

To: Members of the Cabinet

Date: 24 June 2015

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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, 30 JUNE 2015** in **CONFERENCE ROOM 1A, COUNTY HALL, RUTHIN.**

Yours sincerely

G Williams  
Head of Legal, HR and Democratic Services

## **AGENDA**

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

#### **1 APOLOGIES**

#### **2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

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 7 - 16)**

To receive the minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on 2 June 2015 (copy enclosed).

#### **5 ITEMS FROM SCRUTINY COMMITTEES - CABINET DECISIONS OF 2 JUNE 2015 RELATING TO YSGOL LLANFAIR DYFFRYN CLWYD & YSGOL PENTRECELYN AND YSGOL RHEWL (Pages 17 - 32)**

To consider a report by the Scrutiny Co-ordinator (copy enclosed) detailing the conclusions of the Performance Scrutiny Committee following its consideration of the call-in of the Cabinet decisions taken on 2 June 2015 in respect of Ysgol Llanfair Dyffryn Clwyd and Ysgol Pentrecelyn, and Ysgol Rhewl.

**6 TOWN AND AREA PLANS** (Pages 33 - 38)

To consider a report by Councillor Huw Jones, Lead Member for Community Development (copy enclosed) recommending approval of funding allocations for Town and Area Plan projects following evaluation.

**7 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FROM AFFORDABLE HOUSING TASK & FINISH GROUP** (Pages 39 - 64)

To consider a joint report by Councillors David Smith, Lead Member for Public Realm and Hugh Irving, Lead Member for Customers and Libraries (copy enclosed) seeking endorsement of the conclusions and recommendations from the Affordable Housing Task and Finish Group.

**8 DELEGATION OF POWERS UNDER THE ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR, CRIME AND POLICING ACT 2014 AND AMENDMENTS REQUIRED TO THE OFFICER SCHEME OF DELEGATION IN RESPECT OF POWERS PREVIOUSLY DELEGATED TO THE HEAD OF HOUSING** (Pages 65 - 72)

To consider a report by Councillor David Smith, Lead Member for Public Realm (copy enclosed) providing an overview of the new provisions for tackling anti-social behaviour contained within the Anti-Social Behaviour Crime and Policing Act 2014 and seeking delegated powers to relevant Heads of Service.

**9 CORPORATE PLAN PERFORMANCE REPORT QUARTER 4 - 2014/15** (Pages 73 - 134)

To consider a report by Councillor Julian Thompson-Hill, Lead Member for Finance, Corporate Plan and Performance (copy enclosed) presenting an update on the delivery of the Corporate Plan 2012 – 17 as at the end of quarter 4 of 2014/15.

**10 FINANCE REPORT** (Pages 135 - 148)

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

**11 FINAL REVENUE OUTTURN 2014/15** (Pages 149 - 162)

To consider a report by Councillor Julian Thompson-Hill, Lead Member for Finance, Corporate Plan and Performance (copy enclosed) on the final revenue outturn position for 2014/15 and proposed treatment of reserves and balances.

**12 CABINET FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME (Pages 163 - 166)**

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

**MEMBERSHIP**

**Councillors**

Hugh Evans  
Julian Thompson-Hill  
Eryl Williams  
Bobby Feeley

Hugh Irving  
Huw Jones  
Barbara Smith  
David Smith

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## LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2000

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### Code of Conduct for Members

### DISCLOSURE AND REGISTRATION OF INTERESTS

I, *(name)*

a \*member/co-opted member of  
*(\*please delete as appropriate)*

**Denbighshire County Council**

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

Date of Disclosure:

Committee *(please specify)*:

Agenda Item No.

Subject Matter:

Nature of Interest:

*(See the note below)\**

Signed

Date

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

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## CABINET

Minutes of a meeting of the Cabinet held in Conference Room 1a, County Hall, Ruthin on Tuesday, 2 June 2015 at 2.00 pm.

## PRESENT

Councillors Hugh Evans, Leader and Lead Member for the Economy; Bobby Feeley, Lead Member for Social Care, Adult and Children's Services; Hugh Irving, Lead Member for Customers and Libraries; Huw Jones, Lead Member for Community Development; Barbara Smith, Lead Member for Modernisation and Housing; David Smith, Lead Member for Public Realm; Julian Thompson-Hill, Lead Member for Finance, Corporate Plan and Performance and Eryl Williams, Deputy Leader and Lead Member for Education

**Observers:** Councillors Ann Davies, Meirick Davies, Martyn Holland, Huw Hilditch-Roberts, Alice Jones, Gwyneth Kensler, Dewi Owens, Merfyn Parry, Arwel Roberts, Cefyn Williams and Huw Williams

## ALSO PRESENT

Chief Executive (MM); Corporate Director Economy and Public Realm (RM); Heads of Service: Legal, HR and Democratic Services (GW), Head of Customers and Education Support (JW), and Education (KE); Programme Manager Modernising Education (JC); Chief Accountant (RW), and Committee Administrator (KEJ)

### 1 APOLOGIES

There were no apologies.

### 2 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

The following members declared a personal interest in agenda item 5 –

Councillor Meirick Davies – Governor Ysgol Cefn Meiriadog & Ysgol Trefnant  
Councillor Alice Jones – Governor Ysgol y Faenol  
Councillor Huw Jones – Governor Ysgol Caer Drewyn & Ysgol Carrog

The following members declared a personal interest in agenda items 5, 6 & 7 –

Councillor Bobby Feeley – Governor Rhos Street School  
Councillor Huw Hilditch-Roberts – Governor Ysgol Pen Barras & Nieces in Ysgol Rhewl  
Councillor Martyn Holland – Governor Ysgol Bro Famau  
Councillor Dewi Owens – Governor Ysgol Glan Clwyd & St. Asaph VP Infants  
Councillor Merfyn Parry – Governor Ysgol Bryn Clwyd & Ysgol Gellifor  
Councillor Arwel Roberts – Governor Ysgol y Castell & Ysgol Dewi Sant  
Councillor David Smith – Grandson in Ysgol Pen Barras  
Councillor Julian Thompson-Hill – Governor Ysgol Clawdd Offa  
Councillor Cefyn Williams – Governor Ysgol Bro Dyfrdwy  
Councillor Huw Williams – Son in Ysgol Pen Barras

### **3 URGENT MATTERS**

No urgent matters had been raised.

### **4 MINUTES**

The minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on 24 March 2015 were submitted.

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 24 March 2015 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Leader.

### **5 YSGOL LLANFAIR AND YSGOL PENTRECELYN**

Councillor Eryl Williams presented the report detailing the findings of the formal consultation for the future of Ysgol Llanfair and Ysgol Pentrecelyn and seeking Cabinet approval to publish the required statutory proposals for the closure of both schools and creation of a new area school. It was proposed that the new area school would be Language Category 2 (dual stream) and designated a Voluntary Controlled Church in Wales school. The new area school would utilise the existing sites until it was consolidated on one site in a new build.

Councillor Williams explained the context of the proposal as part of the wider Ruthin area schools review to safeguard the future sustainability of education provision in the area. The main area of contention was the proposed categorisation of the new school. Most consultation respondents from Ysgol Llanfair supported a Category 2 school whilst respondents from Ysgol Pentrecelyn wanted Category 1 (Welsh Medium). In considering the consultation responses it was important to balance the needs of both Welsh and English speaking families. There was a risk that parents of non-Welsh speaking families would choose to send pupils to English medium schools if the new area school was Category 1. Consequently Councillor Williams considered Category 2 the best option for maintaining and potentially growing the number of pupils assessed through the medium of Welsh and leaving school fluent in both languages. Both schools retained a strong Welsh ethos and culture with all pupils leaving school fluent in both languages and he was confident this would continue in the new area school.

Cabinet considered the consultation responses and arguments in respect of the proposal and sought clarification around the language categorisation definitions within schools and expected outcomes. Questions were also raised regarding the religious designation, capital investment and financial implications; together with the viability of the proposed school should parents boycott the new area school. As local member the Leader reported upon his personal links with the two communities and success of both schools. He highlighted the importance of weighing up all the information presented in order to deliver the best possible outcome for education provision in the area. He also raised questions regarding the ethos of the new school and reasons for not pursuing other suggested options for local provision.

The following responses were given to the issues raised –



- the context to the categorisation process was explained and reference made to the Welsh Government guidance document (2007) in order to define schools according to Welsh medium provision. Reference was also made to the Welsh Government's Welsh-medium Education Strategy (2010) with regard to bilingual education. It was noted that Welsh medium stream pupils in Category 2 schools were required to achieve the same outcomes as pupils in Category 1 schools. The majority of pupils from Ysgol Llanfair transferred into the Welsh stream at secondary school. Councillor Huw Jones highlighted the importance of growing the number of Welsh speakers with the aim of all pupils leaving school confident in both languages – he supported a Category 2 school to facilitate this process
- the consultation had been carried out in partnership with the Church in Wales St. Asaph Diocese who supported the proposal for a Category 2 Voluntary Controlled Church in Wales school
- in terms of the future sustainability of an area school officers advised if all parents from Ysgol Pentrecelyn (35 pupils) sought alternative Category 1 provision the school would still be a viable proposition. Ysgol Llanfair (94 pupils) supported a Category 2 school and there would be a big risk in terms of viability if the proposal was changed to Category 1
- if parents wished to send their children to the nearest alternative Category 1 school capacity could be built in to the new school building for Ysgol Pen Barras and applications would be considered in line with the admissions policy
- members' attention was drawn to paragraph 4.9 within the report detailing the governance arrangements and safeguards to ensure the current strong ethos and Welsh status was maintained in the new school
- officers elaborated upon the suggested options put forward by Ysgol Pentrecelyn and why they had been discounted as the best option for the area.

Councillor Arwel Roberts spoke in favour of a Category 1 designation for the new area school. He felt the future of the Welsh Language was under threat and the language categorisation proposal would be contrary to the Welsh Government's Education Strategy. He also raised questions regarding school transport and pupil outcomes. Councillor Huw Hilditch-Roberts was keen for a compromise acceptable to both schools and raised questions regarding the statutory processes and language categorisations. Councillor Meirick Davies sought further clarification on a number of points raised within the consultation responses. The following responses were provided to the issues raised –

- the reasoning behind the proposal for a Category 2 school was reiterated as a means of expanding the Welsh Language
- it was acknowledged a change in leadership would always provide a risk but assurances were given in terms of measures in place to safeguard against the dilution of future Welsh medium provision in the new area school
- the eligibility criteria for school transport provision was explained, particularly in terms of both language and faith school categorisations
- the statutory process was explained should Cabinet decide to publish the notice for school closure – there was a risk that any future challenge could impact negatively on the potential to build a new area school
- designating the new area school a Church school was not considered a risk with little objection to that element of the proposal

- a response had been provided to all points raised during the consultation and the reasoning behind the different school categorisations in other area reviews was clarified
- Councillor Huw Jones reported upon the Welsh in Education Strategic Plan and how Denbighshire aimed to increase the number of Welsh speakers within the county – he provided some statistics to demonstrate the increase in Welsh standards within schools over recent years.

Having considered the findings of the consultation and responses to issues raised, and bearing in mind there was no difference in outcomes for pupils in both schools, Cabinet supported the proposal as a means of ensuring the best possible education provision for pupils in the area. The Leader thanked members for their contribution to debate highlighting the need to support the Welsh Language and make it accessible for everyone by providing an opportunity for non-Welsh speakers to learn. The Council could not maintain the current number of schools within the county and had a duty to deliver the best possible education provision within the area. He hoped the creation of a new area school would bring both communities together to that end.

**RESOLVED** that Cabinet –

- note the findings of the formal consultation for the closure of Ysgol Llanfair and Ysgol Pentrecelyn and the opening of a new area school on the two existing sites;*
- approve the publication of a statutory notice for Denbighshire County Council to close Ysgol Llanfair DC and Ysgol Pentrecelyn on 31 August 2016; and the Church in Wales to establish a new Voluntary Controlled Area School on the existing sites from 1 September 2016, and*
- note the option for parents to apply to send their children to Ysgol Pen Barras as an alternative school should they wish their children to remain within a Category 1 school.*

At this juncture (3.40 p.m.) the meeting adjourned for a refreshment break.

## **6 YSGOL RHEWL**

Councillor Eryl Williams presented the report detailing the findings of the formal consultation for the future of Ysgol Rhewl and seeking Cabinet approval to publish the required statutory proposal for the closure of the school with pupils transferring to Ysgol Ben Barras or Rhos Street School to coincide with the opening of the new school buildings.

Councillor Williams provided some background to the review of primary schools within the county and explained the context of the proposal as part of the wider Ruthin area schools review, highlighting the need to tackle surplus places and invest in building new schools to ensure the best education possible for pupils in the area. After considering the consultation responses the view remained that the proposal to close the school and transfer pupils would represent the best option for

ensuring pupils in the area remained able to access good standards of education in modern, fit for purpose facilities.

Cabinet discussed the report and consultation findings, particularly in terms of the language impact and sought clarification in this regard and the loss of bilingual provision. Questions were also raised around capacity in other schools to relocate pupils and traffic management concerns. The following responses were provided –

- officers referred to Welsh Government guidance ‘Defining schools according to Welsh medium provision’ (2007) and the language categorisation process which focused on provision and attainment. A dual stream primary school offered two types of provision with the option of Welsh medium or English delivery. The outcomes for the Welsh stream was as per Category 1 and the English stream as per Category 5. Reference was also made to the Welsh Government’s Welsh-medium Education Strategy (2010) which contained a definition of bilingual provision – a term used to refer to a wide range of teaching and learning settings which could include varying amounts of Welsh in delivery. Whilst historically some Ysgol Rhewl pupils had transferred to the Welsh stream in secondary school none had done so in recent years. If the school closed there would be alternative provision within the context of the categorisation
- whilst acknowledging the wealth of responses against the proposal the case for closure had been made based on the need to rationalise schools and tackle surplus spaces and sustainability issues. Only 20 of the 54 pupils resided in Rhewl/Llanynys with the remainder living outside of that area
- assurances were provided that there would be sufficient capacity in the school system to relocate pupils – the proposal coincided with the opening of the new schools at Glasdir and following discussions with parents sufficient space would be planned to accommodate pupils
- confirmed a traffic management study would be undertaken together with the safer routes assessment as part of the detailed feasibility study of the Glasdir site.

Councillor Merfyn Parry spoke against the proposal and referred to his recent email to Cabinet detailing his views on the report which he had submitted on behalf of Ysgol Rhewl governors. He drew particular attention to the following points –

- concerns regarding the suitability of the route for pupils from Rhewl to Glasdir
- reference to the Parliamentary Committee’s recommendations that new schools should not be developed near to major roads, as was proposed at Glasdir
- reference to the recent report to Communities Scrutiny Committee on the language categorisation of schools and the status of Ysgol Rhewl
- the bilingual status of the school had not been appropriately addressed – once it was known that assessment in Welsh was an indicator of Welsh language delivery 4 pupils had been immediately identified who could be assessed in Welsh with a possible 10 – 12 pupils who could be assessed at a later date
- if parents wanted Category 2 provision the only option would be Ysgol Llanfair
- there would be a massive impact on the community if the school closed
- the impact of the future housing development had not been accounted for.

Councillor Parry pointed out Cabinet had debated the merits of a Category 2 school under the previous item but was now debating the closure of such a school and forcing parents to choose between Category 1 (Welsh) and Category 5 (English).

The following responses were provided –

- the categorisation process for schools in Denbighshire as reported to Communities Scrutiny Committee was confirmed – it had been recognised that over the last 2/3 years no pupils at the school had been through the Welsh medium stream in terms of outcomes but the school had been working to develop that offer and increase Welsh medium delivery. Within the context of the dual stream setting the expected outcomes were Category 1 for the Welsh stream and Category 5 for the English stream
- the proposal was to close the school with pupils transferring to Ysgol Pen Barras (Category 1) or Rhos Street (Category 5) – if parental preference was for Category 2 applications would be assessed as part of the usual school admissions process based on capacity, however free school transport would not be provided if it involved bypassing a school which delivered the same provision
- the Parliamentary Committee's recommendations were clarified and referred to England not Wales – they were not considered applicable in this case.

In response to further questions the council's policy regarding disposal of former school buildings was clarified and it was explained that any capital receipts generated would be ear marked for modernising education projects. Assurances were also provided that Cabinet had sight of all consultation responses and the opportunity to test any alternative proposal.

Councillor Parry thanked Cabinet for reading the responses and urged members to think carefully about the proposal to close a thriving village school. In moving the recommendations Councillor Eryl Williams advised that the decision to recommend closure had not been taken lightly and he had great empathy with the school but believed it to be the best option for the future education of pupils in Denbighshire.

**RESOLVED** that Cabinet –

- (a) note the findings of the formal consultation for the closure of Ysgol Rhewl, and*
- (b) approve the publication of a statutory notice to close Ysgol Rhewl on 31 August 2017 with pupils transferring to Ysgol Pen Barras or Rhos Street School to coincide with the opening of the new school buildings.*

At this juncture (4.30 p.m.) the meeting adjourned for a refreshment break.

## **7 YSGOL LLANBEDR**

Councillor Eryl Williams presented the report detailing discussions with the Church in Wales Diocesan Authority regarding the future of Ysgol Llanbedr and seeking Cabinet approval to proceed to formal consultation on the proposal to close Ysgol

Llanbedr VC on 31 August 2016 with existing pupils transferring to Ysgol Borthyn VC, subject to parental preference.

Councillor Williams reiterated the rationale behind the review of primary schools in the county and the context of Ysgol Llanbedr as part of the wider Ruthin area review. The case for change had been set out in the report highlighting projections in terms of surplus places and issues over the sustainability and viability of the school and standards of education and attainment in the future. Following rejection of the initial proposal by the Welsh Government, officers had consulted with the Church in Wales regarding the school's future. The Diocese had submitted an alternative proposal which included suspending the proposed consultation to close the school to allow a federation partner to be secured and change of status to Voluntary Aided, with a commitment to review the school's future in May 2018. They believed this proposal would address the Council's aims of reducing costs and addressing surplus places. Councillor Williams advised that more detailed proposals could be submitted during the formal consultation period and officers would work with the Diocese in that regard.

Cabinet considered the report and reflected on their recent meeting with the Diocese regarding their proposal. Due to the lack of detail and robust business case no evaluation of the viability of the proposal could be made. It was clarified that any development of the proposal would need to be undertaken by the Diocese but officers would be willing to work with them and provide any relevant information.

Councillor Huw Williams expressed his disappointment that the issue of closure was still being considered and asked that the consultation be suspended to allow time for the federation proposal to be developed – he felt that future talks with potential federation partners may be compromised if the consultation for closure went ahead. He also reminded Cabinet that funding to progress the Ruthin area review proposals had been secured and was not reliant on the school's closure. Councillor Dewi Owens also felt strongly that the consultation should be suspended and the Diocese and Council should work together to develop the federation proposal. Councillor Martyn Holland highlighted the merits of federation as a real alternative to closure and referred to the potential implications on pupil numbers arising from new housing developments. Councillor Huw Hilditch-Roberts sought clarification on the pupil numbers and stressed the need for some thought to be given to the children affected. Responses were provided as follows –

- it was clarified that the proposal to close the school was subject to a fresh consultation and members would remain open minded and consider all responses received, including any alternative proposal submitted
- assurances were given that the viability of any alternative proposals would be assessed and presented to Cabinet together with the full consultation responses for consideration
- the pupil projection figure was 53 by 2020 – capacity had been reviewed at the request of the Governing Body and would be increased to 77 from September 2016, again at the request of the Governing Body
- some discussion took place on the issue of federation and when it had first been raised, this included why federation with Ysgol Borthyn had been discounted,

the failure of the Diocese to put forward an alternative proposition for federation at an earlier stage, and the need for willing federation partners was emphasised

Cabinet felt the uncertainty over the school's future should be resolved as soon as possible and that sufficient information had not been provided by the Diocese to justify suspending formal consultation on the school's closure. Cabinet was satisfied that the Diocese would have sufficient time during the consultation period to develop a detailed alternative proposal and they welcomed that approach.

**RESOLVED** that Cabinet approve formal consultation for proposals to close Ysgol Llanbedr VC on 31 August 2016 with existing pupils transferring to Ysgol Borthyn VC, subject to parental preference.

## 8 FINANCE REPORT AND CORPORATE PLAN UPDATE

Councillor Julian Thompson-Hill presented the report detailing the latest financial position and seeking approval to increase the investment in highways maintenance. He guided members through the report which included the following elements –

- a summary of the Council's revenue budget for 2015/16
- a summary of the agreed savings for 2015/16 by service area
- an updated position on the Corporate Plan, key changes and assumptions, and
- the need for an additional £800k investment in highways per year to maintain the roads to the current standard – based on the latest assumptions within the Plan it was possible to fund this additional resource.

Cabinet welcomed additional investment for highways in order to maintain standards and avoid deterioration of the county's roads. Members discussed how the extra funding would be targeted to maintain improvements. It was clarified that the Head of Highways and Environmental Services would submit his proposals through the Member Area Groups and there was no requirement to spend the allocation before the end of the financial year. The Chief Executive wanted targeted funding to ensure the Corporate Plan outcome for highways was achieved. Discussion also focused on the need to publicise the Council's commitment and investment in the county's roads – it was agreed that the relevant Lead Member and Corporate Director should meet with the press directly to explain the position and positive outcome. In terms of savings Cabinet was also pleased to note that 71% of savings for 2015/16 had already been achieved with the remaining savings also being progressed. Any underspends from the previous year would be included in the financial outturn report for consideration at the next meeting.

