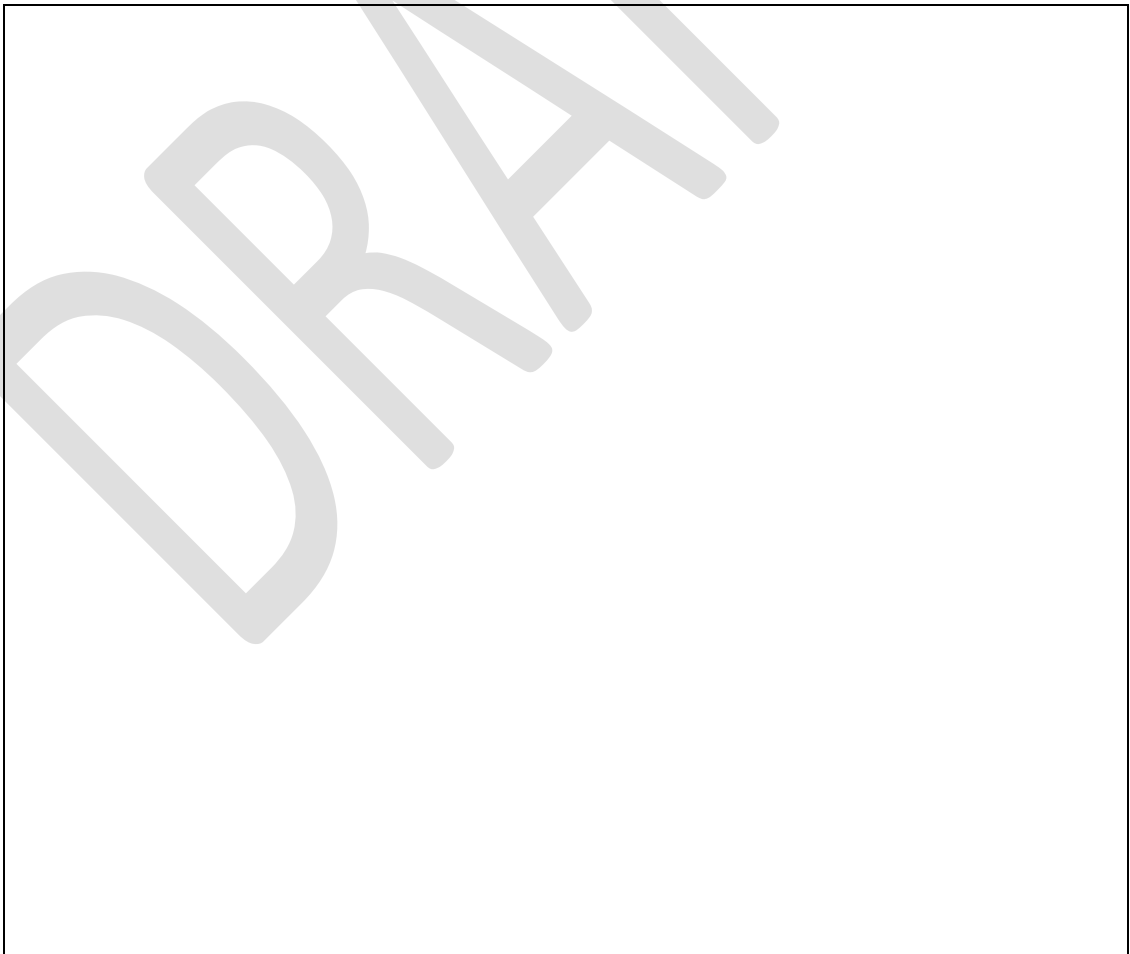
(Please use an additional sheet if necessary)

5. Please let us have any comments, positive or negative, that you would like to make about the Proposals.



(Please use an additional sheet if necessary)

6. If the Proposals are implemented would you send your child/children to Ysgol Esgob Morgan Junior School (Voluntary Controlled School having a religious character) or would you choose another school? If you would choose another school, which one and why?



(Please use an additional sheet if necessary)

7. Under the terms of the Data Protection Act 1998 we must inform you of the following:

Denbighshire County Council (DCC) is seeking your views to help inform the decision on the current proposal. The information you have provided will be used only for this purpose, and may be shared with other agencies who are involved in the consultation, however only to address any issues you raise. If you do not wish to provide personal details your views will still be considered, but we will not be able to acknowledge receipt of your response personally.

With your permission, responses will be reproduced- containing no personal data such as names and addresses- in reports within DCC and the Diocese and on DCC's and the Diocese' website

[Denbighshire County Council/The Anglican Diocese of St. Asaph] is the Data Controller for the purposes of the Data Protection Act 1998. Your personal information will be processed in accordance with that Act and is being collected for the purposes stated above only, and will not be shared with any other party. Should you have any queries regarding this, please contact [*name of person responsible for collating data*].

Do you consent to your response being used in the manner set out above?

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
No	<input type="checkbox"/>

8. Would you like us to acknowledge receipt of your response?

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
No	<input type="checkbox"/>

9. Would you like to receive an email link to the consultation report when it is published on DCC's website?

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
No	<input type="checkbox"/>

10. If you have answered yes to either or both of the previous two questions, please provide your email address, or if you don't have access to email, your postal address below.

Thank you for taking the time to respond.

DRAFT

Proposals to relating to re-designate
Ysgol Esgob Morgan Community School
as a Voluntary Controlled Faith School.

09 June 2014

Equality Impact Assessment

Proposal to relating to the proposed re-designate Ysgol Esgob Morgan Community School as a Voluntary Controlled Faith School

Contact: Paul Greatbatch, Modernising Education Team

Updated: 09/06/2014

1. What type of proposal / decision is being assessed?

A project proposal

2. What is the purpose of this proposal / decision, and what change (to staff or the community) will occur as a result of its implementation?

To change the status of Ysgol Esgob Morgan from a community school to a voluntary controlled church school in partnership with the Church in Wales Diocese of St Asaph. The school will have a much closer relationship with the Diocese. The Diocese and the school already have a close relationship and so to that extent very little will change for the school and/or the local community.

3. Does this proposal / decision require an equality impact assessment? If no, please explain why.

*Please note: if the proposal will have an impact on people (staff or the community) then an equality impact assessment **must** be undertaken*

Yes

<If no, briefly summarise the reasons for this decision here, and skip ahead to the declaration at the end>

4. Please provide a summary of the steps taken, and the information used, to carry out this assessment, including any engagement undertaken

(Please refer to section 1 in the toolkit for guidance)

A draft consultation document has been prepared and this will be circulated to staff and parents at Ysgol Esgob Morgan. The document will also be circulated to

other schools in the area which are likely to be affected by the Proposals, together with other likely interested parties. The consultation document contains a questionnaire and invites people to give their views either by completing it and/or putting their views in a letter or email. DCC officers and education officers from the Diocese will be with the Governing Body, staff and parents from Ysgol Esgob Morgan to explain the Proposals and listen to what people have to say.

- 5. Will this proposal / decision have a positive impact on any of the protected characteristics (age; disability; gender-reassignment; marriage and civil partnership; pregnancy and maternity; race; religion or belief; sex; and sexual orientation)?**
(Please refer to section 1 in the toolkit for a description of the protected characteristics)

Religion is a protected characteristic and the Proposals, if implemented, will result in there being a Church in Wales Junior school to which pupils from the nearby Ysgol St Asaph VP Infants can transit. A high percentage of such children already make this transition. However, if the Proposals are implemented, the junior school will have the same faith ethos as the infants school.

- 6. Will this proposal / decision have a disproportionate negative impact on any of the protected characteristics (age; disability; gender-reassignment; marriage and civil partnership; pregnancy and maternity; race; religion or belief; sex; and sexual orientation)?**

It is possible that people within the local community whose beliefs do not include the anglican faith, may feel that their interests are being prejudiced. However, this will be considered as and when the responses to the consultation document are received.

- 7. Has the proposal / decision been amended to eliminate or reduce any potential disproportionate negative impact? If no, please explain why.**

No	
----	--

- 8. Have you identified any further actions to address and / or monitor any potential negative impact(s)?**

No	The only changes envisaged by the Proposals relate to religion, faith and belief.
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Action(s)	Owner	By when?
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9. Declaration

Every reasonable effort has been made to eliminate or reduce any potential disproportionate impact on people sharing protected characteristics. The actual impact of the proposal / decision will be reviewed at the appropriate stage.

Review Date:	09.06.14
---------------------	----------

Name of Lead Officer for Equality Impact Assessment	Date
Paul Greatbatch	09/06/14

Please note you will be required to publish the outcome of the equality impact assessment if you identify a substantial likely impact.

Report To:	Cabinet
Date of Meeting:	29th July 2014
Lead Member/Officer:	Lead Member for Public Realm/ Corporate Director: Economic and Community Ambition
Report Author:	Senior Engineer, Flood Risk Management
Title:	Denbighshire's Local Flood Risk Management Strategy & Flood Risk Management Update

1. What is the report about?

It is a requirement of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 that the Council must develop, maintain, apply and monitor a strategy for local flood risk management (a "Local Flood Risk Management Strategy"). Following a period of public consultation, the Strategy (contained in Appendix 1) has now been finalised in preparation for submission to the Welsh Government for Ministerial review.

In addition, this report provides an update on the recommendations of the investigation reports into the November 2012 floods and summarises the response to the December 2013 coastal flood event. The report also provides details of locations where schemes are required to reduce flood risk to an acceptable level.

2. What is the reason for making this report?

To seek Cabinet approval for the submission of the Local Flood Risk Management Strategy to the Welsh Government for Ministerial review.

3. What are the Recommendations?

That Cabinet:

- Approves the submission of the Local Flood Risk Management Strategy to the Welsh Government for Ministerial review.
- Notes the additional information provided in the report.

4. Report details.

4.1 Local Flood Risk Management Strategy

In November 2011, the Welsh Government issued guidance to Welsh authorities which suggested that Local Flood Risk Management Strategies should be in place by 31st March 2013. The Council was on course to meet this target until the widespread flooding that affected the county in November 2012. The Council proposed to defer the finalisation of the Strategy until the flood investigation had reached its conclusion

and this decision was supported by the Welsh Government, which is supportive of the Council's approach. The draft Strategy was taken to Communities Scrutiny Committee on 25th November 2013 and Members were invited to submit their comments prior to the formal consultation. The severe coastal flooding event on 5th December 2013 led to the start of the consultation period being further deferred until 6th February 2014.

The broad purpose of the Strategy is to increase the safety of people across the County by reducing the number of people at risk of flooding, increasing the resilience of local communities and reducing the impact of flooding. In order to achieve this, the Strategy sets out four clear objectives for managing local flood risk:

- **Reducing the consequences for individuals, communities, businesses and the environment from flooding and coastal erosion;**
- **Raising awareness of and engaging people in the response to flood and coastal erosion risk;**
- **Providing an effective and sustained response to flood and coastal erosion events; and**
- **Prioritising investment in the most at risk communities.**

The Strategy identifies eight outcomes that will enable the Council to deliver the above objectives.

1. **To improve the understanding of local flood risk;**
2. **Ensure that local communities understand their responsibilities in relation to local flood risk management;**
3. **Work in partnership with other Risk Management Authorities and stakeholders;**
4. **Actively manage flood risk associated with new development proposals;**
5. **Encourage proactive, responsible maintenance of privately-owned flood defence and drainage assets;**
6. **Investigate opportunities to reduce surface water run-off from the upper catchments and for flood storage in flood plain areas;**
7. **Identify affordable, sustainable flood risk management projects, and**
8. **Ensure local FRM knowledge is aligned with the Councils emergency planning procedures.**

The Strategy does not include specific action plans to reduce flooding. However, the Council will be working with Natural Resources Wales to produce site specific Flood Risk Management Plans for the whole County by December 2015. These plans will consider flood risk from all sources.

4.2 Update on the Recommendations of the Investigation Reports into the November 2012 Floods

Significant progress has been made in response to the recommendations set out in the reports taken to Full Council on 9th July 2013 and 10th September 2013. In

particular, work by the Council to improve the existing flood defences at Glasdir, Ruthin is expected to be completed by the end of July 2014. Natural Resources Wales has carried out interim measures to provide an improved standard of protection at St Asaph and is developing plans to reduce the flood risk further. Additional details are contained in Appendix 3.

4.3 December 2013 Coastal Flood Event.

The 5th December 2013 storm resulted in the most serious coastal flooding to affect Wales since the 1990 Towyn floods. 140 properties were flooded in East Rhyl as a consequence of the overtopping of the sea wall and the County's coastal defences suffered significant damage. A review of the event has been carried out, in conjunction with Natural Resources Wales, which examines the cause of the flood, the likelihood of recurrence and what measures are required to reduce the risk in future. One of the key findings of the review, which looked at the whole of Wales, is that events of this nature and severity are likely to occur with increasing frequency. The review makes specific recommendations with respect to East Rhyl, which the Council is currently in the process of carrying out. Further details are contained in Appendix 3.

4.4 Future Flood Risk Management & Coastal Defence Schemes

The schemes referred to in Appendix 4 have been identified on the basis of previous flooding history or, in the case of Barkby Beach, the significant risk of flooding of large numbers of properties. It is likely that, in the development of Flood Risk Management Plans, the Council will identify additional communities at risk of flooding where serious flooding has yet to occur.

The overall estimated cost of carrying out the schemes, which would provide improved flood protection to almost 6,000 properties, is around £11.5 million. The scale of the work puts it beyond the ability of the Council to fully fund. There will, therefore, need to be a continued reliance on Flood and Coastal Risk Management Grant Aid from the Welsh Government.

4.5 Flood Risk Management Definitions

Please refer to Appendix 5.

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

Flooding has the potential to cause severe and prolonged disruption to the communities it affects. Understanding and managing local flood risk supports the Council's priority to develop the local economy.

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

The cost of implementing the outcomes and measures identified in the Local Flood Risk Management Strategy is difficult to determine. There will be a requirement to invest in human resources to ensure that the Strategy is properly implemented.

However, the Council is likely to see savings as a consequence of the reduced impact of flooding through more effective flood risk management.

The overall cost of carrying out the works described in Appendix 4 is likely to be in excess of £11 million. However, the majority of this work is eligible for government funding at grant intervention rate of either 75% (coastal) or 85% (fluvial).

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

By improving its understanding of local flood risk, the Council will be better prepared to manage the risk of flooding and reduce the impact on vulnerable groups.

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

The Council has carried out an eight week formal public consultation and has also consulted with other flood risk management authorities (Natural Resources Wales, Dwr Cymru Welsh Water), neighbouring Lead local Flood Authorities. The draft Strategy was taken to Communities Scrutiny Committee on 25th November 2013 and Members were invited to submit their comments prior to the formal consultation.

9. Chief Finance Officer Statement

The detailed cost and funding proposals for each scheme will have to be considered as the strategy develops.

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

As a Lead Local Flood Authority, the Council has statutory duties and responsibilities under the Flood Risk Regulations and Flood and Water Management Act. Failure to carry these out will damage the Council's reputation and could result in the withdrawal of future Welsh Government grant funding for flood and coastal defence schemes.

11. Power to make the Decision

Flood Risk Regulations (1999), Flood and Water Management Act (2010).

Contact Officer:

Senior Engineer, Flood Risk Management
Tel: 01824 706901

Denbighshire's Local Flood Risk
Management Strategy & Flood Risk
Management Update
15th July 2014

Equality Impact Assessment

Denbighshire's Local Flood Risk Management Strategy & Flood Risk Management Update

Contact: Wayne Hope, Highways & Environmental Services
Updated: 15.07.14

1. What type of proposal / decision is being assessed?

A strategic or service plan

2. What is the purpose of this proposal / decision, and what change (to staff or the community) will occur as a result of its implementation?

The Denbighshire Flood Risk Management Strategy has been developed in response to the requirements of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010. The main purpose of the Strategy is to increase the safety of people across the County by reducing the number of people at risk of flooding, increasing the resilience of local communities and reducing the impact of flooding. A number of objectives, outcomes and measures are identified which will taken forward to deliver the Strategy.

3. Does this proposal / decision require an equality impact assessment? If no, please explain why.

*Please note: if the proposal will have an impact on people (staff or the community) then an equality impact assessment **must** be undertaken*

<Please Select>

<If no, briefly summarise the reasons for this decision here, and skip ahead to the declaration at the end>

4. Please provide a summary of the steps taken, and the information used, to carry out this assessment, including any engagement undertaken

(Please refer to section 1 in the toolkit for guidance)

An eight week public consultation was carried out, including targetted consultation with city, town and community councils, county councillors, neighbouring local authorities and other flood risk management authorities. No comments or queries have been received from the public to date with regards to equality or accessibility

of the associated with the Strategy

5. **Will this proposal / decision have a positive impact on any of the protected characteristics (age; disability; gender-reassignment; marriage and civil partnership; pregnancy and maternity; race; religion or belief; sex; and sexual orientation)?**
(Please refer to section 1 in the toolkit for a description of the protected characteristics)

Yes. Flooding can have a serious and significant negative impact on vulnerable members of society, including older persons and disabled people. Reducing flood risk will have a positive impact.

6. **Will this proposal / decision have a disproportionate negative impact on any of the protected characteristics (age; disability; gender-reassignment; marriage and civil partnership; pregnancy and maternity; race; religion or belief; sex; and sexual orientation)?**

No, for the reasons stated in Section 6 above.

7. **Has the proposal / decision been amended to eliminate or reduce any potential disproportionate negative impact? If no, please explain why.**

<Please Select> No. There is no evidence of any negative impact of the Strategy at this point in time.

8. **Have you identified any further actions to address and / or monitor any potential negative impact(s)?**

<Please Select> <If yes please complete the table below. If no, please explain here>

Action(s)	Owner	By when?
The EqIA will be reviewed during the process of implementation of the objectives and measures identified in the Strategy.	Wayne Hope	July 2015
<Please describe>	<Enter Name>	<DD.MM.YY>
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9. Declaration

Every reasonable effort has been made to eliminate or reduce any potential disproportionate impact on people sharing protected characteristics. The actual impact of the proposal / decision will be reviewed at the appropriate stage.

Review Date:	31 July 2015
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Name of Lead Officer for Equality Impact Assessment	Date
Wayne Hope	15.7.14

Please note you will be required to publish the outcome of the equality impact assessment if you identify a substantial likely impact.

Denbighshire Local Flood Risk Management- Strategy

Strategy Document

June 2014
Denbighshire County Council

Denbighshire Local Flood Risk Management- Strategy

Consultation Strategy Document
2013 - 2017




Denbighshire County Council

Denbighshire County Council
Department of Highways and Infrastructure
Caledfryn
Smithfield Road
Denbighshire County Council
LL16 3RJ

Issue and revision record

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Status	Final

Document version	Notes	Date
0.1	Public Consultation	January 2014
0.2	Final Version	June 2014

	Signature	Name	Date
Prepared by		A. Bebbington	27/6/14
Checked by		W. Hope	27/6/14
Approved by		W. Hope	27/6/14

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Glossary and Abbreviations of words and phrases commonly used in flood and coastal erosion risk management

Term	Meaning / Definition
Aquifer	A layer of porous substrate that contains and transmits groundwater.
AONB	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.
Asset Register	Register of structures or features which are considered to have an effect on flood risk.
Cadw	Cadw is the Welsh Government's historic environment service.
Catchment	An area that serves a river with rainwater; that is, every part of land where the rainfall drains to a single watercourse is in the same catchment.
Climate Change	The change in average conditions of the atmosphere near the Earth's surface over a long period of time.
Coastal Erosion	The wearing a way of coastline, usually by wind and/or wave action.
Coastal Erosion Risk	Measures the significance of potential coastal erosion in terms of likelihood and impact.
Coastal Erosion Risk Management	Anything done for the purpose of analysing, assessing and reducing a risk of the wearing away of coastline.
Coastal Flooding	Occurs when coastal defences are unable to contain the normal predicted high tides that can cause flooding, possibly when a high tide combines with a storm surge (created by high winds or very low atmospheric pressure).
Coastal Squeeze	Where the coast is protected by engineering structures, the rising sea level results in a steepening of the intertidal profile, known as coastal squeeze.
Community Infrastructure Levy	A mechanism for raising additional funding at the local level.
Consenting	Process of obtaining permission to add/amend structures in/near a watercourse or flood defence structure.
CRR	Community Risk Register.
CCW	Countryside Council for Wales – is the Government's statutory advisor on sustaining natural beauty, wildlife and the opportunity for outdoor enjoyment on Wales and its inshore waters. Natural Resources Wales now brings together the work of the Countryside Council for Wales, Environment Agency Wales and Forestry Commission Wales, as well as some functions of Welsh Government.
Culvert	A covered structure under road, embankment etc, to direct the flow of water.
DCC	Denbighshire County Council.
Defences	A structure that is used to reduce the probability of floodwater or coastal erosion affecting a particular area.
Defra	Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs.

Denbighshire Local Flood Risk Management- Strategy

Term	Meaning / Definition
Deposition	The process whereby sediment is placed on the sea bed, shoreline, river bed or flood plain.
DCWW	Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water – supplies water, sewerage and trade effluent services in Wales
EA	Environment Agency - Executive Non-departmental Public Body responsible to the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs.
EAW	Environment Agency Wales – The former Welsh Government sponsored Public Body responsible to the Welsh Ministers. Natural Resources Wales now brings together the work of the Countryside Council for Wales, Environment Agency Wales and Forestry Commission Wales, as well as some functions of Welsh Government.
ESF	Environment Social Fund.
ERDF	European Regional Development Fund.
EU	European Union.
Flood	Any case where land not normally covered with water becomes covered by water.
FCERM	Flood & Coastal Erosion Risk Management.
FIR	Flood Investigation Report.
Flood Risk	Product of the probability of flooding occurring and the consequences when flooding happens.
Flood Risk Management	The activity of understanding the probability and consequences of flooding, and seeking to modify these factors to reduce flood risk to people, property and the environment. This should take account of other water level management and environmental requirements, and opportunities and constraints.
Flood Risk Management Measures	The way in which flood risks are to be managed.
Flood Risk Management Wales	The Regional Flood and Coastal Committee (RFCC) for Wales.
Flood Risk Regulations 2009	Regulations which transpose the EC Floods Directive (Directive 2007/60/EC on the assessment and management of flood risks) into domestic law and to implement its provisions.
FWMA	Flood and Water Management Act 2010 - An Act of Parliament updating and amending legislation to address the threat of flooding and water scarcity, both of which are predicted to increase with climate change.
Fluvial Flooding	Flooding from rivers including ordinary watercourses and main rivers.
FCW	Forestry Commission Wales – Government Body Responsible for managing Britain's public forests. Natural Resources Wales now brings together the work of the Countryside Council for Wales, Environment Agency Wales and Forestry Commission Wales, as well as some functions of Welsh Government.

Denbighshire Local Flood Risk Management- Strategy

Term	Meaning / Definition
Groundwater	Water held underground in the soil or in pores and crevices in rock.
Groundwater Flooding	Occurs when water levels in the ground rise above the natural surface. Low lying areas underlain by permeable strata are particularly susceptible.
LDP	Local Development Plan.
LDC	Land Drainage Consent.
Local Flood Risk	Defined within the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 as including surface runoff, groundwater and ordinary watercourses.
LFRRMS	Local Flood Risk Management Strategy - Required in relation to Wales by Section 10 of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 Local Flood Risk Strategies are to be prepared by Lead Local Flood Authorities and must set out how they will manage local flood risks within their areas.
LLFA	Lead Local Flood Authority - the County Council or the County Borough Council for the area (Local Authority).
LRF	Local Resilience Forum - A group required under the Civil Contingencies Act, 2004 who are responsible for the coordination of emergency planning in local areas.
Main River	A watercourse shown as such on the Main River Map, and for which Natural Resources Wales has responsibilities and powers in Wales.
NMWTRA	North & Mid Wales Trunk Road Agency – responsible for the maintenance of the trunk roads in Denbighshire.
NRW	Natural Resources Wales. Natural Resources Wales brings together the work of the Countryside Council for Wales, Environment Agency Wales and Forestry Commission Wales, as well as some functions of Welsh Government.
NWRF	North Wales Resilience Forum – made up of strategic level managers of each of the Category 1 responders (Local Authority, Emergency Services, and Local Health Boards) to ensure that there is an appropriate level of preparedness to enable an effective multi-agency response to an emergency.
Ordinary Watercourse	All watercourses that are not designated Main River, and which are the responsibility of riparian landowners.
PFRA	Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment.
Reservoir	An artificial lake where water is collected and stored until needed. Reservoirs can be used for irrigation, recreation, providing water for municipal needs, hydroelectric power or controlling water flow.
Residual risk	The risk that remains after risk control measures have been put in place.
Resilience	The ability of the community, services, area or infrastructure to avoid being flooded, lost to erosion or to withstand the consequences of flooding or erosion taking place.
Risk Assessment	A structured and auditable process of identifying potential significant events, assessing their likelihood and impacts and then combining these to provide an overall assessment of risk to inform further decisions and actions.

Denbighshire Local Flood Risk Management- Strategy

Term	Meaning / Definition
Risk Management	Anything done for the purpose of analysing, assessing and reducing a risk.
RMA	Risk Management Authority - A Welsh risk management authority is defined in Section 6 of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 as the Environment Agency (now Natural Resources Wales), a Lead Local Flood Authority, a district council for an area for which there is no unitary authority, an IDB for an internal drainage district that is wholly or mainly in Wales and a water company that exercises functions in relation to an area in Wales.
Risk Management Schemes	A range of actions to reduce flood frequency and/or the consequences of flooding to acceptable or agreed levels.
River flooding	Occurs when water levels in a channel overwhelms the capacity of the channel.
Sewer	An artificial conduit, usually underground, for carrying off sewage (foul sewer) or rainwater (storm or surface water sewer) or both (combined sewer).
SMP	Shoreline Management Plans - A large-scale assessment of the risks associated with coastal processes and helps reduce these risks to people and the developed, historic and natural environments.
SEA	Strategic Environmental Assessment. An SEA is a system of incorporating environmental considerations into policies, plans, programmes and strategies.
SFRA	Strategic Flood Risk Assessment.
SuDS	Sustainable Drainage Systems - Approach to surface water management which helps to deal with excesses of water by mimicking natural drainage processes and patterns.
Surface Water Flooding	In the urban context, usually means that surface water runoff rates exceed the capacity of drainage systems to remove it. In the rural context, it is where surface water runoff floods something or someone.
Surface Water Runoff	This occurs when the rate of rainfall exceeds the rate that water can infiltrate the ground or soil and flows over ground.
SWMP	Surface Water Management Plan.
SAB	SuDS Approval Body.
Wales Flood Group	A sub group of a Wales Resilience Forum.
WFD	Water Framework Directive.
WG	Welsh Government.
WLGA	Welsh Local Government Association - Represents the interests of Local Authorities in Wales. The three fire and rescue authorities, four police authorities and three national park authorities are associate members.
Welsh Risk Management Authorities	Risk Management Authorities as defined in Section 27 of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010.

Foreword

I am pleased to introduce the Denbighshire Local Flood Risk Management Strategy. The flooding experienced in Denbighshire in November 2012 has brought into sharp focus the need to prepare for and manage flood risk. The predictions of increased frequency and intensity of flooding as a consequence of climate change further underline the need for responsibilities to be identified and tightened.

This is the first Local Flood Risk Management Strategy for the County since we, Denbighshire County Council, received new flood risk management duties and powers under the Flood and Water Management Act 2010. The strategy will set out how we as a Lead Local Flood Authority will work with our at risk communities and alongside other risk management authorities to reduce flood risk

This strategy outlines the Council's objectives for managing flood and coastal erosion and describes the measures that we need to take over the coming years to bring about a better, more sustainable approach that works with nature. We look forward to using the strategy to help us target our efforts, make full use of our resources more efficiently, and reduce flood risk to the residents of Denbighshire.



Councillor David Smith



Executive Summary

Denbighshire County Council (DCC), as a Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) is required to prepare a Local Flood Risk Management Strategy. The purpose of the Local Strategy is to address potential flood risk arising from local sources within the boundaries of the Authority area. An important part of the Local Strategy will be to ensure that our communities are aware of what risks exist, aware of what the Council and other Risk Management Authorities¹ responsibilities are in terms of flood risk and what communities can do to involve themselves.