Cabinet agreed to amend the wording of the recommendation for clarity.

**RESOLVED** that Cabinet –

- (a) note the 2015/16 budgets and savings, and
- (b) approve the proposals to increase expenditure on highway maintenance by £800k per year and confirm the assumptions noted within the Plan.

## **9 CABINET FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME**

Councillor Hugh Evans presented the Cabinet Forward Work Programme for consideration and members noted a number of amendments.

**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 PFI CONTRACT - UPDATE**

Councillor Julian Thompson-Hill presented the confidential report updating Cabinet on the latest position regarding termination of the Ruthin PFI contract.

Details of the contract had been provided together with the action taken to date and next steps in the process. Officers responded to questions regarding management of the process and termination provisions together with the associated financial risks. In terms of timescale the contract would be terminated within six months. It was agreed to receive a progress report at a future meeting.

**RESOLVED** that *Cabinet note the latest position.*

The meeting concluded at 6.05 p.m.

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<b>Report to:</b>	<b>Cabinet</b>
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	<b>30 June 2015</b>
<b>Scrutiny Chair:</b>	<b>Councillor David Simmons, Chair: Performance Scrutiny Committee</b>
<b>Report Author:</b>	<b>Rhian Evans, Scrutiny Co-ordinator</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Items from Scrutiny Committees- Cabinet decisions of 2 June 2015 relating to Ysgol Llanfair Dyffryn Clwyd &amp; Ysgol Pentrecelyn and Ysgol Rhewl</b>

## **1. What is the report about?**

The conclusions reached by Performance Scrutiny Committee following its consideration of the call-in of the Cabinet decisions taken on 2 June 2015 in respect of Ysgol Llanfair Dyffryn Clwyd & Ysgol Pentrecelyn, and Ysgol Rhewl.

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

To inform Cabinet of Performance Scrutiny Committee's deliberations and the associated recommendations.

## **3. What are the Recommendations?**

That Cabinet:

- 3.1 receives Performance Scrutiny Committee's conclusions and recommendations in relation to both decisions that were made the subject of the call-in notices; and
- 3.2 with regards to the recommendations relating to Ysgol Rhewl endorse the additional work recommended to be undertaken, as outlined in the summary report (Appendix 1b).

## **4. Report details**

- 4.1 Cabinet at its meeting on 2 June 2015 resolved to approve the following:

In relation to Ysgol Llanfair Dyffryn Clwyd and Ysgol Pentrecelyn:

"(a) to note the findings of the formal consultation for the closure of Ysgol Llanfair and Ysgol Pentrecelyn and the opening of a new area school on the two existing sites;

(b) "approve the publication of a statutory notice for Denbighshire County Council to close Ysgol Llanfair D C and Ysgol Pentrecelyn on 31 August 2016; and the Church in Wales to establish a new Voluntary Controlled Area School on the existing sits from 1 September 2016" and

(c) note the option for parents to apply to send their children to Ysgol Pen Barras as an alternative school should they wish their children to remain within a Category 1 school.”

In relation to Ysgol Rhewl:

“(a) note the findings of the formal consultation for the closure of Ysgol Rhewl; and

(b) approve the publication of a statutory notice to close Ysgol Rhewl on 31 August 2017 with pupils transferring to Ysgol Pen Barras or Rhos Street School to coincide with the opening of the new school buildings”

- 4.2 The above decisions were published on the Council’s website on 3 June 2015. In accordance with the Council’s Call-In Procedure the decisions were not implemented immediately enabling non-Cabinet members to call-in the decision for examination, if they felt it merited detailed scrutiny
- 4.3 A ‘Notice of Call-In’ form, signed by the required number of non-Cabinet councillors, was received for the decision relating to Ysgol Llanfair D C and Pentrecelyn on 5 June 2015, and with respect to the decision in relation to Ysgol Rhewl on 8 June 2015. Both of these notices were received within the required 5 working day timescale.
- 4.4 As Cabinet’s decision of 2 June related to the Council’s education provision the Authority’s statutory education co-opted members on its scrutiny committees were permitted to participate fully in the consideration of the call-in requests as full voting members of Performance Scrutiny Committee.
- 4.5 In accordance with the Council’s Call-in Procedure Rules Scrutiny had to consider the requests within 5 working dates of their receipt. To facilitate this the Chair of Performance Scrutiny Committee permitted the requests to be considered under ‘Urgent Matters’ at the Committee’s meeting on the 11 June 2015. The link below will take members to the report and appendices considered by Performance Scrutiny Committee at its meeting on 11 June 2015:  
<https://modern.gov.denbighshire.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=269&MId=5176&LLL=0>
- 4.6 Detailed discussion took place with respect to both Cabinet decisions and summaries of the main points raised are attached at Appendix 1 for Cabinet’s information. Appendix 1a details the points raised with respect to the decisions relating to Ysgol Llanfair D C & Ysgol Pentrecelyn and Appendix 1b details the points raised in relation to the decision affecting Ysgol Rhewl.
- 4.7 Cabinet will note from Appendices 1a and 1b that Performance Scrutiny Committee formed the view that there was not sufficient evidence with respect to either Cabinet decision for the Committee to request Cabinet to reconsider its decisions of 2 June to publish a the statutory notices. Nevertheless in the case of Ysgol Rhewl the Committee did form the view that further work should be undertaken to alleviate community and stakeholder concerns with respect to the detrimental effect the proposals could potentially have on the Welsh language in the community and the Welsh language skills of pupils from Rhewl. It also recommended that work be

undertaken with the community and stakeholders to address their concerns on matters relating to the capacity of the Glasdir site, transport management and the safety of the route for primary school pupils walking from Rhewl to Ruthin. Cabinet is therefore asked to endorse Performance Scrutiny Committee's recommendations with respect of this – as detailed in Appendix 1b.

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

The contents of this report supports the delivery of the corporate priority of “improving performance in education and the quality of our school buildings”.

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

The costs associated with the recommendations put forward by Performance Scrutiny will need to be maintained within the Modernising Education Programme budget. Nevertheless, they should be minimal as they entail officer time to undertake work with stakeholders and the community.

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

No Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) has been completed with respect to this report. The EqIA assessments undertaken for the purpose of the original proposals to Cabinet on 2 June 2015 are still valid.

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

The opportunity for scrutiny to call-in Cabinet decisions for detailed examination forms part of the Council's governance framework. By invoking that procedure Scrutiny was able to comment and make recommendations with respect to the decisions made subject of the call-in notices. At the Performance Scrutiny Committee meeting on 11 June representatives from each affected school were also given an opportunity to address the Committee.

**9. Chief Finance Officer Statement**

The points raised will contribute to the consultation process and should not incur additional costs. The exact cost and saving implications of each proposal will become clearer as the process progresses.

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

No risks have been identified with respect to the consideration of this report. There may be reputational risks to the Council if Cabinet decides not to endorse Performance Scrutiny Committee's recommendations on engaging with the community and stakeholders.

## 11. Power to make the Decision

Article 6.3.2(ch) outlines scrutiny's powers with respect to decisions taken but not yet implemented by Cabinet, whilst Article 6.3.4(ch) details scrutiny's powers with regards to making recommendations to Cabinet arising from the outcome of the scrutiny process.

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## Ysgol Llanfair Dyffryn Clwyd and Ysgol Pentrecelyn

Councillor Arwel Roberts presented the 'call-in' request on behalf of the five signatories. He outlined that the decision had been 'called in' on the following grounds:

- Lack of explanation of what Category 1 and Category 2 meant
- Were the guidelines followed for the closure of rural schools?
- Was the correct data given regarding the schools – pupil data numbers?
- The process was not followed correctly against local and national priorities

The Lead Member, Head of Education and the Programme Manager (Modernising Education) clarified the position, and answered members' questions, against each of the above points as follows:

### Lack of explanation of what Category 1 and Category 2 mean

- The Council categorises its education provision in line with the Welsh Assembly Government's Information Document Number 023/2007, issued in October 2007: *Defining schools according to Welsh medium provision*. A copy of which had been circulated to all committee members in advance of the meeting. Every Council in Wales was expected to adhere to these guidelines when categorising their education provision;
- **Category 1** primary schools are 'Welsh-medium primary schools' where the curriculum delivery language is Welsh, as is the day to day communication language with the pupils. Pupil assessments are also undertaken through the medium of Welsh and the expectation is that pupils are able to easily transfer to Welsh medium secondary provision at the end of Key Stage (KS) 2. Pupils will also have reached a standard in English equivalent to pupils in predominantly English medium schools. **Category 2** primary schools are dual stream primary schools – these schools provide Welsh medium and English medium provision side by side. Dependent upon parental choice the curriculum is delivered through the medium of Welsh or English. If they choose Welsh medium the delivery language for the pupil's education, the language of communication with the pupil and educational assessments is Welsh – the same as for a Category 1 school. If the parents choose for their child to be educated through the medium of English, the curriculum is delivered in English, the communication language with the child is English and any assessments are done in English – the same as a Category 5 school. The expectation for Category 2 schools is that pupils in the Welsh medium stream would be able to transfer to Welsh medium secondary provision, the same as Category 1 schools, with the pupils in the English stream being able to transfer to English medium secondary provision the same as pupils from Category 5 primary schools. The Lead Member for Education read an extract

from the draft minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on 2 June to evidence that a full and comprehensive explanation had been given on the categorisation of primary educational provision;

- In Llanfair D C, where the majority of pupils were educated in the Welsh medium stream, there was evidence that a number of pupils were transferring from the English medium stream to the Welsh medium stream during their time at the school. This was due to the school's strong Welsh ethos which resulted in pupils educated through the medium of English becoming proficient in Welsh language skills during the course of their educational journey at the school. By the time they were ready to transfer to secondary provision they were both competent and confident in both languages to an extent that some parents were confident for them to continue their education through the medium of Welsh;
- The terminology for categorisation in primary and secondary schools was different and this had the potential to cause confusion. In the primary sector Category 2 schools were dual stream schools, whilst Category 2 in the secondary sector were known as bilingual schools;
- If a school wished to change its educational provision categorisation i.e. from 1 to 2, vice-versa, or to any other category it would be a decision for the school's governing body. However, there was a statutory process which had to be followed. This process would include a consultation process within which the local authority and Estyn would be statutory consultees;
- The Welsh Government (WG) was keen to see a bilingual Wales, which was why all schools were expected to deliver an element of Welsh language education. All Councils were obliged to have a Welsh in Education Strategic Plan(WESP);
- Denbighshire County Council was committed to improving its school pupils' proficiency in both languages. The Council's Welsh in Education Strategic Group (WESG) which monitored the delivery of the WESP also had a role in ensuring that all schools moved along the language continuum to deliver more elements of the curriculum through the medium of Welsh.

#### Were the guidelines followed for the closure of rural schools?

- There were no specific guidelines in place for the closure of rural schools
- The code followed for the reorganisation of educational provision was the WG's *School Organisation Code*, Statutory Code number 0006/2013, issued July 2013. This Code had been followed in the case of Ysgol Llanfair D C and Ysgol Pentrecelyn;
- The WG Minister for Education and Skills was one of the statutory consultees with respect to school reorganisation proposals
- The code states that the prime purpose of schools is the provision of education, but acknowledges that particularly in the case of rural areas schools, they are also focal points. The Code therefore requires that a

Community Impact Assessment (CIA) is undertaken with respect to any closure proposals. A CIA had been undertaken with respect to the Ysgol Llanfair D C and Ysgol Pentrecelyn proposal.

- The proposals relating to both schools were part of the wider review of primary education provision in the Ruthin area. This proposal had been put forward as the best solution for delivering education in the Llanfair D C and Pentrecelyn areas as it delivered a school within the community which would provide education to pupils in their parents' choice of language. It would also provide the area with a new school facility in due course;
- As Ysgol Llanfair had a Welsh medium stream, which delivered its curriculum and operated in the same way as a Category 1 school, the designation of the new school as a Category 2 school was deemed appropriate as it would meet the offer currently provided by both Ysgol Pentrecelyn and Ysgol Llanfair D C pupils. The educational offer would therefore meet the needs of both sets of pupils to at least an equivalent standard – which was what the Code required;

#### Was the correct data given regarding the schools – pupil data numbers?

- The data provided as part of the consultation on the proposals for a new area school was the WG's Pupil Level Annual School Census, which had been compiled in April 2014. This is the recognised data source for school data which is collated annually and is used for school reorganisation projects and was used as the basis for the entire Ruthin Area Review
- Whilst this data is useful for current pupil numbers, it is also quite complex in nature when projecting future pupil numbers;
- The exact transfer numbers from Ysgol Pentrecelyn to the new area school were not yet known, these would become clearer once the statutory notices were published;
- However, not all pupils may choose to transfer to the new area school. Some may choose to attend Ysgol Bro Elwern, Gwyddelwern (Category 1) if that was the nearest school to their home address. Others who wanted to attend a Category 1 school may choose to transfer to Ysgol Pen Barras, Ruthin. At present both schools had sufficient capacity to accommodate pupils from Pentrecelyn on this basis. Based on current pupil data it was estimated that, if none of the present pupils at Ysgol Pentrecelyn chose to attend the new school at Llanfair D C in due course, and chose instead to transfer to their nearest Category 1 school it was anticipated that 16 of the current pupils would be closer to Ysgol Pen Barras and 19 would be closer to Ysgol Bro Elwern or alternative provision outside of Denbighshire. ;
- A contingency 10% surplus places would be built into the planning specification for a new facility for Ysgol Pen Barras in Ruthin with a view to accommodating future pressures;

- Population fluctuations would have an impact on all future school provision. Due to the uncertain nature associated with this aspect it could impact upon any projected figures;
- The data on which the proposals were based had recently been reviewed by an independent officer, who had confirmed its validity.

#### The process was not followed correctly against local and national priorities

- The process followed with respect to the proposals complied with the WG's *School Organisation Code (July 2013)* and its guidance on *Defining schools according to Welsh medium provision (October 2007)*;
- The aim of the Ruthin area review, of which this proposal was an element, was to contribute towards the delivery of the Council's corporate priority of 'improving performance in education and the quality of our school buildings'

#### Additional points:

- It was confirmed that within Denbighshire there were Category 1, Category 2, and other categories of voluntary controlled primary schools;
- The majority of objections to the Ysgol Llanfair D C and Ysgol Pentrecelyn proposals were on the grounds of language categorisation. Very few objections had been received with respect to its proposed voluntary controlled status;
- Generally both schools welcomed the proposal to merge, it was the language categorisation of the new school that was the stumbling block. Consequently, the Committee asked officers to make enquiries on whether schools could be categorised similar to the Gwynedd Council model of 'bilingual' schools rather than the Welsh medium provision categorisation currently used which seemed to cause confusion;
- The objective of the WG's national policy and action plan 'Iaith Pawb' was to sustain and increase the number of people in the country who could speak Welsh. The Council's WESP and education policy complied with the WG's vision;

Representatives from both Ysgol Llanfair Dyffryn Clwyd and Ysgol Pentrecelyn were given an opportunity to address the meeting. They raised the following points:

#### Ysgol Llanfair Dyffryn Clwyd:

- Emphasised that parents at the school were not confused by the Category 1 and Category 2 definitions;



- Categorisation was not a recent phenomenon – the Governing Body had been approached a number of times with a request to change the categorisation from a 2 to a 1, but this had been turned down each time as it was felt the school would lose pupils;
- The school had a Welsh speaking staff recruitment policy. The social language of the school was Welsh and the teachers communicated with the children in Welsh;
- The school's aim was to ensure that they had the highest possible numbers of Welsh speakers at the age of 11. Consequently, the Category 2 model worked well for Llanfair D C. It contributed to community cohesion, produced more Welsh speakers and facilitated pupils from non-Welsh speaking backgrounds to transfer over to Welsh medium education if they so wished, even though they had not intended to enter that stream at the beginning of their educational journey.

#### Ysgol Pentrecelyn

- Concerns were raised with respect to the loss of a Category 1 rural school;
- Concerns were also registered with respect to the review of the 'N' stream (considered suitable for pupils who have learnt Welsh as a second language and who by the end of KS2 have a good understanding of the language) at Ysgol Brynhyfryd from September 2015, and the impact of this on its feeder schools

Summing up the signatories request to call-in the original Cabinet decision Councillor Arwel Roberts registered his disappointment that, under school reorganisation proposals, Category 2 provision was deemed to be on a par with Category 1 provision. He was of the view that the WG should review this. At the conclusion of the discussion the Committee, having received assurances that the impact on pupils choosing to leave either school would be closely monitored and that the impact of Ysgol Pentrecelyn's closure on the other two Category 1 schools in the area was manageable, by a majority concluded that the matter did not merit being referred back to Cabinet for reconsideration. However the Committee asked officers to explore the possibilities for the Council to designate schools as 'bilingual' schools rather than be constrained by the WG guidelines on categorisation according to Welsh medium provision – to use a model similar to the one operated by Gwynedd Council. It was:

***Resolved: - having considered the reasons given for requesting a review of Cabinet's decision, and the information provided at the meeting, that there was not sufficient evidence to ask Cabinet to reconsider its decision of 2 June in relation to Ysgol Llanfair Dyffryn Clwyd and Ysgol Pentrecelyn.***



## **Ysgol Rhewl**

Councillor Merfyn Parry presented the 'call-in' request on behalf of the five signatories. He outlined that the decision had been 'called in' on the following grounds:

- That the impact on the Welsh language at the school as well as in the county, raised in the consultation, were not addressed by Cabinet
- The loss of bilingual provision in Rhewl was at odds with the Council's own Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP)
- The capacity of the Glasdir site to accommodate all pupils subject to the Ruthin area review, and road safety and traffic management issues
- That the consultation process did not include the proposal of alternative arrangements and discussion on such proposals – this did not take place and Cabinet did not respond to this at their meeting on 2 June

Councillor Parry explained that parents of pupils at Ysgol Rhewl felt that their choice of school was being compromised in future as parents would have to choose between either a Welsh medium (Category 1) school or an English language (Category 5) school. The only dual stream school available to them would be Ysgol Llanfair D C, but free transport may not be available to this school, dependent on where pupils lived. He acknowledged that in recent years the school had not been delivering the education provision in line with its Category 2 designation. However, this was now being addressed with two pupils expected to be assessed through the medium of Welsh this year and 11 pupils coming through the school at present.

Councillor Parry emphasised parents' concerns for their children's safety, with potentially 25 to 30 pupils from Rhewl having to walk to the new schools on the Glasdir site. Whilst acknowledging that there was a cycle path running parallel with the road, the road itself was a busy one with a number of industrial units and the livestock market along one side of it. Another site nearby had already been earmarked for industrial use. The majority of the industrial units presently housed heavy industry which meant that large vehicles entered and departed the premises on a regular basis. Despite this the route had been classed as a non-hazardous route.

On the above basis he was seeking scrutiny to recommend to Cabinet that the decision to publish a statutory notice to close the school on 31 August 2017 be put on hold pending further clarification on the capacity of the Glasdir site to accommodate all pupils affected by the Ruthin area review, road safety and traffic management issues and to give Ysgol Rhewl sufficient time to deliver as expected against its Category 2 designation.

The Lead Member, Head of Education, Programme Manager (Modernising Education) and Design and Construction Manager clarified the position, and answered members' questions, against each of the points raised as follows:

That the impact on the Welsh language at the school as well as in the county, raised in the consultation, were not addressed by Cabinet

- The current catchment area for the school was illustrated in a map presented to Cabinet on 2 June. This illustrated that a number of pupils at the school travelled there from both the northern and southern parts of the county. If the school was to close, it was likely that a number of the pupils would not transfer to either the English or Welsh language provision on the Glasdir site, as it would not be deemed to be their nearest suitable school. They may well choose a school nearer to where they lived i.e. if they lived to the north of Rhewl and wanted to attend a Welsh medium school they may well choose to attend Ysgol Bro Cinmeirch, Llanrhaeadr or if they lived to the south of Ruthin they may well opt for either the English or Welsh provision at Ysgol Llanfair D C;
- With respect of increasing the use of Welsh at all of the county's schools and supporting them along the language continuum members were advised that the Welsh in Education Strategic Group (WESG) was currently charged with progressing this aspect of the work. Representatives from 'Mudiad Meithrin' served on the Group and they assisted the Council with its work through the establishment of 'Ti a Fi' Groups and Cylchoedd Meithrin throughout the county

The loss of bilingual provision in Rhewl is at odds with the Council's own Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP)

- It was emphasised that there were no concerns on the quality of education provision at Ysgol Rhewl. Nevertheless there had been concerns with respect to the curriculum delivery not being in line with the school's Category 2 designation. This was currently being addressed and there was one pupil this year who had been assessed in the Welsh medium stream at the end of the foundation phase and one at the end of the Key Stage (KS) 2;
- Whilst there would not be another Category 2 school available as the nearest alternative for current pupils of Ysgol Rhewl to attend, there would be a Category 1 and a Category 5 school available to them;
- It was unfair to compare Ysgol Rhewl to Ysgol Llanfair D C with respect to the Category 2 designation. Ysgol Llanfair D C had a greater Welsh ethos and served a far more Welsh speaking community than Ysgol Rhewl;

- It was confirmed that issues relating to Ysgol Rhewl’s language categorisation had been flagged up at a Communities Scrutiny Committee meeting in March 2015 during a discussion of a report on the ‘Language Categorisation of the all Denbighshire Schools’. As a result the WESG was supporting the school and monitoring its progress.
- Whilst acknowledging that the proposal being put forward for Ysgol Rhewl did not provide a ‘like for like’ offer for the pupils or parents, it was in line with the requirements of the WG’s *School Organisation Code (July 2013)* as the alternative “*proposals **should** ensure that the balance of school provision reflects the balance of demand*” and would provide “*at least equivalent standards and opportunities for progression in their current language medium.*” The Council was therefore of the view that the proposals being put forward for Ysgol Rhewl did reflect the current balance of demand at Rhewl

The capacity of the Glasdir site to accommodate all pupils subject to the Ruthin area review, and road safety and traffic management issues

- Road safety assessments were regularly carried out on home to school routes in light of any major developments along those routes or an increase in the volume of traffic on a route i.e. the increase in the school traffic to the proposed new school on the Glasdir site would automatically trigger a road safety assessment. This would also form part of the planning application process prior to planning consent being given;
- Discussions with the Highways Service on traffic management and safety issues were at an early stage. The Highways Service had registered some initial concerns in relation to the volume and safety of traffic for the proposed new site and a consultant had been appointed to undertake a feasibility study as part of the initial design works in advance of the compilation of the planning application;
- Concerns with respect to the safety of pupils walking from all areas of the town to the new schools’ site had been raised and were being addressed. These matters would be reviewed at regular intervals during the development of the planning application and as the construction of the new facilities progressed;
- At present the route from Rhewl to Glasdir was deemed to be a non-hazardous route (the definition for ‘non-hazardous’ was different for primary and secondary home to school routes). However, work which would be undertaken for the planning application would include a new assessment of the route’s safety;

That the consultation process did not include the proposal of alternative arrangements and discussion on such proposals – this did not take place and Cabinet did not respond to this at their meeting on 2 June

- The alternative proposals put forward had been considered as part of the consultation process and the Council's response to them was outlined in Appendix E (page 31) of the Consultation Report (Appendix 2 to the Cabinet report of 2 June 2015)
- The new schools to be built on the Glasdir site would be designed to accommodate an additional 10% capacity to that of the actual pupil numbers. This was to conform with BB99 guidance on school buildings and playing fields with a view to protecting for future needs;
- The new schools would have a one form and a one and a half form intake respectively. This safeguard, in conjunction with the rest of the Ruthin area review should be adequate to reduce the number surplus school places in certain schools to a manageable level, whilst at the same time ensuring that the educational offer of choice was available to all children in the area within a reasonable travelling distance of their home. The Council's Schools Admission Policy would also help manage availability and accessibility of school places across the county;

The Chair of Governors at Ysgol Rhewl was given an opportunity to address the Committee. He raised the following points:

- Estyn had rated the school as 'good' and had urged the Governing Body to move forward with respect to the Welsh language provision at the school. This was now being progressed and the plans for development in this area were available for all to see;
- The Governing Body felt that the Council by closing the school would be losing an opportunity to move the Welsh language forward in Denbighshire, particularly in light of the conclusions of a recent Council commissioned study on the future of the language in the county;
- Ysgol Rhewl was now working closely with Ysgol Brynhyfryd with a view to meeting their requirements for delivering bilingual education and supporting pupils to access secondary education in the language of their choice;
- Parents at Ysgol Rhewl had serious concerns with regards to the volume of traffic using the road between Rhewl and Ruthin once the new schools were built and on the capacity of the new schools to accommodate the additional pupils which would want to access the schools once the Ruthin area review had been completed;

In summing up both the Chair of Governors and the lead signatory to the call-in request, Councillor Merfyn Parry, stated that they felt that the decision to close Ysgol Rhewl was premature and that the loss of a dual stream primary school would be detrimental to the local area, and to the county as a whole. Also 23 new affordable

family homes were due to be built in Rhewl in the near future, the potential effects of this increase in population had in residents' opinion not been fully considered as part of the consultation exercise.

Officers confirmed that if the decision to close Ysgol Rhewl was put on hold it did have the potential to stall other proposals not yet implemented as part of the Ruthin area review, as each part of the review was dependent on other elements being delivered. The objective of the area review and the modernising education agenda was to redress the inequity of the amount spent per pupil on education in the county. The delivery of the Modernising Education Programme - which would see a reduction in the number of schools in the county to deal with the amount of surplus places whilst at the same time see significant investment in new state of the art school buildings – would result in the County's pupils being educated in facilities fit for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. This should result in better outcomes for pupils and a higher level of educational attainment.

Officers offered to provide a session on safe routes to schools to all stakeholders, including children and parents to alleviate any fears which they may have.

At the conclusion of the discussion the Committee acknowledged that, in determining not to seek Cabinet to review its decision to close Ysgol Rhewl, there were challenges for members and officers of the Council to ensure that the new educational provision did deliver its expected outcomes. There was also a need for the Council to take all necessary actions to mitigate against the risk of the loss of Welsh language skills and to ensure that pupils from Ysgol Rhewl and the area in general were not in anyway disadvantaged due to the future non-availability of a Category 2 school. The Committee:

***Resolved: - having considered the reasons given for requesting a review of Cabinet's decision and the information provided at the meeting determined that there was not sufficient evidence to ask Cabinet to consider its decision of 2 June to publish a statutory notice to close Ysgol Rhewl, but to recommend to Cabinet that;***

- (a) it should instruct officers during the consultation period following the publication of the statutory notices to undertake work to assess and mitigate the effects of the loss of Welsh language provision on the community and to ensure that the loss of a dual stream school will not disadvantage the area's pupils in future;***
- (b) further work is undertaken with pupils, parents, staff and other stakeholders of Ysgol Rhewl to address their concerns relating to the capacity of the Glasdir site, the transport management of the new school site and road safety concerns for primary school children walking between Rhewl and the Glasdir site; and***

***(c) that the findings of the work outlined in (a) and (b) above is reported to Cabinet in the autumn of 2015 when presenting the objections report in response to the publication of the statutory notice***



**Report To:** Communities Scrutiny

**Date of Meeting:** 30 June 2015

**Lead Member / Officer:** Cllr Huw Jones/Rebecca Maxwell

**Report Author:** Rebecca Maxwell, Corporate Director Economic & Community Ambition

**Title:** Town and Area Plans

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## **1. What is the report about?**

In January 2015, Cabinet agreed recommendations to improve how Town & Area Plans are managed and delivered. This report sets out the evaluation of the remaining Town & Area Plan projects put forward for funding by local Members.

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

To make recommendations to Cabinet on which remaining projects from Town & Area Plans should receive funding from the Council.

## **3. What are the Recommendations?**

Cabinet is invited to approve the funding allocations recommended in Appendix 1 of this report.

## **4. Report details.**

Town Plans were originally proposed by the Council as a means of setting out local priorities and identifying actions for progressing them. During 2013/14, the Town Plans were expanded to encompass surrounding rural communities to give full coverage across the county. The expanded plans were approved by Cabinet between November 2013 and March 2014.

During the process of expanding the Plans, concerns were raised about the clarity of the policy objectives and consistency of the process for developing the Plans. Members were also keen, in times of increasing budget constraint, that priorities included within Plans were able to demonstrate viable, value for money and worthwhile projects for the benefit of local residents.

A review of the Town and Area Plans process was carried out during 2014 and its recommendations were endorsed by Cabinet in January 2015. At that meeting, Cabinet agreed Member Area Groups would be invited to nominate any remaining Town & Area Plans for funding by the Council and that these would be evaluated against criteria intended to test benefit, value for money and deliverability. This report sets out the results of that evaluation.

Since January, local Members have been supported to develop individual project proposals they believe are priorities for their communities. All proposals were reviewed by Services to check costs and feasibility. Each proposal was required to have a named officer or community representative responsible for ensuring delivery of the project.

Once this work had been completed, the individual proposals were evaluated by the Council's 9 Town & Area Plan Champions sitting as a panel. The criteria for assessment are attached as Appendix 2.

The Champions met twice and scored each proposal against the agreed criteria. The results of the process are set out in Appendix 1. A contingency allocation has been made for projects emerging from the Bodelwyddan Town Plan when it is finalised.

As well as making funding recommendations, the Champions group agreed that review dates should be set for each project to allow funding to be reallocated if, for whatever reason, projects fail to progress. Recommended review dates are shown against each project.

5 project proposals were not recommended for funding. Support will be provided to communities and local Members to identify whether any alternative external sources of funding may enable projects to progress without Council funding. 2 projects were withdrawn.

Monitoring of progress with implementation of agreed Town & Area Plan projects will be carried out at Member Area Groups, supported by the Council's Strategic Planning Team. Approved projects will now be incorporated into relevant Service Plans to ensure delivery in accordance with agreed timescales.

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

Town and Area Plans are an enabler for the corporate objective of bringing the Council closer to the community. They are also an important mechanism for describing how the Council's overall corporate priorities are being addressed at local level with reference to the needs and aspirations of local communities. Alignment with corporate priorities was one of the assessment criteria.

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

A budget was set aside to implement the actions arising from Town and Area Plans. Council agreed in February to remove the annual top up to this allocation and instead agree a final set of projects to spend the remaining amount before the end of the Council term in 2017.

Total funding towards Town & Area Plans since their inception has been £1.94M. Following decisions made by Cabinet in January 2015, a balance of around £821k remained to be allocated. A subsequent allocation of £20k was made to a reduced cost project that had been previously evaluated and rejected on grounds of costs.

Further underspends on other approved projects returned to the funding pool left a balance of around £815k to be allocated in this exercise. The full amount has now been allocated with any other small underspends to be added to the contingency allowance for Bodelwyddan Town Plan projects.

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

An EqIA is not considered necessary at this stage. Individual projects will be expected to consider equality impacts in their implementation.

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

Town and Area Plans were developed by local elected Member through Member Area Groups, based on consultations with local communities. The Town and Area Plan Review engaged with a range of Council stakeholders, including a sample of existing Plan Champions and Communities Scrutiny Committee.

This latest evaluation exercise has been based on projects proposed by local Members and reviewed initially by Member Area Groups. The Town & Area Plan Champions have evaluated the proposals and are drawn from each of the MAG areas.

**9. Chief Finance Officer Statement**

The total funding allocated for the set of projects recommended for approval is within the agreed level of £815k and it is important that the projects are delivered within the funding limit. Robust procedures are in place to monitor project expenditure.

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

Previous reports have highlighted risks relating to unreasonably raising local expectations and failure to deliver. The revised arrangements for Town & Area Plans have been designed to mitigate these risks. Regular monitoring will take place through Member Area Groups with support from the Strategic Planning Team. Designated projects leads have been identified for each project and clear milestones will be established. Review dates have been set for each project and any project failing to progress will have their funding withdrawn for reallocation to other projects or priorities.

**11. Power to make the Decision**

Section 2 Local Government Act 2000

## Appendix 1

Project	Score %	TAP Funding Agreed	Match Funding	Review Date
DEE – Betwys GG School/Community Hub	90	£32,000	£37,500	Apr 2016
RUTHIN – Rhewl Pavilion	90	£25,000	£18,000	Dec 2015
RHYL – Coastal Defence Enhancements	85	£96,000	£412,000	Dec 2015
DENBIGH – Lenton Pool Roundabout replacement	85	£20,000	£5,000	Sept 2015
DEE – Canolfan Llys Owain/Pavilion project	80	£50,000	£190,000	Dec 2015
ELWY – Rhuddlan Library/Community Hub	80	£100,000	£0	Dec 2015
ELWY – St Asaph Library/Community Hub	80	£100,000	£352,000	Dec 2015
PRESTATYN – Gateways projects	80	£80,000	£100,000	Dec 2015
DEE – Wernffrwd Improvements	75	£70,000	£523,000	Dec 2015
PRESTATYN – Meliden Play & Pathways	75	£38,500	£38,500	Dec 2015
DEE – Gwyddelwern Community Centre Kitchen	70	£7,575	£7,425	Dec 2015
DENBIGH – Love Lane/Maes Glas Wall repairs	70	£16,000	£4,000	Sept 2015
DEE – Bryneglws Canolfan Ial	70	£25,000	£12,000	Dec 2015
RUTHIN – Loggerheads Car Park Extension	65	£80,000	£170,000	Sept 2015
DEE – Llantysilio Link Path	65	£32,000	£96,000	Dec 2015
DENBIGH – King George’s Field, Nantglyn	65	£13,120	£4,000	Sept 2015
DEE – Llandrillo Playing Fields	60	£7,000	£35,000	Dec 2015
DENBIGH – Carriage Works Café	60	£1,000	£190,000	Dec 2015
ELWY – Cefn Meriadog Lay By	60	£9,855	£0	Dec 2015
Contingency for Bodelwyddan		£11,950	tbc	Apr 2016
<b>Total</b>		<b>£815,000</b>		
<i>Not approved</i>				
DENBIGH – Aberwheeler Footpath extension	50	£25,780	£0	
COUNTYWIDE – Eyesore Sites	50	£60,000	£0	
RUTHIN – Signage Strategy	50	£40,000	£100,000	
ELWY – Lower Denbigh Road Footpath	40	£8,860	£0	
ELWY – St Asaph Riverpath	15	£75,000	£0	
<i>Withdrawn</i>				
ELWY – St Asaph River Sculptures	0	£1,000	£0	
DEE – Cilmedw Employment Site	0	£150,000	£0	

**TAP Project Proposal Assessment Criteria**

**Cabinet has resolved that only revenue neutral projects should proceed.**

Criteria	PASS	FAIL
Confidence level that the revenue implications of the project have been properly thought through	Future DCC revenue implications have been <b>fully</b> considered and are budgeted for	Future DCC revenue implications have not been properly considered or budgeted for

**If the project passes the above test, the following assessment criteria apply:**

Criteria	Score 2	Score 1	Score 0
1. Evidence of Need	Clear and significant evidence of need for project documented	Some evidence of need documented	No evidence of need documented
2. Clarity of Output	It is clear and unambiguous what the project will deliver	An outline of what the project will deliver is documented but further clarity is required.	It is not clear what output the project will deliver
3. Benefits	Benefits of the project are clear, measurable and well-articulated	Limited benefits have been identified	No clear benefits have been identified
4. Impact	Identified benefits will impact on a significant number and wide range of local residents or businesses	Identified benefits will impact on a “community of need” (e.g. sports club, local interest group, particular business sector)	No evidence that benefits will have any significant impact on residents or businesses.
5. Corporate/ECA priorities	Clear and direct link to corporate priority or ECA priority project	Some link/contribution to corporate priority or ECA priority project	No link/contribution to corporate priority or ECA priority project
6. External Funding	Project levers 50% external funding	Project levers between 20% and 50% external funding	Project levers less than 20% external funding
7. Confidence level in lead delivery service/organisation’s capacity/capability to deliver the project	High - Full confidence in the delivery body’s capacity and capability to deliver	Medium - Some confidence in the delivery body’s capacity and capability to deliver but with some reservations	Low - No confidence in the delivery body’s capacity and capability to deliver
8. Confidence level that the project can be delivered within the forecast timescales	High - Full confidence that the project output can be delivered within forecast timescales	Medium - Some confidence that the project output can be delivered within forecast timescales but with some reservations	Low - No confidence that the project output can be delivered within forecast timescales
9. Confidence level that the project can be delivered within the forecast capital costs	High - Full confidence that the project output can be delivered within forecast capital costs	Medium - Some confidence that the project output can be delivered within forecast capital costs but with some reservations	Low - No confidence that the project output can be delivered within forecast capital costs
10. Confidence level that the project will secure the external funding required	High - Full confidence that the project will secure the required external funding.	Medium - Some confidence that the project will secure the required external funding but with some reservations	Low - No confidence that the project will secure the required external funding.



**Report To:** Cabinet

**Date of Meeting:** 30<sup>th</sup> June 2015

**Lead Member / Officer:** Cllr David Smith / Cllr Hugh Irving

**Report Author:** Angela Loftus, Strategic Housing and Planning Manager

**Title:** Conclusions & Recommendations from Affordable Housing Task & Finish Group

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## **1. What is the report about?**

- 1.1 Affordable Housing is a key issue for the Council, and forms part of the Council's Housing Priority in the Corporate Plan. The Council's approach to delivering affordable housing was identified as a potential weakness by the Wales Audit Office in the Council's Annual Improvement Report May 2014 with a recommendation that the Council clarify its approach. The Affordable Housing Task and Finish Group was set up in response to concerns amongst Members about affordable housing policy and delivery. This report outlines the conclusions and recommendations agreed by the Task and Finish Group.

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

- 2.1 The final report will inform the development of Denbighshire's wider Housing Strategy and future reviews of planning policy and guidance. Where appropriate the finalised recommendations will be reflected in strategies, plans and guidance relating to affordable housing.

## **3. What are the Recommendations?**

That Cabinet endorses the conclusions and recommendations agreed by the Affordable Housing Task and Finish Group (attached as Appendix I) to be taken forward through the Housing Strategy and accompanying Delivery Plan.

## **4. Report details.**

- 4.1 The Affordable Housing Task and Finish Group has been co-chaired by the Lead Member for Customers and Communities and the Lead Member for Public Realm. Members from Scrutiny and Planning Committee were part of the group and the aim of the group was to review the Council's approach to delivering affordable housing and make recommendations for improvement to inform the Draft Housing Strategy and future reviews of planning policy and guidance. The terms of reference and membership of the Group are included as Appendices 2 & 3 in the attached Task and Finish Group report. The Task and Finish Group began meeting in September 2014 and held 7 workshops. It considered a range of affordable housing issues in depth, including defining

affordable housing, planning policy approach, how affordable housing is accessed, demand and funding options. A note summarising the areas of discussion at each of the Task and Finish Group meetings is included in the Report back on Conclusions and Recommendations attached as Appendix I.

- 4.2 The recommendations from the Task and Finish Group will form a key input to the on-going development of the Council's wider Housing Strategy and accompanying Delivery Plan and it has been proposed that the Housing Strategy should be reported to Council for consideration in October 2015. Actions identified by the Task and Finish Group, which have been developed with a view to delivering the Task & Finish Group's recommendations, will form part of the Delivery Plan for the Housing Strategy.
- 4.3 The Affordable Housing Task and Finish Group - Report back on Conclusions and Recommendations is attached as Appendix I and it summarises the key findings agreed by the Task and Finish Group at its final meeting. A summary of these recommendations was presented to Council Briefing on 14<sup>th</sup> April and Members raised some additional issues to be reflected in the Affordable Housing Task & Finish Group final report.
- 4.4 Appendix II sets out the issues raised at Council Briefing, together with the relevant recommendation in the Report back on Conclusions and recommendations attached as Appendix I.
- 4.5 The conclusions and recommendations agreed by the Task & Finish Group were considered by Communities Scrutiny Committee on 28<sup>th</sup> May 2015 and notes from the meeting are attached as Appendix III. The key issues emphasised by Committee were:
- Future affordable housing should include a mix of family dwellings to provide opportunities for families and first time householders to move up the housing ladder – *this will be addressed through the Housing Strategy*
  - Future new build social housing should be exempt from the 'Right to Buy' - *this will be addressed through the Housing Strategy*
  - The need to focus on housing needs of residents and value for money for council-tax payers – *this will be addressed through the Housing Strategy*
  - The need to raise awareness of the affordable housing register & process for registration without raising expectations – *work is currently underway to address this issue*

#### **What happens next?**

- 4.6 If endorsed by Cabinet, the conclusions and recommendations will form the basis of the affordable housing theme in the Housing Strategy. The Housing Strategy will be reported to Communities Scrutiny Committee on 10<sup>th</sup> September 2015 to provide the opportunity for Scrutiny Committee to have an input prior to a report to Council on 20<sup>th</sup> October 2015.



4.7 A number of the recommendations are already being actioned, including proposals to revise the Council's approach to the re-use of rural buildings in the open countryside. Revised supplementary planning guidance allowing for re-use for market housing, provided affordable housing can be demonstrated to be unviable, was adopted by Planning Committee on 13<sup>th</sup> May 2015.

4.8 The Task & Finish Group recommended that planning policies relating to affordable housing should be reviewed. There is currently no mechanism to amend policies in the Local Development Plan other than through a full review of the entire plan. Welsh Government is considering legislative amendments to allow for partial reviews but this has not been confirmed to date. As an interim arrangement, amended supplementary planning guidance has been adopted, which will allow for the conversion of rural buildings to market housing, however a full review of planning policies will remain a longer term action.

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

5.1 The recommendations of the Affordable Housing Task & Finish Group will form a key input to Denbighshire's emerging Housing Strategy and will contribute to the following corporate priorities:

- Developing the local economy – development within the County will contribute towards securing local employment opportunities in the construction sector
- Ensuring access to good quality housing – successful delivery of the proposed actions will enable improved provision of additional affordable and market housing across Denbighshire to meet the County's needs.
- Vulnerable people are protected and are able to live as independently as possible

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

6.1 Successful delivery of the actions identified will be dependent on a partnership approach within the Council, including input from Finance, Legal, Property, Planning & Public Protection services.

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

7.1 A desktop Health Impact Assessment (HIA) was carried out on the main text of the housing strategy on 15<sup>th</sup> June 2015. A rapid HIA is planned by August 2015 on the delivery plan.