The Local Strategy will complement and support the National Strategy published by Welsh Government, which outlines a national framework for flood and coastal risk management that aims to balance the needs of communities, the economy and the environment. *The National Strategy for Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management (Wales)* sets the following objectives:

1. **Reducing the impacts** on individuals, communities, businesses and the environment from flooding and coastal erosion;
2. **Raising awareness** of and engaging people in the response to flood and coastal erosion risk;
3. **Providing an effective and sustained response** to flood and coastal erosion events; and
4. **Prioritising investment** in communities most at risk.

The Local Strategy aims to pull together the existing policies and actions the Authority undertakes which have implications with regard to flood risk management. It also describes any new actions or policies introduced as a result of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 and Flood Risk Regulations 2009 and also any proposed actions or policies to be introduced to further manage flood risk.

The LLFA must specify objectives to manage flood risk and suggest measures to achieve those objectives. The Local Strategy must show how and when any measures are to be introduced and how they will be funded. The implementation and funding of some of the proposed actions may not be clear at this stage, as they involve sections of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 which have not yet been implemented.

The LLFA has a responsibility to consider the flood risk management functions that it may exercise to reduce the impact and risk from flooding. In support of the aim of a general reduction of flood risk across the district, the LLFA will prioritise investigations and works identified in this strategy to the best of its abilities, based on perceived and evidenced risk and with limited resources.

Considering the current pressures on public funding, the money available for addressing flood risk is unlikely to be adequate and pressures will only increase with rising future risk brought about by further development and a changing climate. As such, flood risk management will need to be supplemented by everyone working together and by those at risk from flooding taking responsibility to protect and help themselves.

¹ Further definition of Risk Management Authorities can be found in Section 6.

1. Introduction

Around 220,000 properties in Wales, or about one in six buildings, are at risk of flooding, of which 64,000 are at significant risk. 97,000 of these are also vulnerable to surface water flooding with a further 137,000 properties susceptible to surface water flooding alone.

*Flooding in Wales – National Assessment of Flood Risk
Natural Resources Wales*

1.1 Introduction

The increase in occurrence and severity of flooding in recent years including that of summer 2007 sparked a government-commissioned investigation into the flooding, known as the Pitt Review¹. It summarised the failings of historic flood management, resulting in an extensive set of recommendations which were transposed into the Flood and Water Management Act 2010² (FWMA). The FWMA created a responsibility for County and Unitary Councils to act as Lead Local Flood Authorities (LLFA's) which meant they were required to take leadership for the coordination and management of local flood risk.

Denbighshire County Council (DCC) has been designated as a LLFA in Wales, and is required under Section 10 of the FWMA to develop, maintain, apply and monitor a Local Flood Risk Management Strategy (LFRMS) in its area. The purpose of the LFRMS is to address potential flood risk arising from local sources within the boundaries of the Local Authority area. Local flood risk is defined as any flood risk from surface runoff, groundwater and ordinary watercourses. An ordinary watercourse is defined (in the Water Resources Act 1991) as any watercourse, including lakes and ponds that is not classified as a main river.

1.2 Lessons learnt from the November 2012 Floods

The significant and widespread flooding across Denbighshire at the end of November 2012 was a stark reminder of the challenges the Council faces in managing flood risk throughout the County. In particular, it has taught us that we, as a society, cannot afford to become complacent in our attitude to flood risk, particularly in light of the predicted increase in the frequency and magnitude of floods as a consequence of climate change.

In particular, the 2012 floods have taught us the importance of having plans in place to prepare for and respond to flooding, as well as the importance of working in partnership with other flood risk management authorities.

1.3 Structure of the Local Strategy

This flood risk management strategy begins a new chapter of Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management (FCERM) for Denbighshire. It highlights the steps that are to be taken to improve knowledge of flood risk in the county, to work better with organisations and the public towards reducing those risks whilst aiming to balance the needs of communities, the economy and the environment.

The strategy document starts with information on the legislation that underpins FCERM activities, the nature of flood risks in Denbighshire and what further information is needed to help build a better picture of local flood risks. It then identifies the authorities and organisations involved and what part each will play in

¹ The Pitt Review; Learning Lessons from the 2007 Floods - Full Report

² Her Majesty's (HM) Government (2010) Flood and Water Management Act

helping reduce the risk of flooding in Denbighshire. The next section will describe the strategic objectives for managing flood risk and the measures that might be implemented to achieve them. This will be supplemented by annual action plans in order to give a more detailed overview of what DCC want to achieve that year and how it will be undertaken.

1.4 Strategic Environmental Assessment

A Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) is being undertaken to ensure that any significant environmental effects arising from this strategy are identified, assessed, mitigated, communicated to decision-makers, monitored and that opportunities for public involvement were provided.

SEA is a generic tool that was introduced by the European Union Directive 2001/42/EC. The objective of the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive is to “to provide for a high level of protection of the environment and to contribute to the integration of environmental considerations into the preparation and adoption of plans and programmes with a view to promoting sustainable development (Article 1)”.

This requires national, regional and local strategic environmental assessment on certain plans and strategies that they promote, such as this strategy. Monitoring of the significant environmental effects of implementing the strategy will be undertaken to comply with Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive - Article 10.1, to ensure that any unforeseen adverse effects of the local strategy are recognised and dealt with.

The SEA for this strategy has been carried out as the document has developed. The SEA has been undertaken in line with Government Guidance. Statutory Consultees (Environment Agency Wales, Countryside Council for Wales [now Natural Resources Wales] and Cadw) have been consulted and the public have had an opportunity to comment, and these comments have been incorporated into the final Environmental Report.

1.5 Habitats Regulations Assessments

Under the European Directive 92/43/EEC on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and Wild Fauna and Flora (also known as the ‘Habitats Directive’), and the resulting Conservation of Habitats and Species (Amendment) Regulations 2012, a Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA) is required where a plan may give rise to potential significant effects on European designated sites, known as Natura 2000 sites.

Natura 2000 sites consist of Special Protection Areas (SPA), Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) and Ramsar sites and also include potential SPA (pSPA) and candidate SAC (cSAC). Within and surrounding the county there are a number of SPA’s and SAC’s, and therefore a HRA Stage 1 ‘Test of Likely Significant’ (Screening) has been undertaken to determine whether there are likely to be any significant effects on Natura 2000 sites from the LFRMS. A Screening Report was produced and will be consulted upon by Countryside Council for Wales (CCW). The screening has concluded that a Stage 2 ‘Appropriate Assessment’ will not be required.

2. Legislative Context

2.1 History of Flood Risk Management

The responsibility for flood risk management has changed considerably over the past 30 years. Prior to 1989, the regulation of national environmental issues (including flood risk management, drainage and water quality) was carried out by ten Regional Water Authorities (RWAs). The Welsh National Water Development Authority (which came into existence by virtue of the Water Act 1973) covered the area which is now DCC. In 1989 the National Rivers Authority was set up, a national body that took over the roles and responsibilities for flood risk management, drainage and water quality in England and Wales. The Water Act 1989 privatised the Water Supply and Sewerage functions of the Water Authorities with Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water (DCWW) becoming a PLC (Since 2001 DCWW has been owned by Glas Cymru, a 'not for profit' company limited by guarantee). [This was followed by the introduction of the Water Industry Act 1991, which set out the statutory obligations of water and sewerage undertakers and water companies responsibilities for effectively draining areas.](#)

In December 1991, a number of [additional](#) pieces of legislation were enacted which aimed to consolidate existing water legislation. Most relevant in terms of flood risk management were the Land Drainage Act, which outlined the duties and powers to manage land drainage for a number of bodies including internal drainage boards and Local Authorities, and the Water Resources Act, which outlined the roles and responsibilities of the National Rivers Authority. The Statutory Water Companies Act and the Water (Consequential Provisions) Act were also enacted at the same time.

The Environment Agency³ (EA) was established by the Environment Act in 1995. The EA came into existence on 1st April 1996 and took over the roles and responsibilities of the National Rivers Authority and also the responsibility for issuing flood warnings, a role previously held by the police. The management and operation of the Environment Agency is divided into a number of regions across the country; the county of Denbighshire falls within the Environment Agency Wales region.

Within England and Wales, recent flood risk management policy changes were accelerated by major flood events in 1998 and 2000, which led to the release of Planning Policy Guidance 25 (PPG25): Development and Flood Risk in England during 2001. Technical Advice Note 15 (TAN15), the Welsh equivalent of PPG25 was released in 2004 and aims to direct development away from areas of high flood risk with justification and assessment of consequences required if this cannot be achieved. TAN15 also encourages Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) to be implemented for any development where they will be effective.

In England Planning Policy Statement 25 (PPS25) superseded PPG25 in 2006 and reinforced the requirement for sustainable surface water management in new developments. This has now been replaced by the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) which looks to rationalise the amount of planning legislation and bringing it all together in one coherent document. The Wales Office⁴ has welcomed the changes to the English planning guidelines and encourages the Welsh Government to seek to adopt these measures.

³ An Executive Non-departmental Public Body responsible to the Secretary for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs and in Wales a Welsh Government Sponsored Body responsible to the Minister for Environment and Sustainable Development

⁴ The Wales Office supports the Secretary of State for Wales

More recently on 1st April 2013 Natural Resources Wales (NRW) was established to create one single environment body for Wales taking over the functions of the Environment Agency Wales (EAW), the Countryside Council for Wales (CCW) and the Forestry Commission Wales, as well as some functions of Welsh Government. This new body has taken on all of the responsibilities of the Environment Agency in relation to flood and coastal erosion risk management in Wales.

2.2 The Flood and Water Management Act 2010

Following Royal assent in April 2010 The Flood & Water Management Bill became an Act of Parliament. The Act reinforces the need to manage flooding in a holistic and sustainable manner and places a number of new roles and responsibilities on councils such as Denbighshire, which is designated as a Lead Local Flood Authority under the FWMA extending their previous responsibilities for flood risk management. The preparation of this LFRMS is just one of the duties placed upon DCC under this piece of legislation.

There are two key drivers behind the new legislation; one being the review in to the summer 2007 floods by Sir Michael Pitt, most often referred to as the Pitt Review. The other key driver behind the Act is the EU Floods Directive which has been transposed into UK law by the Flood Risk Regulations, 2009. Both of which are summarised in the following sections:

2.3 The Pitt Review

Sir Michael Pitt carried out an independent review of national FCERM practices after the widespread and catastrophic floods during the summer of 2007, in which over 55,000 households were affected and damages exceeded £4 billion⁵. The Pitt Review was published in June 2008 and called for urgent and fundamental changes to the way flood risk was being managed. The report contained 92 recommendations for the Government, Local Authorities, Local Resilience Forums and other stakeholders which were based around the concept of Local Authorities playing a major role in the management of local flood risk, through coordinating with all relevant authorities. Many of the recommendations contained in the Pitt Review have been enacted through the Flood and Water Management Act.

2.4 The Flood Risk Regulations 2009

The Flood Risk Regulations (FRR) came into force in December 2009 and transposes the EU Floods Directive into law for England and Wales. The Flood Risk Regulations require three main pieces of work:

Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment (PFRA) – This involves collecting information on past and future floods from surface water, groundwater and ordinary watercourses, assembling the information into a PFRA report and identifying Indicative Flood Risk Areas⁶. No Indicative 'Flood Risk Areas' were identified in Denbighshire County. The PFRA for Denbighshire County has been completed and can be found on the Natural Resources Wales website and Denbighshire County Council website.

Flood Hazard and Flood Risk Maps – Any authorities identifying an Indicative Flood Risk Area are required to produce hazard and risk maps for those areas by 22nd December 2013.

Flood Risk Management Plans – The final stage is for authorities with an Indicative Flood Risk Area to produce a Flood Risk Management Plan for those areas by 22nd December 2015.

⁵ The Costs of the summer 2007 floods in England – Environment Agency (Project: SC070039/R1) Published January 2010

⁶ Flood Risk Area is defined in the report as an affected population greater than 5,000 people at risk, as defined in the WG/ Defra guidance document 'Selecting and Reviewing Flood Risk Areas for local sources of flooding – Guidance for Lead Local Flood Authorities'.

Denbighshire Local Flood Risk Management- Strategy

The PFRA did not identify any indicative 'Flood Risk Areas' within Denbighshire County. Flood Risk Areas termed in the PFRA have been defined by Welsh Government guidance as an affected population greater than 5,000 people at risk. As such DCC is not required under the FRR to undertake the flood hazard and flood risk maps and flood risk management plans.

These pieces of work are to be reviewed on a six yearly cycle so DCC will revise the PFRA by 2017. Should this review identify a Flood Risk Area, flood hazard and flood risk maps and flood risk management plans will need to be completed during this cycle. It is proposed that a review of the Local Strategy should take place in 2017 following the review of the National Strategy in 2016, and to coincide with the review of the PFRA.

2.5 The National Strategy for Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management

The Flood and Water Management Act 2010 requires the Welsh Government (WG) to develop, maintain, apply and monitor a National Strategy for flood and coastal erosion risk management in Wales. It can be found at the following location:

<http://wales.gov.uk/docs/desh/publications/111114floodingstrategyen.pdf>

The National Strategy sets four overarching objectives for the management of flood and coastal erosion risk in Wales, which are as follows:

- Reducing the consequences for individuals, communities, businesses and the environment from flooding and coastal erosion;
- Raising awareness of and engaging people in the response to flood and coastal erosion risk;
- Providing an effective and sustained response to flood and coastal erosion events; and
- Prioritising investment in the most at risk communities.

Implementing these objectives will be the responsibility of everyone involved in or affected by flood and coastal erosion risk management, from the WG to the Welsh Risk Management Authorities and the people of Wales themselves.

The FWMA states that Local Strategies must be consistent with the National Strategy for Wales. Being consistent ensures that the strategic aims and objectives in the National Strategy are translated into meaningful objectives for their own particular area.

The WG have a wide range of measures which they propose will meet their objectives. The following measures have been assigned to LLFA to lead delivery on:

- Development of Local Flood Risk Management Strategies;
- Implementation of statutory responsibilities including those set out within the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 and the Flood Risk Regulations 2009;
- Approval and adoption of SuDS drainage systems by the SuDS Approving and Adopting Body;
- Development of a register of natural and manmade structures or features likely to have an effect on flood risk;

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- Establishment of a programme of regular and appropriate maintenance for flood and coastal erosion risk management assets (for assets owned by the LLFA);
- Designation of natural and manmade structures or features likely to have an effect on flood or coastal erosion risk over the life of the Strategy;
- Programme of community based awareness and engagement activities, utilising the Flood Risk Management Community Engagement Toolkit (in partnership with Natural Resources Wales);
- Identification of at risk groups within communities, including vulnerable individuals;
- Development of procedures for the effective clearance of debris (following a flood event);
- Development of repair schedules including provision for the installation of resilient measures; and
- Investigations into the causes of flooding to be undertaken where necessary within one month.

There are additional measures for local authorities in their capacity as local planning authority and as Category 1 responder under the Civil Contingencies Act 2004.

2.6 Other Legislation

Flood Risk Management is affected by a range of other legislation. Which are considered to include (but not limited to) the following:

- The Climate Change Act 2008;
- The Civil Contingencies Act 2004;
- The Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Directive 2001;
- The Conservation of Habitats and Species (Amendment) Regulations 2012;
- The Land Drainage Act 1991;
- The Water Framework Directive 2007;
- Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981;
- Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000;
- Coast Protection Act 1949;
- Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006;
- Public Health Act 1936; and
- Highways Act 1980.

3. Flood Risk in Denbighshire

3.1 Introduction

The European Union (EU) Floods Directive defines a flood as a covering by water of land not normally covered by water. It can occur from a number of sources, including rivers, the sea, small local watercourses, below ground drainage systems and direct surface water run-off. Understanding both the sources of and reasons for flooding ensures that Denbighshire County Council can take steps to manage and reduce the risks of flooding. Flood risk is the product of the likelihood or chance of flooding, multiplied by the consequences or impacts of flooding.

The likelihood (or chance) of flooding occurring in any one year can be expressed as a probability or an annual chance. For example:

- A 1% annual probability of flooding; or
- A 1 in 100 chance of flooding at a location in any year.

The consequences (or impacts) of flooding can have serious effects not only on people and property, but also on essential services, infrastructure and the environment.

3.2 Local Flood Risk

Denbighshire has experienced extensive flooding in the past. Recent notable events include extensive flooding across the county in October and November 2000 and during late November 2012.

For the purpose of this strategy, a locally significant event is defined as one where 5 or more residential properties are flooded. Below is a table illustrating examples of significant flood events that have occurred in Denbighshire over recent years. It should be noted that the list provided (Table 3.1) is not a comprehensive list of all flooding that has occurred in Denbighshire.

Denbighshire County is exposed to the combined potential risk from river, tidal and coastal flooding. Urban drainage and surface water problems have also contributed to the counties long history of flooding.

Denbighshire County Council covers a diverse demographic area, from the urban coastal resorts of Rhyl and Prestatyn in the north through significant rural areas to the smaller towns of Denbigh, Ruthin, Corwen and Llangollen.

The administrative area of Denbighshire County Council covers approximately 844 km². The county falls into two river basin districts, the Dee River Basin District and the Western Wales River Basin District and is served by two water companies, Dwr Cymru Welsh Water and Dee Valley Water.

Denbighshire is bordered to the north by the Irish Sea, to the east by Flintshire County Council and Wrexham County Borough Council, to the south by Powys County Council and to the west by Gwynedd County Council and Conwy County Borough Council.

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Year of Flood	Area Affected	Type of Flood	Consequence
2013	East Rhyl	Coastal	120 residential properties flooded
2012	St Asaph, Rhuddlan, Ruthin,	Main River	550 residential properties flooded at various locations across the county
2007	Prestatyn	Surface water	13 residential properties flooded by surface water at various locations in Prestatyn
2000	Dyserth	Ordinary Watercourse	5 residential properties flooded from Afon Ffyddion
2000	St Asaph	Ordinary Watercourse	7 residential properties flooded from Glascoed Stream
2000	Llanbedr	Ordinary Watercourse	7 residential properties flooded from un-named watercourse.
2000	Corwen	Ordinary Watercourse	23 residential properties flooded from Afon Nant y Cawrddu
2000	Ruthin	Main River	20 residential properties, 6 business properties.
1990	Rhyl & Prestatyn	Coastal	108 residential properties

Table 3.1: Significant flood events in Denbighshire over the recent years

DCC is responsible for 11.2 km of coastline, which comprises the Foryd Harbour and the River Clwyd estuary to the west, a fully and partly developed middle section containing the resorts of Rhyl and Prestatyn, broken only by Rhyl Golf Course, extensive sand dunes, a golf course and open space to the east, low lying agricultural land and coastal defence works extending from Foryd Estuary to Barkby Beach.

The total resident population of Denbighshire County is c.94,000 with an estimated summer population in excess of 150,000 with the largest towns on the coast at Rhyl (c.25,000) and Prestatyn (c.18,000). Away from the coastal strip, the area is predominantly rural, and the inland towns are much smaller, Denbigh having a population of 8,500, Ruthin 5,000, and Llangollen 3,300.

The majority of historic flooding data collated by Denbighshire County Council relates to flooding from ordinary watercourses. Communities that have been affected in the past include Ruthin, Denbigh, Llangollen, Corwen, Gwyddelwern, St Asaph, Dyserth, Llanbedr Dyffryn Clwyd and Pwll Glas. The recent floods in November 2012 were due to the combination of a prolonged period of intense rainfall on already heavily saturated ground in the Clwyd and Elwy river catchment areas which led to these main rivers overtopping as well as some surface water flooding and flooding from ordinary watercourses.

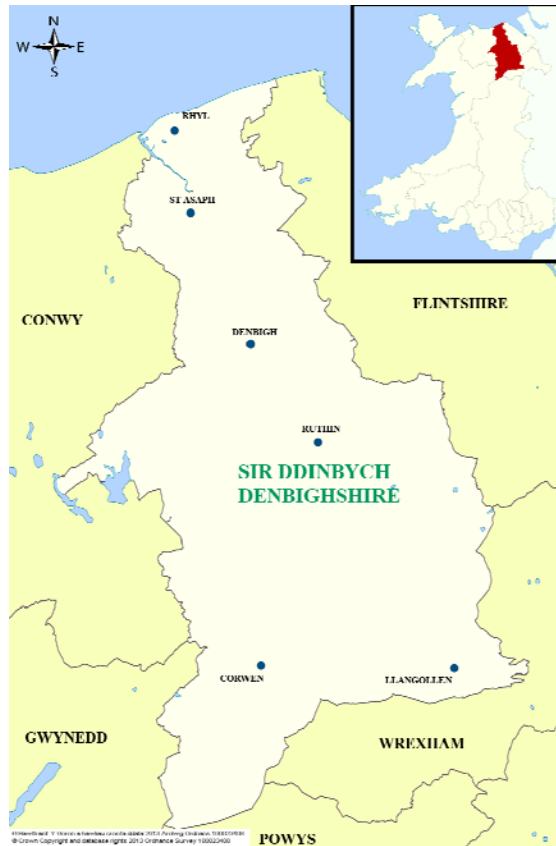


Figure 3.2: Map of Denbighshire showing surrounding Counties

3.3 Types of Flooding

Flooding can be caused from a wide variety of sources and interactions between those sources. The Flood and Water Management Act defines 'local flood risk' as being a flood risk from:

- Surface water runoff;
- Groundwater; and
- Ordinary water courses.

These sources are defined below. It should be noted that in many cases these sources can be interrelated and flooding can be caused by a combination of sources including those not considered local sources such as main rivers or the sea.

Although this strategy is directed at managing risk from flooding from local sources, this document takes into account the aims and objectives identified in the *National Strategy for Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management* in Wales, published by the Welsh Government in November 2011. As such, and for completeness, all types of flooding that may occur in the county and that are covered by both strategies (local and national) have been described in the following sections.

Denbighshire Local Flood Risk Management- Strategy

Flooding Type	Description	Responsible Authority
Coastal	Tidal flooding represents a significant problem in Denbighshire where the consequences are likely to be very serious, albeit infrequent	National Resources Wales
Reservoirs	Large water pounds which have embankments represent a potential flood risk	National Resources Wales
Main rivers	Principal watercourses and strategic smaller watercourses (Also known as Fluvial flooding)	National Resources Wales
Ordinary Water Courses	Local, generally smaller watercourses	Denbighshire County Council (LLFA)
Groundwater Flooding	Geological conditions can cause surface water which has infiltrated into the ground to emerge at certain points, leading to flooding	Denbighshire County Council (LLFA)
Surface Water Flooding	High intensity rainfall gives rise to overland flow of surface water which can pond in low lying areas giving rise to flooding. (Also known as Pluvial Flooding)	Denbighshire County Council (LLFA)
Sewer Flooding	Public sewer system have limited capacities and during heavy rainfall, surface water entering designated surface water sewers, combined sewers (ones which receive foul and surface water flows) and designated foul sewers which are subject to penetration of surface water through misconnections etc can become overloaded giving rise to surface flooding	Welsh Water Dwr Cymru
Highway Flooding	Highways have drainage systems although at times of heavy rainfall either hydraulic overload or blockage can lead to ponding or conveyance of water which can in turn have an impact on property, as well as making roads unsafe.	Denbighshire County Council (as a Highways Agency) North and Mid-Wales Trunk Road Agent (NWMTRA)

Table 3.2: Types of Flooding and Responsible Authorities

3.3.1 Surface Water Flooding (pluvial)

Surface water flooding or runoff is caused by water flowing overland following periods of prolonged or intense rainfall, leading to flows or ponding of water. Surface water flooding can happen anywhere with very little warning and can disappear with a similar speed. Areas which have been historically subject to this type of flooding are likely to experience a higher probability of repeat flood events in the future according to climate change projections.

Surface water flooding is complex in nature and can be exacerbated by a number of factors. These include; poor infiltration rates where water is unable to (or slow to) discharge to ground including areas of impervious natural materials (for example Clay soils, non-porous rocks) or man-made materials (hard-standing, roofs); poorly maintained structures (blocked or silted gullies and pipe work) or under designed local drainage capacity allowing for insufficient attenuation of surface water runoff following periods of heavy rainfall; and obstructions in watercourses leading to overtopping and flows over land.

Significant work has been undertaken by DCC to identify the risk and the probability of flooding from surface water. As part of their responsibilities the LLFA produced a PFRA in 2011 to identify the areas within the county that are at risk from flooding.

Information on surface water flooding incidents tends to be less reliable than that for other causes of flooding, primarily because the source of flooding can be difficult to determine. In particular, some areas of Rhyl and Prestatyn have been prone to surface water flooding.

Modelling of future flood risk in Denbighshire using Natural Resources Wales national mapping datasets, estimates that 5,140 properties are at risk of surface water flooding to a depth of 0.1m and 1579 properties at a risk from flooding to a depth of 0.3m, of these properties 89% are residential properties.

3.3.2 Groundwater Flooding

Groundwater is the term used to describe water that is stored underground in permeable rocks which are known as aquifers. The aquifers are fed through the process of precipitation which percolates through the ground and includes all of the water that is not lost to surface water runoff and evapo-transpiration. Groundwater forms the foundation of the base-flows of rivers and streams which are topped up by surface run-off. Groundwater flooding occurs when the water held underground rises above these levels. It is important to note that the term groundwater does not include any water that is carried in buried pipes or held underground in containers.

Predicting groundwater flooding is often complex as groundwater levels are heavily influenced by the underlying geology and the topography of the surrounding catchment areas. Groundwater flooding can occur following extended periods of heavy rain (either local or within the aquifer catchment) and can occur many hours or even days after the precipitation has finished and can remain in-situ for long periods of time. Other factors that can influence groundwater levels can include reduced abstraction rates, or changes to underground flows.

In Denbighshire, flooding attributed directly to groundwater is extremely difficult to apportion as groundwater flooding usually occurs in combination with pluvial and fluvial flooding. As groundwater flooding occurs in low lying areas, basements of residential housing are usually impacted by this type of flooding.

Residents may not even be aware that their property has been flooded or they are aware that flooding has occurred previously (and do not store valuable goods in basements) and do not report incidents to the Council as limited damage to personal belongings has occurred. As such there is no recorded history of significant groundwater flooding in Denbighshire.

Denbighshire Local Flood Risk Management- Strategy

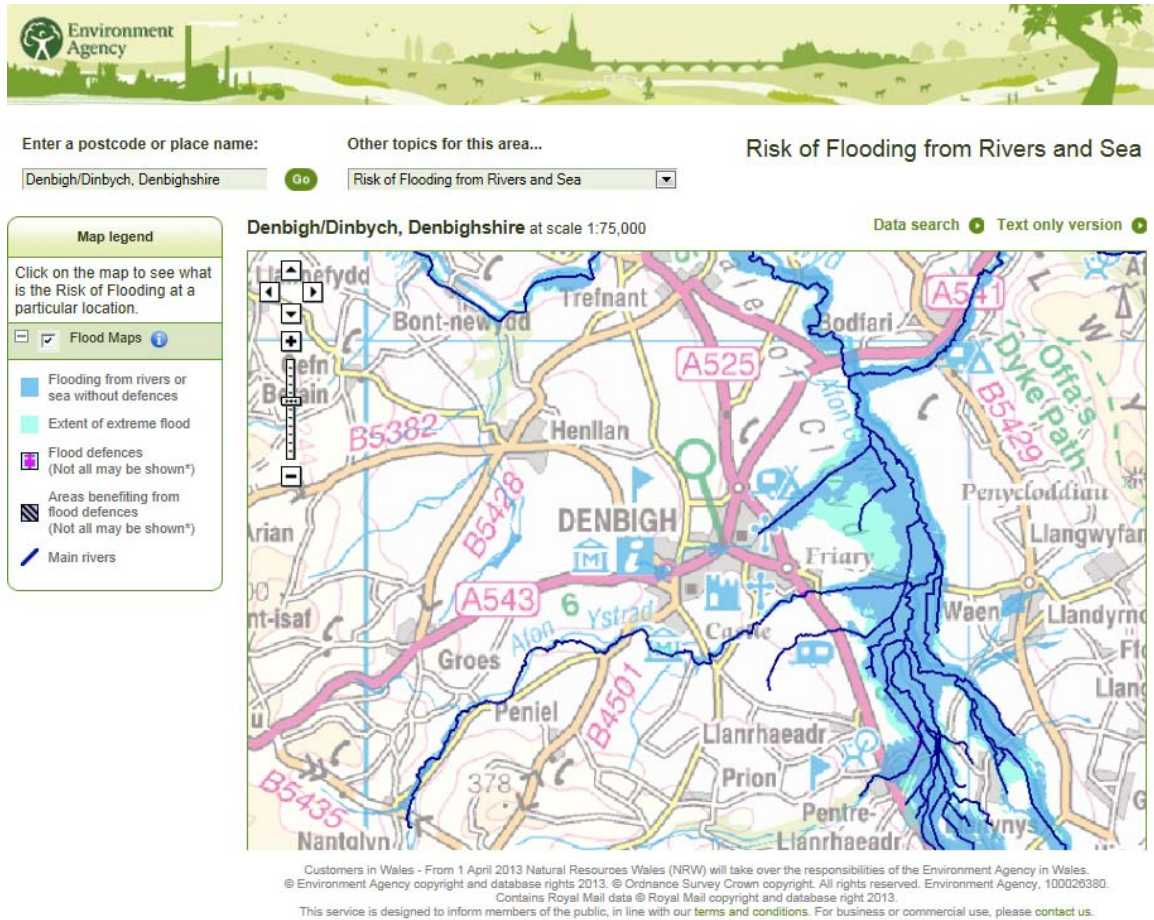


Figure 3.3: Environment Agency and Natural Resources Wales Main River Map – Main rivers and risk of flooding from rivers and sea

3.3.3 Fluvial Flooding

Fluvial flooding occurs when a river or ordinary watercourse reaches its capacity and overflows bursting its banks. This type of flooding can be influenced by a large number of factors, but usually occurs following prolonged and heavy rainfall within the rivers catchment area.