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

8.1 The Task and Finish Group comprised Members of Planning Committee and Scrutiny, who had the opportunity to be involved in all the meetings. The conclusions and recommendations agreed by the Task & Finish Group were considered by Communities Scrutiny on 28<sup>th</sup> May 2015

## **9. Chief Finance Officer Statement**

- 9.1 The full cost implications of specific proposals as the Strategy is developed will have to be assessed to ensure they are affordable and sustainable.

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

- 10.1 Failure to progress the findings and recommendations of the Task and Finish Group would miss the opportunity to improve the Council's approach to the delivery of affordable housing and demonstrate action to Wales Audit office. The delivery of the Housing Strategy is a key priority for the Council & improving the delivery of affordable housing within the County will be a fundamental aim of the Strategy.

## **11. Power to make the Decision**

- Local Government Act 2000. The following Housing Acts set out the Council's role with regard to the functioning of the housing market and production of a housing strategy:
- Housing Act 1985 (S8) - requiring Local Authorities to consider housing conditions/needs in their locally
- Housing Act 2004 (S8) requiring Local Authorities to keep housing conditions in the private sector housing in their area under review
- Local Government Act 2003 (S87) - requiring Local Authorities to produce a local housing strategy

Denbighshire County Council

# Affordable Housing Task & Finish Group

Report back on conclusions and  
recommendations



June 2015

## 1. Background

- 1.1 Affordable Housing is a key issue for the Council, and forms part of the Council's Housing Priority in the Corporate Plan. The Task and Finish Group was set up in response to concerns amongst Members about affordable housing policy and delivery. The Council's approach to delivering affordable housing was identified as a potential weakness by the Wales Audit Office in the Council's Annual Improvement Report May 2014 with a recommendation that the Council clarify its approach.
- 1.2 The Task and Finish Group has been co-chaired by the Lead Member for Customers and Communities and the Lead Member for Public Realm. Members from Scrutiny and Planning Committee sit on the group and the aim of the group is to review the approach to delivering affordable housing and make recommendations for improvement which will inform the Council's Draft Housing Strategy and future reviews of planning policy and guidance. The Task and Finish Group considered a range of affordable housing issues in depth, including defining affordable housing, planning policy approach, how affordable housing is accessed, demand and funding options. This report draws out the key conclusions and recommendations arising from the workshops.
- 1.3 Where appropriate the finalised recommendations will be reflected in strategies, plans and guidance relating to affordable housing. A note summarising the areas of discussion at each of the Task and Finish Group meeting is attached as Appendix 1.
- 1.4 The recommendations from the Task and Finish Group will form a key input to the on-going development of the Council's Housing Strategy and it has been proposed that the Housing Strategy should be reported to Council for consideration later this year. The Housing Strategy will provide the approach to addressing the Housing Priority in the Corporate Plan.

## 2. What is affordable housing?

**"Affordable housing is housing provided to meet the needs of those who cannot afford general market housing, and is retained as affordable for the first and subsequent occupiers"** (*Affordable Housing Supplementary Planning Guidance 2014*)

- 2.1 Affordable housing can be provided through a local authority, registered social landlord, private developer or via self-build. It can include social rented housing (affordable housing for rent which is provided by Local Authorities and Registered Social Landlords and has regard to Welsh Government's benchmark rents), intermediate rented (where rents are above those of social rented housing, but below market housing prices) and ownership schemes (including shared equity/

ownership, where a reduced proportion of the value of the property is bought and a proportion of the equity is retained by an RSL). Provision is not only through new-build it may also be through better use of the existing stock – this may be through changing the tenure or bringing empty homes back into use. Any affordable housing must have a secure mechanism to ensure that it remains affordable.

- 2.2 The planning system delivers affordable housing by requiring development for market housing to provide a percentage of the homes to be affordable for local people. Affordable Housing is also currently achieved through the use of WG funding, most commonly in the form of Social Housing Grant funding. This funding is used to help Registered Social Landlords deliver schemes for affordable housing. There are currently 5 RSLs who are able to access Social Housing Grant funding in Denbighshire and the funding is administered by the County Council.
- 2.3 Under the provisions of the LDP, affordable housing required under planning obligations is 10% across the county. House prices are still relatively low in the area and to have a higher threshold could be barrier to development, as this would make sites less commercially viable and the risk is even lower house building rates. There is provision in the LDP policy for this to be reviewed if house prices begin to rise and viability can be assured. Developers of between three and nine developments, where the policy does not allow for the provision of a house on site, must provide a financial contribution towards affordable housing.
- 2.4 Levels of development have been variable, with a peak in 2010/11 due to the completion of 59 extra care units in that year.

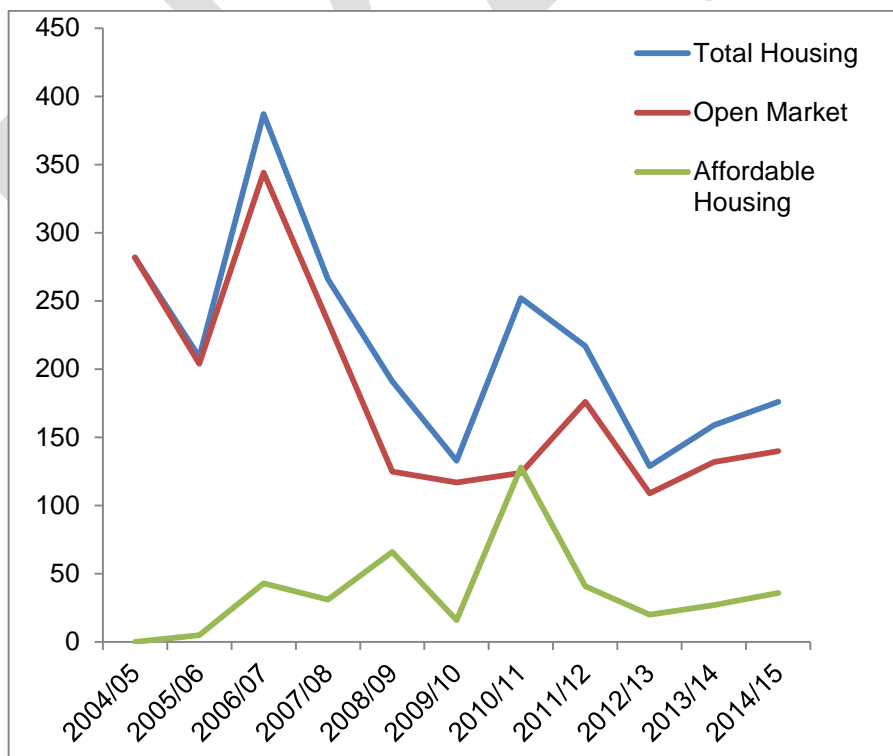
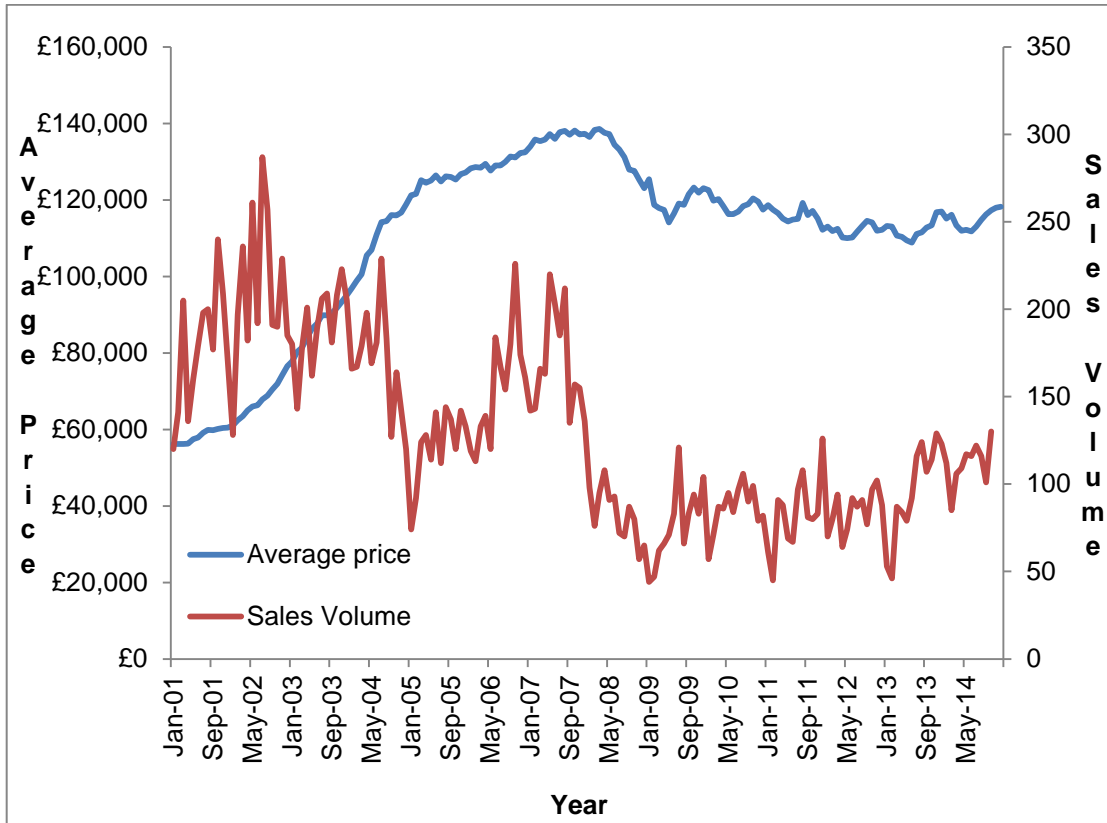


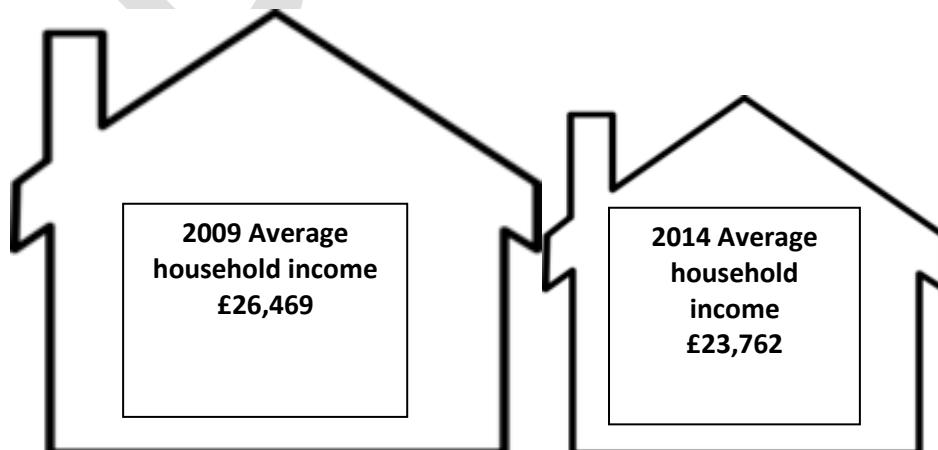
Figure 1: New Builds Completed in Denbighshire 2000/01-2013/14. Source: Denbighshire County Council

2.5 The 2007/08 financial crisis brought about a downturn in house prices, illustrated in the graph below. Over the course of 2014, Denbighshire has witnessed limited growth in sales prices and volumes, which may suggest a very slow improvement.



Average house prices and sales volumes in Denbighshire. Source: Land Registry. © Crown Copyright

2.7 The average household incomes in Denbighshire have decreased over the last 5 years by 10%, which means that despite decreasing house prices decreasing income levels mean that owning a home is out of reach for many households in the County.



Changes in average household income 2009-2014

Type of Tenure	Household Income Threshold		% of Households below the threshold	
	2011	2014	2011	2014
2 Bed 80% Market Rent	£13,000	£16,779	15.02%	35.09%
2 Bed 30% Discount for sale	£16,618	£16,639	24.75%	34.75%
2 Bed Open Market Rent	£16,293	£20,973	23.88%	44.62%
2 Bed Open Market for sale	£23,739	£23,770	43.59%	49.82%

2011 & 2014 Affordable Housing & Open Market Housing income thresholds in Denbighshire © CACI Paycheck © Hometrack

- 2.8 The affordability issues in Denbighshire are illustrated by the table above. The household income threshold figure is the annual household income required to afford each of the property types. The percentage of households below the threshold are those that are priced out of the market. The level of income needed to be able to afford to buy a two bed open market house in Denbighshire has not changed that much between 2011 and 2014, but as incomes have decreased this has had an impact on the number of households which are able to afford to meet their housing needs on the open market – either through renting or buying. Over 49% of households cannot afford to buy a 2 bedroom house on the open market. Any increase in house prices would worsen this situation.
- 2.9 The income level needed to be able to afford to rent a 2 bed property on the open market has increased significantly between 2011 and 2014. This is due to the increasing rental prices in the County. The percentage of households priced out of the private rental market has increased considerably between 2011 and 2014, from 23% (2011) to 44% (2014). Housing in Denbighshire has generally become less affordable between 2011 and 2014 and there is a need to address this issue.
- 2.10 There are currently **3597** households on the Council’s waiting list plus **245** on affordable register.

### 3. Key conclusions

- There is a need for affordable housing across the County
- Current supply of affordable housing is not meeting the County’s needs
- Delivery of affordable housing will require some form of subsidy (through funding or reduced land values)
- Further action is required to improve the supply of affordable housing in Denbighshire

## 4. Summary of Task & Finish Group Conclusions

- 4.1 The Task & Finish Group have met on a number of occasions and a number of key themes have emerged. The conclusions and recommendations from the Group's discussions are set out below:

### Planning issues

- Contributions through the Planning System (whether actual affordable homes or financial contributions towards affordable housing) is only one method of delivering affordable housing. The amount provided is dependent upon the number of market houses built and, given currently low house building rates, has accounted for only a small proportion of the total amount of affordable homes delivered in the county in recent years.

#### Recommendation 1

**Intervention by the Council is needed in bringing land forward and facilitating development of more housing, and therefore more affordable housing. The Council could play a key role in enabling development through gap funding stalled sites, purchasing off plan, underwriting development etc**

- LDP policy BSC 4 applies a single percentage contribution across the whole county, which will increase county-wide once sale prices increase by 10%. There may be scope to vary the percentage contribution in different areas in the county and/or escalate the requirement at different times in each area, to reflect geographical differences in the financial viability of housing developments. This would require a review of LDP policies.

#### Recommendation 2

**Review all LDP policies relating to affordable housing, in particular:**

- **BSC 4 (Affordable Housing) – consideration should be given to possible approaches to increase the number of affordable homes provided, whilst ensuring market housing continues to be viable in the county. This could include applying variable percentage requirements across different areas of the county or increasing the percentage requirement, as linked to sale price increases, on an area (rather than countywide) basis.**
- **Further consideration should be given to the viability of self-build affordable housing and the implications for the policy approach to rural housing generally in the LDP.**



- LDP policy BSC 6 allows only affordable housing in hamlets, thus excluding local people who aren't in need of affordable housing from building a property in such locations.
- LDP policy PSE 4 restricts the conversion of redundant rural buildings to employment use and, if this is not viable, then affordable housing. Conversion of such buildings is costly and they are usually located in rural areas where access to services and public transport is limited. This has raised questions over the suitability of such buildings for affordable housing. Conversion to employment use in the first instance is a matter of national policy.

### **Recommendation 3**

**Review all LDP policies relating to affordable housing, including:**

- **PSE 4 (Re-use and Adaptation of Rural Buildings in Open Countryside) – removal of the requirement to convert such buildings to affordable housing where an employment use has been demonstrated to be unviable. This should be replaced with conversion to market housing, after an employment use has been first considered. As an interim measure Supplementary Planning Guidance to allow for market housing should be introduced.**

- Developers can make a case for a reduced/nil contribution to affordable housing if they can demonstrate that provision in line with the policy would make the development financially unviable. In the case of phased developments or those which do not commence until several years after permission has been granted, this may mean developers benefit from any future uplift in market values which would have allowed some affordable housing to be provided.

### **Recommendation 4**

**A 'clawback' mechanism through Section 106 legal agreements should be introduced to apply after scheme completion. This could be applied to developments previously exempt from affordable housing provision on viability grounds but which subsequently makes greater profit than projected.**

- LDP policy BSC 4 makes provision for financial contributions to be paid on smaller developments in lieu of on-site affordable provision, resulting in a greater number of smaller amounts of money being received by the Council. This must be spent on providing affordable housing. There is a need to consider how best these smaller sums can be spent and whether there is the opportunity to pool sums to enable larger projects.

### **Recommendation 5**

**Investigation of a wider range of possible options for spending commuted sums gathered in lieu of affordable housing units, and the local areas in which these can be spent. Particular consideration should be given to which initiatives can make best use of smaller amounts of money.**

- The use of three different calculations for determining the amount of financial contributions required from developers can create confusion or complications. The calculations are based on build costs but other methods could be used.

#### **Recommendation 6**

**The current calculations in the Affordable Housing SPG regarding commuted sums in lieu of on-site provision, financial contributions from developments of 3-9 dwellings and financial contributions from developments of 10+ dwellings should be reviewed, with a view to simplifying and/or reducing the number of different calculations.**

- The method for deriving the value/resale price of an affordable property is linked to local incomes, which reflects local variations in affordability. However, this can give a high value in affluent rural areas where a small number of high earners can skew the local average. Concerns have also arisen from applicants for self-build affordable housing that this value is insufficient to cover the costs of construction.

#### **Recommendation 7**

**Review the affordable value calculation, with consideration of implications across different housing market areas and self-build affordable housing.**

- The occupation and resale of affordable housing is controlled via legal agreement ('Section 106' agreements). The wording and terms in these have tended to vary in each agreement due to individual circumstances, negotiation and the evolution of affordable housing policy and guidance. This has led to apparent inconsistencies and difficulties/delays in agreeing and discharging the terms of the agreement. Mortgage lending is also more restrictive for properties subject to s106 agreements and the terms of the agreement can affect the availability of mortgages for both initial and subsequent occupiers. The development of standard clauses which are acceptable to mortgage providers would ensure a consistent approach and would help to speed up the planning process.

#### **Recommendation 8**

**A standard approach to legal agreements (Section 106 agreements) should be developed, working with mortgage providers, with a view to standardising terms and clauses, particularly those relating to resale and occupancy requirements.**

## Land availability

- The Council has some land holdings which may provide a resource for providing additional affordable housing. These holdings may not be located in the areas of highest need for affordable housing.

### Recommendation 9

**Undertake a review of public land holdings – both Council and other public bodies - to determine suitability and capacity for affordable housing development. This should include land within, or the redevelopment, of existing Council housing estates, farms, empty schools, rural buildings etc. A programme of potential affordable housing development sites should be developed.**

- Council owned land is normally disposed of at best value which is not compatible with securing high levels of affordable housing.

### Recommendation 10

**A strategic approach should be developed regarding Council's land holdings to ensure the sale of sites in areas with limited housing need and reinvestment in purchasing land in areas where housing need exists. This should include acceptance of lower than market value on some sites to allow for a higher proportion of affordable housing to be delivered.**

- Ample housing land has been allocated for development in the LDP but levels of delivery are low due to current economic conditions and viability. There is evidence that developers and landowners are not proceeding with development once they have received planning permission and are waiting for land values to increase – landbanking.

### Recommendation 11

**Investigate possible use of reduced commencement period conditions on planning permissions and review LDP allocations to encourage development & avoid landbanking by developers. Lobby Welsh Government to change legislation to require completion of development within a defined time period.**

## Funding

- Levels of public funding for affordable housing through Social Housing Grant have decreased over recent years and are unlikely to increase.
- However, a range of alternative ways of funding affordable housing are available, including ways to access cost effective borrowing to facilitate the affordable housing supply.

- HRA funding changes will provide new opportunities to access significant funding for building new affordable housing.

**Recommendation 12**

Alternative ways of funding affordable housing should be explored further. This could include consideration of opportunities arising from the HRA funding changes.

**Recommendation 13**

To establish a “development fund” for future land purchase by selling off land where there is no or little evidence of housing need.

**Recommendation 14**

To develop an affordable housing delivery programme utilising alternative and innovative ways of providing affordable housing, including ensuring best use of any available funding, such as S106 contributions, Social Housing Grant, HRA surpluses and any other funding which may be available.

**Recommendation 15**

A clear Business Plan should be developed that includes development of new housing by the Council, to set against the Council’s affordable housing target.

- Lessons can be learned from other local authorities who are applying innovative approaches to accessing funding to enable the improved delivery of affordable housing and further research should be undertaken to explore potential alternative mechanisms.
- There are a limited range of partners currently able to access funding which the Council currently work with.

**Recommendation 16**

To identify more key partners to take forward affordable housing whether it is new build and/or other mechanisms

**Recommendation 17**

Innovative mechanisms for delivering affordable housing should be explored further, such as joint venture schemes, pension fund investment, special purpose vehicles, establishment of a housing delivery company, community land trusts, co-operative models and community living programmes.

## Eligibility

- There are currently low numbers of people on the Affordable Housing Register, thus this does not reflect the true need in the County. Awareness of affordable housing and the register is low.

### Recommendation 18

To raise awareness of the affordable housing register and review the registration process

- There can be local resistance to new affordable housing developments due to negative perceptions about future occupiers.

### Recommendation 19

To develop a publicity policy to ensure successful affordable housing schemes are fully publicised

## Targets

- There are a range different targets and indicators currently used by the Council, (with varying targets applied by Welsh Government) some of which are not achievable, others are not challenging enough. There is a need to identify and clarify a longer term target that is viable and deliverable, whilst recognising the limitations on the Council's power to ensure delivery.

### Recommendation 20

Affordable housing targets need to be reviewed and rationalised with a view to adopting a single target which is clear, challenging but achievable. This should be derived by developing a standard formula comprising:

Activity	Projected affordable homes delivered
RSL building programme	?
SHG available	?
Projected new build through the planning system (Housing Land Availability monitoring)	?
Commuted sums	?
Empty homes brought back into use projections	?
Any other supply	?
	=Total affordable homes projected

## **5. What happens next?**

- 5.1 The conclusions and recommendations from Affordable Housing Task & Finish Group, together with the accompanying Action Plan will inform the development of Denbighshire's wider Housing Strategy and will form the basis of the Affordable Housing Theme, within the wider Strategy.
- 5.2 Partnership working with both internal services and external organisations, is fundamental to ensure the Council's aim of achieving increased delivery of affordable housing in the County to meet growing needs is met. We will continue to work closely with Registered Social Landlords to develop an Affordable Housing Delivery Programme, which will include a review of public land holdings and further work on funding & innovative delivery mechanisms, with clear targets for future affordable housing delivery.
- 5.3 The recommendations of the Task & Finish Group provide the basis for a clear and robust framework for the Council's future approach to affordable housing, bringing together housing, planning, finance, property services within the Council, together with external partners.

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## Affordable Housing Task & Finish Group meetings

Affordable Housing is a key issue for the Council, crossing both Housing and Planning Strategy/Policy. It is also part of the Council's Priority in the Corporate Plan, "Ensuring access to good quality housing". Provision of Affordable Housing is a complex matter, with many components, and covers a number of Council Services, Lead Member Portfolios with input from external partners. The two relevant Lead Members with support from the Corporate Director and relevant Heads of Service concluded that a Member/Officer Task & Finish Group considering all matters relating to Affordable Housing was required.

The Group consisted of 8 Members, with support from Officers, and attendance includes external organisations as required. The remit of the Group was to consider all matters relating to the demand for Affordable Housing, the supply of Affordable Housing and access to and eligibility for Affordable Housing across the County. The final recommendations of the Group will influence the relevant planning policies and guidance associated with Affordable Housing, the Local Housing Strategy, the development of the Council's approach to the Corporate Priority "Ensuring access to good quality housing", and all other Council activities related (directly or indirectly) to Affordable Housing.

There have been 7 meetings of the Group with the conclusions and recommendations agreed at the final session held on 27<sup>th</sup> February 2015. A summary of the issues discussed at each meeting is set out below.

Session 1 (16<sup>th</sup> September 2014):

### **Definitions of, and introduction to, Affordable Housing**

The Group discussed the definitions of Affordable Housing for the various Council and Welsh Government functions, and what doesn't constitute Affordable Housing. Analysis of the historical demand and provision for Affordable Housing in the county was also discussed.

Session 2 (23<sup>rd</sup> September 2014):

### **Supply of Affordable Housing through the private sector**

This session focussed on the mechanisms for securing Affordable Housing through private developers, the planning system and other initiatives. The Group discussed the national and local planning policy framework for Affordable Housing, house price and building rates statistics, the use of commuted sums in delivering Affordable Housing and the contribution through the Council's Empty Homes project. Issues specific to rural areas, the calculation of an affordable sale price and the importance of development viability were also considered.

Session 3 (9<sup>th</sup> October 2014):

### **Supply of Affordable Housing through the public sector**

This session focussed on the role of traditional 'Council housing', Registered Social Landlords, Welsh Government funding and other public funded initiatives in providing Affordable Housing. The Group also considered the various tenures and types of Affordable Housing being provided (including extra care schemes, specialist units etc.)

Session 4 (24<sup>th</sup> October 2014):

### **Access and eligibility for Affordable Housing**

This session considered who is eligible for Affordable Housing and the requirements to access such housing. This included a presentation from the Affordable Homes Manager at Grwp Cynefin, who

manage the Affordable Housing register on behalf of Denbighshire County Council. The Group discussed the use of commuted sums in lieu of on-site Affordable Housing, promoting/advertising the register to the public and issues around mortgage access for Affordable Housing.

Session 5 (28<sup>th</sup> November 2014):

**Planning issues around Affordable Housing**

This session focussed on the national and local planning policies and guidance around securing Affordable Housing through the planning system (i.e. from private developers), on-site v off-site provision of Affordable Housing, and how commuted sums and affordable values are calculated. The Group also discussed the specific issues around delivering Affordable Housing in rural areas and possible planning approaches to tackle these.

Session 6 (27<sup>th</sup> January 2015):

**Barriers and solutions to delivering Affordable Housing**

This session focussed on land supply and funding as the two main barriers to meeting the need for Affordable Housing, and possible options to address these going forward. The Group discussed the process of target-setting for delivering Affordable Housing, the role of public sector land and organisations in delivering affordable homes and various mechanisms to achieve this.

Session 7 (27<sup>th</sup> February 2015):

**Conclusions & recommendations**

This session brought together the Group's conclusions and recommendations to be reported to Cabinet Briefing.

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## MEMBERSHIP &amp; ATTENDANCE AT AFFORDABLE HOUSING TASK &amp; FINISH GROUP MEETINGS

		16/9/14	23/9/14	9/10/14	24/10/14	28/11/14	27/1/15	27/2/15
Lead Member	Cllr. David Smith	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Lead Member	Cllr. Hugh Irving	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Partnerships Scrutiny	Cllr. Jeanette Chamberlain-Jones	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
	Cllr. Merfyn Parry (substitute)							
Communities Scrutiny	Cllr. Cefyn Williams	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Cllr. Rhys Hughes (substitute)							
Performance Scrutiny	Cllr. Colin Hughes	✓	✓	✓		✓		
	Cllr. Geraint Lloyd-Williams (substitute)							
Planning Committee	Cllr. Raymond Bartley	✓	✓	✓	✓			
	Cllr. Win Mullen-James (substitute)	✓			✓			
	Cllr Rhys Hughes	✓	✓	✓				
	Cllr. Stuart Davies (substitute)							✓
	Cllr. Peter Owen	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Cllr. Joan Butterfield (substitute)	✓						

**Denbighshire County Council**  
**Task & Finish Group Terms of Reference**  
**Affordable Housing**

**Introduction:**

Affordable Housing is a key issue for the Council, crossing both Housing and Planning Strategy/Policy. It is also part of the Council's Priority in the Corporate Plan, "Ensuring access to good quality housing".

Provision of Affordable Housing is a complex matter, with many components, and covers a number of Council Services, Lead Member Portfolios with input from external partners. The complexity and Member interest was highlighted at Planning Committee in May when Members were presented with the Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) on Affordable Housing and again in June when the Draft Local Housing Strategy was presented to Council Briefing.

The two relevant Lead Members (Cllr David Smith and Cllr Hugh Irving) with support from the relevant Corporate Director (Rebecca Maxwell) and the two relevant Heads of Service (Graham Boase and Peter Mchugh) concluded that a Member/Officer Task & Finish Group looking at Affordable Housing was required. This approach was endorsed during the Council Briefing discussion in June on the Local Housing Strategy.

This paper represents the Terms of Reference for the Task & Finish Group, as agreed by the 2 relevant Lead Members.

**Membership:**

The Task & finish Group shall comprise of 8 Members as follows;

- Lead Member Public Realm

- Lead Member Customers & Communities

- Chair of Planning Committee

- 2 Members nominated by Planning Committee (in addition to the Chair of Planning Committee)

- 1 Member nominated by Partnership Scrutiny

- 1 Member nominated by Performance Scrutiny

- 1 Member nominated by Communities Scrutiny

The Task & finish Group will be co-chaired by the two Lead Members.

Officers supporting the work of the Task & finish Group will be Rebecca Maxwell, Graham Boase and Peter McHugh. Other Officers will attend as and when required.

**Remit:**

To consider all matters relating to the demand for Affordable Housing, the supply of Affordable Housing and the use of Affordable Housing across the County.

The work of the Group should therefore influence the relevant planning policies and guidance associated with Affordable Housing, the Local Housing Strategy, the development of the Council's approach to the Corporate Priority, "Ensuring Access to good quality housing", and all other Council work related, directly or indirectly, to Affordable Housing.

The Group will meet on 6 occasions, unless the 2 Lead Members consider additional sessions are required.

The 6 sessions should be held over a 3 month period starting September 2014 and concluding in November 2014 (i.e. ideally there will be 2 sessions per month for 3 months). The Sessions shall be as follows;

**Session 1:**

Statistical analysis of historic provision/demand of Affordable Housing.

Set a clear definition of what Affordable Housing is (and what it isn't)

**Session 2:**

Look at the supply of Affordable Housing through the "public sector" (e.g. existing Council Housing, possible new Council Housing, Welsh Government funding, Council funding initiatives Registered Social Landlords etc).

**Session 3:**

Look at the supply of Affordable Housing through the "private sector" (e.g. private developers, Planning controls/initiatives, etc)

**Session 4:**

Look at access and eligibility, so who can currently access Affordable Housing, how do they access Affordable Housing, what are the "local" initiatives, are certain parts of our society not being catered for etc.

**Session 5:**

A "reserve" session to pick up on issues not currently anticipated or picked up in Sessions 1 – 4.

**Session 6:**

Draw together broad conclusions, make recommendations on how to proceed etc.

Prior to each Session Graham Boase and Peter Mchugh will ensure a set of papers are circulated to Members of the Group for their consideration, ensuring a balance is struck between providing Members with appropriate information, while not over burdening Members with reports, paperwork etc .

The Sessions should be informal, and focussed on the topic of the day. Members and Officers should challenge each other on the relevant issues so there is a full understanding of the legislative/statutory requirements, the local issues facing residents of Denbighshire and the concerns of Members in terms of addressing the local concerns and making appropriate decisions.

**Reporting:**

As a Task & Finish Group, the Group have no powers to make decisions that influence policy/procedures, however the Group have an important role to play in making clear recommendations on improvements and how those improvements should be delivered. The conclusions/recommendations of the Group will therefore influence a number of areas, not least the Draft Local Housing Strategy, Planning Policy and Guidance and the Corporate Priority, "Ensuring access to good quality housing". Formal decisions on any recommendations from the Group will therefore need to be made through the appropriate channels such as reporting to Council, Cabinet, Planning Committee, Lead Member Delegated Decisions etc. There is also likely to be a role for the LDP Steering Group, Scrutiny etc in moving certain recommendation forward.

It is suggested at this stage that the Group present its findings, conclusions, and recommendations to the first Council Briefing in 2015.

In this regard therefore it is considered appropriate to wait until the Group has concluded before the Council adopts the Local Housing Strategy and before Planning Policy/Guidance

on Affordable Housing is amended. Appropriate Forward Work Programmes should be amended to reflect the reporting timelines of this Group.

DRAFT

<b>Affordable Housing Task and Finish Group Report back on conclusions and recommendations Summary of issues raised at Council Briefing</b>	
<b>Issue raised</b>	<b>Comments&amp; reference in report back on Task &amp; Finish Group recommendations</b>
Re-use of rural buildings – affordable housing should be removed from the Local Development Plan policy as a choice. Barns in the Council’s agricultural estate could also have potential for conversion.	Recommendations 2 & 3 refer to the need to review LDP policies. However, there is currently no mechanism to amend policies in the Local Development Plan other than through a full review of the entire plan. Welsh Government is considering legislative amendments to allow for partial reviews but this has not been confirmed to date. As an interim arrangement, it is proposed to amend the supplementary planning guidance to allow for the conversion of rural buildings to market housing, however a full review of planning policies will remain a longer term action.
Section 106 legal agreements – concern regarding difficulties in accessing mortgages for initial purchase because of restrictions in Section 106 legal agreements, which can also impact resale of affordable homes	Recommendation 8 refers to the need to develop a standard approach. The development of standard Section 106 clauses which are acceptable to mortgage providers would ensure a consistent approach and would help to speed up the planning process.
Hamlets policy (Local Development Plan) – limiting access to affordable housing only may not be viable or deliverable. Hamlets are not sustainable locations, but there is a need for affordable housing in villages.	Recommendation 2 & 3 refer to the need to review LDP policies. However, there is currently no mechanism to amend policies in the Local Development Plan other than through a full review of the entire plan. Welsh Government is considering legislative amendments to allow for partial reviews but this has not been confirmed to date. A full review of planning policies will remain a longer term action.
Affordable housing register is not a true reflection of the need for affordable housing because people are not registering	Recommendation 18 refers to the need to raise awareness of the register and review the process of registration
How commuted sums collected for affordable housing should be spent	Recommendation 5 and recommendation 14 refer to investigating a wider range of options for spending commuted sums collected for

	affordable housing and developing an affordable housing delivery programme to ensure best use of all available funding
HRA funding changes could mean additional funding would be available to deliver affordable homes.	Recommendations 12 & 14 refer to investigating alternative funding for affordable housing and developing an affordable housing delivery programme to ensure best use of all available funding
The recommendations should also refer to community land trusts, co-operative models and community living programmes as options for delivery of affordable homes	Recommendation 17 refers to further work to be undertaken to investigate and assess innovative mechanisms for delivering affordable housing, including options such as community land trusts, co-operative models and community living programmes.
What can the Council do to make sure developers complete developments? Some make a start & then have planning permission in perpetuity but don't finish. The Council should lobby Welsh Government to change the legislation. There were also concerns about landbanking, where landowners achieve the allocation of land & planning permission but do not start building	Recommendation 11 refers to use of reduced commencement period conditions on planning permissions & the need to lobby Welsh Government to change legislation to require completion of development within a specified time period.
The Council should build Council housing again	Recommendation 15 refers to new building by the Council
The LDP policy requirement was reduced from 30% to 10%	Recommendations 2 & 3 refer to the need to review LDP policies However, there is currently no mechanism to amend policies in the Local Development Plan other than through a full review of the entire plan. Welsh Government is considering legislative amendments to allow for partial reviews but this has not been confirmed to date. A full review of planning policies will remain a longer term action.

### **Affordable Housing Task and Finish Group Report back on conclusions and recommendations**

#### **Summary of issues raised at Communities Scrutiny meeting 28<sup>th</sup> May 2015**

The Committee was advised that the Task and Finish Group had made a total of 20 recommendations, all of which were detailed in the report. Issues raised by members at a recent Council Briefing session at which the Task and Finish (T&F) Group's report had been discussed were listed in appendix II, along with the relevant recommendations in the report that would address these issues. Whilst, the recommendations from the Task and Finish Group's work would be used to inform the new draft housing strategy, and would form part of the delivery plan for that strategy, some actions had already been commenced with a view addressing identified problems e.g. pending Welsh Government legislation and guidance permitting partial reviews of Local Development Plans (LDP) a Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) had been submitted and approved by the Council's Planning Committee with respect to permitting the conversion of redundant rural buildings for market housing.

Responding to members' questions the Lead Member for Public Realm and officers confirmed that:

- the Council was obliged to undertake a comprehensive review of its LDP four years after its adoption. Denbighshire's review would be due in 2017;
- latest indications from the WG suggested that the legislation required to permit partial reviews should be in place sometime during the summer of 2015, and that the associated Guidance would be available at the same time. This would hopefully enable the Council to implement some of the T&F Group's recommendations;
- the process relating to applying and permitting planning applications in hamlets was extremely onerous, however this process may be able to be reviewed as part of the partial review - subject to the provisions of the new legislation;
- the new Housing Strategy, which would be presented to scrutiny in September and full Council in October 2015, would have 5 main themes. Affordable Housing would be theme two of the Strategy, but matters relating to affordable housing would also feature in the majority of the 5 themes;
- with respect to landbanking, time limits for developing a site following planning permission being granted could not be changed locally. The rules in relation to this were subject to WG legislation. It would be too late now to make representations with respect of amending the time limits as part of the consultation on the new Planning Bill. However, the Council would continue to lobby WG with respect to the matter;
- the new Interim Head of Finance and Assets would be exploring the options for realising the optimum value for the Council for re-investing the £500K that was estimated to be realised following the Council's exit from the Housing Revenue Account Subsidy (HRAS) system - options which would be considered would include the building of new council housing (possibly in partnerships with a third party); undertaking further improvement work on the Council's current housing stock (e.g. exterior or environmental work - work which was not covered under the Welsh Housing Quality Standard (WHQS) scheme, utilising the money saved for the purpose of drawing down external funding etc.);
- work had commenced on a review of the Council's land holdings to assess whether any holdings were located in areas of highest need for affordable housing. In future work would need to be undertaken in partnership with other public sector bodies to identify whether they had any land holdings that would be suitable for the development of affordable housing. Detailed and constructive discussion would be need with all parties if land was to be secured for affordable

housing as in the majority of cases land earmarked for this type of housing would not realise its full open market value;

- the Affordable Housing Action Plan, which had been developed with a view to delivering the T&F Group's recommendations and included target dates for the delivery of each recommendation, would form part of the Council's overall Housing Strategy in due course

Councillors emphasised :

- that future affordable housing provision should include a mix of two, three bedroom family dwellings which would provide opportunities for families to move up the housing ladder and enable first-time householders to enter on to the housing ladder, be they tenants, shared-ownership or owner-occupiers;
- the need for any future social housing that is built to include a caveat that they are exempt from any 'right to buy' scheme in order to reduce the risk of a shortage of such housing in the medium to long-term;
- the need to focus on the housing needs of residents and the value for money aspect for ratepayers - investing in good quality affordable homes for some of the County's most vulnerable residents would in the long-term realise financial benefits for the Council, as less of the ratepayers money would be used to supplement excessive private sector rents through Housing Benefit;
- the need to raise awareness of the affordable housing register and the process for registration without raising people's expectations. Officers advised that they were currently working with estate agents and other local authorities in North Wales to develop a more streamlined approach to this process, with a view to avoiding duplication and the need to complete lengthy registration forms until much later in the allocation process

Councillors who had been members of the T&F Group commented on how well both members and officers had worked together during this review, it had been a truly worthwhile and constructive process. They now hoped that the momentum could be kept and that the recommendations could be delivered as soon as possible for the benefit of residents. Officers agreed to send members a briefing note updating them on the progress to date, and members agreed that the draft Housing Strategy be presented to the Committee for examination in September 2015. It was:

**Resolved:**

***(i) subject to the above observations, to receive the conclusions and recommendations put forward by the Affordable Housing Task and Finish Group; and***

***(ii) that the Council's draft Housing Strategy be submitted to the Committee for examination at its September 2015 meeting, prior to its submission to County Council for approval and adoption in October 2015***



**Report To: Cabinet**

**Date of Meeting: 30<sup>th</sup> June 2015**

**Lead Member / Officer: David Smith, Lead Member for Public Realm**

**Report Authors: Lisa Jones / Emlyn Jones**

**Title: Delegation of Powers under the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 and amendments required to the Officer Scheme of Delegation in respect of powers previously delegated to the Head of Housing.**

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## **1. What is the report about?**

The report provides an overview of the new provisions for tackling anti-social behaviour contained within the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014.

The report also seeks authority to provide the Monitoring Officer with authority to amend the Officer Scheme of Delegation in respect of executive functions, given the fusion of the Head of Planning and Public Protections role with certain Housing functions following a senior officer restructure.

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

A decision is required in respect of approval by Cabinet that the powers contained under this legislation are delegated to the relevant Heads of Service as set out in Appendix 1 in order to ensure effective implementation of the new powers; to also at the same time to 'tidy up' the Officer Scheme of Delegation with regard to Housing /housing related functions and changes in the law.

## **3. What are the Recommendations?**

- 3.1 That the Officers listed in Appendix 1 are given delegated authority to exercise the new powers and additional functions brought in under the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 in order to enable the Council and its partners to tackle anti-social behaviour in an appropriate, consistent and proportionate way and within resource constraints.
- 3.2 That the level of fines for Fixed Penalty Notices issues as a sanction for breaching Community Protection Notices and Public Spaces Protection Notices be set at £100 which is the maximum under the legislation.
- 3.3 That the Monitoring Officer is instructed to amend the Officer Scheme of Delegation to reflect these new and amended powers in respect of anti social behaviour.
- 3.4 That the Monitoring Officer is also instructed to amend the Officer Scheme of Delegation to reflect that the Head of Planning and Public Protection has taken on the responsibilities under a recent restructure in respect of the Councils housing functions and to carry out a 'tidy up' of the listed

legislation set out in the Scheme due to repeals and amendments of legislation which are within the purview of the public protection service.

#### **4. Report details.**

Anti-social behaviour is a broad term used to describe the day to day incidents of crime, nuisance and disorder that can make people's lives a misery – from litter and vandalism to public drunkenness or aggressive dogs. Such a wide range of behaviours means that responsibility for dealing with anti-social behaviour is shared between a number of agencies particularly the police, councils and social landlords.

Central Government and the Home Office have designed these reforms to put victims at the heart of the response to anti-social behaviour, and give professionals the flexibility they need to deal with any given situation.

The new provisions streamline tools for tackling anti-social behaviour with six new powers replacing the 19 existing ones. There are two new powers namely the Community Trigger and the Community Remedy.