Under the Water Resources Act 1991, main rivers are defined on the main river map (see Figure 6.1 on page 30) and The Environment Agency and Natural Resources Wales have powers relating to them. Fluvial flooding from main rivers is outside the scope of this strategy, as it only deals with flooding from ordinary watercourses. However, as the main rivers have an impact on ordinary watercourses the strategy does take the flooding issues from main rivers into account where appropriate.

Overseeing the management of local flood risk from ordinary watercourses that are not designated Main River, are the responsibility of Local Authorities or, where they exist, Internal Drainage Boards. In terms of ordinary watercourses the LLFA manages the risk from local flood under its responsibilities identified in the

Land Drainage Act 1991⁷ and the FWMA. The roles and responsibilities of the partners, organisations and landowners that manage the different flood risks are detailed further in of this report.

Fluvial flood risk within Denbighshire is located along the main watercourses of the Clwyd, notably Ruthin, the Elwy, St Asaph and, in the south of the county, Corwen affected by flooding from the River Dee. In addition there is flood risk associated with numerous smaller watercourses throughout the county. Communities that have been affected in the past include Ruthin, Denbigh, Llangollen, Corwen, Gwyddelwern, St Asaph, Dyserth, Llanbedr Dyffryn Clwyd and Pwll Glas.

3.3.4 Sewer or Highway Flooding

Sewer or Highway flooding is caused when flows or volumes of surface water exceed the capacity of drainage infrastructure or where a blockage or collapse occurs, or where pumping equipment fails. This type of flooding generally occurs following periods of intense rainfall leading to the drainage systems being overwhelmed. This type of flooding can be exacerbated in autumn when drainage gullies become blocked with leaves or other detritus.

Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water (DCWW) and Dee Valley Water are the regional water and sewage treatment companies within Denbighshire County with the responsibility for managing and maintaining drainage systems (surface water and combined sewers) and flood risk from burst pipes within their operating areas. DCWW are responsible also for flooding from sewage. Both companies are required to record and report on property flooding within their management areas, as part of their service indicators known as Director General (DG) Registers. The register which records the flooding incidents within the county isare known as DG5the Flooding Register, which are provided to the Water Services Regulatory Authority, or Ofwat.

Flooding records provided by DCWW show that a total of 282 sewer flooding events have occurred throughout Denbighshire since 1999. There are currently fewer than 10 properties in Denbighshire at high risk of internal sewage flooding.

3.3.5 Reservoir Flooding

Flooding attributed to reservoirs occurs when a reservoir dam is overtopped or fails due to damage or collapse of the structure. The Pitt Review undertaken as a result of the floods in 2007 recommended that the Government should provide flood maps to identify areas that could be affected by a breach or overtopping to allow plans to be prepared for an emergency response. In 2008 the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) instructed Natural Resources Wales to assess the impact of dam breach flooding from all large raised reservoirs in England and Wales which were registered under the Reservoirs Act 1975.

The Reservoir Act classifies a registered reservoir as one that is capable of holding at least 25,000 cubic metres of water above the lowest natural ground level above the natural level of the surrounding land. More recently The Flood and Water Act 2010 classifies a raised structure or area that is “large” if it is capable of holding 10,000 cubic metres of water above the natural level of any part of the surrounding land.

Within Denbighshire County, there are 6 reservoirs that fall under the Reservoir Act and the maximum extent of flooding has been modelled by Natural Resources Wales to show the areas that would be impacted by a breach or failure of the dams. There are no records of reservoir failure occurring in Denbighshire County.

⁷ Land Drainage Act 1991, schedule 2 paragraph 29

3.3.6 Coastal Flooding

Sea flooding occurs when water levels or waves overtop the crest of the coastal defences, or when defences are breached or collapse. The probability of breach is dependent on four main factors: weather conditions (generating large waves); wind direction (on-shore); high tides (particularly during spring tides) and the condition of the coastal defences. When these conditions combine the risk of flooding can be greatly enhanced as the predicted tide level can be raised by several metres.

Tidal flood risk affects much of the coastal frontage of Denbighshire including Rhyl and Prestatyn. Risk from tidal flooding also extends up the Clwyd estuary beyond Rhuddlan. The coastal frontage is defended from high tides but residual risk of overtopping or breaching of defences does remain. This heightened the need for understanding potential flooding from the sea in Denbighshire. At the time of writing, the Council is carrying out work to the coastal defences at West Rhyl to provide a 1 in 200 year standard of protection against tidal flooding.

3.4 Canal Flooding

These artificial watercourses rarely flood because they contain water control locks. Most canals have overflow sluices that run off into small rivers and streams. Canals are generally designed to enable them to cope with flood waters, however high intensity rainfall can cause canal flooding when draining canals do not have the necessary capacity to drain away the amount of falling rain.

The Llangollen Branch canal crosses the Denbighshire County border in the south east near to Trevor (see Figure 4.2 below) and extends west for 6 miles / 10 kilometres to the abstraction point at Horseshoe Falls near Llantysilio. The canal runs along the north side of the Vale of Llangollen.

There has been a history of breaches to the Llangollen Canal between 1945 and 1985. The 1945 breach washed away a section of railway which led to the death of an engine driver.

There is no available information on future flood risk from canals. However Canal and River Trust who are responsible for maintaining canals in England and Wales are currently working on a study to better understand the future flood risk from canals, which will be available to inform the second cycle of the PFRA process.

3.5 A Combination Event

Detailing individual sources of risk does not imply that flooding can only ever occur for one reason. Any and all of these sources mentioned above can come together to produce what are called combination events.

An example of a combination flood is one occurring during a period of intense or prolonged rainfall. The rain would increase water levels in watercourses, saturate ground, increase flow through the drainage system and could enter the public sewerage system, increasing pressure. As all of these factors combine, watercourses, drains and sewers could all reach maximum capacity and with nowhere else to go the water could overflow from all of them, resulting in a combination of river, sewer and surface water flooding.

On the coast, a combination event could involve flooding from the sea where a storm delivers intense rainfall on the land and a storm surge and stormy seas, at the same time as a high tide. This results in an increase in tide and wave levels at the same time as flow from rivers to the sea increases. If the two meet, coastal communities could experience a mix of flooding from the sea and a river.

Depending on the intensity of the rainfall and the waves, such an event could also cause an increase in coastal erosion, resulting in long term damage to the coast, which could exacerbate future flood risks.

Where there are complicated interactions of different sources, the LLFA will take a lead to ensure that investigation, assessment and appropriate mitigation measures are carried out⁸.

3.6 Coastal Squeeze

A Defra (2003) guidance note on managed realignment defined coastal squeeze as; the process by which coastal habitats and natural features are progressively lost or drowned, caught between coastal defences and rising sea levels⁹.

As sea levels rise, increasing wave height and intensity, sea waters move further inland with the consequential loss of low lying habitats and damage to the features of the habitat and associated species within it. This loss of intertidal habitat is referred to as coastal squeeze, and while generally referred to in relation to habitat, it can also have an impact on flood and coastal erosion risk.

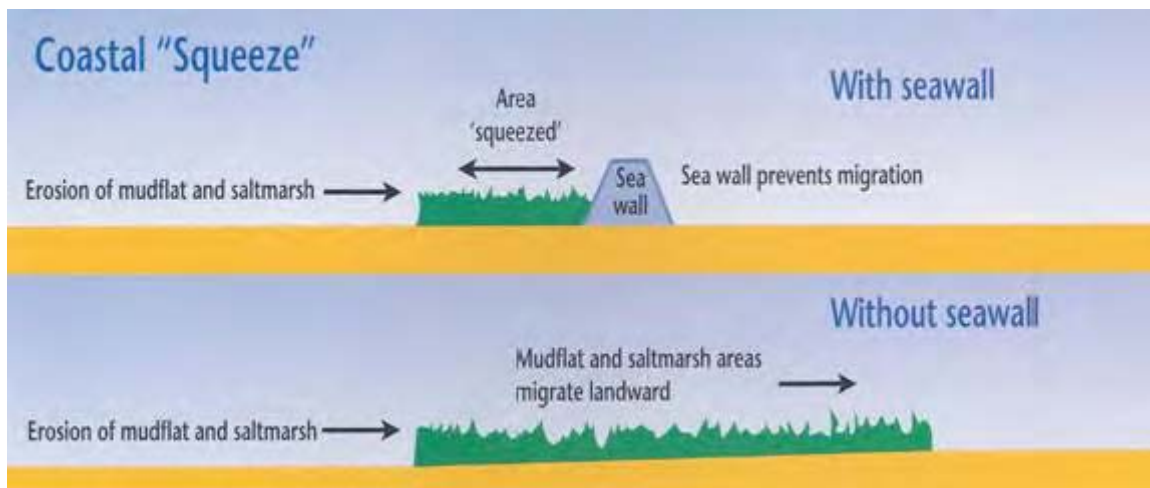


Figure 3.4: Coastal Squeeze (The National Strategy for Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management)

Decreasing the extent of foreshore in front of a defence, for example, can create deeper water with a consequent increase in wave size. This can undermine defences or make it more likely that defences are overtopped.

It is important to note the role that coastal features like beaches and sand dunes can play in wider coastal protection. They can be significant natural buffers to sea flooding if considered as part of an integrated management strategy using natural processes and through this potentially reduce the maintenance costs or increase the lifespan of structures protected by them.

They also provide important ecological benefits such as fish nurseries, as well as recreational and tourism opportunities for local communities. These habitats can provide multiple benefits to society, the economy, and the environment¹⁰.

⁸ Chapters 4.4 and 4.5; National Strategy for Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management in Wales

⁹ Defra (2003) Guidance Note on Managed Realignment: Land Purchase, Compensation and Payment for Alternative Beneficial Land Use. Defra, London, UK.

¹⁰ Chapter 4.5; National Strategy for flood and coastal erosion risk management in Wales

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Under Section 40 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 (NERC), Local Authorities must have regard to the conservation of biodiversity, which includes, in relation to a living organism or type of habitat, restoring or enhancing a population or habitat.

3.7 Factors Increasing Flood Risk

Flood risk is a combination of probability and consequence, as there are a number of factors which will lead to higher probability of flooding in the future and more serious potential consequences, this will result in an increase in the risk of flooding in Denbighshire. There are many factors that can increase flood risk; some are included in table 4.2 below:

Factors which may increase flood risk in Denbighshire		
Weather	Hydrological	Human
Rainfall; Extensive storms; Small-scale storms; Temperature; and Snowfall and snowmelt.	Soil moisture level; Groundwater level prior to storm; Natural surface infiltration rate; Presence of impervious surfaces; Channel cross-sectional shape and roughness; Presence or absence of over bank flow; and Synchronization of run-offs from various parts of the catchment.	New development and changes in land use (e.g. hard standing surfaces due to urbanization) increase run-off; Building within the flood plain; Obstructions to flows within flood plain areas; Lack of maintenance on open watercourses and small culverts; Deterioration in the condition and performance of existing drainage infrastructure; Climate change - more frequent and more severe extreme weather; Diversion of watercourses; and Illegal connections to sewers.

Table 3.3: Factors which may increase flood risk in Denbighshire County

3.8 Methodology for Identifying Areas of Risk

As part of the Council’s responsibilities as the LLFA under the FRR 2009, DCC produced a Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment (PFRA) in 2011. The purpose of this report was to identify areas within the county that were at risk of flooding with significant consequences which were termed as ‘Flood Risk Areas’.

Significant consequences were defined by the Welsh Government (WG) and the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) within the guidance document ‘*Selecting and Reviewing Flood Risk Areas for local sources of flooding – Guidance for Lead Local Flood Authorities*’ as:

‘Clusters of areas above flood risk threshold with an affected population greater than 5,000 people at risk’

No clusters above this threshold were identified by NRW within Denbighshire County; and as such under this guidance, it is considered there are no Flood Risk Areas in Denbighshire.

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As the population densities were unlikely to trigger the regulations for the majority of North Wales the LLFA's for each county derived new local thresholds to identify flood risk areas within their boundaries. A locally significant event was defined as:

- Where 5 or more residential properties have been flooded.

On this basis the LLFA undertook the preliminary study to provide an assessment of the flood risks using historical records held by the county overlain with flood modelling data provided by NRW, to identify the local Flood Risk Area's within the County.

The report determined that within the bounds of the county a total of **5 locations** were identified that exceeded the thresholds and had been subject to historical flooding incidents. For further details of these areas see Table 4.1 or the PFRA.

3.9 Limitations of data

The assessment of flood risk to date within Denbighshire County has been completed using the best information that is currently available. However, there are inherent limitations with this information and it is important that these are identified (See Table 4.3 below). The main data limitations were the consistency and reliability of the collection of past flooding information. DCC has no information currently available relating to predicted future flood risk other than that provided by the NRW.

Dataset	Main limitations	Future improvement
Flood Map for Surface Water	Modelling used a national methodology with a standard set of assumptions (such as storm duration, etc) which may not be suitable for the whole of Denbighshire.	Detailed surface water modelling within locally important flood risk areas will provide a better understanding of flood risk, mechanisms and consequences.
Areas Susceptible to Groundwater Flooding	This is a very high level dataset describing the proportion of each grid square that may be susceptible to groundwater flooding. It does not show the likelihood of groundwater flooding occurring.	Obtain the complete British Geological Survey (BGS) dataset for key areas, which provides a more accurate overview of areas where geological conditions suggest groundwater might emerge.
Flood History across Denbighshire	Flood history collected through the PFRA is generally poor and inconsistent. It is difficult to make a fair and accurate assessment of flood risk across Denbighshire based on this alone.	More comprehensive flood recording and flood investigation in the future is essential (this is currently underway, as a requirement of the FWMA and will provide a better level of flood history in the future).

Table 3.4: Limitations of main datasets used to prioritise locally important flood risk areas

4 . Climate Change

‘Communities living behind good coastal defences currently protecting them against a flood with a chance occurrence of 1 in 100 each year would experience a drop in standard of protection by the end of the century to as low as 1 in 5 each year if we were to follow a business-as-usual flood management policy.’

*Future flooding in Wales: Flood defence. Possible long-term investment scenarios
Natural Resources Wales*

4.1 Climate Change

Climate change is one of the most serious threats facing the world’s economy and society. The devastating floods, droughts and storms that we have seen in the UK and across the world in recent years show all too clearly how vulnerable we are to climate extremes and how devastating the consequences can be.

There are no easy solutions and to achieve a long term response to climate change a fundamental shift is required in the way we conduct our lives, generate and use energy over the coming century. In the UK the government is committed to implementing a programme to reduce our emissions through legislation, education, substantial investment in clean technologies and green electricity generation.

Significant scientific research has been conducted on climate change by United Kingdom Climate Projections (UKCP09), which is funded by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) on behalf of the UK Government and the Devolved Authorities. The research is based on sound science and projections provided by the Meteorological Office (Met Office), which is focused on the UK. The aim of the research and projections are to assist those needing to plan how they will need to adapt to a changing climate.

To assess the potential impacts that climate change may have on extreme rainfall, river flood flows, sea level rise and storm surges, UKCP09 have provided a large toolkit of information and data including ‘change factors’ which have been developed to help Risk Management Authorities use the UKCP09 information in a timely and cost-effective way and to provide a consistent approach. The change factors quantify the potential change (as either mm or percentage increase, depending on the variable) to the baseline.

Guidance has been provided on Climate Change from WG; *Adapting to Climate Change: Guidance for Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Authorities in Wales, December 2011*. It is recommended here that options are developed, planning for the change factor covering the whole of the decision lifetime. Change factors for river flood flows, extreme rainfall, mean relative sea level rise and storm surges are provided in the guidance and are to assist in investment planning decisions.

Short term flood risk management decisions and actions should be set within a longer term strategic planning framework. In Wales there are plans in place to address the increasing flood risk and to guide adaptation to climate change. The strategic plans are:

- Catchment Flood Management Plans¹¹ – produced by Natural Resources Wales.
- Shoreline Management Plans¹² – Produced by Coastal Groups, composed of maritime Local Authorities, Natural Resources Wales and others.

¹¹ CFMPs are high level non statutory plans for inland flood risk produced by Natural Resources Wales

¹² SMPs are high level non statutory plans for coastal erosion and flooding produced by Coastal Groups

Catchment Flood Management Plans consider inland flood risk now and in the future, up to 100 years ahead, and assess the potential impacts of climate change and land use change on future flood risk. Similarly, Shoreline Management Plans assess the threat to the coast from erosion and flooding. These plans look at the current and future scenarios over a 100-year timeframe. Both Catchment Flood Management Plans and Shoreline Management Plans are subject to periodic review as new information becomes available. The policies and actions set out in the plans may change with time to reflect adaptation to increasing risks and climate change¹³.

4.2 Climate Change in Wales

A climate change risk assessment for Wales was produced by Defra in January 2012 as part of the UK Climate Change Risk Assessment (CCRA), under the Climate Change Act 2008. The assessment reviewed all of the relevant and available data drawing on sector reports and recent research literature, to provide projections for climate change for the 2020s, 2050s and the 2080s compared with recorded weather data from 1961 to 1990. The document reviewed Low, Medium, and High Emissions scenarios for each of the time periods and produced predictions for changes and perceived impacts on variations in temperature and weather conditions.

The report states that there will be an increase in flooding events on the coast and inland, affecting people, property and infrastructure. It is predicted that flooding will increase from a combination of different sources which will cause increase in disruption to communities, the economy and employment. Flooding would also affect water supplies, waste water disposal, energy supplies and health services for areas not directly impacted by the flooding.

The key findings for Wales from the 2050's Medium Emissions scenario are:

- An increase in mean winter temperatures of 2.0 °C (very unlikely to be less than 1.1 °C and very unlikely to be more than 3.1 °C);
- An increase in mean summer temperatures of 2.5 °C (very unlikely to be less than 1.2 °C and very unlikely to be more than 4.1 °C);
- An increase in mean winter precipitation of 14% (very unlikely to be less than 2% and very unlikely to be more than 30%);
- A decrease in mean summer precipitation of 17% (very unlikely to be less than a 36% decrease and very unlikely to be more than a 6% increase); and
- Sea level rise is projected to increase by between 0.10 m and 0.32 m by the 2050's.

4.3 Key Projections for Western Wales River Basin District

- Winter precipitation increases of around 15% (very likely to be between 3 and 33%);
- Precipitation on the wettest day in winter up by around 12% (very unlikely to be more than 27%);
- Relative sea level at Swansea very likely to be up between 10 and 40cm from 1990 levels (not including extra potential rises from polar ice sheet loss);

¹³ Future flooding in Wales: flood defences. Possible long-term investment scenarios

- Peak river flows in a typical catchment likely to increase between 12 and 20%; and
- Increases in rain are projected to be greater near the coast than inland.

4.4 Key Projections for Dee River Basin District

If emissions follow a medium future scenario, UKCP09 projected changes by the 2050s relative to the recent past are:

- Winter precipitation increases of around 10% (very likely to be between 2 and 21%);
- Precipitation on the wettest day in winter up by around 8% (very unlikely to be more than 21%);
- Relative sea level at Hoylake very likely to be up between 7 and 38cm from 1990 levels (not including extra potential rises from polar ice sheet loss); and
- Peak river flows in a typical catchment likely to increase between 7 and 12%.

4.5 Implications for Flood Risk

Climate changes can affect local flood risk in several ways. Impacts will depend on local conditions and vulnerability. Wetter winters and more of this rain falling in wet spells may increase river flooding along the Dee and its tributaries and in the steep, rapidly responding catchments typical of Western Wales. More intense rainfall causes more surface runoff, increasing localised flooding and erosion. In turn, this may increase pressure on drains, sewers and water quality. Storm intensity in summer could increase even in drier summers, so we need to be prepared for the unexpected.

Rising sea or river levels may increase local flood risk inland or away from major rivers because of interactions with drains, sewers and smaller watercourses. Where appropriate, we need local studies to understand climate impacts in detail, including effects from other factors like land use. Sustainable development and drainage will help us adapt to climate change and manage the risk of damaging floods in future.

The Welsh Government is working with the Natural Resources Wales to develop updated guidance on what we should plan for in relation to climate change when undertaking flood or coastal erosion risk management works.

5 . Regional and Local Plans

There are a variety of publically available documents which identify flood risk within Denbighshire. These include:

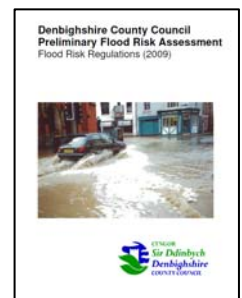
- Denbighshire County Council Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment;
- Conwy and Clwyd Catchment Flood Management Plan;
- River Dee Catchment Flood Management Plan;
- North West England and North Wales Shoreline Management Plan SMP2;
- River Basin Management Plan – Western Wales River Basin District and Dee River Basin District;
- Denbighshire Strategic Flood Consequence Assessment;
- The Tidal Clwyd Flood Risk Management Strategy; and
- Rhyl – Prestatyn Coastal Defence Strategy Study Report.

A brief review of each document is provided in the following sections.

5.1 Denbighshire County Council Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment

The Denbighshire County Council Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment (PFRA) was published in June 2011. The purpose of the Preliminary Assessment Report is to provide an assessment of potential flood risk for areas for which Denbighshire County Council, as Lead Local Flood Authority, has responsibility. These include the risk of flooding from surface water, ground water, ordinary watercourses and small reservoirs.

The full report can be found on the Denbighshire County Council website or here: www.denbighshire.gov.uk/en-gb/DNAP-8PCC5B

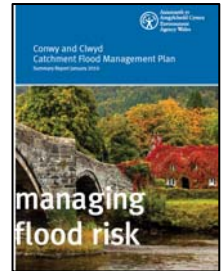


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5.2 Conwy and Clwyd Catchment Flood Management Plan

The Conwy and Clwyd CFMP covers a total area of approximately 1,500 km² and contains around 90,000 properties. It includes the two major catchments of the River Conwy to the West and the River Clwyd to the East. Other minor rivers also drain small catchment areas along the coast. The plan covers the majority of the northern region of the county that is drained by the River Clwyd. Within the plan the areas identified most at risk from flooding are the Kinmel Bay area and Prestatyn.

The report can be found on Natural Resources Wales website and at the following www.publications.environment-agency.gov.uk/PDF/GEWA0110BRKU-E-E.pdf

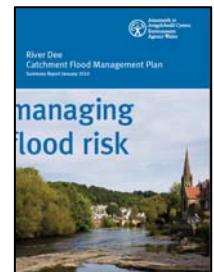


5.3 River Dee Catchment Flood Management Plan

The River Dee Catchment Flood Management Plan looks at fluvial flood risk. The plan covers the majority of the Southern region of the county in which the upper River Dee flows east from Llandrillo and through Llangollen. The plan doesn't identify any significant flood risk areas within Denbighshire County. Existing flood risk management is considered appropriate for the Upper Dee Region which covers the county.

The report can be found on Natural Resources Wales website.

<http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/research/planning/64223.aspx>



5.4 North West England and North Wales Shoreline Management Plan SMP2

The North West England and North Wales Shoreline Management Plan SMP2 covers the coastline from the Great Orme in Llandudno, to the Scottish Border on the Solway Firth. It covers the major estuary within Denbighshire, the River Clwyd estuary.

Sub-Cell 11a – Great Orme's Head to Southport contains all of the Denbighshire Shoreline that is covered within this SMP. The SMP provides high level policies for management of the coast in relation to flood risk, coastal erosion, natural environment, historic environment and the economy. It also looks at how management should change sustainably for years to come.

A 'Hold the Line' policy is used throughout Denbighshire.

The full SMP and appendices can be found here: <http://www.mycoastline.org>



Denbighshire Local Flood Risk Management- Strategy

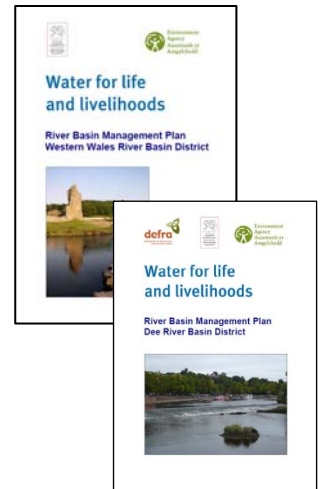
5.5 River Basin Management Plan – Western Wales River Basin District and Dee River Basin District

The River Basin Management Plans for the Western Wales River Basin District and the Dee River Basin District are plans to achieve Water Framework Directive requirements to improve the water quality of surface water bodies.

While these plans do not identify flood risk or consider management of flood risk, they must be taken into account when carrying out any flood risk management works. Works must not cause the deterioration of water quality in any surface water body or prevent improvement targets from being met. The plan also encourage sustainable drainage systems (SuDS) to be used in new development to remove contaminants from surface water as well as reducing flood risk.

The Western Wales River Basin Management Plan report can be found at:
www.environment-agency.gov.uk/research/planning/125095.aspx

The Dee River Basin Management Plan report can be found at:
www.environment-agency.gov.uk/research/planning/124748.aspx



5.6 Denbighshire Strategic Flood Consequence Assessment

The Denbighshire Strategic Flood Consequence Assessment (SFCA) was produced as a background paper for the Deposit Local Development Plan (LDP) in 2007 in accordance with TAN15¹⁴. The aim of the SFRA is to apply the sequential test to candidate developments sites in order to direct future development away from high flood risk areas. The SFCA considers both fluvial and coastal flooding issues within the county. Sites with high flood risk were rejected and those with partial areas of risk were considered within the flood free area.

The full report can be found on the Denbighshire County Council website.



¹⁴ Welsh Assembly Government (2004) Technical Advice Note 15 Development and Flood Risk

5.7 The Tidal Clwyd Flood Risk Management Strategy

The tidal Clwyd strategy covers the north Wales coastline and inland tidal area between Abergele and the Denbighshire-Flintshire border near Prestatyn. It covers the main centres of population around Rhyl, Kinmel Bay and Prestatyn. In addition to the permanent residents living in the strategy area, many thousands of people visit the area each year, including holidaymakers at local caravan parks. The strategy suggests solutions to tackle both tidal flooding issues from the river and coastal flooding from the sea. The strategy will be reviewed regularly during its lifetime to take account of any potential changes that may occur over time.



The report can be found on Natural Resources Wales website or at:

[www.environment-agency.gov.uk/static/images/Leisure/20111205_Clwyd_factsheet_\(online_version\).pdf](http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/static/images/Leisure/20111205_Clwyd_factsheet_(online_version).pdf).

5.8 Rhyl – Prestatyn Coastal Defence Strategy Study Report

The report details coastal flood risk for the Denbighshire towns of Rhyl and Prestatyn, within Sub-cell11a. The strategy outlines the means of establishing, justifying and prioritising the overall aims and objectives of flood and coastal defence policy for the areas concerned. It has been produced to ensure that the future flood and erosion risk management is compatible with and where appropriate contributes to the sustainable development of the Denbighshire coastline within the strategic Shoreline Management Plan.

The report is not publicly available at this time.

6 . Managing the Likelihood of Flooding

Following the Pitt Review recommendations the Flood Water Management Act 2010, outlined and clarified flood risk management responsibilities across all flood management organisations. The FWMA subsequently defined certain organisations as 'Risk Management Authorities' in Wales whom have roles and responsibilities around flooding. The Risk Management Authorities in Denbighshire are:



Natural Resources Wales is responsible for managing flood risk from **main rivers** and the **sea**, and also has a strategic overview role over all flood and coastal erosion risk management and for regulating the safety of reservoirs. NRW also has a key role in providing flood warnings to the public.



Denbighshire County Council as a Lead Local Flood Authority and a Highways Authority, is responsible for taking the lead in managing flood risk from all local sources, including **surface water, groundwater, and ordinary watercourses** and managing flood risk on roads and **highways** within the area.



Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water (DCWW) and **Dee Valley Water** are the regional water and sewage treatment companies serving the Denbighshire area. Both are responsible for flood risk from **burst pipes**. DCWW are responsible also for flooding from **sewage**.



North and Mid-Wales Trunk Road Agent (NMWTRA) are responsible for the maintenance and improvement of **trunk roads** across Denbighshire on behalf of the Welsh Government as a Highways Authority. NWTRA must ensure that:

- Road projects do not increase flood risk;
- Road discharges do not pollute receiving water bodies.

Contact details for each of these Risk Management Authorities can be found in Appendix A.

All of the risk management authorities identified above have the following new responsibilities under the Act:

- **A duty** to co-operate with other risk management authorities within the function of their flood and coastal erosion risk management role, which includes sharing flood data and information; and
- **Authority to take on** flood and coastal erosion functions from another risk management authority when agreed by both sides.

Co-operation with other risk management authorities includes the following:

- Discussing with other risk management authorities before designating structures;
- Report local flooding incidents to the DGS Flood Investigation Officer on a monthly basis;

- Report flood assets, as defined by agreed criteria, as and when they are made known;
- Assist with Flood Investigation Reports when required;
- Provide local knowledge on SuDS regarding applications in their area;
- Ensure that members of the public are guided to the appropriate authority or organisation; and
- Share expertise, data, information and local knowledge and work jointly to understand and reduce flood risk across Denbighshire.

Each risk management authority also has specific responsibilities under the FWMA; which are described in the next section.

However flood risk management is not something that can be left solely in the hands of certain organisations and forgotten by everyone else. **Households, businesses and landowners** have their part to play too. Even if this strategy was being devised at a time of substantial public sector budget cuts, the organisations would still not be able to prevent all floods or solve all concerns. That is why the powers and responsibilities of Denbighshire's citizens are also recorded in this section.



6.1 Responsibilities of Natural Resources Wales

On 1st April 2013 Natural Resources Wales (NRW) was established to create one single environment body for Wales taking over the functions of the Environment Agency Wales (EAW), the Countryside Council for Wales (CCW) and the Forestry Commission Wales. This new body has taken on all of the responsibilities of the Environment Agency in relation to flood and coastal erosion risk management in Wales. The Environment Agency Wales and its responsibilities up until the establishment of the single body will now be referred to as Natural Resources Wales (NRW) for the purposes of this report.

Natural Resources Wales has always led on the management of the risks of flooding from main rivers and the sea. However, in recognition of the links between coastal flooding and coastal erosion, particularly in terms of consequences, and as an outcome of the FWMA, NRW has new operational responsibilities in relation to coastal erosion as well as operational responsibilities for flooding from rivers and the sea. NRW also has a wider oversight role for all flood and coastal erosion risk management in Wales.

As part of its oversight role the NRW will lead on the provision of technical advice and support to the other Risk Management Authorities. It will also lead on national initiatives such as Flood Awareness Wales, the national raising awareness programme, and the single point of contact for enquiries and information on flood risk, currently being piloted via the Floodline Warning Service.

The Flood and Water Management Act 2010 places a number of statutory duties on Natural Resources Wales including:

- Reporting to the Minister on flood and coastal erosion risk in Wales including the application of the National Strategy; and
- The establishment of Regional Flood and Coastal Committees.

Natural Resources Wales will be the sole Risk Management Authority charged with monitoring and reporting on the implementation of National Strategy. In undertaking this role it will:

- Collect data on progress regarding flood and coastal erosion risk from Risk Management Authorities;
- Report factual information to Welsh Government; and
- As requested, provide interpretive advice to the Welsh Government.

It will be for the Welsh Government to determine what, if any, action should be taken if the reports from Natural Resources Wales suggest the National Strategy is not being implemented or that actions being taken are increasing levels of flood risk.

In addition to its statutory duties, Natural Resources Wales has a number of permissive powers. These are powers that allow it to carry out a course of action, but do not compel it to and include:

- Powers to request information;
- The ability to raise levies for local flood risk management works, via the Regional Flood and Coastal Committees;
- Powers to designate certain structures or features that affect flood or coastal erosion risk;
- The expansion of powers to undertake works to include broader risk management actions; and
- The ability to cause flooding or coastal erosion under certain conditions.

This new allocation of responsibilities is also consistent with the NRW's role in relation to the Flood Risk Regulations 2009, which allocates specific responsibility for conducting assessments in relation to mapping and planning the risks of flooding from main rivers, the sea and reservoirs to the NRW as well as providing guidance to Local Authorities on these matters for flooding from other sources.

Under the Regulations NRW also takes on an assessment and coordination role at a national level, ensuring the correct information is passed back to the European Commission.

NRW's Local Operational Role includes being a coastal erosion risk management authority, emergency planning, advising on the planning process and managing flooding from main rivers, reservoirs and the sea.

6.1.1 Coastal Erosion Risk Management Authority

Natural Resources Wales is a coastal erosion risk management authority with the power to protect land against coastal erosion and to control third party activities on the coast, such as the construction of private defences or the removal of beach material. Importantly since October 2011 Lead Local Flood Authorities have required NRW approval to undertake coastal protection works.

6.1.2 Emergency Planning

Natural Resources Wales contributes to the development of multi-agency flood plans, which are developed by Local Resilience Forums (LRFs) to help the organisations involved in responding to a flood to work better together. NRW also contributes to the National Flood Emergency Framework for England and Wales which includes guidance on developing and assessing these plans.

It is responsible for providing advice to planning authorities regarding development and flood risk; providing fluvial and coastal flood warnings; monitoring flood and coastal erosion risks and supporting emergency responders when floods occur.

NRW works with the Met Office to provide forecasts and warnings of flooding from rivers and the sea in England and Wales.

NRW and other asset operating authorities also have a role in proactive operational management of their assets and systems to reduce risk during a flood incident.

6.1.3 Main Rivers

Main Rivers are a statutory type of watercourse usually larger streams and rivers, but also include some smaller watercourses. A main river is defined as a watercourse marked as such on a main river map designated by the Welsh Government (Under the Water Resources Act 1991). NRW has powers to carry out flood defence works to main rivers. However the overall responsibility for maintenance of main rivers lies with the riparian owner.

6.1.4 Coastal

Natural Resources Wales is the lead organisation responsible for all flood and erosion risk management around the coastline of Wales, including tidal flood risk. NRW leads in developing a coastal management plan that works at local, regional and national level, with partner organisations, including local authorities, putting agreed plans into practical action.

NRW also has a regulatory role in consenting works carried out by others in, or adjacent to water courses and sea/tidal defences to ensure that they have regard to flood risk and do not cause unnecessary environmental damage or impacts.

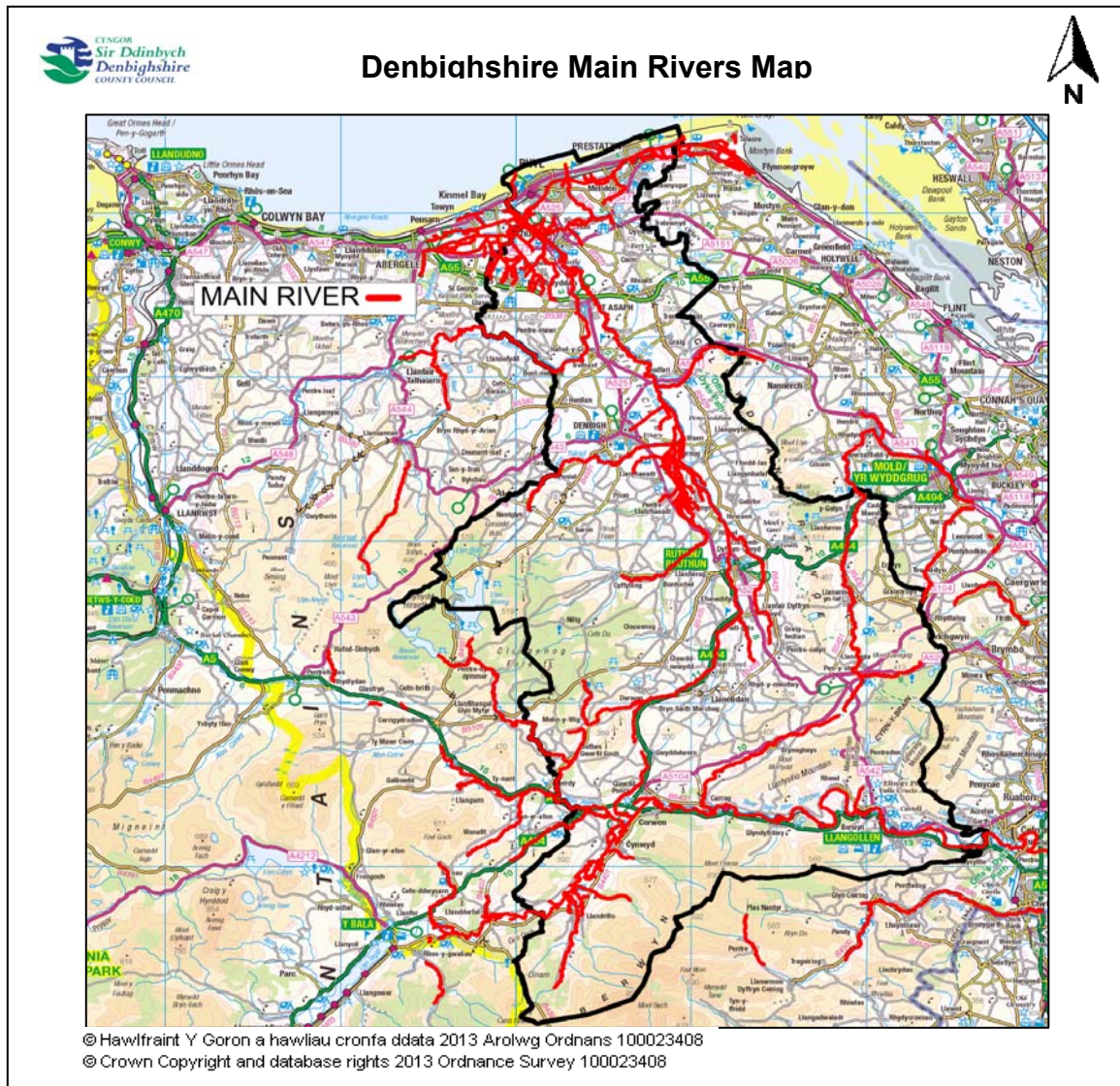


Figure 6.1: Map of main rivers from EA Datasheet website

6.1.5 Reservoirs

The NRW enforces the Reservoirs Act 1975, which is the safety legislation for reservoirs in the United Kingdom. NRW is responsible as the Enforcement Authority for reservoirs that have a storage capacity greater than 25,000 m³ (above the natural level of the surrounding land) and, once the relevant parts of the Flood and Water Management Act have been commenced, reservoirs with a capacity of 10,000 m³.

As the Enforcement Authority the NRW are responsible for:

- Maintaining a register of reservoirs, and making this information available to the public;
- Ensuring that reservoirs are designed and constructed using the correct design standards;
- Ensuring that the owner (undertaker) has appointed an engineer to inspect the reservoir periodically;
- Ensuring that the owner commissions regular inspections of the reservoir by an inspecting engineer;

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- Ensuring that the owner carries out essential works required in the 'interests of safety' as soon as practicable under the supervision of a qualified civil engineer (from an inspecting engineer panel);
- Influencing, warning, cautioning and ultimately prosecuting non-compliant owners;
- Commissioning construction engineers, supervising engineers, inspecting engineers and essential works required in the 'interests of safety' in the event of non-compliance and recouping costs incurred from the owner;
- Producing a biennial report about our enforcement and operational activities to the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) and to the Welsh Government; and
- Acting in an emergency if the owner fails to take appropriate action.

Natural Resources Wales has now produced reservoir flood maps which show the effects on the downstream catchment of a dam breach for approximately 2000 large raised reservoirs which they regulate under the Reservoirs Act 1975. These have been sent to reservoir owners and the relevant local authorities.

6.2 Powers and Responsibilities of Denbighshire County Council



The Flood and Water Management Act 2010 identified Denbighshire County Council as the Lead Local Flood Authority for the district. They are responsible for taking the lead in managing flood risk from local sources. This includes surface water, groundwater and ordinary watercourses and also where there is an interaction between these sources and main rivers or the sea. DCC also has other related roles in emergency planning, regulatory services and road drainage which are detailed in the following sections.

Following implementation of the Act, the Cabinet members for DCC chose Highways & Environmental Services department to take the lead in ensuring the Council's compliance with legislation and to ensure that all relevant departments and external agencies assist to fulfil the requirements of this Act. Highways & Environmental Services already carried out similar duties and had formed the necessary relationships with other departments and external bodies to undertake this role. The diagram below illustrates many of the departments within DCC that have a part to play in reducing flood risk and implementing the Act as a Lead Local Flood Authority.



Figure 6.1: Denbighshire County Council as a LLFA

The FWMA 2010 identifies DCC as the LLFA for the administrative County of Denbighshire. This gave the council a number of **statutory duties** in overseeing the management of local flood risk from surface water, groundwater and ordinary watercourses such as streams and ditches (including lakes and ponds). It also gave DCC a number of **permissive powers** which allow them to do something, but do not compel them to and are defined in Table 7.1 below:

Statutory duties	Permissive powers
Strategic leadership ¹⁵ ; Comply with the National Strategy ¹⁶ ; Co-operate with other authorities ¹⁷ ; Investigating flood incidents and publishing the results ¹⁸ ; Keep a register of assets likely to affect flood risk ¹⁹ ; and Contribute to sustainable development ²⁰ .	Powers to designate structures and features that affect flood or coastal erosion risk; Powers to request information; The expansion of powers to undertake works to include broader risk management actions; and The ability to cause flooding or coastal erosion under certain conditions.

Table 6.1: Denbighshire County Council Statutory Duties and Permissive Powers

As Lead Local Flood Authority, the Denbighshire County Council will also take on the role of the SuDS Adopting and Approving Body (SAB) in relation to sustainable drainage systems. In this role the Council will be responsible for both approving the original design of the SuDS and adopting and maintaining the finished system.

6.2.1 Highways & Environmental Services

Highways and Environmental Services have taken the lead in delivering and implementing the requirements of the Act on behalf of DCC. However, this task requires input and a partnership of working with the other relevant departments in the council. Some of the tasks outlined in the following sections have been core activities for the council for a number of years and processes are in place to deliver those tasks. Other tasks, however, relate to the new responsibilities which have recently been assigned and will require new processes to be developed and implemented.

6.2.1.1 Strategic Leadership

DCC is responsible for co-ordinating and overseeing flood risk management on a day to day basis across the County. In practice DCC took the lead in dealing with groundwater, surface water and ordinary watercourse flooding incidents prior to the changes contained within the FWMA; however the responsibility has now been allocated to DCC by law. At the onset, this involves developing this strategy which will set out DCC’s approach to dealing with flooding identified under the Act. It also involves ensuring all flood risk authorities are aware of their responsibilities, monitoring progress and activity by all organisations involved and communicating with the public and between organisations.

¹⁵ Section 10(1) of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010

¹⁶ Section 10(5) of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010

¹⁷ Section 13 of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010

¹⁸ Section 19 of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010

¹⁹ Section 21 of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010

²⁰ Section 27 of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010

6.2.1.2 Recording of Flood Incidents

To assemble an accurate picture of flood risk across Denbighshire requires the collection of precise and useful records from actual flood incidents occurring across the County. DCC have set a standard to record every flood incident that occurs in the county. A detailed investigation will be carried out when certain criteria are met, which is explained in more detail in the next section.

Partnership working and collaboration is an integral part of managing flood risk and is reflected in the duty to co-operate within the Act. The measure for the future is to build stronger links with local community groups, the public, landowners and private organisations that we expect to take a proactive involvement in flood risk management and provide us with information on flood incidents.

DCC's aim is to obtain as much information on flooding incidents that occur across Denbighshire and in order to do this we encourage the public to use the Council's website to provide information that we may not be aware about.

If you become aware of a flood in your area, please provide us with the following information via highways@denbighshire.gov.uk

- Your name and contact details
- Date of flood;
- Location of the flood (map references or precise address);
- The duration of flood;
- The depth of flood at its worst;
- Where did the water come from? e.g. overflowing river;
- What was the weather preceding the flood, rainfall if known;
- Did water enter a property? Which ones;
- What damage did the flooding cause? e.g. blocked road for several hours;
- Was any action taken at the time to reduce the flood risk? e.g. flood gates;
- Any other relevant information; and
- Photographs and videos of the flood and damage preceding the flood.

6.2.1.3 Investigation of Flood Incidents

An LLFA has a duty to investigate all sources of significant flooding events. The national definition of *significant* is unavailable; therefore the decision whether or not to investigate a flood is at the discretion of the LLFA and the comprehensiveness of the investigation will be adjusted to reflect the significance of the incident and the resources available. In the event of very widespread, significant flooding affecting large areas of Denbighshire, our ability to investigate every incident in detail is likely to be severely limited.

The aim of flood investigations is to bring all useful information together in one place, providing an understanding of situations, outlining possible causes of flooding and potential long-term solutions to protect people and their homes from flooding. Further recommendations will also be made to highlight potential flood risk management actions. Reports will provide a clear and thorough understanding of flood incidents. Ideally the investigations will provide long term solutions and recommended actions to potentially solve the problem, however through the investigation process there is no guarantee that these will be acted upon by the authorities or persons responsible to carry out these actions, unless permissive powers are used under the Land Drainage Act.

A flood investigation will involve consultation with the relevant risk management authorities, landowners and private organisations involved, all of whom will be expected to cooperate and provide comments. The Council has agreed a methodology for flood investigations with Natural Resources Wales, which is shown in Figure 6.2.

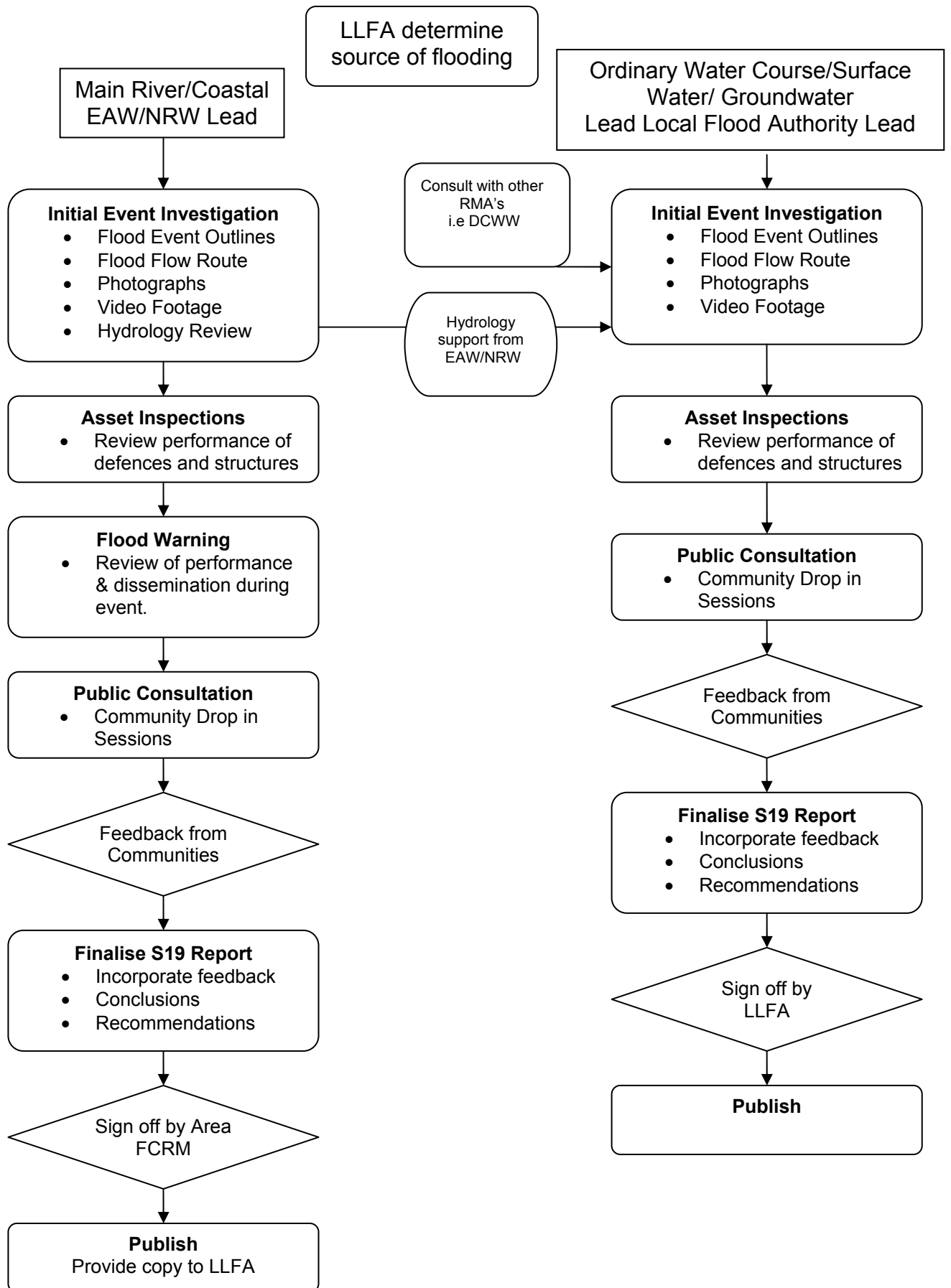


Figure 6.2 Methodology for Flood Investigation in co-ordination with Natural Resources Wales

6.2.1.4 Register of Flood Risk Assets

An asset in the context of flood risk management is an artificial or natural structure that works as a flood defence or as part of a drainage system considered likely to have a significant impact on flood risk. An example could be a trash screen, culvert, pumping station, walls or banks of a river channel.

Denbighshire County Council is required to keep an **asset register** of structures or features which it considers are likely to have a significant effect on local flood risk. Information on ownership and state of repair will be held on the register and it will be made available for inspection by the public at all reasonable times. The register will take the form of a live database, which will be constantly updated in the light of flood incidents, flood investigations and changes to infrastructure. In the first instance the recording of assets will be prioritised by its location; future flood risk mapping and known flood risk areas taken from the Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment will be used to analyse the 'significance' of each flood risk asset. The vulnerability of the asset's surroundings will also be used to determine the consequences of its failure.

The council is also required to keep an **asset record** for use by risk management authorities. The record will provide further information about each asset and contact details for the owner or maintainer. This database will be used to investigate cases where flood risk asset issues have been reported.

6.2.1.5 Sustainable development

DCC has a duty to aim to contribute towards the achievement of sustainable development in the exercise of flood or coastal erosion risk management functions and to have regard to the Welsh Ministerial guidance on this topic. The guidance provided, *Sustainable Development: Guidance to Risk Management Authorities Section 27 – Sustainable Development Nov 2011*, does not prescribe a single approach that must be followed; rather it provides a variety of suggestions of how to aim to make a contribution towards the achievement of sustainable development while carrying out duties in managing local flood risk under the Act. The ways in which DCC will work towards achieving sustainable development in the FCERM role are described in Section 10.

6.2.1.6 Designating Assets

The relevant clauses of the FWMA have now commenced (August 2012), therefore empowering Denbighshire County Council and the Natural Resources Wales as 'designating authorities'. That is, they have the permissive powers to 'designate' features or structures which they consider affects flood risk and it is not owned by the LLFA or the Natural Resources Wales. If an asset becomes 'designated' its owner cannot alter, remove or replace a designated structure or feature without the consent of the designating risk management authority. The aim of designating flood risk assets is to safeguard them against unchecked works which could increase flood risk in the area. Designation of features or structures is not something that will be done regularly but only conducted when it is deemed that there are concerns about the asset.

Note: designation of an asset does not mean there is a duty on anyone to maintain it in its current condition.

6.2.1.7 Meeting the Flood Risk Regulations

The Flood Risk Regulations 2009²¹ (FRR) replicate the allocation of responsibility of local flood risks and have allocated specific responsibilities for conducting assessments. All LLFA are required to produce a

²¹ Flood Risk Regulations 2009

Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment (PFRA). The first PFRA was published in June 2011 and can be found on the Denbighshire County Council website:

<http://www.denbighshire.gov.uk/en-gb/DNAP-8PCC5B>

The information contained within will be reviewed in 2017 and every six years thereafter.

6.2.1.8 Consenting Works on Ordinary Watercourses

DCC are responsible for the regulation of ordinary watercourses. This includes issuing of consents for any changes to ordinary watercourses that might obstruct or alter the flow of an ordinary watercourse and enforcement action to rectify unlawful and potentially damaging work to a watercourse.

This role was previously held by NRW but has been transferred to enable the LLFA to implement their new roles and responsibilities in respect to local flood risk. NRW still retain their responsibility of consenting works on main rivers.

If riparian owners or other bodies wish to culvert an ordinary watercourse or insert any obstruction, consent is required. The purpose of ordinary water course regulation is to control activities that may have an adverse flooding impact. It is essential that anyone who intends on carrying out works either temporary or permanent in, over, under or near a watercourse or flood defences (including sea defences) obtain any necessary consents before commencing works. Consents on forms of obstruction identified by the Land Drainage Act will be charged. Riparian owners are encouraged to contact the Highways and Environment Services Department to discuss any applications. The relevant application form can be downloaded at:

<https://www.denbighshire.gov.uk/en/resident/planning-and-building-regulations/planning/ordinary-watercourse-consent.aspx>

6.2.1.9 As SuDS Approval Body (SAB)

Sustainable drainage systems (SuDS) are a change of approach from conventional drainage which aimed to convey water as quickly as possible from a development, often causing watercourses downstream to overload and potentially cause flooding. The key principles that influence the planning and design of SuDS are:

- Storing runoff and releasing it slowly (attenuation);
- Allowing water to soak into the ground (infiltration);
- Slowly transporting (conveying) water on the surface;
- Filtering out pollutants; and
- Allowing sediments to settle out by controlling the flow of the water²².

SuDS are also an opportunity to ensure that amenity and biodiversity are considered with the same importance as managing volumes of water.

²² http://www.ciria.com/suds/suds_principles.htm

The Flood and Water Management Act 2010 assigns Denbighshire County Council the role of a SuDS Approval Body (SAB) for the county of Denbighshire. When this aspect of the Act is enacted (expected by April 2014) full details of how this will be implemented will be agreed with partners and publicised widely. The SuDS approval process will be integrated with the planning process; with discussions commencing at the earliest possible stage.

It is expected that any development requiring planning permission will require a drainage approval and that when the SAB is established, it will be required to:

- Assess the drainage design for all construction work which has drainage implications;
- Adopt all SuDS schemes which connect more than one property; and
- Ensure that all adopted SuDS schemes are properly maintained.

An important provision in the FWMA includes the removal of the automatic right to connect to surface water sewer systems; instead connection to an existing sewer network is conditional on the SAB approving the drainage system.

Drainage is a complex issue and should be considered at the earliest stage of the development process. DCC will be producing a local SuDS Design Guide in accordance with National Standards on SuDS, to advise on what the expectations are for the design of drainage, which is expected to be out for consultation in 2014 after national guidance has been provided following the enactment of the SAB.