These key changes can be summarised as follows:

- Replacement of Anti-Social Behaviour Orders (ASBOs) with a range of other court orders targeted at anti-social individuals with two new tools: (1) Injunctions (2) Criminal Behaviour Orders. The new orders can have positive requirements attached to them to support perpetrators and address the root causes of their offending behaviour.
- The tools available have been consolidated in order to simplify the range of remedies available to address a wide range of behaviours that negatively affect the quality of life or residents living in a particular area. These now include Community Protection Notices, Public Spaces Protection Orders, Closure Powers and also Police Dispersal Powers.
- The introduction of Absolute Grounds for Possession in assured tenancies (the private rented sector) and secure tenancies (social housing) where criminality has already been proved by another court.
- The introduction of a new Community Remedy which uses restorative justice approach to deal with low level crime and anti-social behaviour. The North Wales Police and Crime Commissioner is responsible for publishing a 'Community Remedy' document following community consultation.
- The introduction of a ASB Case Review (Community Trigger). This will then impose a duty on statutory partners from the Community Safety Partnership where victims or communities have complained about ASB on a number of occasions and they perceive local agencies have failed to respond effectively. Community Trigger Case Review - The Conwy and Denbighshire Community Safety Partnership (CSP) have developed procedures for dealing with case review applications. These applications will then be heard by the Anti Social Behaviour Tasking Group of the CSP to determine whether the response had been adequate. Officers are in discussions with our customer services officers to act as our single point of contact for receiving applications for community trigger reviews.

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

The decision contributes to keeping streets clean and tidy, dealing with anti social activities which may impact on well being of residents and visitors, and living and working in a safe environment, and where vulnerable persons are protected from harm.

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

There are no additional costs to services in relation to adoption of the Act and amending the scheme of delegation. Activities or Orders carried out or made under the legislation will however need to be monitored and the Council will need to work in partnership with other agencies in respect of enforcing some of the provisions, such as the service of notices.

There is also potential for an impact on the workload of the Council's legal team if there are breaches of Community Protection Notices and appeals and applications for Court Injunctions.

There is provision where there is a breach of a Community Protection Notice for the Council to take remedial action to address the issue in question. This could be clearing rubbish or cleaning off graffiti. Although reasonable charges for the work, equipment and administration can be charged to the perpetrators there is a risk of appeal and also a risk of not being able to recover the full costs incurred, if at all in certain situations, hence the need for proportionality in approach.

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

The legislation and guidance has been developed by the UK Government to mitigate the risks and consequences of any adverse impacts, should they occur.

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

No specific consultations have taken place. However training has been undertaken by DCC officers on the detail of the Act and the Head of Planning and Public Protection has been consulted on the Act.

**9. Chief Finance Officer Statement**

There are unlikely to be additional costs associated with the Act and changes to the delegation process. The administration of the processes noted should be reviewed in due course to ensure the changes can be managed within the resources available.

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

Managing expectations of the community as the Council and it's partners need to manage expectations in relation to ASB and the use of these powers within a challenging financial climate.

## **11. Power to make the Decision**

Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 ; s. 2 Local Government Act 2000 and Denbighshire County Councils Constitution at 3.26

## Appendix 1

### Anti-Social Behaviour Crime and Policing Act 2014

Tools and Powers	Delegated Authority required	Other Agencies' Delegated Authority
CIVIL INJUNCTION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Head of Planning &amp; Public Protection</li> <li>• Head of Highways &amp; Environmental Services</li> <li>• Head of Finance &amp; Assets</li> </ul>	
CRIMINAL BEHAVIOUR ORDER	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Head of Planning &amp; Public Protection</li> <li>• Head of Highways &amp; Environmental Services</li> <li>• Head of Finance &amp; Assets</li> <li>• S.151 Officer</li> <li>• Head of Education</li> </ul>	
COMMUNITY PROTECTION NOTICE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Head of Planning &amp; Public Protection</li> <li>• Head of Highways &amp; Environmental Services</li> <li>• Head of Finance &amp; Assets</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Any Registered Social Landlord (RSL)* operating within the area subject to the provision of further regulations to be published under the ASBCPA 2014.</li> <li>• North Wales Police* (Police Officers and PCSOs).</li> </ul> <p>*only in respect of breach of a CPO and the issuing of fixed penalty notices on behalf of Denbighshire County Council and/or the</p>

		taking down of personal details to enable DCC to issue a FPN. Local arrangements shall be worked up in partnership with these agencies.
PUBLIC SPACE PROTECTION ORDER	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lead Cabinet Member Delegated Decision (in respect of the decision to consult and the Final Decision to make a PSPO).</li> </ul> <p>In respect of oversight of process, co-ordination and implementation, service of notices:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Head of Planning &amp; Public Protection</li> <li>• Head of Highways &amp; Environmental Services</li> <li>• Head of Finance &amp; Assets</li> </ul>	<p>North Wales Police* (Police Officers and PCSOs)</p> <p>*only in respect of breach of a PSPO and the issuing of fixed penalty notices on behalf of Denbighshire County Council and/or the taking down of personal details to enable DCC to issue the FPN. Local arrangements shall be worked up in partnership with NWP.</p>
CLOSURE POWERS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Head of Planning &amp; Public Protection *</li> <li>• Head of Highways &amp; Environmental Services*</li> <li>• Head of Finance &amp; Assets *</li> </ul> <p>*in consultation with the Cabinet Lead Member shall be granted delegated authority to issue closure notices and apply for closure orders.</p>	

<p><b>ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR CASE REVIEWS (‘COMMUNITY TRIGGER’)</b></p> <p>The threshold for enacting the ‘Community Trigger’ be set at the minimum statutory level of three within a 6 month period unless hate crime or risk to vulnerable individuals is met in which case immediate reviews may be enacted.</p>	<p>ASB Case Reviews:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Acknowledgment - Customer Services</li> <li>• Hearing Anti- Social Behaviour Tasking Group of the Conwy and Denbighshire Community Safety Partnership.</li> <li>• Appeal – Chair CSP or senior officer of CSP in accordance with agreed local procedures.</li> </ul>	
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**Report To:** Cabinet

**Date of Meeting:** 30<sup>th</sup> June 2015

**Lead Officer:** Alan Smith – Head of Business Improvement & Modernisation  
Cllr. Julian Thompson–Hill – Lead Member for Finance, Corporate Plan and Performance

**Report Author:** Heidi Gray  
Strategic Planning & Performance Officer

**Title:** Corporate Plan Performance Report  
Quarter 4 – 2014/15

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## **1. What is the report about?**

- 1.1 This paper presents an update on the delivery of the Corporate Plan 2012-17 as at the end of quarter 4 of 2014/15.
- 1.2 Appendix 1 contains the full quarterly report generated from the Verto Performance Management System.

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

- 2.1. The council needs to understand progress of its contribution to the delivery of the Corporate Plan outcomes. Regular reporting is an essential monitoring requirement of the Corporate Plan to ensure that the council exercises its duty to improve.
- 2.2 We monitor our performance regularly, take quarterly reports to Scrutiny and Cabinet meetings and produce an Annual Performance Report to evaluate progress.

## **3. What are the Recommendations?**

- 3.1. It is recommended that Cabinet uses this report to identify specific service areas (or areas of work) that would benefit from detailed scrutiny to improve outcomes for citizens and the Council's overall performance, and facilitate delivery of the Corporate Plan.

#### **4. Report details.**

4.1 Quarter 4 (2014-15) Performance Report (Appendix 1) looks at the Corporate Plan 2012-17, the Corporate Project Register, and the Outcome Agreement 2013-16 and provides an evidence-based assessment of the current position.

4.2 A number of indicators and measures are highlighted as 'Red' within the report. This means they are identified as a 'Priority for Improvement' or where there is an issue with the data that needs to be raised.

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

5.1. This report is about our progress in delivering the Corporate Plan, and achieving the full Outcome Agreement settlement. Any decisions made should contribute to the successful delivery of our Corporate Priorities.

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

6.1. The Corporate Plan 2012-17 sets out how much additional money the council aims to invest in each corporate priority during the next five years. Apart from that additional investment, it is assumed that the corporate plan can be delivered within existing budgets.

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

7.1. An EqIA was undertaken on the Corporate Plan and presented to Council on 09 October 2012. No further assessment is required of this report because the recommendations in this report will not have a direct impact on staff or our communities.

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

8.1. The information necessary to produce this report comes from services, and the draft circulated to enable Senior Leadership Team (SLT) to take any corrective action they deemed necessary in order to produce this report. The report was taken to the Performance Scrutiny Committee meeting held 11<sup>th</sup> June 2015.

#### **9. Chief Finance Officer Statement**

9.1. A Chief Finance Officer statement is not required for this report.

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

10.1. We have a strong performance management framework, a robust Service Performance Challenge process and a strong Performance Scrutiny Committee.

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

**11. Power to make the Decision**

11.1. Performance management and monitoring is a key element of the Wales Programme for Improvement, which is underpinned by the statutory requirements of the Local Government Act 1999 and the Local Government "Wales" Measure 2009.

11.2 Articles 6.1 and 6.3.4(b) outlines scrutiny's role with respect to performance monitoring and management.

**Contact Officer:** Strategic Planning & Performance Officer, Tel: 07795 334836

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# Appendix 1 – Corporate Performance Report

**Q4 2014-15**

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This document provides an update on performance against the council's corporate priorities, the project register, and Outcome Agreement at the end of quarter 4, 2014-15

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## KEY

Each outcome contains a number of indicators, performance measures, and improvement activities. This content is used to determine how good the current position of the council is, which is based on contextual data to enable a more robust understanding of our performance.

### THE COLOURS

Colour	Action Status	Measure Status
Green	On Target	Excellent
Yellow	Experiencing Obstacles	Good
Orange	At Risk	Acceptable
Red	Compromised	Priority for Improvement
Blue	Completed	N/A
Grey	No data	No data or is a count only

### THE EVALUATION

- The default methodology for performance evaluation is where the upper quartile reflects the transition to Excellent, and the Wales median reflects the transition to a Priority for Improvement.
- This is true for most except our education attainment indicators, where the 'best in Wales' reflects the transition to Excellent and the Wales median reflects the transition to a Priority for Improvement.
- The default position for project / activity reporting is documented in the project management methodology, summarised above (Action Status).

## INTRODUCTION

This performance report looks at the Corporate Plan 2012-17, the Corporate Project Register, and the Outcome Agreement 2013-16. It provides an evidence-based assessment of the current position on an exceptions basis i.e. those measures that are Red: Priority for Improvement, or where there is an issue with the data that needs to be raised. Those measures that are currently showing an acceptable, good or excellent status are not examined in any great detail within this report, but are available to view through the Verto Performance Management System. Below is a summary of the key issues identified.

## KEY PERFORMANCE SUMMARY

### THE CORPORATE PLAN

- Overall [Priority Strategic Sites](#) is in relatively early stages, some threshold levels need to be provided in order to enable an assessment of progress, however projects in support of these indicators are progressing well.
- [Supported and connected businesses](#): We still want to increase the proportion of our procurement spend that is spent locally and this will be progressed through new management and Procurement Strategy to ensure the right priorities are focussed on.
- We are unable to source data regarding the proportion of students that go on to study a [STEM subject in higher education](#). This is not local authority data and no national data source yet exists, it is proposed to remove this indicator until national data is made available.
- [Secondary school attendance](#) is currently Red: Priority for Improvement. Although performance in 2013/14 (academic year) recovered beyond 2012/13's decline, and just beyond the excellent position established in 2011/12, attendance improved more markedly in the rest of Wales, leaving us below the median for both authorised and unauthorised absence. Where our rank position in Wales for authorised absence has worsened over the last three years, it has actually improved for unauthorised absences.
- The worsening trend seen previously in the [percentage of surplus places in secondary schools](#) has now increased beyond the improvement threshold, becoming Red: Priority for Improvement in 2014/15. This is because the number of pupils in secondary education has reduced due to demographics. These numbers are not expected to increase until 2018.
- There continues to be significant issues with extracting data from the COMMS system for the percentage of [damaged roads and pavements made safe within target time](#). It is acknowledged that the system is now outdated and no longer fit for purpose, so the Service has explored alternative options and hopes that a new process will be in place within a month for recording work tickets through an Access database.



- [The Cleanliness Index](#), which formed part of the national Service Improvement Dataset, has been discontinued in 2014-15 as a result of WG cuts to the Data Unit's Budget. It is proposed that this is replaced with the Keep Wales Tidy Cleanliness Indicator (which did form part of this average score indicator). This will allow us to continue comparing ourselves with other authorities in Wales.
- [The percentage of the population who cannot live independently](#) (aged 18 or over) remains a priority for improvement. We are working to reduce the number of new admissions through the use of both modern and traditional care packages in the home and working with people to maximise their independence. Overall, this means the number of people we support in residential care is diminishing, but will take a number of years to bring the total to an acceptable level due to the long term nature of the services already being provided.
- The definition for [‘the current supply of affordable housing’](#) has been reviewed to include all properties which are made available for affordable housing during the year, including new builds, conversions and acquisitions, which is different to the definition provided against the NSI – PLA/006. A revised indicator, PPPAH001, [‘The additional supply of affordable housing, including social housing, provided during the year’](#) will replace both HCD101i and HCD102i for 2015/16 onwards. Thresholds have also been reviewed.
- The proportion of [complaints that were replied to within timescale](#) has fallen this quarter, despite a reduction in the overall number received. Figures have been reported to SLT in March and are due to be reported to Performance Scrutiny in June.
- Corporate [sickness absence](#) levels continue to be a priority for improvement with performance at a lower level compared to the same period last year.

## PROJECT REGISTER

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- As at 15<sup>th</sup> April 2015 there are no projects with a `Red` Priority for Improvement status. Three projects are at an `Orange` Acceptable level, which are:
  - [Rhyl Harbour](#) - The defects period for the bridge and enabling works contracts completed on 21st October 2014. The bridge defects are nearly complete, however there are still outstanding defects associated with the extended quay wall.
  - [Capita Regional MIS](#) - The project is currently experiencing external problems that have caused delays in delivery.
  - [Excellent Housing](#) - The project is currently being reviewed to ensure future milestones are aligned with the expectations and needs of the Housing service.

## OUTCOME AGREEMENT

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- Although we are waiting on data for one measure (Years of supply of housing land) within the [housing outcome](#) (which we expect to receive over the summer), Denbighshire has been successful in achieving the required number of points for full payment of the Outcome Agreement Grant for 2014-15 (£1,043,000). Our full assessment will be submitted in September, along with an explanation of any mitigating circumstances for missed targets, and requests for target revisions (if applicable) in this final year of the agreement.
- [The percentage of children that have pathway plans](#) as required has missed its target by 7%, despite the target having been revised downwards at the start of 2014-15. This means the outcome has only been partially achieved and loses the council one out of the ten points awarded (eight points are required for full payment of the Outcome Agreement Grant). 1 out of 6 pathway plans were completed out of timescale.
- [The percentage of Houses in Multiple Occupation](#) that have a full license has missed its Outcome Agreement target by 8%. This means the outcome has only been partially achieved and loses the council one out of the ten points awarded (eight points are required for full payment of the Outcome Agreement Grant). The target was missed because the number of HMOs known to us (the denominator) has increased by 45 during the year. A service wide approach was taken not to license HMOs until an assessment was made on planning matters.

## THE CORPORATE PLAN

### CORPORATE PLAN OUTCOME SUMMARY

This is the summary position for each outcome in the Corporate Plan as at March 31, 2015. The overall evaluation for each outcome has been determined by taking account of the indicators, performance measures, and improvement activity.

#### DEVELOPING THE LOCAL ECONOMY

<a href="#">Outcome 1</a>	Infrastructure for growth	ACCEPTABLE
<a href="#">Outcome 2</a>	Supported and connected businesses	ACCEPTABLE
<a href="#">Outcome 3</a>	Opportunities for growth	ACCEPTABLE
<a href="#">Outcome 4</a>	High quality skilled workforce	GOOD
<a href="#">Outcome 5</a>	Vibrant towns and communities	ACCEPTABLE
<a href="#">Outcome 6</a>	Well-promoted Denbighshire	GOOD

#### IMPROVING PERFORMANCE IN EDUCATION & THE QUALITY OF OUR SCHOOL BUILDINGS

<a href="#">Outcome 7</a>	Students achieve their potential	ACCEPTABLE
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#### IMPROVING OUR ROADS

<a href="#">Outcome 8</a>	Improving our roads	GOOD
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#### VULNERABLE PEOPLE ARE PROTECTED & ABLE TO LIVE AS INDEPENDENTLY AS POSSIBLE

<a href="#">Outcome 9</a>	Independent vulnerable people	GOOD
<a href="#">Outcome 10</a>	Vulnerable people are protected	EXCELLENT

#### CLEAN & TIDY STREETS

<a href="#">Outcome 11</a>	Clean and tidy streets	EXCELLENT
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#### ENSURING ACCESS TO GOOD QUALITY HOUSING

<a href="#">Outcome 12</a>	Access to good quality housing	ACCEPTABLE
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#### MODERNISING THE COUNCIL TO BE EFFICIENT & IMPROVE SERVICES FOR CUSTOMERS

<a href="#">Outcome 13</a>	Services will continue to improve	GOOD
<a href="#">Outcome 14</a>	Flexible and efficient workforce	ACCEPTABLE

## CORPORATE PLAN PERFORMANCE REPORT

**Please Note:** The performance report is in a different format than usual. This report has been generated from the new Verto Performance Management System. The system has just been launched, and there are some minor issues in the report that will be dealt with during its next development phase, namely:

- Dates appear on the x-axis, rather than quarters;
- The status key is not consistent with our labels of Excellent, Good, Acceptable, and Priority for Improvement (although the colours are consistent).
- Some graphs are hard to view because the axis range is not appropriate to the measure and the values concerned are very narrow.

## PRIORITY - DEVELOPING THE LOCAL ECONOMY

### ECONOMY HEADLINE INDICATORS

<b>Status</b>	<b>Good</b>
<b>Description</b>	This cluster of indicators are economy-based aspects of the external environment in which we'd expect to see an improvement if our Outcomes were progressing well. The six Outcomes within the Economic & Community Ambition priority will have a discrete set of indicators according to their theme (e.g. infrastructure), but collectively should enable progress against this cluster of indicators by laying the foundations for economic growth.
<b>Outcome Summary</b>	The overall status for these indicators is Yellow: Good. The performance of new enterprises across the county has particularly improved.

#### Indicators

ECAHeadline1	% Job Seekers Allowance claimant count
ECAHeadline2	Median Household Income
ECAheadline3	The count of births of new enterprises
ECAheadline4	1 year survival rate of new enterprises (%)
ECAheadline5	3 year survival rate of new enterprises (%)
ECAheadline6	Turnover of Denbighshire based businesses (£m)

### OUTCOME 1 - INFRASTRUCTURE FOR GROWTH

<b>Status</b>	<b>Acceptable</b>
<b>Outcome Summary</b>	The overall status for this Outcome is Orange: Acceptable.  There are a cluster of indicators that have no status (Grey). As mentioned in the data comments, we have actual performance data, but thresholds levels need to be provided in order to enable assessment of progress.

Nevertheless, the overall Priority Strategic Employment Sites project is in relatively early stages, so we wouldn't expect performance against these indicators to be high yet. The projects in support of the indicators are progressing well, which is very encouraging.

**Indicators**

BusSurv1.9	The percentage of businesses selling or sourcing goods or services online
OFCOMsuperfast	Denbighshire's OFCOM five-point ranking for superfast broadband availability
OFCOMtakeup	Denbighshire's OFCOM five-point ranking for broadband take-up
ECA1.1i	The percentage of available land on Priority Strategic Employment Sites where restrictions/hindrances to development are removed from the legal title (as a % of all available land)

**Latest Data Comment**

No change in ownership since Q1 2015  
 NB. Data has been provided for this indicator but threshold levels that enable a ROYG status to be generated have not been provided.

ECA1.2i	The percentage of available land on Priority Strategic Employment Sites ready to be developed (i.e. with planning permission), as a % of all available land on PSES
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**Latest Data Comment**

Planning applications submitted on Station Yard, Denbigh, (Home Bargains) Liberty to submit application on balance of the site and Property Alliance working up retail element on Rhuddlan Triangle.  
 NB. Data has been provided for this indicator but threshold levels that enable a ROYG status to be generated have not been provided.

ECA1.3i	The percentage of available land on Priority Strategic Employments Sites developed, as a percentage of all available land on PSES's
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**Latest Data Comment**

No change in developed status since Q1 2015  
 NB. Data has been provided for this indicator but threshold levels that enable a ROYG status to be generated have not been provided.