Note: DCC is waiting for additional information and guidance from Welsh Government regarding the adoption of SuDS therefore the information above is subject to change.

6.2.2 Coastal

Denbighshire County Council is a coastal erosion risk management authority with the power to protect land against coastal erosion and to control third party activities on the coast, such as the construction of private defences or the removal of beach material. Importantly since October 2011 Lead Local Flood Authorities have required NRW approval to undertake coastal protection works.

6.2.3 Joint Emergency Planning Unit

The introduction of the civil contingencies Act 2004 required a restructure of joint-agency planning in Wales. This resulted in the creation of Local Resilience Forums (supported by various co-ordinating groups) based on the four police force areas in Wales.

The Joint Emergency Planning Unit (JEPU) for Denbighshire and Flintshire Councils works closely with the North Wales Resilience Forum (NWRF), which was established in March 2005. The membership of the NWRF is made up of the strategic level managers of each of the Category 1 responders (Local Authorities including DCC, Police, Ambulance, Local Health Boards, Fire & Rescue Services and other relevant bodies). Its overall purpose is to ensure that there is an appropriate level of preparedness to enable an effective multi-agency response to emergencies including floods which may have a significant impact on the communities of North Wales.

Denbighshire Local Flood Risk Management- Strategy

The Resilience Forum's objectives are²³:

- To agree on joint strategic and policy approaches relating to North Wales preparedness and response;
- To approve the Community Risk Register (CCR) and ensure it provides a robust basis for planning;
- To ensure that appropriate multi-agency plans, procedures, training and exercises necessary to address identified or foreseeable local and wider area hazards are in place and outstanding gaps identified;
- To direct and oversee the activities of working groups as they are established and allocate measures to them as appropriate;
- To receive reports from the working groups on current threat levels, gaps in planning and progress on actions measured;
- To ensure that appropriate resources are made available to working groups to fulfil statutory and measure-based responsibilities;
- To co-ordinate the individual approaches and responsibilities of each organisation to ensure that they complement each other and dovetail with partners' arrangements; and
- To consider the implications of legislation, national initiatives and decisions of the Regional Resilience Forum for the North Wales Resilience Forum area.

The role of the JEPU in terms of FCERM includes:

- Emergency planning responsibilities;
- Provision of a 24/7 Duty Officer system for Denbighshire and Flintshire County Councils;
- The preparation of flood contingency plans which detail the arrangements for responding to a disaster or major flood incident in Denbighshire;
- Assess Denbighshire's risks in accordance with lead responsibility and coordinate local authority input to community Risk Register;
- Develop Emergency Plans in accordance with lead responsibility;
- Develop local authority Business Continuity Management arrangements;
- Develop arrangements for Civil Preparedness information available for public use with other relevant DCC services;
- Working with communities to ensure that they are informed and prepared for civil emergencies such as flooding, and are able to recover following an emergency i.e. flood partnerships;
- Maintain system for warning, informing and advising public in event of an emergency;
- Share information with other Denbighshire responders;

²³ North Wales Community Risk Register 2012 Produced by North Wales Resilience Forum, Version 10 January 2012 - Final

Denbighshire Local Flood Risk Management- Strategy

- Co-operate with other Denbighshire responders to enhance co-operation and efficiency; and
- Provide advice and assistance to businesses and voluntary organisations about business continuity management, during and after an emergency.

The JEPUs support the Authority in the following during a crisis:

- Coordinate emergency support within their own functions;
- Deal with surface water and groundwater flooding, flooding from 'non main rivers';
- Work with the other Category 1 and 2 responders as part of the multi-agency response to floods;
- Coordinate emergency support from the voluntary sector;
- Liaise with central and regional government departments;
- Liaise with essential service providers;
- Open Rest Centres;
- Manage the local transport and traffic networks;
- Mobilise trained emergency social workers;
- Provide emergency assistance;
- Deal with environmental health issues, such as contamination and pollution
- Coordinate the recovery process;
- Manage public health issues
- Provide advice and management of public health;
- Provide support and advice to individuals; and
- Assist with business continuity. An increasingly important part of this role, supported by Natural Resources Wales and voluntary organisations, is to encourage the formation of local emergency groups.

In the event of a major flood emergency, the Council should be able to:

- Support the emergency services with evacuation;
- Provide temporary accommodation, including emergency feeding and rest centres;
- Provide social and welfare support to the vulnerable and persons suffering from stress or shock;
- Assist in the provision of body holding areas and a temporary mortuary in liaison with North Wales Police and the local coroner;
- Arrange temporary or permanent re-housing;

- Deal with and provide advice on health hazards and environmental issues;
- Assist in the response to public health matters;
- Ensure safety of highways and traffic and structural engineering related matters; and
- Provide any other services that normally fall within the day to day responsibilities of the Council.

6.2.4 As a Planning Authority

Denbighshire County Council acts as the Local Planning Authority within the administrative boundaries of the County. The two principle functions of the Authority are reflected in the departmental structure; Forward/ Strategic Planning (the production and monitoring of a Local Development Plan) and Development Control.

6.2.4.1 Strategic Planning/Planning Policy Function

In June 2013, the Council adopted the Local Development Plan which lays out the framework for the use and development of land within the County up to 2021. It is supported by a number of Supplementary Planning Guidance Notes (SPG's) and site development briefs to provide detailed guidance on individual policies.

Statutory bodies, such Environment Agency Wales and the Countryside Council for Wales (both merged into Natural Resources Wales [NRW]), were regularly consulted on proposed land allocations and site designations during the plan-making process. Comments on flooding, land drainage and nature conservation were defined as important site characteristics in the assessment of suitability for development.

The Local Development Plan team may also contribute towards Flood Risk Management by producing a Strategic Flood Consequences Assessment for the County or specific areas of the County.

6.2.4.2 Development Control Function

The Council's Planning Development and Control Section process and determine planning applications. In doing so they will need to have regards to flood risk and surface water drainage issues to ensure that development proposals comply with documents such as Technical Advice Note 15 – Development and Flood Risk (TAN 15). They will liaise with NRW, Welsh Water and drainage engineers on such proposals and will determine applications having regard to their input.

6.3 Water and Sewage Companies

6.3.1.1 Dwr Cymru – Welsh Water



Dŵr Cymru – Welsh Water (DCWW) is responsible not only for the provision of water supply in Denbighshire, but also for making appropriate arrangements for the drainage of foul water, the treatment of waste, surface water sewers and combined sewers. They have primary responsibility for floods from water supply and sewerage systems, which can include sewer flooding, burst pipes or water mains or floods caused by system failures. Welsh Water is working with its customers to reduce the cost of blockages and risk of system failures through a campaign named Let's Stop the Block. Further information can be found through the link below.

<http://www.letsstoptheblock.com/>



Figure 7.2: Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water boundaries (North and South)

The Flood and Water Management Act 2010 places a number of statutory duties on water and sewerage companies including:

- A duty to act consistently with the National Strategy;
- A duty to have regard to the content of the relevant Local Strategy; and
- A duty to co-operate with other relevant authorities in the exercise of their flood and coastal erosion risk management functions;

Water and sewerage companies often hold valuable information which could greatly aid the understanding of flood risks faced by communities across Wales.

6.3.1.2 Dee Valley Water



Dee Valley Water Plc supplies water to approximately 258,000 customers in Chester and North East Wales and North West England including parts of Denbighshire County (see Figure 7.4 below). Dee Valley is responsible for the provision of 23 million tonnes of water per year over an area of 831 square kilometres. As such, they have the primary responsibility for floods from their water systems, which can include burst pipes or water mains or floods caused by system failures.

Dee Valley has a duty to prevent and reduce leakage and promote water efficiency. They also have a duty to prevent wastage and promote the efficient use of water by their customers.



Figure 7.3: Dee Valley Water Operating Area boundary

6.3.2 Flood Risk Management

Water and sewage companies have the following responsibilities around flood risk management:

- Respond to flooding incidents involving their assets;
- Produce reports of the flood incidents;
- Maintenance of a register of properties at risk of flooding due to a hydraulic overload in the sewerage network (Flood Register, previously known as the DG5 Register);
- Undertake capacity improvements to alleviate sewer flooding problems on the register;
- Provide, maintain and operate systems of public sewers and works for the purpose of effectually draining an area;
- May be subject to scrutiny from lead local flood authorities' democratic processes;

- Statutory consultee to the SAB (when enforced) when the drainage system is proposed to communicate with the public sewer.

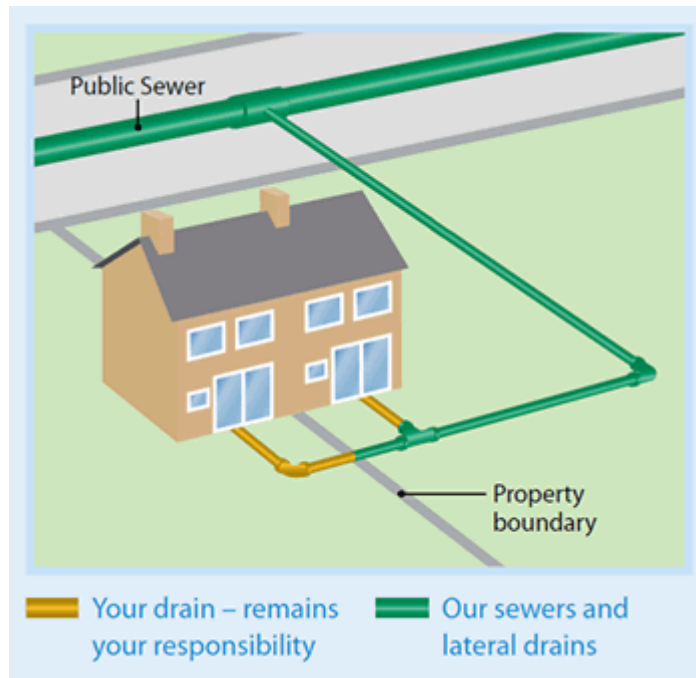


Figure 7.4 Sewerage pipe responsibilities

On 1st October 2012 the responsibility for private sewers and lateral drains transferred overnight to sewerage undertakers in Wales and England, under section 42 of the Flood and Water Management Act. In Denbighshire, this means that sewers which serve more than one property and pipes outside of the boundary of a property (for example in the highway) are now the responsibility of Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water to repair and maintain. Any pipes within the property boundary which only serve that property remain the responsibility of the property owner

6.4 Denbighshire County Council as a Highways Authority



Denbighshire County Council Highways and Environmental Services Department is responsible for the network of non-trunk roads in Denbighshire County. The Welsh Government is responsible for trunk roads in Wales; these are maintained by the North and Mid Wales Trunk Road Agency (NMWTRA) in Denbighshire on behalf of the Welsh Government.

Denbighshire Local Flood Risk Management- Strategy

The County Council is responsible for the entire highway network other than the A5, A55 and A494 trunk roads. The total length of roads in the County is 1,475km, made up as follows:

- Trunk roads 72 km
- Principal classified A roads 140 km
- Non principal classified B and C roads 655 km
- Unclassified roads 608 km

The Council has defined a strategic highway network which includes the A5, A55 and A494 trunk roads and the following roads for which the Council is responsible:

- the A525 which runs north-south through the County connecting Rhyl, with the A55, St Asaph, Denbigh, Ruthin and continues outside the County to Wrexham;
- the A548 coast road which runs between Pensarn in neighbouring Conwy County Borough (where it connects with the A55), Rhyl and Prestatyn to the Denbighshire/Flintshire boundary and then to the New Dee Crossing;
- the A547 which runs between Abergele in neighbouring Conwy County Borough (where it connects with the A55), Rhuddlan, Dyserth and Meliden to Prestatyn;
- the A5151 which connects the A525 at Rhuddlan, with Dyserth and the A55 near Holywell in Flintshire.
- the A541 which connects the A525 at Trefnant with Mold in Flintshire;
- the A539 which connects Llangollen with the A483 and Wrexham.

All Highways Authorities are Risk Management Authorities according to the FWMA and must adhere to all the responsibilities imposed on risk management authorities; a duty to co-operate with other risk management authorities and authority to take on Flood & Coastal Erosion Risk Management functions from another risk management authority when agreed by both sides.

In addition to their responsibility as a risk management authority, highways authorities also have further responsibilities which are detailed under the following headings:

6.4.1 Responsibility to maintain the Highways

Under the Highways Act, the Highways Authority has a duty to maintain the highway. This includes ensuring that highway drainage systems are clear and that blockages on the highway are cleared, where reasonably practicable. As part of this duty, roads are regularly inspected and maintained.

6.4.2 Adoption of SuDS

Highways Authorities currently have the power to adopt SuDS that serve the highway through Section 38 of the Highways Act but are under no obligation to do so. Under the Flood and Water Management Act, Highways Authorities will be required to adopt any SuDS approved by the SuDS Approval Body which exist within the highways boundary.

6.4.3 Powers to deliver works

The Highway Authority can deliver works that they consider necessary to protect the highway from flooding. These can be on the highway or on land which has been acquired by the highway authority in the exercise of highway and acquisition powers for that purpose. Highway Authorities may divert parts of a watercourse or carry out any other works on any form of watercourse if it is necessary for the construction, improvement or alteration of the highway or provides a new means of access to any premises from a highway.

6.4.4 Response in an Emergency Flooding Event

In the event of an emergency or major incident Denbighshire's Highways Authority will aim to provide:

- The means to transport people through it's contacts with local bus, coach and taxi operators and the in house fleet to assist with evacuations and helping uninjured survivors at the scene of a major incident to travel home or to a place of safety;
- Assistance in management of the transportation network to restore the flow of traffic in the event of an evacuation or away from the area of an incident. This includes providing equipment such as barriers, cones and signs and setting up and marking route diversions (service provided by Works Contractors in conjunction with the Police) and changing traffic signal controls to improve the flow of traffic; and
- Use of the Denbighshire Traffic Control Centre facilities and established media contacts to keep staff and the public across the County informed on travel related matters plus detection systems to enable management of traffic on the road network. The means to inspect repair or clear the highway network through the provision of staff, materials and equipment sourced through contractors.

6.4.5

North and Mid Wales Trunk Road Agency on behalf of the Welsh Government



Trunk roads in Denbighshire are maintained by the North and Mid Wales Trunk Road Agency (NMWTRA) on behalf of the Welsh Government as a Highway Authority. The Trunk Road network in North and Mid-Wales consists of approximately 1175 km (730 miles) of trunk road covering 8 Welsh Local Authorities – Ceredigion, Conwy, Denbighshire, Flintshire, Gwynedd, Isle of Anglesey, Powys and Wrexham. NMWTRA must ensure that:

- Road projects do not increase flood risk; and
- Road discharges do not pollute receiving water bodies.

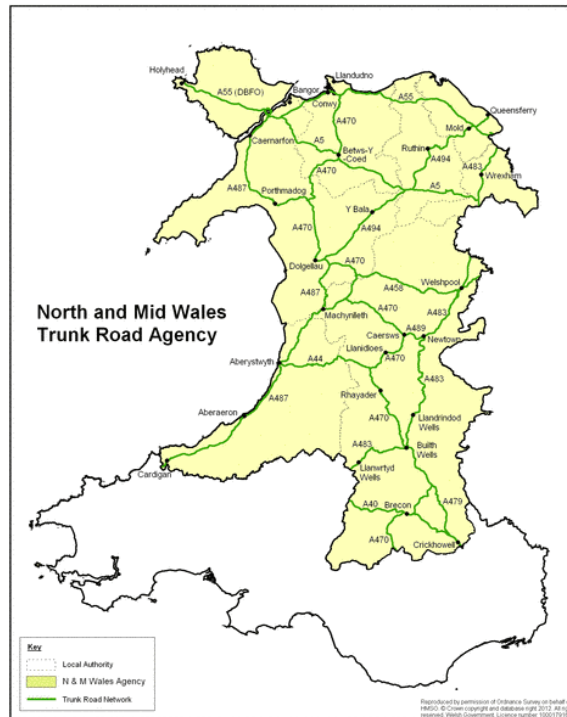


Figure 7.9: The map shows the full extent of the NMWTRA

The NMWTRA have responsibility for the highway drainage on the following trunk roads in Denbighshire County:

- A55 from Bodelwyddan to Junction 30
- A5 from Corwen to Cefn Mawr
- A494 from Corwen to Gwernymynydd

6.4.6 Powers and Responsibilities of Denbighshire's Citizens (Businesses, Landowners and Local Households)

Property Owners and Residents

It is the responsibility of householders and businesses to protect their property from flooding.

While in some circumstances organisations or property owners may be liable due to neglect of their own responsibilities, there will be many occasions when flooding occurs despite all parties meeting their responsibilities. Consequently it is important that householders, whose homes are at risk of flooding, take steps to ensure that their house is protected. There are a number of measures which can be taken to make your property more resistant (stop water entering) and resilient (better prepared to recover) to flooding. These include:

- Check whether your household is at risk from flooding from the river, coast or local flood sources. All households in Flood Zones C1 and C2 (areas at risk from coastal or main river flooding) should have been contacted notifying them of this and, unless they have chosen to opt-out; will receive flood warnings from Natural Resources Wales when the risk of river or coastal flooding is high. Go to Flood Map at www.naturalresourceswales.gov.uk;
- Ensure that preparations have been made for the event of a flood. These include registering for Natural Resources Wales Floodline Warnings Direct service if flooding from rivers may be involved, keeping a 'grab bag' of essential items ready and having a plan to turn off electricity, gas and water supplies;
- Take resistant measures to ensure that your house is protected from flooding, either through permanent measures such as sealants in the wall or temporary measures such as floodsax or flood guards. See the National Flood Forum's independent Blue Pages directory: <http://www.bluepages.org.uk/>;
- The combined effect of many people paving over their front gardens can increase the amount of surface runoff which adds to the risk of flooding. See the 'Guidance on the permeable surfacing of front gardens' leaflet: <http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/planningandbuilding/pavingfrontgardens>;

Another useful website is also,
<http://www.connectright.org.uk/>

- Take measures to make sure the house is resilient to flooding so that if it does occur it does not cause too much damage;
- Where possible, take out flood insurance;
- If your property is served by separate surface water and foul sewers, you have a responsibility to fix any pipes which may be wrongly connected. For example, dirty water from sinks, baths, showers, appliances and the toilet should go to the foul sewer to be treated, otherwise watercourses can be polluted. Gutters and gullies collecting rainwater should connect to the surface water sewer – if these are wrongly connected to the foul sewer then flooding from the foul sewer can result. See the leaflet 'Is your home connected right';

<http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/homeandleisure/pollution/water/31424.aspx>;

- If you own land adjoining a watercourse then you are a riparian owner and you have a responsibility to pass on flow without obstruction or pollution, including maintaining the banks of the channel and any vegetation so they remain clear of debris; and
- Report a flood incident to the Council to help build evidence for action to be taken.

Natural Resources Wales and the Environment Agency provide information on what to do to prepare a household for emergencies. This includes how to make a flood plan which will help you decide what practical actions to take before and after a flood. As detailed in the following link:

<https://www.gov.uk/prepare-for-a-flood>

The National Flood Forum is a national charity dedicated to supporting and representing communities and individuals at risk of flooding. As detailed in the following link; <http://nationalfloodforum.org.uk/>

The National Flood Forum has several roles:

- Help people to prepare for flooding in order to prevent it or mitigate its impacts;
- Help people to recover their lives once they have been flooded; and
- Campaign on behalf of flood risk communities and working with government and agencies to ensure that they develop a community perspective.

6.4.7 Riparian Ownership

Landowners, householders and businesses whose property is adjacent to a river or stream or ditch are likely to be riparian owners with responsibilities. The riparian owner is likely to own the land up to the centre of the watercourse which can be confirmed by The Land Registry.

Riparian owners have a right to protect their property from flooding and erosion but in most case will need to discuss the method of doing this with Natural Resources Wales. They also have responsibility for maintaining the bed and banks of the watercourse and ensuring there is no obstruction, diversion or pollution to the flow of the watercourse. Full details can be found in the Environment Agency's document '*Living on the Edge: A guide to your rights and responsibilities of riverside ownership*' found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/riverside-ownership-rights-and-responsibilities>

6.4.8 Utility and Infrastructure Providers

Within Denbighshire most of the defence assets are the responsibility of DCC, Network Rail or private land owners. Utility and infrastructure providers such as Network Rail, energy companies and telecommunication companies have a crucial role to play in flood risk management as their assets can be important consideration in planning for flooding.

Moreover they may have assets such as culverts, information about which needs to be shared with flood risk management authorities. They already maintain plans for the future development and maintenance of the services they provide and it is important that they factor in flood risk management issues into this planning process. This will ensure that their assets and systems are resilient to flood and coastal risks and that the required level of service can be maintained in the event of an incident.

6.4.9 Reservoir Undertaker

Citizens who own or operate a reservoir have ultimate responsibility for the safety and the maintenance as a reservoir undertaker. Under the FWMA; all undertakers with reservoirs over 10,000 m³ must register their reservoirs with the NRW and all undertakers must report any flood incidents. The reservoir owner is responsible for producing on-site emergency plans which detail how reservoir owners will respond to a potential or real reservoir failure. All undertakers must prepare a reservoir flood plan. It is good practice for all reservoirs to have on-site plans and all reservoir owners are recommended to prepare one.

6.5 Other Bodies

There are many other bodies that play an important role in flood risk management. Countryside Council for Wales and the Forestry commission have now joined with the Environment Agency to form Natural Resources Wales and Cadw is the Government's advisor on cultural heritage and the built environment.

The Met Office, the Canal and River Trust (formally British Waterways), transport and utilities providers all have important expertise and/or infrastructure that may impact on flood risk management.

There are also many non-government organisations that contribute to managing flood risks, including:

- Association of British Insurers;
- Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB);
- Local Wildlife Trust;
- Woodland Trust;
- Association of Drainage Authorities;
- Engineering consultants and contractors;
- National Flood Forum;
- Red Cross;
- Salvation Army;
- Country Land and Business Association;
- National Farmers Union;
- River Restoration Centre; and
- Network Rail.

7 Local Objectives and Measures

The following sets out the primary objectives for Denbighshire County Council for managing flood and coastal erosion risk throughout Denbighshire. Potential measures will be proposed to meet these objectives and research will be done into the possible sources of funding that may be available for the measures to be implemented.

The objectives are designed to be consistent wider government policy and include a realistic timetable for delivery, which could include phasing over multiple flood risk management strategy cycles. It is important that the process, measures and actions to achieve the objectives are pragmatic and supported by all departments and both partners and stakeholders. There should be demonstrable links between objectives and their contribution to tackling local priorities, in areas potentially vulnerable to flooding.

7.1 Denbighshire County Council's Flood Risk Management Objectives

The objectives will set the vision for how the council and its partners intend to manage local flood risk.

The Local Strategy objectives should also take into account Denbighshire's Corporate Plan which sets out the Council's key priorities over the next five years (2012 – 2017). The Corporate Plan has produced objectives and improvement activities, which have been assigned to Highways & Environmental Services to be implemented.

The Welsh Government's guidance on local strategies states that high level strategic objectives should be developed around the reduction of potential adverse consequences of flooding for human health, the environment, cultural heritage and economic activity. By adopting this approach, the objectives will be consistent with those required under the Flood Risk Regulations 2009 and assist in ensuring that this common approach is maintained across Wales.

It also suggests that the more detailed objectives provide opportunities for LLFA to capture and record both long and short term objectives including and therefore not forgetting the work that is already being completed such as routine maintenance.

Natural Resources Wales have suggested that the LLFA should consider objectives under each of the three key headings; social, economic and environmental.

DCC's objectives for managing flood and coastal erosion risk in Denbighshire County are consistent with the national objectives and are listed overleaf:

Denbighshire County Council's Flood Risk Management Objectives:

- Reducing the consequences for individuals, communities, businesses and the environment from flooding and coastal erosion;
- Raising awareness of and engaging people in the response to flood and coastal erosion risk;
- Providing an effective and sustained response to flood and coastal erosion events; and
- Prioritising investment in the most at risk communities.

7.2 Outcomes from Denbighshire County Council's Objectives:

1. To improve the understanding of local flood risk;
2. Ensure that local communities understand their responsibilities in relation to local flood risk management;
3. Work in partnership with other Risk Management Authorities and stakeholders;
4. Actively manage flood risk associated with new development proposals;
5. Encourage proactive, responsible maintenance of privately-owned flood defence and drainage assets;
6. Investigate opportunities to reduce surface water run-off from the upper catchments and for flood storage in flood plain areas;
7. Identify affordable, sustainable flood risk management projects, and
8. Ensure local FRM knowledge is aligned with the Councils emergency planning procedures.

DCC has undertaken an assessment in the form of a compatibility matrix to make certain that these chosen objectives and outcomes fit in line with National Strategy objectives, Local Strategy guidance and NRW key headings. The matrix also states which objectives are long and short term objectives and can be found in Table 8.1 below:

Denbighshire Local Flood Risk Management- Strategy

Outcome number	Denbighshire County Council LFRMS Outcome	Four Overarching National Strategy Objectives				NRW Key Headings			Long (L) or Short (S) term
		Reducing consequences	Raising awareness & engaging people	Providing an effective & sustained response	Prioritising investment	Environmental	Social	Economic	
1	Improve understanding	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	S
2	Ensure local communities understand their responsibilities	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	S
3	Work in partnership	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	S
4	Manage flood risk associated with new development proposals	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	S
5	Encourage maintenance of privately-owned flood defences	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	S
6	Investigate opportunities to reduce surface water run-off	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	S
7	Identify affordable, sustainable flood risk management projects	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	L
8	Ensure local knowledge is aligned with the Councils emergency planning procedures.	✓	✓			✓	✓		S

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Table 7.1: Matrix to demonstrate the links between DCC Local Strategy objectives, National Strategy objectives, and NRW Key Headings

Short term outcome – 0 - 20 years

Long term outcome – 20 - 100 years

7.3 Potential Measures

A measure can be defined as an activity, which will be undertaken to manage risk and achieve the agreed objectives. Local Strategy guidance states that a wide range of measures should be considered for the short (0-20 years), medium (20-50 years) and longer term (50-100 years). These should include both structural and non-structural activities; examples of these are included in Table 8.2 below:

Non-structural Measures	Structural Measures
Flood Warnings Systems; Public awareness and preparedness workshops; Community engagement; and Surface Water Management Plans.	Flood walls; Flood embankments; Trash screens; Demountable flood barriers; and Flood storage features.

Table 8.2: Examples of structural and non-structural activities

Measures which will achieve multiple benefits, such as water quality, biodiversity and amenity benefits are encouraged and should be promoted wherever possible.

The Local Strategy guidance also specifies that all LLFA's should consider measures under the following high level themes:

- Development planning and adaptation (encompassing both new and adaptations to existing developments / landscapes);
- Flood forecasting, warning and response;
- Land, cultural and environmental management;
- Asset management and maintenance;
- Studies assessments and plans;
- High level awareness and engagement (to increase individual and community resilience); and
- Monitoring (of the local flood risk issues).

Where practical and when resources are available, DCC would like to deliver the following measures for managing flood and coastal erosion risk in Denbighshire County subject to funding from Welsh Government.