**Activities**

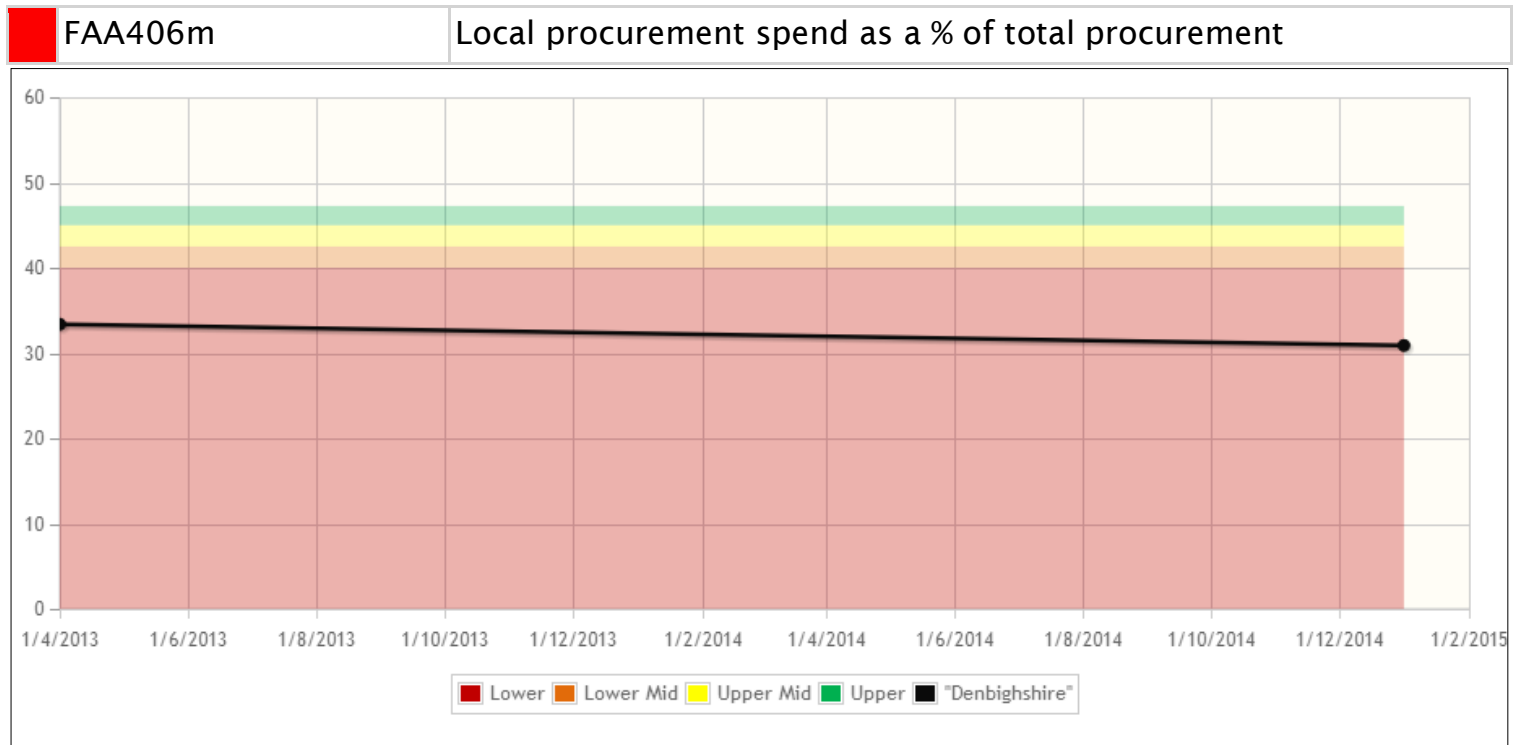
ECA 1.2a	Digital Denbighshire	15/07/13	31/10/15
ECA 1.3b -	Priority Strategic Employment Sites - Nant Hall Road,	02/06/14	29/12/17

01	Prestatyn		
ECA 1.3b - 02	Priority Strategic Employment Sites - Canol y Dre, Ruthin	03/06/14	31/03/17
ECA 1.3b - 03	Priority Strategic Employment Sites - Cilmedw, Llangollen	01/04/14	31/03/17
ECA 1.3b - 04	Priority Strategic Employment Sites - Clough Meadows, Denbigh	02/04/14	31/03/17
ECA 1.3b - 05	Priority Strategic Employment Sites - Station Yard, Denbigh	02/06/14	31/03/17
ECA 1.3b - 06	Priority Strategic Employment Sites - Ocean Plaza, Rhyl	01/04/14	31/03/17
ECA 1.3b - 07	Priority Strategic Employment Sites - Queens Market, Rhyl	02/04/14	31/03/17
ECA 1.3b - 08	Priority Strategic Employment Sites - Land at Abergele Rd, Rhuddlan	02/06/14	31/03/17

## OUTCOME 2 - SUPPORTED AND CONNECTED BUSINESSES

<b>Status</b>	Acceptable
<b>Outcome Summary</b>	<p>The overall status for this Outcome is Orange: Acceptable.</p> <p>The business that we've surveyed have been pleased with access to, and the quality of, the support we offer.</p> <p>We still want to increase the proportion of our procurement spend that is spent locally, and the department is now under new management. The new manager wants to revisit the business case of the Procurement Strategy to ensure it is focusing on the right priorities.</p>

## Indicators



**Latest Data Comment**

A minimum of £32,084,222 was spent with suppliers within the county of Denbighshire during 2014/15 financial year. This equates to 30.9% of the total procurement spend of £103,728,992.

BusSurv4.2	% of businesses satisfied with quality of advice/support
BusSurv4.1	% of businesses satisfied with access to advice/support
ECA2.2i	The percentage of contracts worth over £2 million with community benefit clauses

**Latest Data Comment**

Reporting against this indicator should be possible as of Q1 2015/16.

Activities			
ECA 2.1a/2.2a/2.2c	Business Advice & Support	12/09/13	31/03/16
ECA 2.3a	Supportive Procurement (Phase 1 - Procurement Strategy)	02/12/13	28/11/14

**Latest Data Comment**

Work has commenced to update the Corporate Procurement Strategy. However, further consultations are required to agree short and medium term priorities with SLT, as well as other stakeholders (e.g. suppliers). As a result, this phase 1 will need to be revisited and reviewed in order to re-scope in terms of delivery, resource and approach.

## OUTCOME 3 - OPPORTUNITIES FOR GROWTH

<b>Status</b>	<b>Acceptable</b>
<b>Outcome Summary</b>	<p>The overall status for this Outcome is Orange: Acceptable.</p> <p>Performance within the county's tourism sector is good, on the whole, as is progress with projects (although a task for Q1 might be to ensure the deadline dates are accurate).</p> <p>There are two indicators for which we still don't have data, but they are dependent on the completion of growth-related projects. These projects should contribute significantly to the success of this Outcome, and the Economy programme overall.</p>

Indicators	
CMLi10	STEAM - Total revenue derived from Tourism
CMLi11	STEAM - Total number employed in the tourism sector
ECA3.1i	No. of businesses in the tourism sector
ECA3.2i	No. of new business in Growth Sectors

### Latest Data Comment

Data for the above indicator will not be available until Growth Sector Projects are complete.

ECA3.3i	No. of Denbighshire residents employed in Growth Sectors
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### Latest Data Comment

Data for the above indicator will not be available until Growth Sector Projects are complete.

Activities			
ECA 3.1Aa-c	Tourism Growth Plan	05/06/14	11/03/15
ECA 3.1A-d	Rhyl Waterfront Developments	01/01/14	31/03/15
ECA 3.2a	New Sectors Growth Potential	01/01/15	01/03/17
ECA 3.2b/d	Regional Growth Opportunities / Adv. Manufacturing/Energy & Environmental technologies supply chain opportunities	11/06/14	11/02/15
ECA 3.2c	OpTic/St Asaph Business Park Development	15/10/13	31/10/14



## OUTCOME 4 - HIGH QUALITY SKILLED WORKFORCE

<b>Status</b>	<b>Good</b>
<b>Outcome Summary</b>	<p>The overall status for this Outcome is Yellow: Good.</p> <p>Overall, businesses are not reporting skills shortages for the roles into which they're recruiting, and young people in the county compare quite well nationally in terms of NEET levels, JSA claimants, and attainment in Science, Technology, Electronic and Mathematics (STEM).</p> <p>We are unable to source data regarding the proportion of students that go on to study a STEM subject in higher education - this is not local authority data, and no national data source yet exists. It's therefore proposed that this is removed, until national data is made available.</p>

Indicators	
Ed004i	The percentage of children aged 16 - 18 Not in Education, Employment or Training, at the preceding 31 August in Denbighshire
ECA4.6i	% of the population aged 18 to 24 claiming JSA
BusSurv3.3a	% of businesses reporting unfilled vacancies due to unsuitable applicants
BusSurv3.3b	% of businesses reporting difficulty recruiting staff with the right skills
ECA4.7i	% of pupils leaving school at 16 attaining Level 2 in at least 1 STEM subject
ECA4.8i	% of pupils leaving school at 18 attaining Level 3 in at least 1 STEM subject
ECA4.9i	% of pupils going on to study L4 or a degree in STEM subjects

### Latest Data Comment

Level 4 is post-school education, so data is not held by the local authority. Data is not yet collected nationally for this indicator, therefore it is proposed that this indicator is removed.

ECA4.10i	% of people of working age in Denbighshire who are self employed
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Activities			
ECA 4.2a-c	TRAC	07/04/14	31/08/20

## OUTCOME 5 - VIBRANT TOWNS AND COMMUNITIES

<b>Status</b>	<b>Acceptable</b>
<b>Outcome Summary</b>	<p>The overall status for this Outcome is Orange: Acceptable.</p> <p>On the whole, town centres are well occupied, and residents are satisfied with</p>

their local area and their town centres.

Future confidence among town centre businesses appears low, and may reflect national pressures on high streets, including online and out-of-town market places.

Deprivation-related indicators remain a cause for concern following the 2014 release of data from the Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation (WIMD).

**Indicators**

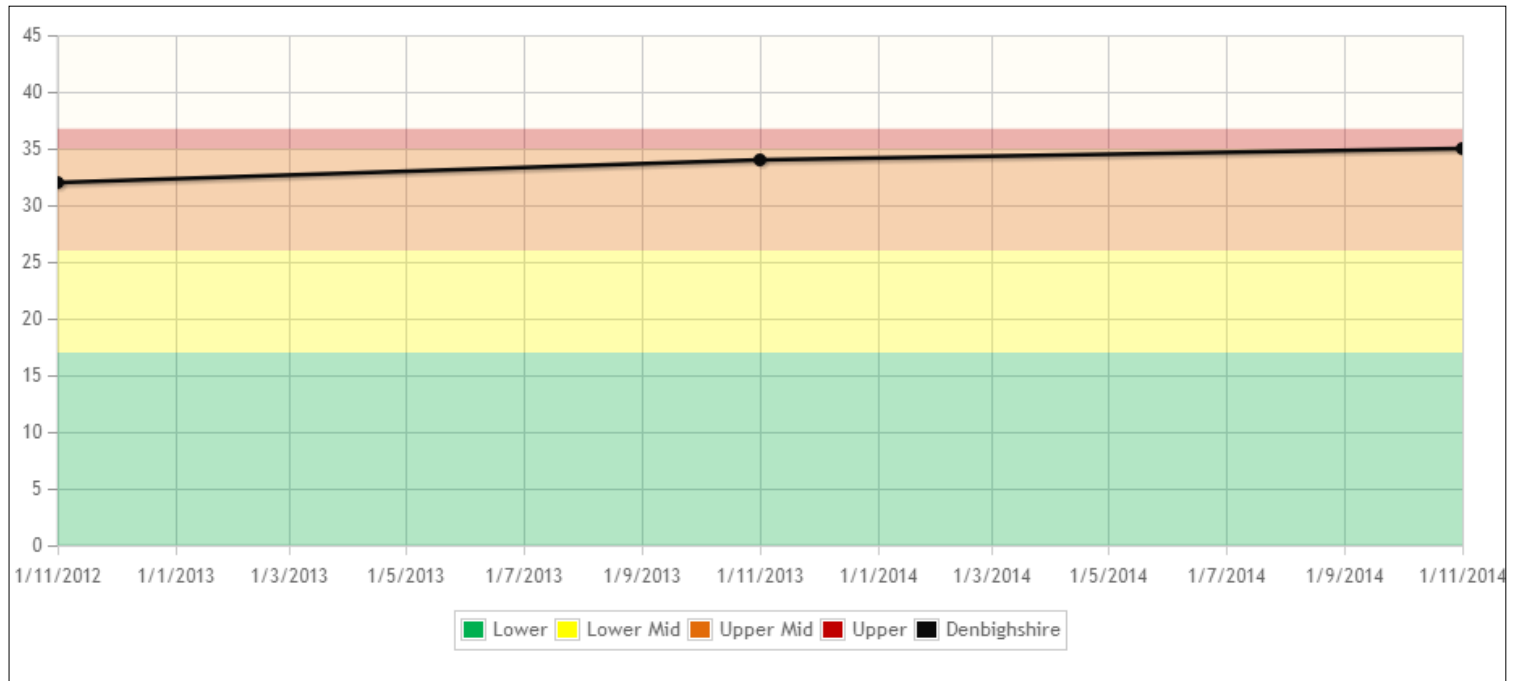
ECA5.1i	% of vacant town centre premises (Denbighshire average)
RSQ11	% of residents reporting overall satisfaction with their town centre
RSQ2	% of town residents reporting overall satisfaction with their local area
BusSurv2.1	% of town centre businesses reporting confidence in future prospects

**Latest Data Comment**

49.8% of business reported confidence in future prospects, against an intervention point of 50%. The source of this information was a short tick-box question on the Denbighshire Business Survey. The cause could be attributed to the general economic environment and the fact that high streets might face competition from online and out-of-town retailers, but this would only be speculation

ECA5.2i	% of LSOA that fall into the 10% most deprived in Wales
ECA5.3i	No. of LSOA with a claimant count (%) greater than Great Britain

ECA5.4i	No. of LSOA with a median household income below Wales
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**Latest Data Comment**

There are numerous anti-poverty programmes operating in the county (Communities First, Families First, Flying Start, Supporting People), and work is ongoing to coordinate their activities to maximise their impact.

	ECA5.5i	% of the rural working age population claiming Job Seekers Allowance
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Activities				
	ECA 5.1c	Town Centre Growth & Diversification Plan	15/07/14	31/03/17
	ECA 5.3a RGF 01	Rhyl Harbour: Pedestrian and cycle bridge, public square, quayside building and extended quay wall	02/03/09	31/03/15
	ECA 5.3a RGF 01.1	Rhyl Harbour: Harbour Empowerment Order	02/05/12	30/06/16
	ECA 5.3a RGF 02	West Rhyl Housing Improvement Project		
	ECA 5.3a RGF 03	The Honey Club, Rhyl		
	ECA 5.3a RGF 10	49 - 55 Queen Street	01/09/14	31/03/15

**OUTCOME 6 - WELL-PROMOTED DENBIGHSHIRE**

<b>Status</b>	<b>Good</b>
<b>Outcome Summary</b>	<p>The overall status for this Outcome is Yellow: Good.</p> <p>The activities in support of this Outcome focus on ensuring that Denbighshire is well-marketed as an attractive place to do business, and to make practical advice accessible.</p>

Activities				
	ECA 6.1 a-c	Locate in Denbighshire- Inward Investment Marketing Campaign	17/04/14	04/02/15
	ECA 6.2b / 1.3a	Enquiry Handling for Sites & Premises	24/11/14	30/06/15

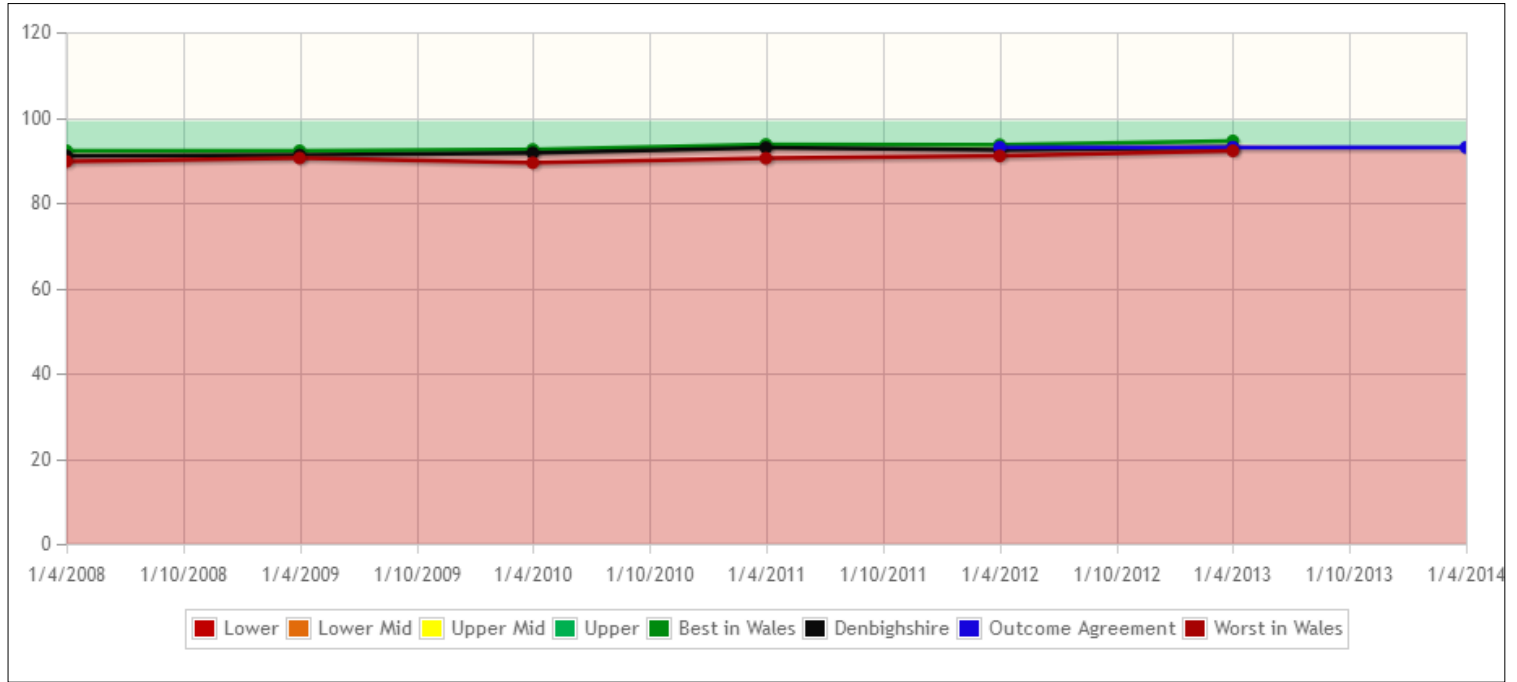
**PRIORITY - IMPROVING PERFORMANCE IN EDUCATION & THE QUALITY OF OUR SCHOOL BUILDINGS**

**OUTCOME 7 - STUDENTS ACHIEVE THEIR POTENTIAL**

<b>Status</b>	Acceptable
<b>Outcome Summary</b>	The overall position for this outcome is Orange: Acceptable. We are using a higher benchmark for excellence for educational attainment where 'Green: Excellent' is the best in Wales. There is one indicator that is considered to be a priority for improvement, and one performance measure. These are detailed below.

Indicators	
Ed001i	The average capped points score for pupils aged 15 at the preceding 31 August in schools maintained by the local authority (all pupils)
Ed005i	The percentage of pupils achieving the level 2 threshold including English/Welsh and maths (all pupils)
Ed006i	The percentage of pupils achieving the level 2 threshold or vocational equivalents (all pupils)
Ed009i	The percentage of pupils who achieve the Core Subject Indicator at Key Stage 4 (all pupils)
Ed204c	The average number of school days lost from school per total fixed term exclusions
Ed205c	The number of fixed term exclusions from school (total)
EDU002i	The percentage of pupils (including those in local authority care) in any local authority maintained school, aged 15 as at the preceding 31 August who leave compulsory education, training or work based learning without an approved external qualification.
EDU003all	The percentage of pupils who achieve the Core Subject Indicator at Key Stage 2 (all pupils)
EDU016a	Percentage of pupil attendance in primary schools

**EDU016b** Percentage of pupil attendance in secondary schools

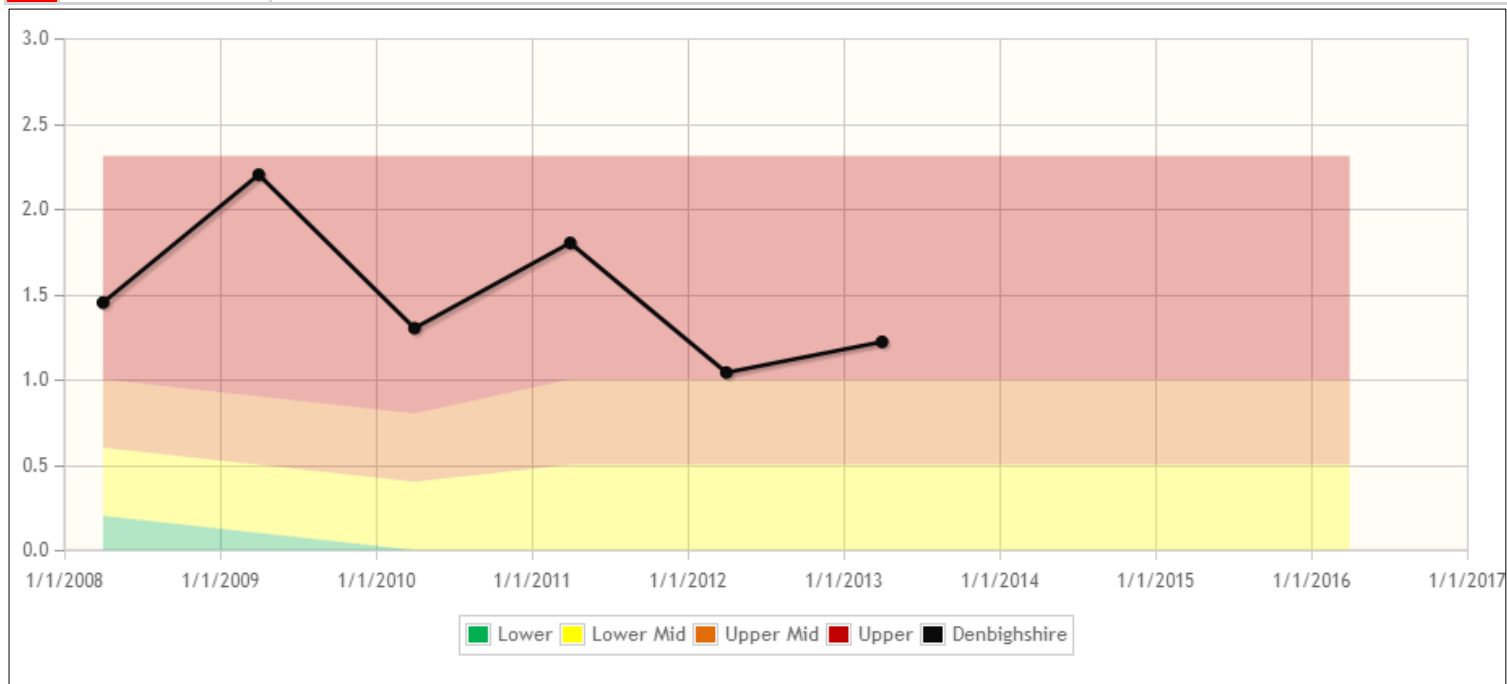


**Latest Data Comment**

Secondary school attendance in 2013/14 (academic year) recovered beyond 2012/13's decline, and just beyond the excellent position established in 2011/12. However, attendance improved more markedly in the rest of Wales, leaving us below the median for both authorised and unauthorised absence. Where our rank position in Wales for authorised absence has worsened over the last three years, it has actually improved for unauthorised absences.