To improve the understanding of local flood risk;

Measure 1.1 Identify drainage and flood assets and develop asset management system	
<p>Denbighshire County Council is required to keep both asset registers (for public use) and asset records (for use by risk management authorities) for structures and features which are considered to have a significant effect on flood risk.</p> <p>DCC will aim to create its own asset database of structures considered important to flood risk. Where these assets are DCC's, asset management plans for inspection and maintenance will be developed (if not already existent).</p> <p>DCC plans to be dedicated in the recording of flood risk assets, using the mechanisms of Ordinary Watercourse Consenting, investigation of flooding incidents, the Planning Application Process, and in the future, its position as SuDs Approval Body to expand its asset record management using a GIS based system.</p>	
Status	Statutory requirement
Finance	Investment required for additional software
Benefits	<p>Improved understanding of surface water flows within own and third party drainage systems resulting from less confusion over ownership of assets.</p> <p>Through this improvement, the Council will be able to make more informed local flood risk plans.</p>
Timescales	Deliverables should be complete by 2015 with proportionate implementation by 2017 (set by Welsh Government National Flood Risk Management Strategy)

Measure 1.2 Designate flood risk management features	
<p>The Flood and Water Management Act made DCC the 'Designating Authority' with the power to designate a structure (artificial or natural feature of the environment in private ownership). If DCC identifies that a structure or feature potentially affects local flood risk. A person may then not carry out any works on the designated structure or feature without firstly gaining permission of DCC.</p>	
Status	Permissive power
Finance	New function – Revenue Implication
Benefits	<p>Overcomes the risk of a person damaging or removing a structure or feature on private land which is relied upon for flood risk management.</p> <p>Ensures that records of significant flood risk structures/features are formally recorded and monitored.</p> <p>Designated structures or features will be registered in the Local Land Charges Register.</p>
Timescales	Short Term 0 -20 years

Measure 1.3 Record and map flooding incidents	
<p>The introduction of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 designates Denbighshire County Council as a Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA), with a duty to assess the flood risk within the County. To assemble an accurate picture of flood risk across Denbighshire requires the collection of precise and useful records from flood incidents occurring across the County.</p>	
Status	FWMA Duty
Finance	Possible investment required for mapping software
Benefits	<p>Measure will enable a greater understanding of flood risk within Denbighshire</p> <p>A higher standard of flood event data will be available which can be utilised in subsequent studies and assessments.</p>
Timescales	Short Term 0 -20 years

Measure 1.4 Carry out flood investigations	
<p>DCC will record and investigate significant flooding incidents and subsequently publish the details in accordance with Section 19 of the FWMA. The investigation must identify which risk management authorities have relevant flood risk management functions and whether they have exercised those functions appropriately in response to the incident.</p>	
Status	Statutory requirement
Costs	New function – Revenue Implication
Benefits	<p>Measure will enable a greater understanding of flood risk within Denbighshire</p> <p>A higher standard of flood event data will be available which can be utilised in subsequent studies and assessments.</p>
Timescales	Short Term 0 -20 years

Measure 1.5 Develop Flood Risk Management Plans for areas of high flood risk

The Flood Risk Regulations (2009) require Lead Local Flood Authorities to prepare and publish Flood Risk Management Plans by December 2015 where the risk of flooding from local flood risk is significant as identified in the Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment (PFRA). Flood Risk Management Plans attempt to assess, map and develop action plans to manage flood risk.

The statutory requirement is only to produce a Flood Risk Management Plan for the flood risk area identified as part of the PFRA. However, the PFRA assessment excluded some areas of high risk due to the national constraints. DCC feel that all areas of high flood risk should be included in the Flood Risk Management Plan and therefore propose to carry out the plan for its administrative boundary.

Status	Best practice (It is a statutory requirement for the LLFA where there are 'Flood Risk Areas' within their County boundary identified under the FRR 2009)
Finance	New function – Revenue Implication
Benefits	Measure will enable a greater understanding of flood risk within Denbighshire. A higher standard of flood event data will be available which can be utilised in subsequent studies and assessments.
Timescales	Short Term 0 -20 years

Measure 1.6 Develop a regional Learning Action Alliance in partnership with neighbouring LLFA's, flood risk management authorities and other private and public sector specialists to share knowledge of flood risk management approaches

DCC will endeavour to co-operate with other risk management authorities and stakeholders on new functions and potential future projects that are products of the LFRMS to establish and facilitate best practice, consistency in interpretation and collaborative working.

Status	Best practice
Finance	No implication
Benefits	Measure will enable a greater understanding of flood risk within Denbighshire. Partnership working avoids duplication of effort and investment amongst RMAs. Enables a better understanding of regional risks and the actions required to manage them.
Timescales	Ongoing

Ensure that local communities understand their responsibilities in relation to local flood risk management

Measure 2.1 Publish a clear strategy and communicate it	
<p>Denbighshire County Council (DCC), as a Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) is required to prepare a Local Flood Risk Management Strategy. The purpose of the Local Strategy is to address potential flood risk arising from local sources within the boundaries of the Authority area. An important part of the Local Strategy will be to ensure that our communities are aware of what risks exist, aware of what the Council and other Risk Management Authorities' responsibilities are in terms of flood risk and what communities can do to involve themselves.</p>	
Status	Statutory requirement
Finance	New function – Revenue Implication
Benefits	<p>Increased awareness of local flood risk means the residents have the ability to understand and prepare for the impact of flooding and to make resilience and resistance measures prior to a flood.</p> <p>The strategy will enable a greater understanding of flood risk within Denbighshire by implementing the objectives and measures.</p> <p>Greater understanding of Risk Management Authorities' roles and responsibilities.</p>
Timescales	First draft 2013, thereafter ongoing with regular reviews

Measure 2.2 Develop a communication strategy to improve stakeholder knowledge	
<p>Communicating the risk of flooding and raising awareness can be implemented in the short-term. This will mean stakeholders are more aware of the flood risk across Denbighshire, what the council does to reduce this risk and encourage a more proactive and partnership approach with flood risk management.</p>	
Status	Best practice
Finance	New function – Revenue Implication
Benefits	<p>Increased awareness of local flood risk means the residents have the ability to understand and prepare for the impact of flooding and to make resilience and resistance measures prior to a flood.</p> <p>Greater understanding of stakeholder roles and responsibilities.</p>
Timescales	Short Term 0 – 20 years

Measure 2.3 Develop a dedicated flood risk management page on the Council's website	
<p>The Council has a duty under the Civil Contingencies Act (2004) to warn and inform its residents of the risks and implications of those risks before, during and after any incidents. The Council's web site holds this information and links to further sources of information in relation to flooding incidents.</p>	
Status	Duty under Civil Contingencies Act (2004) extended with best practice
Finance	Existing Function – No implication New Function – Revenue Implication
Benefits	Increased awareness of local flood risk means the residents have the ability to understand and prepare for the impact of flooding and to make resilience and resistance measures prior to a flood. Greater understanding of stakeholder roles and responsibilities.
Timescales	Short Term 0 – 20 years and ongoing

Measure 2.4 Publish and distribute information explaining responsibilities, local flood risk, property protection and resilience	
<p>The Council has a duty under the Civil Contingencies Act (2004) to warn and inform its residents of the risks and implications of those risks before, during and after any incidents.</p> <p>This measure will attempt to encourage property owners to install individual property measures to protect their homes from flooding. The measure will also attempt to raise awareness of the techniques that could be utilised when repairing properties subject to repeated flooding in order to reduce future damages. Increasing flood resilience will reduce damages caused by any water that gets into a property.</p>	
Status	Duty under Civil Contingencies Act (2004) extended with best practice
Finance	Existing Function – No implication New Function – Revenue Implication
Benefits	Increased awareness of local flood risk means the residents have the ability to understand and prepare for the impact of flooding and to make resilience and resistance measures prior to a flood; Greater understanding of stakeholder roles and responsibilities.
Timescales	Short Term 0 – 20 years and ongoing

Measure 2.5 Involve local communities in local initiatives and schemes	
<p>Involving communities is fundamental to shaping effective services and supporting positive outcomes for Denbighshire. It is important not just socially, but economically: through involving communities residents will become active participants by offering input in the decision making process, we can foster a sense of shared responsibility, work together to provide more efficient and cost effective services and achieve greater impact through better use of resources.</p>	
Status	Best practice
Finance	Project Revenue – potential external funding
Benefits	<p>DCC will be benefiting from the skills, capabilities, expertise and resources of individuals and groups within a community. This includes physical resources but particularly people resources.</p> <p>It is important to support and develop communities' understanding, confidence and skills.</p> <p>It will build new and better relationships with communities, encourage communities to make informed decisions, reduced dependency, will enable communities to make decisions themselves where appropriate and otherwise use their involvement to inform planning and ensure that better decisions are made on behalf of communities.</p>
Timescales	Short Term 0 – 20 years and ongoing

Measure 2.6 Promote and support Community Flood Plans	
<p>Completing a community flood plan will help community members and groups plan how they can work together to respond quickly when flooding happens. The flood plan should contain all of the information that you will need before, during and after a flooding event. Detailed information on how to develop a community flood plan is available from Natural Resources Wales.</p> <p>Natural Resources Wales are the lead agency on the development of community flood planning in Wales, Denbighshire have worked closely with them in the development of plans for designated communities within the County. The communities chosen are based on an assessment of risk from main river flooding, however when planning begins it takes into account all forms of flooding. The aim of the community flood plans is to develop resilient, aware and organised communities, when faced with flooding in their areas.</p>	
Status	Best Practice
Finance	Existing Function – No implication
Benefits	<p>The first people to respond to any flooding incidents are the communities themselves. A prepared structured response will improve the speed and quality and hopefully reduce the risk and impact.</p> <p>Working together as a community or group has multiple benefits on the ground. It can improve communication before, during and after a flood incident, making sure the right people are involved at the right time. Local people know their risks and the vulnerable in their communities better than any responder agency and will be best placed to react and support. They will also be able to provide information to agencies if they attend the incident.</p>
Timescales	Short Term 0 – 20 years and ongoing

Measure 2.7 Promote and support property based resilience	
<p>This measure will attempt to encourage and raise awareness of the techniques that could be utilised when repairing properties subject to repeated flooding in order to reduce future damages. Increasing flood resilience will reduce damages caused by any water that gets into a property.</p>	
Status	Best practice
Finance	Existing Function – No implication Project Revenue – potential external funding
Benefits	Increased awareness of local flood risk means the residents have the ability to understand and prepare for the impact of flooding and to make resilience and resistance measures prior to a flood. Greater understanding of stakeholder roles and responsibilities.
Timescales	Short Term 0 – 20 years and ongoing

Measure 2.8 Visit schools in flood risk areas	
<p>The Council has a duty inform its residents of the risks and implications of the risks of flooding. An important part of the Local Strategy will be to ensure that our communities are aware of what the Council and other Risk Management Authorities' responsibilities are in terms of flood risk and what communities can do to involve themselves. Visiting schools will help raise awareness of flood risk in the classroom. Holding workshops where children could learn about the dangers of flooding, and learn practical information about how to prepare a flood kit. Children can also then pass on information to their parents. DCC can also work with the head teacher of the schools to ensure that all staff and pupils are protected by a school flood plan.</p>	
Status	Best practice
Finance	New function – Revenue Implication
Benefits	Increased awareness of local flood risk means the residents have the ability to understand and prepare for the impact of flooding and to make resilience and resistance measures prior to a flood. Greater understanding of Risk Management Authorities' roles and responsibilities.
Timescales	Short Term 0 – 20 years and ongoing

Measure 2.9 Annual flood awareness event and/or flood awareness roadshow	
Raising community awareness and communicating effectively with local communities will enable DCC to set realistic expectations and achievable outcomes for local flood risk management. DCC proposes to proactively inform those that are at risk of local flooding and advise them on what steps to take.	
Status	Best practice
Finance	Existing Function/New Function – Potential revenue implication
Benefits	<p>The Government believes a well-informed public is better able to respond to an emergency and to minimise the impact of the emergency on the community. Informing the public as best we can will build their trust. It will also help minimise disruption and improve / ease the response to any flooding incidents.</p> <p>An aware population has the ability to understand and prepare for the impact of a flooding situation and to make remedial measures prior to a situation for example purchasing flood gates.</p> <p>Increased awareness of local flood risk means the residents have the ability to understand and prepare for the impact of flooding and to make resilience and resistance measures prior to a flood.</p> <p>Greater understanding of stakeholder roles and responsibilities.</p>
Timescales	Short Term 0 – 20 years and ongoing

Measure 2.10 Promote and support Dangerpoint	
DangerPoint is a unique indoor education activity centre based in Talacre, North Wales. DangerPoint has been designed to inspire, inform and engage with groups. It is an excellent way to educate children and the community in essential life skills including preparing and dealing with flooding.	
Status	Best practice
Finance	New Function – Revenue Implication
Benefits	<p>An aware population has the ability to understand and prepare for the impact of a flooding situation and to make remedial measures prior to a situation.</p> <p>Increased awareness of local flood risk means the residents have the ability to understand and prepare for the impact of flooding and to make resilience and resistance measures prior to a flood.</p> <p>Greater understanding of stakeholder roles and responsibilities.</p>
Timescales	Short Term 0 – 20 years and ongoing

Measure 2.11 Actively engage with the private flood sector to develop innovative techniques to raise awareness	
<p>Raising community awareness and communicating effectively with local communities will enable DCC to set realistic expectations and achievable outcomes for local flood risk management. By working collaboratively with the private sector, DCC can offer new and improved techniques to raise flood risk awareness. The private sector is renowned for their innovation, efficiency and capability and DCC would like to work with them to create innovative ideas for the council and its residents.</p>	
Status	Best practice
Finance	New Function – Revenue Implication
Benefits	<p>DCC will be benefiting from the skills, capabilities, expertise and resources of the private flood sector.</p> <p>Increased awareness of local flood risk means the residents have the ability to understand and prepare for the impact of flooding and to make resilience and resistance measures prior to a flood.</p> <p>Greater understanding of stakeholder roles and responsibilities.</p>
Timescales	Short Term 0 – 20 years and ongoing

Work in partnership with other Risk Management Authorities and stakeholders

Measure 3.1 Work closely with the Natural Resources Wales and Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water to develop cost effective solutions to flooding issues	
DCC will endeavour to co-operate with other risk management authorities on new functions and potential future projects that are products of the LFRMS. The North Wales Flood Risk Management Group has been established to facilitate best practice, consistency in interpretation and collaborative working.	
Status	Best practice under FWMA
Finance	Existing Function – No implication
Benefits	<p>DCC will be benefiting from the skills, capabilities, expertise and resources of the other RMA's.</p> <p>Partnership working avoids duplication of effort and investment amongst RMAs.</p> <p>Enables a better understanding of regional risks and the actions required to manage them.</p> <p>Greater understanding of stakeholder roles and responsibilities.</p>
Timescales	Short Term 0 – 20 years and ongoing

Actively manage flood risk associated with new development proposals

Measure 4.1 Develop and apply a robust local policy for the drainage of new development sites	
<p>The Flood and Water Management Act 2010 requires new developments and redevelopments in England and Wales to have drainage plans for surface runoff approved by the SAB where the construction work would have drainage implications.</p> <p>This measure is to control drainage on new development, to ensure the avoidance of, or minimising, the adverse effects of any environmental risks associated with flooding on future land use.</p>	
Status	Statutory Requirement and a duty to promote and manage Sustainable Drainage
Finance	Existing Function/New Function – Potential revenue implication
Benefits	<p>Developers benefit from clear guidance.</p> <p>Reduction of runoff rates which will reduce downstream flooding.</p> <p>Enhancement of amenity, environmental and aesthetic value of sites.</p>
Timescales	Short Term 0 – 20 years and ongoing

Measure 4.2 Develop a process with the Planning Department to create clear advice and direction to developers on FRM and Drainage. Encourage developers to adopt a ‘best practice’ approach to site drainage	
<p>The Flood and Water Management Act 2010 requires new developments and redevelopments in England and Wales to have drainage plans for surface runoff approved by the SAB where the construction work would have drainage implications.</p> <p>This measure is to control drainage on new development, to ensure the avoidance of, or minimising, the adverse effects of any environmental risks associated with flooding on future land use.</p>	
Status	Statutory Requirement and a duty to promote and manage Sustainable Drainage
Finance	Existing Function/New Function – Potential revenue implication
Benefits	<p>Developers benefit from clear guidance.</p> <p>Reduction of runoff rates which will reduce downstream flooding.</p> <p>Enhancement of amenity, environmental and aesthetic value of sites.</p>
Timescales	Short Term 0 – 20 years and ongoing

Encourage proactive, responsible maintenance of privately-owned flood defence and drainage assets

Measure 5.1 Identify highest risk private flood defence and drainage assets	
<p>DCC is required to keep both asset registers (for public use) and asset records (for use by risk management authorities) for structures and features which are considered to have a significant effect on flood risk. There is no formal definition of when an asset has a ‘significant effect’ but will largely be determined on the flood history of the site and the vulnerability of any infrastructure likely to be affected by a failure of the asset.</p> <p>DCC proposes to be pro-active in the recording of flood risk assets, using the mechanisms of Ordinary Watercourse Consenting, investigation of flooding incidents, the Planning Application Process, and in future, its role as SAB to expand its asset record.</p>	
Status	Statutory Requirement
Finance	New Function – Revenue Implication
Benefits	<p>Confusion over ownership of flood risk assets will be lessened.</p> <p>Maintenance regimes will be able to take into account assets important for managing flood risk, particularly in high risk areas;</p> <p>Denbighshire will be able to establish where all assets are, allowing for quicker identification of the responsible authority in flooding incidences.</p> <p>Denbighshire would be able to produce/refine their own asset maintenance schedule in addition to potentially providing guidance to riparian owners as to how they should maintain their assets.</p>
Timescales	Short Term 0 – 20 years and ongoing

Measure 5.2 Develop technical advice for owners to guide them in preparing local maintenance plans	
<p>This measure is to ensure the avoidance of, or minimising, the adverse effects of any environmental risks associated with flooding from private watercourses.</p>	
Status	Best practice
Finance	Existing Function – No implication
Benefits	<p>Landowners benefit from clear guidance and advice.</p> <p>Confusion over ownership of flood risk assets will be lessened.</p> <p>Maintenance plans will be able to take into account assets important for managing flood risk, particularly in high risk areas.</p> <p>Ensure that the appropriate level of inspections and maintenance takes place across the county.</p>
Timescales	Short Term 0 – 20 years and ongoing

Investigate opportunities to reduce surface water run-off from the upper catchments and for flood storage in flood plain areas

Measure 6.1 Develop a register of land ownership for Denbighshire and neighbouring authority areas with shared catchments	
<p>This measure will reduce confusion over ownership of land and flood risk assets; highlight riparian owners and Risk Management Authorities with responsibilities under the Land drainage Act 1991 and Flood and Water Management Act 2010, which in turn will increase maintenance and reduce flood risk.</p>	
Status	Best practice
Finance	Existing Function/New Function – Potential revenue implication
Benefits	<p>Confusion over ownership of flood risk assets will be lessened.</p> <p>Maintenance regimes will be able to take into account assets important for managing flood risk, particularly in high risk areas.</p> <p>Denbighshire will be able to establish where all assets are, allowing for quicker identification of the responsible riparian owner / authority in flooding incidences.</p> <p>Increased awareness of local flood risk.</p> <p>Greater understanding of stakeholder roles and responsibilities.</p>
Timescales	Short Term 0 – 20 years and ongoing

Measure 6.2 Develop proposals to engage with significant landowners to employ land management techniques and initiatives which help to reduce the rate of surface water run-off	
<p>There is the potential for surface water runoff to be reduced via the implementation of certain land management techniques, whether solely for the purpose of flood risk management or as by-products of other land management schemes.</p> <p>DCC propose to undertake further assessment of the viability of implementing such measures as a means of reducing flood risk in Denbighshire and work with landowners to implement them.</p>	
Status	Best Practice
Finance	Project Revenue – Potential External Funding
Benefits	<p>Greater understanding of where land management techniques can be used within Denbighshire.</p> <p>Implementation of land management techniques would offer a ‘sustainable’ flood risk management solution, particularly when compared to structural measures. Potential wider environmental/amenity benefits of using land management techniques.</p> <p>Potential for greater engagement of land use owners and other stakeholders in local flood risk management and the ability to work collaboratively with neighbouring Local Authorities.</p>
Timescales	Short Term 0 – 20 years and ongoing

Identify affordable, sustainable flood risk management projects

Measure 7.1 Review the Council's programme of flood risk management schemes	
<p>This measure is to prioritise schemes based on flood risk to maximise funding and resources. The technical and economic feasibility of such projects will subsequently be assessed via the Project Appraisal process and current Welsh Government Guidance.</p>	
Status	Best practice
Finance	Existing Function – No implication
Benefits	Gain capital funding to implement flood risk schemes
Timescales	Short Term 0 – 20 years and ongoing

Measure 7.2 Use Flood Risk Management Plans to identify further measures to manage and reduce flood risk	
<p>The Flood Risk Regulations (2009) require Lead Local Flood Authorities to prepare and publish Flood Risk Management Plans by December 2015 where the risk of flooding from local flood risk is significant as identified in the Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment (PFRA). Flood Risk Management Plans attempt to assess, map and develop action plans to manage flood risk.</p> <p>In essence the flood risk management plan will set out DCC recommendations for managing flood risk within its administrative area. It should be stressed that the plan will consider a holistic approach to flood risk management and will not be solely reliant on traditional structural flood risk solutions. Indeed, in line with the objectives of this LFRMS, DCC propose to seek out opportunities to use innovative land management techniques, in addition to identifying synergies with plans and strategies that aim to incorporate natural flood risk management processes that promote nature conservation or landscape enhancements.</p>	
Status	Statutory Requirement
Finance	Project Revenue – Potential External Funding
Benefits	The production of a Flood Risk Management Plan will focus and direct the future work on flood risk management within DCC.
Timescales	Short Term 0 – 20 years and ongoing

Measure 7.3 Encourage and promote community and private contribution towards the costs of flood schemes

Considering the current pressures on public funding, the money available for flood risk management is unlikely ever to be adequate to deal with all existing flood risks and the increasing future risk brought about by further development and a changing climate. As such, flood risk management will need to be supplemented by everyone working together and by those at risk from flooding taking responsibility to protect and help themselves.

This measure will increase the amount of schemes DCC can prioritise and implement within the County.

Status	Duty under Civil Contingencies Act (2004) extended with best practice
Finance	Project Revenue – Potential External Funding
Benefits	It will build new and better relationships with communities, encourage communities to make informed decisions, reduced dependency, will enable communities to make decisions themselves where appropriate. DCC will be benefiting from the resources of community and increase the amount of flood management schemes that can be implemented.
Timescales	Short Term 0 – 20 years and ongoing

Measure 7.4 Continue to promote flood risk management schemes that might be eligible for Welsh Government grant aid

Considering the current pressures on public funding, the money available for flood risk management is unlikely ever to be adequate to deal with all existing flood risks and the increasing future risk brought about by further development and a changing climate. As such, flood risk management will need to be supplemented by more external funding.

Status	Best practice
Finance	Project Revenue – Potential External Funding
Benefits	Increased funding for flood risk management schemes.
Timescales	Short Term 0 – 20 years and ongoing

Ensure local FRM knowledge is aligned with the Councils emergency planning procedures

Measure 8.1 Embed the LFRMS into flood response and recovery plans and use developing knowledge on flood risk to “tune” emergency procedures	
Emergency planning should aim where possible to prevent emergencies occurring and when they do occur, good planning should reduce, control or mitigate the effects of the emergency. It is a systematic and ongoing process which should evolve as lessons are learnt and circumstances change.	
Status	Duty under Civil Contingencies Act (2004) extended with best practice
Finance	Existing Function – No implication
Benefits	A well prepared structured response will improve the speed and quality and hopefully reduce the risk and impact of a flood. Knowing what to do and who is to do it advance improves the response.
Timescales	Short Term 0 – 20 years and ongoing

Measure 8.2 Continue to develop Denbighshire County Council’s Multi Agency Flood Plan	
Local Authorities and other organisations are responsible under the Civil Contingencies Act (2004) for developing emergency plans to help reduce, control or ease the effects of an emergency. In doing so, DCC will:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Examine the Risk Assessments provided under the Flood Risk Regulations to assess the flood risks to the County from all sources; • Consider flood prevention schemes; • Arrange joint training and exercising as necessary; • Consider the roles and responsibilities of all bodies who have a role in flood management and response; • Review flood incidents, identify lessons and share information; • Review flood response plans; • Promote flood awareness to the public. 	
Status	Statutory Requirement
Finance	Existing Function – No implication
Benefits	Measure will enable a greater understanding of flood risk within Denbighshire. Increased awareness of local flood risk means the residents have the ability to understand and prepare for the impact of flooding and to make resilience and resistance measures prior to a flood. Improved response during flood events.
Timescales	Short Term 0 – 20 years and ongoing

7.4 Compatibility Matrix

DCC has undertaken an assessment in the form of a compatibility matrix to make certain that these potential measures fit in line with Local Strategy guidance and high level themes. The matrix also states which measures are structural and non-structural and whether they are long, medium and short term and can be found in Table 8.3 on the following page.

Key

- ✓ = Measure supports the theme
- = Measure is not applicable to the theme

Short Term measure – 0 - 20 years
Medium Term measure – 20 - 50 years
Long Term measure – 50 - 100 years

Ongoing – Measures that are already currently carried out by DCC and will continue
Pending – Measures that DCC are required to do under the FWMA
Aspirational – Measures that are not required but are considered to be beneficial to implement

Denbighshire Local Flood Risk Management- Strategy

Measure Reference Number	LFRMS Measures	High Level Themes							Long (L), Medium (M),Short (S) term	Structural (S), Non-structural (NS)	Status Ongoing (O), Pending (P), Aspirational (A)
		Development planning & adaptation	Flood forecasting, warning & response	Land, cultural & environmental management	Asset management & maintenance	Studies, assessment & plans	High level awareness & engagement	Monitoring			
1.1	Identify drainage and flood assets and develop asset management system	-	-	-	✓	✓	-	✓	S	NS	O
1.2	Designate flood risk management features	-	-	-	✓	-	✓	✓	S	NS	P
1.3	Record and map flooding incidents	-	-	-	✓	-	✓	✓	S	NS	O
1.4	Carry out flood investigations	-	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	-	S	NS / S	O
1.5	Develop Flood Risk Management Plans for areas of high flood risk	✓	-	✓	-	✓	✓	-	S	NS	A
1.6	Develop a regional Learning Action Alliance	-	-	-	-	-	✓	-	L	NS	A
2.1	Publish a clear Strategy and communicate it	-	-	-	-	✓	✓	-	S	NS	O
2.2	Develop a communication strategy to improve stakeholder knowledge	-	-	-	-	✓	✓	-	S	NS	P
2.3	Develop a dedicated flood risk management page on the Council's website	-	-	-	-	-	✓	-	S	NS	O
2.4	Publish and distribute information explaining responsibilities, local flood risk, property protection/resilience etc	-	-	-	-	-	✓	-	S	NS	P
2.5	Involve local communities in local initiatives and schemes	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	-	S	NS / S	P / O
2.6	Promote and support Community Flood Plans	-	✓	-	-	✓	✓	✓	S	NS / S	O
2.7	Promote and support property based resilience	✓	✓	-	-	-	✓	-	S	NS	P
2.8	Visit schools in flood risk areas	-	-	-	-	-	✓	-	S	NS	P

Denbighshire Local Flood Risk Management- Strategy

Measure Reference Number	LFRMS Measures	High Level Themes							Long (L), Medium (M),Short (S) term	Structural (S), Non-structural (NS)	Status - Ongoing (O), Pending (P), Aspirational (A)
		Development planning & adaptation	Flood forecasting, warning & response	Land, cultural & environmental management	Asset management & maintenance	Studies, assessment & plans	High level awareness & engagement	Monitoring			
2.9	Annual flood awareness event and/or flood awareness roadshow	-	-	-	-	-	✓	-	S	NS	P
2.10	Promote and support Dangerpoint	-	-	-	-	-	✓	-	S	NS	A
2.11	Actively engage with the private flood sector	-	-	-	-	-	✓	-	S	NS	O
3.1	Work closely with the Environment Agency Wales and Dŵr Cymru	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	S	NS	O
4.1	Develop a local policy for the drainage of new development sites	✓	-	✓	-	✓	-	-	S	NS / S	A
4.2	With the Planning Department; create clear advice and direction to developers on FRM and Drainage	✓	-	✓	✓	✓	✓	-	S	NS / S	A
5.1	Identify highest risk private flood defence and drainage assets	-	-	-	✓	✓	✓	-	S	NS / S	O
5.2	Develop technical advice for owners for local maintenance plans	-	-	-	✓	✓	✓	-	S	NS	A
6.1	Develop a register of land ownership for Denbighshire	✓	-	✓	✓	✓	✓	-	S	NS	O
6.2	Employ land management techniques and initiatives	✓	-	✓	✓	✓	-	-	S	NS	A
7.1	Review the Council's flood risk management schemes programme	-	-	-	-	✓	-	-	S	NS	P
7.2	Identify further measures to manage and reduce flood risk	-	-	-	-	✓	-	-	S	NS	A
7.3	Encourage community contribution towards flood schemes	✓	-	-	-	-	✓	-	S	NS	A
7.4	Promote flood risk management schemes for WG grant aid	-	-	-	-	-	✓	-	S	NS	O
8.1	Embed the LFRMS into flood response and recovery plans	-	✓	-	-	✓	✓	-	S	NS	A

Denbighshire Local Flood Risk Management- Strategy

Measure Reference Number	LFRMS Measures	High Level Themes							Long (L), Medium (M),Short (S) term	Structural (S), Non-structural (NS)	Status - Ongoing (O), Pending (P), Aspirational (A)
		Development planning & adaptation	Flood forecasting, warning & response	Land, cultural & environmental management	Asset management & maintenance	Studies, assessment & plans	High level awareness & engagement	Monitoring			
8.2	Continue to develop the Council's Multi Agency Flood Plan	-	✓	-	-	✓	✓	-	S	NS / S	O

Table 7.3: Matrix to demonstrate the links between DCC Local Strategy measures and Local Strategy Guidance, and high level themes

- ✓ = Measure supports the theme
- = Measure is not applicable to the theme

Short Term measure – 0 - 20 years

Medium Term measure – 20 - 50 years

Long Term measure – 50 - 100 years

Ongoing – Measures that are already currently carried out by DCC and will continue

Pending – Measures that DCC are required to do under the FWMA

Aspirational – Measures that are not required but would be beneficial to implement

7.5 Adopt Natural Flood Risk Management Techniques

The EA has produced the first national report of how natural processes can help manage flood risk in England and Wales; 'Greater working with natural processes in flood and coastal erosion risk management, January 2012' which is in response to the Pitt Review recommendation 27²⁴. The definition of 'working with natural processes' taken from this report is shown below:

'Working with natural processes means taking action to manage flood and coastal erosion risk by protecting, restoring and emulating the natural regulating function of catchments, rivers, floodplains and coasts. This could, for example, involve using farmland to temporarily store flood water, re-instating washlands and wetlands to store flood water away from high risk areas or allowing cliffs to erode to provide sediment down drift.'

In the context of FCERM, working with natural processes often means slowing down the flow of water (e.g. by re-establishing flood plains that hold flood waters) or speeding up the flow of water (e.g. by removing unnatural obstructions), to prevent flood waters from causing harm. Such techniques protect, restore or emulate natural processes which regulate flooding and erosion and, in doing so, may provide other ecosystem benefits such as biodiversity, carbon storage, and improved water quality. Natural processes operate across a continuum from mitigated engineering to full naturalisation (see Figure 8.1 below).

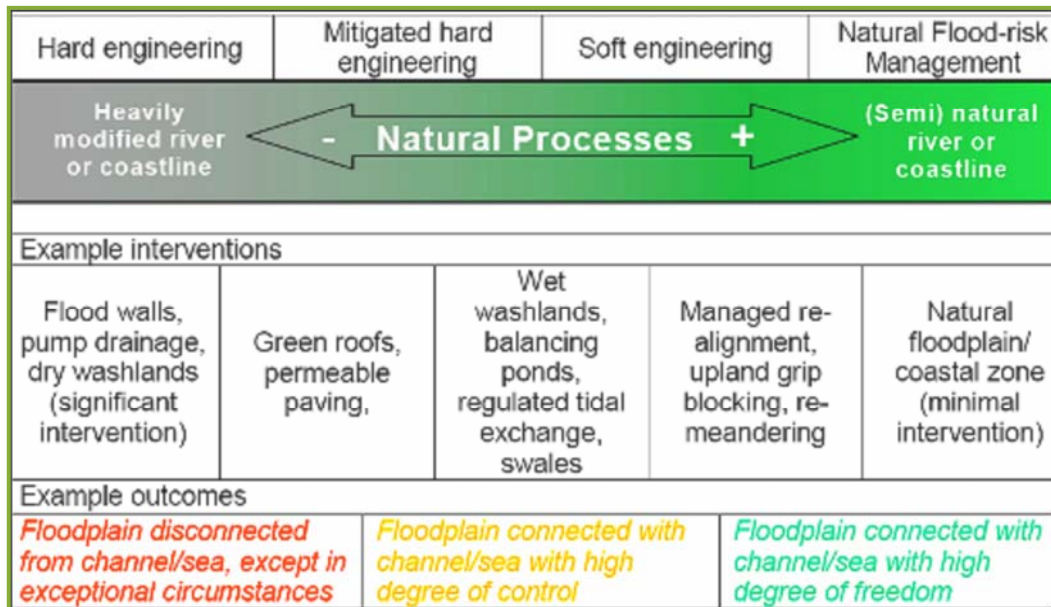


Figure 8.1: Natural Resources Wales' conceptual model of working with natural processes.

Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) reduce flood risk both at a development site and elsewhere in the catchment by replicating natural drainage processes. There are numerous varieties including detention basins (dry), retention ponds (wet), grassed swales, porous pavements, soakaways and 'green' roofs that store water within a building's own footprint. These interventions slow down and absorb surface water runoff and can create valuable habitats for wildlife while reducing flood risk to developments.

²⁴ "Defra, the Environment Agency and Natural England should work with partners to establish a programme through Catchment Flood Management Plans and Shoreline Management Plans to achieve greater working with natural processes"

Pontbren - a more sustainable system of farming

The Pontbren project was conceived in 1997 by a group of neighbouring families who farmed 1000 hectares in the uplands of mid-Wales, within the catchment of the Pontbren Stream. The group identified a number of changes they could make individually and collectively to improve the viability of their farms by reducing costs, adding value to produce and enhanced marketing. By working with Partners including Coed Cymru, the Forestry Commission and the Welsh Assembly Government they have developed a more sustainable system of farming.

Increasing the proportion of native breeds of hardy sheep enabled the farms to reduce winter housing costs and the amount of bought-in feed. However to lamb successfully on these exposed hills there needed to be good shelter. An important part of the project therefore involved protecting existing native woodlands, planting new woodland as shelterbelts and restoring hedgerows. It soon became apparent that the new plantings also offered a significant reduction in flood run-off. Wildlife too has benefited, from the habitat management and network of habitat corridors, with species such as the green woodpecker and barn owl returning to the area.

Such multi-beneficial projects are hoped to be further developed and encouraged with catchment land owners in Denbighshire and Conwy, in order to help reduce surface run-off levels in the upper catchments of the River Clwyd and Elwy.



Riparian planting alongside small watercourses and across slopes significantly improves surface water drainage in the upper catchment

8 Funding and Delivery

8.5 Funding Requirements

Some of the measures outlined in the previous section have been core activities for the council for a number of years and processes are in place to deliver those measures. Other measures, however, relate to the new responsibilities which have recently been assigned, most of which requiring a new set of skills, experience, processes and software that may take some time to develop or acquire.

It is important that the Local Strategy sets out where the funding will come from to acquire these resources in order to implement the measures within the strategy. Some measures will be delivered with existing council resources but others will require external funding support. Denbighshire County Council must identify what funding sources are currently available to them and what actions will need to be taken to ensure that alternative funding is achievable.

Currently most funding for flooding and coastal erosion comes from Welsh Government in the form of the Revenue Support Grant (RSG). It is essential for the implementation of this Strategy and for all statutory duties mentioned that the funding settlement from Welsh Government to DCC identifies an allocation to Flood Risk Management. The statutory duties outlined previously, will require ongoing funding from the Denbighshire County Council's RSG from 2013 onwards to ensure that there are sufficient resources to implement the strategy and;

- The proposed measures of the Strategy;
- Collect data for the revision of the PFRA in 2016 and every 6 years;
- Maintain and update the asset register;
- Designation of structures and features that affect flood or coastal erosion risk;
- Continue and improve the investigation of floods;
- Continue consenting works in ordinary watercourses;
- When the FWMA is fully implemented; checking, inspecting, approving, adopting and maintaining SuDS schemes as part of the SAB role;
- Implementation, monitoring, reviewing and updating the Local Strategy every 6 years; and
- Community awareness activities associated with duties of the Local Strategy.

8.6 Current Funding Sources

At present Denbighshire County Council receives funding from Welsh Government in two ways:

- A non-hypothecated grant (which can be used by the authorities for any purpose they choose in delivering the services for which they are responsible); An annual and unpredictable amount is provided through the Revenue Support Grant (RSG); and

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- A hypothecated grant (which can only be used for the specific purposes for which they are provided); Flood Defence Grant-in-Aid (FDGiA) provided by bidding for Flood Alleviation Grants (FAG), on a scheme by scheme basis, under the Land Drainage Act 1991. Currently the FAG rate (money contributed from WG) for fluvial schemes is 85% and for coastal schemes its 65%. Denbighshire County Council contributes the remainder to the scheme.

Source of Funding	Description	Indicative budget in 2012/2013	Administered By	To Fund
FCERM Revenue Support Grant (RSG)	For the 2013 / 2014 financial year onwards funding to support each LLFA will be provided through the Revenue Support Grant (RSG) system.	£90+ Thousand	Denbighshire County Council	LLFA duties under the FWMA. Maintenance of ordinary watercourses and related assets. Maintenance of coastal erosion mitigation measures.
Flood Defence Grant-in-Aid (FDGiA)	Welsh government funding for Flood alleviation grants (FAG) on a scheme by scheme basis – recently revised to encourage a partnership approach to maximise match-funding, work towards achieving specified objectives with a requirement to evidence a reduction in flood risk to properties	Unknown	Welsh Government	Medium to large capital FRM projects. FRM and coastal erosion management studies, strategies and projects.
Private Contributions	Voluntary from the private sector and local communities. Funding from beneficiaries of projects could make contributions from national funding viable. Contributions could be financial or “in kind” e.g. land, volunteer labour	Unknown	Denbighshire County Council	All projects
Water Company Investment	Investment heavily regulated by Ofwat but opportunities for contributions to area-wide projects which help to address sewer under-capacity problems	Unknown	DCWW	Projects which help to remove surface water from combined sewers
SAB Income	It is anticipated that Denbighshire will receive application and inspection fees funded by developers in support of the approval and inspection of new development related SuDS. Funding of long-term maintenance of SuDS is currently unclear; although a range of solutions is available including payment of commuted sums by Developers. The long-term funding of maintenance is to form part of the	Unknown	Denbighshire County Council	Development drainage approval and FRM issues

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Source of Funding	Description	Indicative budget in 2012/2013	Administered By	To Fund
	Consultation with Welsh Government.			
Flood and Coastal Resilience Partnership Funding	Some funding allocated for major capital projects require contributions into resilience measures.	Unknown	Denbighshire County Council	Measures which address flood risk to communities and businesses
European Convergence Funding 2007 - 2013	The Convergence programme for West Wales and the Valleys comprise funding from two separate European Structural Funds: the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and the European Social Fund (ESF).	£2 million	Denbighshire County Council	Medium to large capital FRM projects
Local Fundraising	An important funding mechanism will come from local fundraising from the local communities and businesses that benefit from the proposed flood defence schemes.	Unknown	Denbighshire County Council	Measures which address flood risk to communities and businesses
Riparian owners	Maintenance and repair of assets is normally the responsibility of riparian owners, awareness raising will assist in ensuring that assets are maintained; however, historic assets with uncertain ownership may require assistance in funding repairs or end of life replacement.	Unknown	Denbighshire County Council	Measures which address flood risk to riparian owners

Table 9.1: DCC's current funding sources for FCERM

8.7 Other Possible Funding Sources for the Future

Source of Funding	Description	Indicative budget in 2012/2013	Administered By	To Fund
Coastal Communities Fund (delivered on behalf of the	The fund is available to Local Authorities in managing and adapting to flood and coastal erosion risk, and managing pollution risks associated with the coast, where this supports	£1.45 million available for Wales	Big Fund	Projects that help coastal communities to better enable them to use their assets (physical, natural, social, economic and cultural)

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Source of Funding	Description	Indicative budget in 2012/2013	Administered By	To Fund
government by the Big Lottery Fund)	local economic development. The Fund opened for bids in March 2012 but is intended to be a rolling fund with annual bidding rounds. It is expected that there will be at least two future years of funding commencing in 2013 and 2014. The Coastal Communities Fund will open again for applications in early 2013.			to promote sustainable economic growth and jobs
Section 106 contributions (Town & Country Planning Act)	It is anticipated that Denbighshire will receive contributions from developers linked to specific development sites where off-site improvements to drainage infrastructure are required to make the developers proposals acceptable e.g. Green infrastructure with multiple benefits where there will be opportunities for Community groups to manage certain areas.	Unknown	Denbighshire County Council	Larger development sites
Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)	A local levy applied by the Planning Authority on developers. It allows local authorities to raise funds from new development in the area in order to pay for the impact that the development has on local infrastructure. The levy is based on the concept that almost all development has some impact on infrastructure and services, so it is fair that development should contribute towards the cost of maintaining or upgrading local infrastructure. Denbighshire County Council has not yet implemented a CIL scheme. A bid for CIL would have to be made for flood management/drainage improvements against other competing council priorities.	Unknown	Denbighshire County Council	All measures outlined in the Strategy
Business Rates Supplements	Agreement from local businesses to raise rates for specified purposes.	Unknown	Denbighshire County Council	measures which address flood risk to businesses
Collaborative schemes with other RMA's	There are opportunities for collaborative schemes with other RMAs, although the Water Authority	Unknown	Denbighshire County Council	Key measures in the Strategy

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Source of Funding	Description	Indicative budget in 2012/2013	Administered By	To Fund
	has limited scope for allocating funding to schemes outside their capital programme which is usually set several years' in advance; however early discussions and involvement may benefit all parties and the Community.			
Interreg Programmes 2013 - 2020	<p>Interreg Wales Ireland Programme Interreg North West Europe Interreg Atlantic Area</p> <p>To work in partnership with other counties on initiatives involving research, monitoring, awareness raising, developing tools and strategies in flood and coastal erosion.</p>	Unknown	Denbighshire County Council European Section	Revenue based projects
LIFE Programme 2013 – 2020	<p>LIFE Environmental Policy and Governance. To bridge the gap between research and development results and widespread implementation. Information, communication and awareness raising campaigns.</p>	Unknown	Denbighshire County Council European Section	Initiatives that are looking to move from R&D to implementation
Structural Funds Programmes 2013 - 2020	Structural Funds – potentially around climate change adaptation, risk prevention and management.	Unknown	Denbighshire County Council European Section	Potentially medium to large capital projects
Defra	Other funding is being provided by Defra to help some individual homeowners to pay for the cost of installing individual property flood resilience measures in areas that are frequently flooded and do not benefit from community defences. The funding is being administered through the local authorities, reimbursed by the EA. Defra are also funding work to understand and manage the risk from surface water and ground and groundwater flooding.	Unknown	Denbighshire County Council	Installing individual property flood resilience measures

Table 9.2: DCC's possible future funding sources for FCERM

9 Contribution to Wider Environmental Objectives

The main purpose of this report is to set out the strategy for implementing flood risk management measures across Denbighshire. However there is an opportunity to derive significant benefit in the process, in respect to county and country-wide aspirations in the wider context of sustainability, environmental and social improvement. The aim is to provide better environments for residents and businesses as well as improving biodiversity and local habitats for wildlife.

Delivering multiple benefits will require working with partners to identify local priorities and opportunities. Where appropriate, and in line with the principles of the National Strategy, contributions that help to deliver these additional improvements could be sought from those partners that benefit. Higher levels of government funding may also be accessible when wider benefits are delivered as part of the Local Strategy.

The environmental objectives and measures that the Local Strategy will contribute to through the effective management of local flood risk are included below, some of which include Local Strategy objectives and national environmental objectives:

- To reduce the impact and consequences for individuals, communities, businesses and the environment from flooding and coastal erosion;
- To ensure that planning decisions are properly informed by flooding issues and the impact future planning may have on flood risk management and long term developments;
- Improve and/or maintain the capacity of existing drainage systems by targeted maintenance;
- Establish a SuDS Approval Body (SAB);
- The Denbighshire SAB will embrace Welsh Government guidance on the encouragement, adoption and maintenance of SuDS. SuDS are an opportunity to ensure that amenity and biodiversity are considered with the same importance as managing volumes of water;
- Take a sustainable approach to flood risks management balancing economic, environmental and social benefits;
- Water Framework Directive targets (under Article 4.1) which are relevant to this Local Flood Risk Management Strategy include;
 - Ensure no deterioration of surface water and groundwater and the protection of all water bodies (including coastal waters);
 - Achieve 'good' ecological status by 2015 for surface water and groundwater;
 - Reduction of pollution and hazardous substances in surface water and groundwater;
 - Reverse any upwards trends of pollutants in groundwater; and
 - Achieve standards and objectives set for protected areas.
- Adopt a holistic approach to drainage solutions;
- Enhance biodiversity and habitat creation within any future capital schemes. These schemes can also be used within urban areas to provide green spaces for amenity;

- Adaptation to climate change through local flood risk management measures, in order to build in community and operational resilience;
- Protect Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs) within Denbighshire. All flood risk management authorities have a duty (under Section 28G of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981) to take reasonable steps to further the conservation and enhancement of SSSIs;
- Ensure no loss or degradation of habitat through flood risk management works to comply with the Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP). As a flood authority, Denbighshire County Council has a duty (under Section 40(1) of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006) to conserve biodiversity within Denbighshire;
- Ensure the environmental consequences of implementing the LFRMS are considered against technical, economic and social benefits; and
- The strategy has undergone a thorough assessment against the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and the Habitats Regulations (HRA).

9.5 The Water Framework Directive

The Water Framework Directive (WFD) is the most substantial piece of EC water legislation to date and is designed to improve and integrate the way water bodies are managed throughout Europe. It came into force on 22 December 2000 and was transposed into UK law in 2003 via the Water Environment (Water Framework Directives) (England and Wales) Regulations 2003. Member States must aim to reach good chemical and ecological status in inland and coastal waters by 2015. It is designed to:

- Prevent deterioration in the classification status of aquatic ecosystems, protect them and improve the ecological condition of waters;
- Aim to achieve at least good status for all waters. Where this is not possible, good status should be achieved by 2021 or 2027;
- Promote sustainable use of water as a natural resource;
- Conserve habitats and species that depend directly on water;
- Progressively reduce or phase out releases of individual pollutants or groups of pollutants that present a significant threat to the aquatic environment;
- Progressively reduce the pollution of groundwater and prevent or limit the entry of pollutants; and
- Contribute to mitigating the effects of floods and droughts.

The Water Framework Directive establishes new and better ways of protecting and improving rivers, lakes, groundwater, transitional (where freshwater and sea water mix) and coastal waters. In order to achieve this, in 2009 Natural Resources Wales produced three River Basin Management Plans in Wales setting out measures to protect and improve the water environment. These are currently being implemented and will be revisited in 2015, 2021 and 2027, to ensure that the water body status does not deteriorate from standards set in 2009 as part of the initial River Basin Management Plans. It is important that measures to

manage local flood risk do not cause deterioration of water bodies and should consider opportunities to improve water bodies in conjunction with local flood risk management.

9.6 Sustainable Development

9.6.7 One Wales: One Planet

The Welsh Government has a duty to have a 'Scheme for Sustainable Development', setting out how it will promote sustainable development. The current Scheme, One Wales: One Planet²⁵ was launched in May 2009 and defines sustainable development as:

"Enhancing the economic, social and environmental wellbeing of people and communities, achieving a better quality of life for our own and future generations in ways which:

1. *Promote social justice and equality of opportunity; and*
2. *Enhance the natural and cultural environment and respect its limits - using only our fair share of the earth's resources and sustaining our cultural legacy."*

'One Wales One Planet' says that if every country in the world used as much resources as our own small country, we would need three planets worth of trees, of crops, of oil and so on to survive, and this is increasing. Obviously we can't go on like this and although we are making progress in Denbighshire, there is still more to do.

9.6.8 Guidance to Risk Management Authorities

As required under the Flood and Water Management Act, Welsh Government has published guidance to explain how sustainable development should be applied to flood risk management; '*Sustainable Development: Guidance to Risk Management Authorities Section 27 – Sustainable Development*'.

The guidance states that sustainable development is highly applicable to the Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management and requires an approach which delivers four objectives:

- Maximises the long-term economic, social and environmental wellbeing of people and communities in Wales, whilst living within environmental limits;
- Safeguards the continued provision of ecosystem services from our natural environment;
- Avoids exposing current and future generation to increasing risk; and
- Improves the resilience of communities, the economy and the natural, historic, and social environment to current and future risk.

²⁵ One Wales : One Planet. The Sustainable Development Scheme of the Welsh Assembly Government, May 2009, <http://wales.gov.uk/topics/sustainabledevelopment/publications/onewalesoneplanet/?lang=en>

10 Reviewing the Strategy

The Strategy will provide the framework for Denbighshire's delivery of its flood risk management responsibilities and aspirations. Highways & Environmental Services will review the strategy on a regular basis with assistance from other departments to monitor progression on the implementation of the measures. The departments involved will include but not exclusively; Emergency Planning, Planning, Legal, Social Services, Education, and Press.

It is a "living document" which will develop as new information, expertise and resources influence the delivery of the measures outlined in the Strategy. There will also be substantial changes in the next few years, with changes to the planning system and the requirements for sustainable drainage; in the provision of flood insurance; in the funding and design of flood prevention schemes; and with improvements in our knowledge of where the greatest flood risk are within the County. DCC will take account of these changes and consider the implications in respect to the Strategy and make annual on-going adjustments to the Strategy as necessary.

The Strategy has been developed to deliver a short to medium term improvement plan to establish a sound evidence and knowledge base to develop a longer-term investment programme for FRM measures across the region. It is anticipated that the Strategy will become more focussed on the delivery of an affordable and funded capital programme of FRM works in the longer term.

It is proposed that a formal review of the Local Strategy should take place in 2017 following the review of the National Strategy in 2016, and to coincide with the review of the preliminary flood risk assessment as required by the Flood Risk Regulations 2009. The Strategy should then continue to be reviewed every six years in conjunction with the review of the PFRA, unless circumstances dictate a more frequent review.

Stages in Flood Risk Management	Date
Complete first Annual Action Plan to implement the strategy	Winter 2014 & each year thereafter
Publication of Flood Hazard and Risk Maps	December 2013 & each six years thereafter (where appropriate)
Publication of Flood Risk Management Plans and completion of the first cycle of the Flood Risk Regulations	22 nd December 2015 & each six years thereafter (where appropriate)
Publication of the second National Flood Risk Management Strategy by the Welsh Government	2016
Review and update of the Denbighshire Flood Risk Assessment (PFRA)	Spring 2017 & each six years thereafter
Complete first formal review of the Denbighshire LFRMS	Spring / summer 2017 & each six years thereafter (or where appropriate)

Table 11.1: Timetable for DCC for implementing the LFRMS review

Appendix A

Risk Management Authorities in Denbighshire County

Dee Valley	
Address	Packsaddle Wrexham Road Rhostyllen Wrexham LL14 4EH
Telephone	Leak Line 0800 298 7112 / Emergency 01978 846946
Website	contact@deevalleygroup.com

Dŵr Cymru-Welsh Water	
Address	Pentwyn Road Nelson Treharris CF46 6LY
Telephone	01443 452300
Website	www.dwrcymru.co.uk

Natural Resources Wales	
Address	Head Office Tŷ Cambria House 29 Newport Road Cardiff CF24 0TP
	Northern Area Office Ffordd Penlan Parc Menai Bangor Gwynedd LL57 4DE
Telephone	08708 506 506
e-mail	enquiries@naturalresourceswales.gov.uk
Website	www.naturalresourceswales.gov.uk
Floodline - Phone Number	0845 988 1188 (24 hour service) Type Talk: 0845 602 6340

Denbighshire County Council	
Address	Denbighshire County Council County Hall Wynnstay Road Ruthin

Denbighshire Local Flood Risk Management- Strategy

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1. St Asaph

The investigation carried out by Natural Resources Wales (NRW) following the floods found that the current defences in St Asaph provide protection against a 1 in 30 chance event north of the A55 (adjacent to Roe Parc) and 1 in 75 chance event south of the A55. This was below the standard of protection considered appropriate. Natural Resources Wales has identified short term measures, some of which have been completed, and is also considering long term options to reduce the risk of flooding to a more acceptable level.

- Short Term Measures

- The flood embankment at Roe Parc has been raised to provide a minimum standard of protection of 1 in 75 until a long term solution can be delivered.
- Modifications to Spring Gardens Bridge, involving the installation demountable barriers and alterations to mesh fence above the bridge deck (work completed October 2013).
- Some tree clearance work between the New Inn public house and the confluence of the Clwyd and Elwy has been completed. Further work is due to start in August 2014.

- Long Term Plans

- NRW has commenced work to plan and design long term options as part of a process that could take at least three years. NRW now expects to carry a project appraisal study in August 2014 for submission to the Welsh Government (WG) for approval. Design work is anticipated to be carried out in 2015 with construction expected in 2016, subject to WG funding.
- Project options under assessment are the permanent raising of flood defence bunds throughout St Asaph, removal / raising of Spring Gardens bridge, setting back flood defence bunds downstream of St Asaph and upstream storage. The assessment process will identify which option is the most cost effective. The preferred solution may be a combination of different options.

2. Rhuddlan, including Sarn Lane

The proposed long term measures to reduce flood risk at St Asaph should also reduce the risk to properties in and around Rhuddlan.

3. Lower Denbigh Road

NRW has extended its flood warning service to include isolated properties in Lower Denbigh Road. The service went live in October 2013. All but two properties have Individual Property Protection (IPP) installed. However, these properties have been surveyed and are awaiting IPP.

4. Brookhouse, Denbigh

The Council has installed non-return valves to 4 surface water drains in the vicinity of the A525 underpass to prevent water from the River Ystrad entering the drains and flooding properties. A flood modelling study is expected to be completed in July 2014. An assessment will be undertaken to look at possible options for reducing risk. The majority of properties at risk already have Individual Property Protection (IPP) installed.

5. Gellifor

A hydrological study of the river catchment has been carried out. This has identified that 14 properties, including 2 businesses, are at risk from a 1 in 100 year flood. The Council will now approach the Welsh Government regarding funding to carry out a project appraisal study to identify the most cost effective solution to reduce risk.

6. Glasdir, Ruthin

- The Council received Flood Defence Consent from Natural Resources Wales on 27th February 2014 to carry out work to raise and extend the existing flood bund, including the installation of pre-cast concrete wall units.
- Work started on site on 2nd June 2014 (commencement was delayed because of wet ground conditions) and is anticipated to take 3 months to complete.
- Glasdir Community Flood Plan completed in October 2013. The plan will be reviewed by Natural Resources Wales, the Council and the Glasdir residents every 12 months.

7. Park Place, Mwrog St., Maes Ffynnon, Ruthin

- NRW has carried out work to repair a flood bund in the vicinity of Cae Ddol (the bund had been eroded prior to the flood as a consequence of human activity).
- Non-return valves have been installed to gully connections on the A494 at Mwrog Street to prevent flood water from the River Clwyd entering the highway.
- Maintenance work has been carried out by NRW to the masonry wall Adjacent to the River Clwyd at Maes Ffynnon.

8. River Management Partnership

During discussions with Natural Resources Wales (NRW), it became apparent that NRW was already developing proposals for a project to investigate the benefits of an 'ecosystems approach' to catchment management. These proposals have subsequently evolved to become a pilot study focusing on the River Clwyd catchment, entitled 'Land and Water Management within the Clwyd Catchment'. As the Lead Local Flood Authority, the Council is a key stakeholder in the study. Other stakeholders include representatives of landowners and the farming community and

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Appendix 2: Update on the Recommendations of the Investigation Reports into the
November 2012 Floods

Dwr Cymru Welsh Water. Natural Resources Wales hopes that the pilot study will form the basis of a nationally adopted approach to catchment management. At this stage it isn't clear whether the outcomes from the pilot will contribute towards the establishment of a River Management Partnership. However, to avoid duplication of effort, it would be prudent for the Council to continue to work with Natural Resources Wales for the time being.

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1.1 Background to the Flood Event

On 5th December 2013, a high astronomical tide combined with storm surge (low atmospheric pressure) resulted in elevated sea levels. Strong (severe gale force 9 at times) onshore (northerly) winds created large waves which overtopped Denbighshire's coastal defences. The most significant overtopping occurred between Splash Point and Rhyl Golf course, leading to the flooding of 140 properties. Whilst the rate of overtopping was less at West Rhyl, serious flooding was only averted by the strategic deployment of sandbags at the junction of West Parade and numerous side roads in the area. The Nova Centre in Prestatyn suffered minor internal flooding.

As well as flooding of property, there was significant damage to the coastal infrastructure, in particular, between West Rhyl and Rhyl Golf Course. The sand dune system at Barkby Beach and Gronant Dunes suffered significant damage due to wave action, with lateral losses of up to 8 metres, ie. there is up to 8 metres less sand dune than there was before the storm. The Prestatyn defences performed very well (there was very little flooding)

1.2 Investigation of the Flood Event

On 10th December 2013, the Minister for Natural Resources and Food, Alun Davies AM, addressed the Senedd and explained that he had asked Natural Resources Wales to coordinate the investigation into the 5th December 2013 coastal flood event, which affected the whole of the North Wales Coastline and covered four local authorities. The Minister said that he felt one comprehensive report was better than four separate reports.

The investigation was subsequently referred to as the Wales Coastal Flooding Review and was expanded in scope to cover the whole of Wales, following flooding in South and West Wales as a consequence of the January 2014 storms. The review was carried out in two phases. Phase 1, which made an assessment of impact of the storms, was published on 31st January 2014. Phase 2 of the Review, which concluded the investigation and made 47 recommendations, was published on 30th April 2014. The documents can be found by using the following links:

<http://naturalresourceswales.gov.uk/alerts/flood-warnings/recent-flooding-incidents/wales-coastal-flooding-report/?lang=en>

<http://naturalresourceswales.gov.uk/alerts/flood-warnings/recent-flooding-incidents/wales-coastal-flooding-review-phase-2-report/?lang=en>

In addition, the Council has carried out its own assessment of the flooding of the A548 Coast Road, Garford Road and surrounding areas. The report, which is referenced in the Natural Resources Wales Review, can be found by using the following link:

<https://www.denbighshire.gov.uk/en/resident/news/may-2014/Garford-Road-flooding-report.aspx>

1.3 Summary of the Findings of the Investigation

1.3.1 Why did the flooding happen?

The coastal defences were overtopped by very large waves, driven onshore by gale force winds which occurred at the same time as high astronomical tides combined with an atmospheric storm surge. The secondary defences were breached at Garford Road, but would have been overtopped anyway due to the volume of water coming over the main sea wall.

1.3.2 How likely is it for that scale of flooding to happen again?

Unfortunately, Natural Resources Wales and its consultants have been unable to determine the severity of the 5th December 2013 event. This is largely due to the complexity of the assessment of the joint probability of several extreme conditions (high astronomical tide, tidal storm surge, gale force winds from a northerly direction and large wave heights) all occurring at the same time. To quote from the Review:

'Return periods for the coincident sea levels and wave heights seen in December 2013 and January 2014 have been calculated using the DEFRA 'desk study' approach (FD2308). These are very large and extremely sensitive to the level of dependence assumed. Such extreme values mean that we have little confidence in the reported numbers and can only conclude, qualitatively, that the combination of wave and sea level seen in December 2013 and January 2014 made them significantly rarer than their still water level return period alone.'

The Natural Resources Wales Review recommends that further analytical work needs to be carried out to determine the severity of the December 2013 and January 2014 storms and to update the guidance used for the assessment of the standard of protection provided by the coastal defences.

1.3.3 What improvement actions are needed to ensure that flood risk in the County is appropriately managed in future?

The Natural Resources Wales Review makes 47 recommendations in total (at the time of writing, the recommendations have yet to receive Ministerial approval). **Recommendation 24** is directly relevant to Denbighshire County Council:

Options to seek improvements to the standard of protection at the Garford Road area of Rhyl should be identified and evaluated. This should include detailed hydraulic analysis of the capacity and performance of the storage lagoon. This should include an assessment of the stairwell and slipway openings and the interaction with the adjacent golf course area.

In response to this recommendation, the Council has carried out the following actions:

- A topographical survey of Rhyl Golf Course has been carried out to determine the capacity of the course to temporarily store water which overtops the defences, before releasing it back out to sea at low tide. The initial feasibility assessment is favourable. However, discussions with Rhyl Golf Club will be required before detailed proposals can be finalised.
- Specialist consultants have been appointed to assist with the hydraulic analysis of the lagoon and the golf course. The consultants will also look at options to reduce the risk of overtopping of the primary coastal defences between Splash Point and the Golf Course.

1.4 Welsh Government Grant Aid to Carry Out Emergency Repairs

In February 2014, the Council was made aware that the Welsh Government was considering making grant available from its 2013-14 budget for repairs to coastal defences around Wales damaged by the December 2013 and January 2014 storms. Subsequently, the Council submitted a grant application for work to be carried out by the end of March 2014, amounting to £701,000. Separate funding of £254,324 was claimed as Tourism Infrastructure Grant to carry out repairs the promenade and other non-coastal defence features.

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Appendix 4: Future Flood Risk Management & Coastal Defence Schemes

Name of Scheme	Number of Properties at Risk	Stage of Preparation	Estimated Cost
Dyserth Flood Risk Management Scheme	72 properties, including 6 businesses	Project Appraisal Report submitted to the Welsh Government for approval.	£1.2M
Glascoed (St Asaph) Flood Risk Management Scheme	23 properties, including 3 businesses	Project Appraisal Report submitted to the Welsh Government for approval.	£554k
Llanbedr Dyffryn Clwyd Flood Risk Management Scheme	10 properties, including 2 businesses	Project Appraisal Report submitted to the Welsh Government for approval.	£842k
Pwll Glas Flood Risk Management Scheme	16 properties, including 1 business	Project Appraisal Report submitted to the Welsh Government for approval.	£372k
Gellifor Flood Risk Management Scheme	14 properties, including 2 businesses	Hydrological study carried out.	£300 - £500k
Splash Point Coastal Defence Scheme	More than 2000 houses and 300 businesses	Early stage discussions with internal and external stakeholders. Appointment of specialist consultants anticipated by end of July 2014.	£5M+
Barkby Beach Dune Replenishment and Enhancement	More than 3000 houses and 400 businesses	Early stage discussions with internal and external stakeholders.	£3M+

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Appendix 5: Flood Risk Definitions

Term	Meaning / Definition
Catchment	An area that serves a river with rainwater; that is, every part of land where the rainfall drains to a single watercourse is in the same catchment.
Climate Change	The change in average conditions of the atmosphere near the Earth's surface over a long period.
Coastal Erosion	The wearing away of coastline, usually by wind and/or wave action.
Coastal Erosion Risk	Measures the significance of potential coastal erosion in terms of likelihood and impact.
Coastal Erosion Risk Management	Anything done for the purpose of analysing, assessing and reducing a risk of the wearing away of coastline.
Coastal Flooding	Occurs when coastal defences are unable to contain the normal predicted high tides that can cause flooding, possibly when a high tide combines with a storm surge (created by high winds or very low atmospheric pressure).
Flood Risk	Product of the probability of flooding occurring and the consequences when flooding happens.
Flood Risk Management	The activity of understanding the probability and consequences of flooding, and seeking to modify these factors to reduce flood risk to people, property and the environment. This should take account of other water level management and environmental requirements, and opportunities and constraints.
Fluvial Flooding	Flooding from rivers including ordinary watercourses and main rivers.
Groundwater	Water held underground in the soil or in pores and crevices in rock.
Groundwater Flooding	Occurs when water levels in the ground rise above the natural surface. Low lying areas underlain by permeable strata are particularly susceptible.
Local Flood Risk	Defined within the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 as including surface runoff, groundwater and ordinary watercourses.
LLFA	Lead Local Flood Authority - the County Council or the County Borough Council for the area (Local Authority).
Main River	A watercourse shown as such on the Main River Map, and for which Natural Resources Wales has responsibilities and powers in Wales.
Ordinary Watercourse	All watercourses that are not designated Main River, and which are the responsibility of riparian landowners.
Residual risk	The risk that remains after risk control measures have been put in place.
Resilience	The ability of the community, services, area or infrastructure to avoid being flooded, lost to erosion or to withstand the consequences of flooding or erosion taking place.
Risk Management	Anything done for the purpose of analysing, assessing and reducing a risk.
River flooding	Occurs when water levels in a channel overwhelms the capacity of the channel.
Sewer	An artificial conduit, usually underground, for carrying off sewage (foul sewer) or rainwater (storm or surface water sewer) or both (combined sewer).
SuDS	Sustainable Drainage Systems - Approach to surface water management which helps to deal with excesses of water by mimicking natural drainage processes and patterns.
Surface Water Flooding	In the urban context, usually means that surface water runoff rates exceed the capacity of drainage systems to remove it. In the rural context, it is where surface water runoff floods something or someone.
Surface Water Runoff	This occurs when the rate of rainfall exceeds the rate that water can infiltrate the ground or soil and flows over ground.

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Report To: Cabinet

Date of Meeting: 29th July 2014

Lead Member / Officer: Councillor Julian Thompson-Hill /Paul McGrady

Report Author: Richard Weigh, Chief Accountant

Title: Finance Report

1. What is the report about?

The report gives details of the council's revenue budget and savings as agreed for 2014/15. The report also provides a summary update of the Capital Plan as well as the Housing Revenue Account and Housing Capital Plan.

2. What is the reason for making this report?

The purpose of the report is to provide an update on the council's current financial position.

3. What are the Recommendations?

Members note the budgets set for 2014/15 and progress against the agreed budget strategy.

4. Report details

The report provides a summary of the council's revenue budget for 2014/15 detailed in (**Appendix 1**). The council's net revenue budget is £188m (£192m in 13/14). The position on service and corporate budgets is a forecast overspend of £235k. Further narrative is outlined below. Savings of £7.1m were agreed as part of the budget and at this stage are assumed as achieved. A more detailed analysis will be presented in September.

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

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

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

Relevant service narrative is shown in the following paragraphs.

Communications, Marketing & Leisure - the current forecast is to break-even, although presently the membership numbers at the leisure sites are continuing to increase. If this trend continues it is likely that the savings proposals being put forward for 15/16 will in part be realised early.

The North Wales Bowling Centre transferred back into Council ownership recently and is due to reopen in September 2014. It is assumed that any costs associated with operating the facility over the winter months will be offset by income from members, visitors and from the food and beverage offer but of course this might not be the case. The new Foryd Harbour continues to develop and as previously agreed any funding shortfall will be met corporately in 14/15 (currently the requirement is forecast to be £47k).

Highways & Environment Services – as indicated in previous reports the service is facing a number of pressures and risks in 2014/15. It is currently projected that the service will overspend by £235k although the service will continue to try and identify management action to contain these pressures within the overall budget. The main areas of variance are:

- There is an underlying pressure within the School Transport Service. For 2014/15 this is likely to be in the region of £171k although a more exact projection will be available after the schools return in September and pupil transport requirements are known in detail. There is also a Task and Finish Group currently working towards identifying permanent solutions to this problem. The overspend of £171k now includes a projected contribution of £104k from the School Modernisation budget in order to pay for the pressures relating to recent historic school closures.
- The reduction in income from parking that was seen during 2013/14 (mainly in Rhyl and Prestatyn) is continuing and the service is currently projected to overspend by £100k. A working group has been set up to identify proposals to address the position.
- There is a continuing shortfall of £46k within Coastal Lettings relating to unlet units within the Children's Village in Rhyl.
- Savings within the service totalling £112k have also helped mitigate the pressures identified above.

Adult & Business Services - the current forecast for 2014/15 is to break-even. Whilst there continues to be pressures on the Specialist Community Care budgets these are offset by savings on salary costs (vacant posts) and also by reviewing budget heads across other functions. For this year only the Welsh Government has developed an Intermediate Care Fund to encourage integrated working between local authorities, health and other partners in the voluntary and independent sector. The fund is only available for 2014-2015 and £1.65m has been allocated to projects in Denbighshire, consisting of £0.55m capital and £1.1m revenue. Plans continue to be progressed with the NHS, Denbighshire Voluntary Services Council, Denbighshire Care & Repair and other public and independent partners and at this stage it is assumed that all of the council's funding allocation will be spent in the current financial year.

Schools - at the end of June the projection for school balances is £2.984m, which is a reduction of £908k on the balances brought forward from 2013/14 (£3.892m). However, this forecast will be reassessed in September as cost and spending decisions are reviewed for the new school term. The council supports two schools in financial difficulty and will continue this support through the recovery process throughout 2014/15. Both have acting Head teachers in post who are fully engaged in the recovery process and are working with the Local Authority accordingly. The Non-delegated budget is currently projected to under spend by £75k.

Corporate Plan cash reserves at the beginning of 2014/15 are £14.4m. Allowing for projected funding and expenditure during the year, the Corporate Plan balance at the end of the year is estimated to be £15.6m.

Housing Revenue Account (HRA). The latest revenue position assumes an increase in balances at year end of £68k compared to a budgeted increase of £163k. Elements of housing management costs are estimated to be higher than the budgeted amount and after three months rent income forecasts are slightly lower than the original budget estimate. The revenue budget assumes £943k will be used to fund capital expenditure. The Housing Capital Plan forecast expenditure is £6.1m. The formal consultation on the ending of the Housing Subsidy system in Wales is underway and has involved elected members and tenants.

Treasury Management - At the end of June, the council's borrowing totalled £141.643m at an average rate of 5.63%. Investment balances were £33.8m at an average rate of 0.60%.

A summary of the council's **Capital Plan** is enclosed as **Appendix 2**. The approved general capital plan is £27.9m with expenditure to date of £3.16m. Also included within Appendix 2 is the proposed expenditure of £15.7m on the **Corporate Plan**.

Appendix 3 provides an update on the major projects included in the Capital Plan.

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

A summary EqIA was submitted to Council to support the savings in this year's budget.

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

Prior to approval by County Council, the savings were agreed with Heads of Service and Lead Members, presented to member budget workshops and circulated to staff. The proposals to balance the budget were discussed in detail at member workshops and members were given the opportunity to raise issues prior to the final report going to Council. The Corporate Governance

Committee was provided with regular updates as it has an oversight role in respect of the budget process.

9. Chief Finance Officer Statement

It is important that services continue to manage budgets prudently and that any in-year surpluses are considered in the context of the medium-term financial position, particularly given the scale of budget reductions required over the coming two or three years.

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

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

11. Power to make the Decision

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

Appendix 1

DENBIGHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING REPORT 2014/15

June 2014/15	Net Budget	Budget 2014/15			Projected Outturn							Variance
	2013/14	Expenditure	Income	Net	Expenditure	Income	Net	Expenditure	Income	Net	Net	Previous Report £'000
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	%	
Communication, Marketing & Leisure	5,958	11,787	-6,120	5,667	11,630	-5,963	5,667	-157	157	0	0.00%	0
Customers & Education Support	2,004	2,941	-505	2,436	2,919	-483	2,436	-22	22	0	0.00%	0
School Improvement & Inclusion	4,873	12,603	-8,064	4,539	12,603	-8,064	4,539	0	0	0	0.00%	0
Business Improvement & Modernisation	3,733	4,910	-1,310	3,600	4,881	-1,281	3,600	-29	29	0	0.00%	0
Legal & Democratic Services	1,527	1,997	-555	1,442	2,124	-682	1,442	127	-127	0	0.00%	0
Finance & Assets	6,733	14,061	-5,800	8,261	13,035	-4,774	8,261	-1,026	1,026	0	0.00%	0
Strategic HR	918	1,360	-473	887	1,360	-473	887	0	0	0	0.00%	0
Highways & Environmental Services	19,866	36,572	-17,647	18,925	28,703	-9,543	19,160	-7,869	8,104	235	1.24%	0
Planning & Public Protection	2,540	4,111	-1,747	2,364	4,111	-1,747	2,364	0	0	0	0.00%	0
Adults & Business Services	33,505	44,043	-12,064	31,979	45,205	-13,226	31,979	1,162	-1,162	0	0.00%	0
Housing & Community Development	1,879	3,236	-1,432	1,804	3,203	-1,399	1,804	-33	33	0	0.00%	0
Children's Services	8,779	9,390	-1,017	8,373	9,443	-1,070	8,373	53	-53	0	0.00%	0
Total Services	92,315	147,011	-56,734	90,277	139,217	-48,705	90,512	-7,794	8,029	235	0.26%	0
Corporate	17,593	45,496	-28,995	16,501	45,496	-28,995	16,501	0	0	0	0.00%	0
Precepts & Levies	4,593	4,342	0	4,342	4,342	0	4,342	0	0	0	0.00%	0
Capital Financing	13,230	13,330	0	13,330	13,330	0	13,330	0	0	0	0.00%	0
Total Corporate	35,416	63,168	-28,995	34,173	63,168	-28,995	34,173	0	0	0	0.00%	0
Council Services & Corporate Budget	127,731	210,179	-85,729	124,450	202,385	-77,700	124,685	-7,794	8,029	235	0.19%	0
Schools & Non-delegated School Budgets	63,840	72,833	-9,102	63,731	73,314	-8,749	64,565	481	353	834	1.31%	0
Total Council Budget	191,571	283,012	-94,831	188,181	275,699	-86,449	189,250	-7,313	8,382	1,069	0.57%	0
Housing Revenue Account	-102	13,097	-13,260	-163	13,188	-13,256	-68	91	4	95		0

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General Capital Plan

Capital Expenditure

Total Estimated Payments - General
 Total Estimated Payments - Corporate Plan
 Contingency
 Total

	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s
Total Estimated Payments - General	30,228	24,358	321	0	0
Total Estimated Payments - Corporate Plan	5,250	2,832			
Contingency	0	755	1,000	1,000	1,000
Total	35,478	27,945	1,321	1,000	1,000
Capital Financing					
1 External Funding	25,320	14,474	4,786	4,571	4,571
2 Receipts and Reserves	2,765	3,708			
3 Prudential Borrowing	7,393	9,763	250		
5 Unallocated Funding	0	0	(3,715)	(3,571)	(3,571)
Total Capital Financing	35,478	27,945	1,321	1,000	1,000

Corporate Plan

Approved Capital Expenditure included in above plan

Cefndy Healthcare Investment
 Highways Maintenance and bridges
 Schools Capitalised Maintenance
 Rhyl High School
 Ysgol Bro Dyfrdwy - Dee Valley West Review
 Bodnant Community School
 Ysgol Glan Clwyd
 Faith Based Secondary

Estimated Capital Expenditure

Total Estimated Payments

Approved Capital Funding included in above plan

External Funding
 Receipts and Reserves
 Prudential Borrowing

Estimated Capital Funding

External Funding
 Receipts and Reserves
 Prudential Borrowing

Total Estimated Funding

	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s
Cefndy Healthcare Investment	59	441			
Highways Maintenance and bridges	2,843	1,265			
Schools Capitalised Maintenance	0	190			
Rhyl High School	1,053	422			
Ysgol Bro Dyfrdwy - Dee Valley West Review	1,208	120	0		
Bodnant Community School	69	155			
Ysgol Glan Clwyd	5	1,525			
Faith Based Secondary	13	17			
Estimated Capital Expenditure		11,575	32,636	34,818	23,041
Total Estimated Payments	5,250	15,710	32,636	34,818	23,041
Approved Capital Funding included in above plan					
External Funding	1,208	1,810	0		
Receipts and Reserves	1,199	1,060			
Prudential Borrowing	2,843	1,265			
Estimated Capital Funding		4,036	15,904	10,305	12,094
Receipts and Reserves		1,854	7,546	6,808	3,692
Prudential Borrowing		5,685	9,186	17,705	7,255
Total Estimated Funding	5,250	15,710	32,636	34,818	23,041

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Appendix - Major Capital Projects Update

Rhyl Harbour Development

Total Budget	£10.623m
Expenditure to date	£10.308m
Estimated remaining spend in 2014/15	£ 0.302m
Future Years estimated spend	£ 0.013m
Funding	WG £2.613m; WEFO £6.165m; Sustrans £0.700m: RWE £155k; WREN £69k and DCC £0.921m
Comments	<p>Programme</p> <p>The new tenant has commenced the fit-out and is due to open the café and retail unit this month.</p> <p>Some essential health and safety works are currently being carried out at the harbour which includes improvements to the entrance.</p> <p>Remedial works to any defects identified are now being undertaken; this includes the bridge as some operational issues are still being experienced.</p> <p>The WREN works have now been re-tendered as there was a disappointing response to the advertisement in Sell 2 Wales. It is still hoped that the works will commence in the Autumn, with completion by December 2014.</p>
Forecast In Year Expenditure 14/15	£0.414m

Rhyl Going Forward

Total Budget	£12.254m
Expenditure to date	£11.644m
Estimated remaining spend in 14/15	£ 0.610m
Future Years estimated spend	£ Nil
Funding	WG £12.254m
Comments	<p>Former Honey Club Site</p> <p>Design and Planning</p> <p>A planning application is still awaited. In accordance with the Development Agreement, a submission must be made by 31st July 2014 unless both parties agree to an extension.</p> <p>Development Agreement and Tenant Agreement</p> <p>The Development Agreement is now signed by both parties.</p> <p>Demolition and Construction</p> <p>The demolition of 25/26 West Parade is now underway.</p> <p>Subject to any planning issues, construction should</p>

	<p>begin during September/October 2014, with a view to open by May 2015.</p> <p>West Rhyl Housing Improvement Project Phase 2 demolition is now complete including the Green Space area and north John Street.</p> <p>Asbestos surveys are now underway for the properties on Abbey Street and Gronant Street in preparation for either demolition and rebuild or refurbishment.</p> <p>Pre planning advice has now been received from Planning regarding proposals for properties on Abbey Street and Gronant Street for demolition/rebuild.</p> <p>A special Rhyl Members Area Group meeting is convened for 17th July to discuss these proposals as part of the pre application consultation process.</p> <p>Further discussions and consultation will take place prior to submission of Planning applications in the autumn.</p> <p>The Green Space construction procurement is underway and tender returns are scheduled for 16th July, with a start on site planned for 4th August 2014.</p>
Forecast In Year Expenditure 14/15	£1.308m

Welsh Medium Area School – Ysgol Bro Dyfrdwy

Total Budget	£1.413m
Expenditure to date	£1.344m
Estimated remaining spend in 14/15	£0.069m
Future Years estimated spend	£ Nil
Funding	WG £1.2m; DCC £0.213m
Comments	<p>The Welsh Government has provided £1.2m funding as part of the wider 21st Century Schools Programme. This will enable the new school to move to a single site following a significant extension and refurbishment to the current Ysgol Maes Hyfryd site.</p> <p>The project has reached practical completion with all major works completed.</p> <p>The school will become operational from a single site in September 2014.</p>
Forecast In Year Expenditure 14/15	£0.119m

North Denbighshire Welsh Medium Provision

Total Budget	£4.749m
Expenditure to date	£3.558m
Estimated remaining spend in 14/15	£1.118m
Future Years estimated spend	£0.073m
Funding	WG £3.061m, DCC £1.688m
Comments	<p>The Welsh Government has provided funding as part of the transitional 21st Century Schools Programme. This approval will allow for improvement works to be undertaken at three Welsh Medium schools. Work at Ysgol Dewi Sant has been completed.</p> <p>Ysgol y Llys, Prestatyn This project will deliver an extended, remodelled and refurbished school for 420 pupils.</p> <p>Partial possession of the new extension was undertaken on 27th June 2014, enabling the first class to move in. Four further classes will move into the new extension before the end of the Summer term.</p> <p>Work to remodel and refurbish part of the first floor of the old school building is now underway as well as work to refurbish the second floor loft area. These works, together with landscaping, creation of a new drop off zone and re-roofing existing school will conclude before the start of the new term in September 2014.</p> <p>The project remains on target to be delivered within budget and the completion date remains August 2014.</p> <p>Ysgol Twm o'r Nant, Denbigh This project will deliver additional school hall accommodation and teaching areas.</p> <p>Recent work includes the installation of the external cladding to both front and rear extension. The link between the new extension and existing school is now completed. Part of the link is now being used by the school for dining. The school will start to use parts of the front extension the week commencing 14th July 2014. Work is on-going on installation of fixtures and fittings and work to finish external areas will be completed by the end of July 2014.</p> <p>Handover is scheduled for August 2014.</p>
Forecast In Year Expenditure 2014/15	£1.735m

Rhyl New School

Total Budget	£1.500m (To Detailed Design Stage only)
Expenditure to date	£1.078m
Estimated remaining spend in 14/15	£0.422m
Future Years estimated spend	£0.00m
Funding	DCC £1.500m (To Detailed design Stage Only)
Comments	<p>The project will provide a new school building for Rhyl High School to serve up to 1200 pupils in mainstream education whilst also housing approximately 45 pupils from Ysgol Tir Morfa, the community special school in Rhyl.</p> <p>The business case was approved by the Welsh Government in April 2014. A project information template has subsequently been submitted to the Welsh Government and confirmation of funding is awaited.</p> <p>The detailed design phase for the new school is complete and the contractor submitted their proposal for the new school on 27th June 2014. Work is now underway on checking the detail within the proposal.</p> <p>The contract award decision is an agenda item for this Cabinet meeting.</p> <p>The current programme is based on the construction phase contract being awarded in early August 2014 which would enable the contractor to mobilise and commence work on site during the last week in August 2014.</p> <p>The new school is programmed to complete towards the end of January 2016, at which point the pupils will transfer to the new school, and the existing school buildings will be demolished and the grounds reinstated to school playing fields.</p> <p>The anticipated completion of the project is July 2016.</p> <p>There is ongoing consultation with key stakeholders.</p>
Forecast In Year Expenditure 14/15	£0.422m

Cabinet Forward Work Plan

Meeting		Item (description / title)	Purpose of report	Cabinet Decision required (yes/no)	Author – Lead member and contact officer
30 September	1	Finance Report Update	To update Cabinet on the current financial position of the Council	Tbc	Cllr Julian Thompson-Hill / Paul McGrady
	2	Treasury Management Report	Annual review of the performance of the Council's treasury management	Tbc	Cllr Julian Thompson-Hill / Paul McGrady
	3	Food Hygiene Rating Act – Delegated Authority	To provide delegated powers to the Head of Planning and Public Protection to authorise officers under the Act	Yes	Cllr David Smith / Emlyn Jones
	4	Control of Horses (Wales) Act – Delegated Authority	To provide delegated powers to the Head of Planning and Public Protection to authorise officers under the Act	Yes	Cllr David Smith / Emlyn Jones
	5	Cadwyn Clwyd Local Development Strategy	To sign off the strategy prior to Welsh Government approval	Yes	Cllr Huw Jones /Joanna Douglass
	6	Items from Scrutiny Committees	To consider any issues raised by Scrutiny for Cabinet's attention	Tbc	Scrutiny Coordinator

Cabinet Forward Work Plan

Meeting	Item (description / title)		Purpose of report	Cabinet Decision required (yes/no)	Author – Lead member and contact officer
28 October	1	Finance Report Update	To update Cabinet on the current financial position of the Council	Tbc	Cllr Julian Thompson-Hill / Paul McGrady
	2	Items from Scrutiny Committees	To consider any issues raised by Scrutiny for Cabinet's attention	Tbc	Scrutiny Coordinator
25 November	1	Tenancy Terms and Conditions and Service Charges	To consider updated tenancy terms and conditions and charges for additional landlord services	Tbc	Cllr Hugh Irving / Stephen Collins
	2	Finance Report Update	To update Cabinet on the current financial position of the Council	Tbc	Cllr Julian Thompson-Hill / Paul McGrady
	3	Items from Scrutiny Committees	To consider any issues raised by Scrutiny for Cabinet's attention	Tbc	Scrutiny Coordinator
16 December	1	Finance Report Update	To update Cabinet on the current financial position of the Council	Tbc	Cllr Julian Thompson-Hill / Paul McGrady
	2	Items from Scrutiny Committees	To consider any issues raised by Scrutiny for Cabinet's attention	Tbc	Scrutiny Coordinator

Cabinet Forward Work Plan

Note for officers – Cabinet Report Deadlines

<i>Meeting</i>	<i>Deadline</i>	<i>Meeting</i>	<i>Deadline</i>	<i>Meeting</i>	<i>Deadline</i>
<i>July</i>	<i>15 July</i>	<i>September</i>	<i>16 September</i>	<i>October</i>	<i>14 October</i>

Updated 08/07/14 - KEJ

Cabinet Forward Work Programme.doc

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