**Measures**

	<b>LMEd20a</b>	The number of deficit places as a percentage of the total school places in Denbighshire (Primary)
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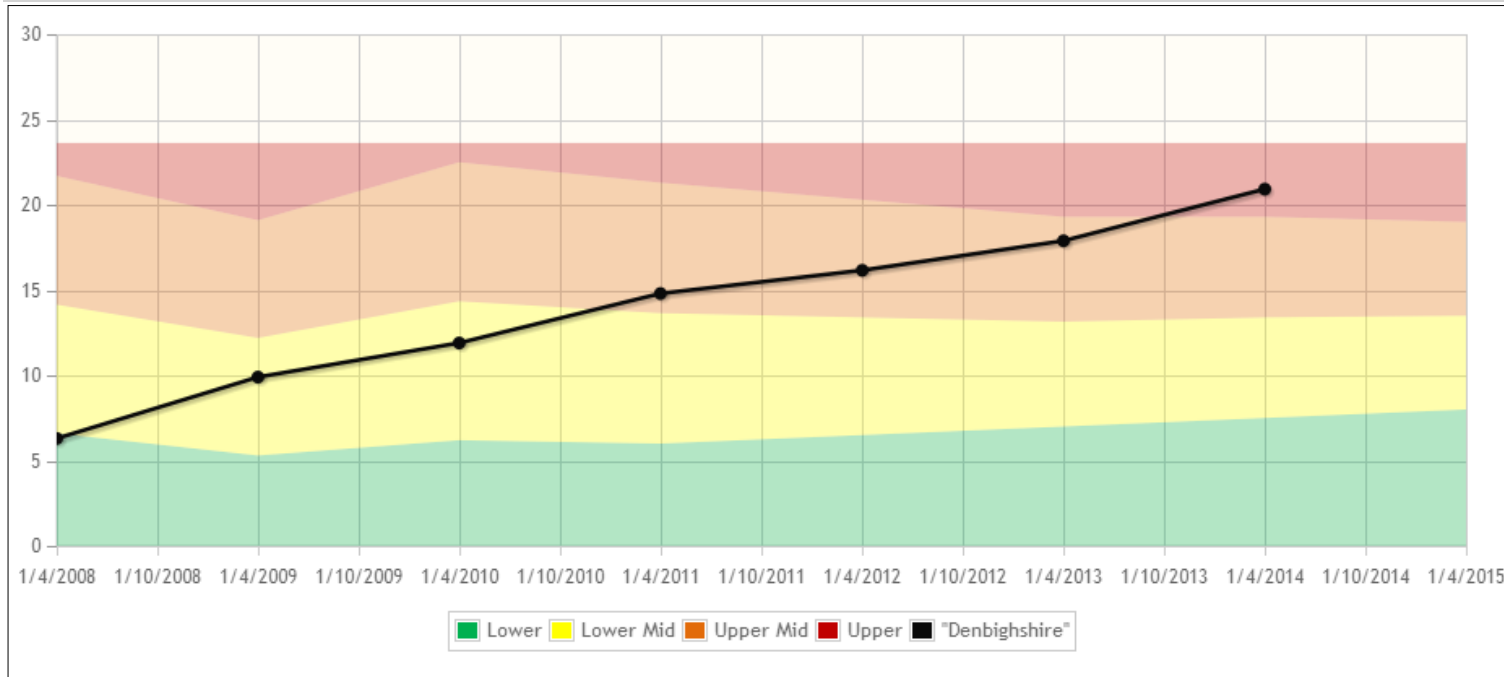
**Latest Data Comment**

Primary deficit places rose by 0.18% for 2013/14, but the overall trend is still improving. This indicator is closely linked to the Modernising Education programme and a strategy is in place to reduce the deficit to 0 by the end of the Corporate Plan in 2016/17. Data for 2014-15 will be available at the end of May.

	<b>LMEd20b</b>	The number of deficit places as a percentage of the total school places in Denbighshire (Secondary)
	<b>LMEd21a</b>	The number of surplus places as a percentage of the total school places in Denbighshire (Primary)
	<b>LMEd21b</b>	The number of surplus places as a percentage of the total school places in Denbighshire (Secondary)

	<b>LMEd21b</b>	The number of surplus places as a percentage of the total school places
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in Denbighshire (Secondary)



**Latest Data Comment**

The percentage of surplus places in secondary schools has increased as the number of pupils in secondary education has reduced due to demographics. These numbers are not expected to increase until 2018.

LMEd22a	The number of school places provided through mobile classrooms (Primary)
LMEd22b	The number of school places provided through mobile classrooms (Secondary)

Activities				
CES102a	Funding the 21st Century Schools Programme and wider Modernising Education Programme	01/04/14	01/08/19	
CES111a	To reduce the reliance on mobile accommodation	01/04/14	31/03/16	
CES112a	To progress business cases for further investment in the school estate	01/04/14	31/03/16	
EDUa003	Review current provision for students who access the Behaviour support Service and remodel as appropriate	01/04/13	31/03/16	
EDUa004	Review current cluster arrangements and remodel in order to provide greater opportunity for innovation and curriculum focus	01/04/13	31/03/15	
EDUa005	Revisit Service Level Agreement with GwE	01/04/14	31/03/16	
EDUa006	Celebrating teacher achievements / good practice through an award scheme (Excellence Denbighshire for teachers)	01/04/14	31/03/16	



EDUa007	Preparing students in Denbighshire for PISA	01/04/14	31/03/15
EDUa008	Literacy, Numeracy & ICT Skills development in schools	01/04/14	31/03/15
EDUa009	Soft skills / skills for employment	01/04/14	31/03/15
EDUa010	Regional skills and Employment Plan	01/04/14	31/03/15
EDUa011	Careers advice and support	01/04/14	31/03/15
EDUa012	Work experience opportunities	01/04/14	31/03/15
EDUa013	Apprenticeships	01/04/14	31/03/15
EDUa014	Links between schools, colleges and employers	01/04/14	31/03/15
EDUa015	Advanced skills for growth sectors	01/04/14	31/03/15
EDUa016	Enterprise & Entrepreneurship skills development	01/04/14	31/03/15
PR000044	Rhyl New School	22/10/12	11/07/16
PR000052	Ysgol Y Llys - Extension, Remodel & Refurbishment	30/11/10	30/09/14
PR000055	Bodnant Community School Extension and Refurbishment	20/12/12	31/12/16
PR000057	Ysgol Bro Dyfrdwy Area School: Extension and Refurbishment, Cynwyd Site	01/06/12	01/09/14
PR000062	Welsh Medium Primary's North Denbighshire - Ysgol Twm o'r Nant	16/01/12	31/08/14
PR000247	Extending Secondary Welsh Medium Provision - Ysgol Glan Clwyd Extension & Refurbishment	06/01/14	31/08/18

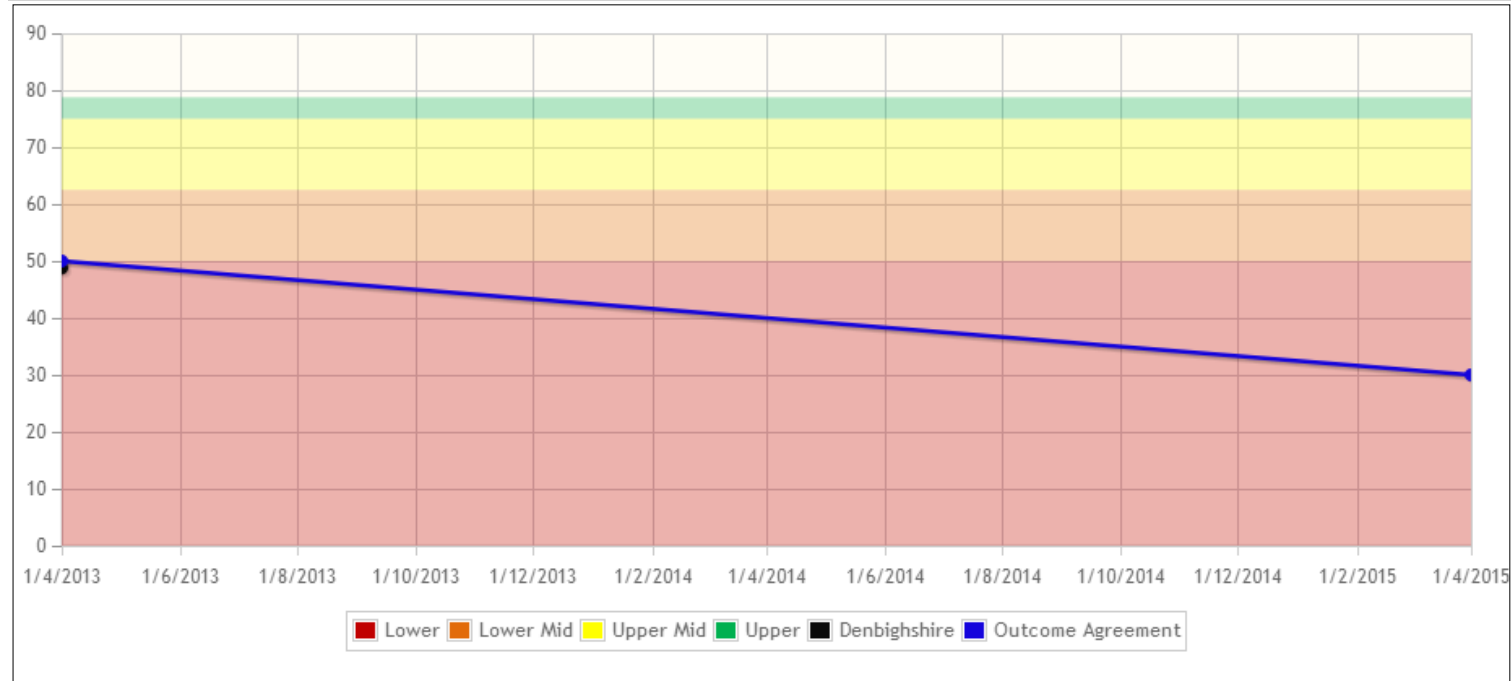
**PRIORITY - IMPROVING OUR ROADS**

**OUTCOME 8 - RESIDENTS AND VISITORS TO DENBIGHSHIRE HAVE ACCESS TO A SAFE AND WELL-MANAGED ROAD NETWORK**

<b>Status</b>	<b>Good</b>
<b>Outcome Summary</b>	The overall position for this outcome is Yellow: Good. We compare our position for the road condition indicators with a group of similar rural local authority areas in Wales. There are two indicators that are considered to be a priority for improvement, and one performance measure. These are detailed below.

**Indicators**

<b>HES101i</b>	The percentage of respondents reporting satisfaction with the council's work in maintaining rural roads in good condition
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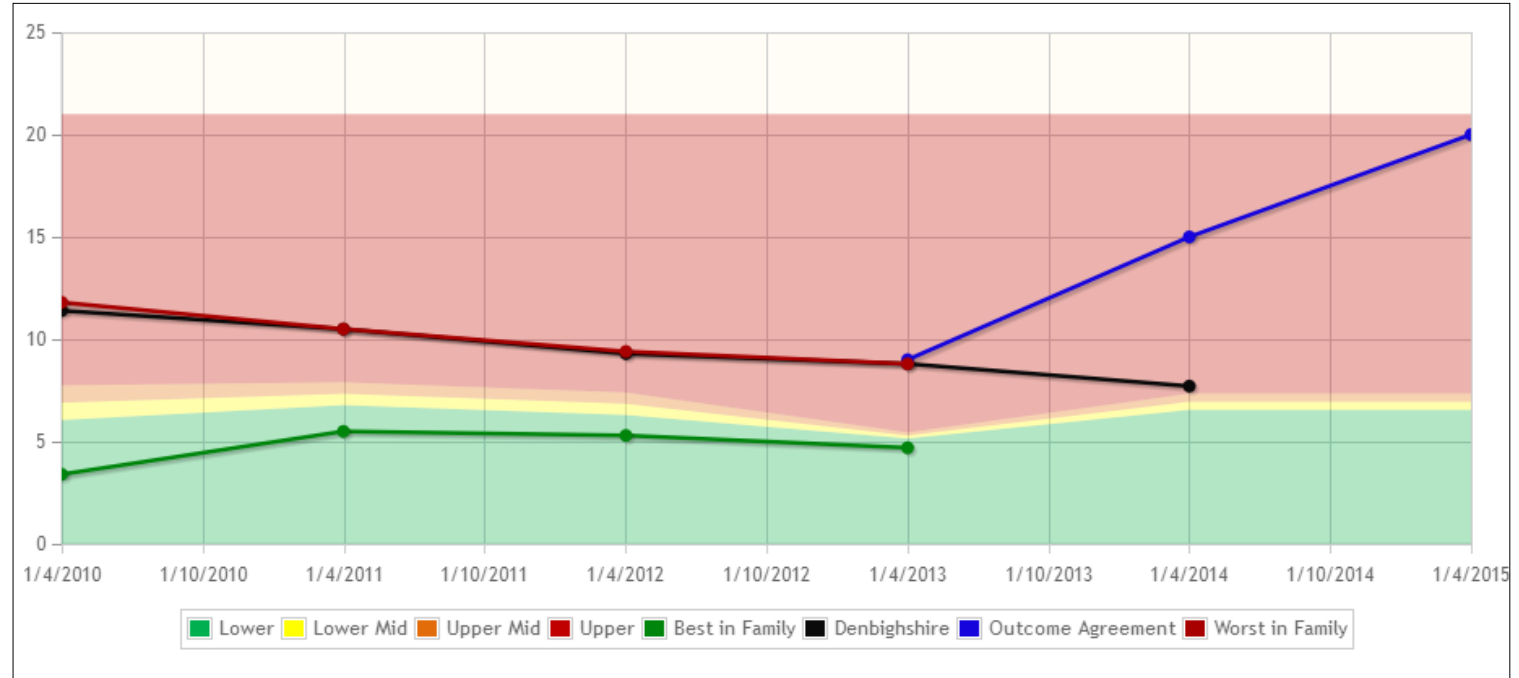


**Latest Data Comment**

The 'acceptable' threshold was missed by just 1%, which equates to around 9 people in the survey. 2013/14 was also the baseline year for this indicator. Denbighshire is switching its focus of spend from reactive to proactive work across all road categories in future. However, with budget reductions we should not expect public perceptions to improve. The Outcome Agreement target for 2015/16 has been amended to reflect this. The next Residents' Survey will take place in the Summer 2015.

<b>RSQ09A</b>	The percentage of respondents reporting satisfaction with the council's work in maintaining main roads in good condition (excluding don't know)
<b>RSQ09B</b>	The percentage of respondents reporting satisfaction with the council's work in maintaining streets in towns and villages in good condition (excluding don't

	know)
THS012	The percentage of principal (A) and non-principal (B) and (C) roads that are in overall poor condition
THS011a	The percentage of principle A roads that are in overall poor condition
THS011b	The percentage of non-principal/classified B roads that are in overall poor condition

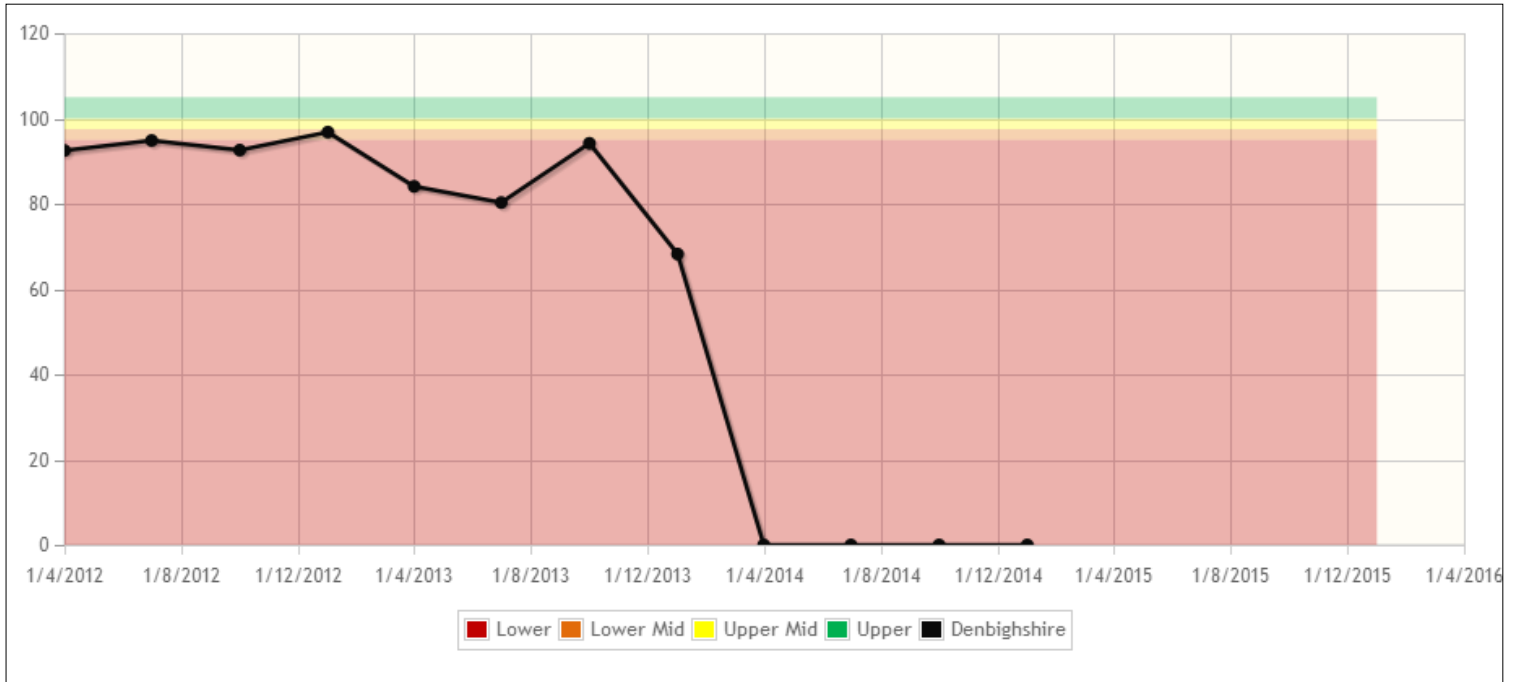


**Latest Data Comment**

Denbighshire improved by 1.09% in 2014/15. Our position in terms of our family group (Carmarthenshire, Ceredigion, Conwy, Gwynedd, Anglesey, Monmouthshire, Pembrokeshire, Powys and The Vale of Glamorgan) is as yet unknown (data to be published in September). Predictions suggest, however, that this will continue to be a Priority for Improvement. It is anticipated that budget reductions will have an adverse impact on this indicator.

THS011c	The percentage of non-principal/classified C roads that are in overall poor condition
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Measures	
APSEPI03c	Percentage of damaged roads and pavements made safe within target time



**Latest Data Comment**

There continues to be significant issues with extracting data from the COMMS system for this measure. It is acknowledged that the system is now outdated and no longer fit for purpose, so the Service has explored alternative options and hopes that a new process will be in place within a month for recording work tickets through an Access database.

HES102m	The percentage of planned dropped-kerbs delivered along key routes within the year
HIM006	The percentage of Category C (Final) Street Works inspections carried out on utility works before their guarantee period ends (legislation states 10%)
HIM007	The number of successful claims against the council concerning road condition during the year
HIM042	The proportion of the planned Highways Capital Maintenance Programme achieved (schemes)
THS003	The percentage of the annual structural maintenance expenditure that was spent on planned structural maintenance

**Activities**

HES101a	Develop Minor Works framework	01/04/14	31/03/15
HES102a	Resurfacing works, including: A525: Section from Rhewl to 30 mph sign in Ruthin (Ruthin); A5104: Complete the section near Llandegla (Ruthin); U0851: Lower section of Rhyl High Street (Rhyl)	01/04/14	31/03/15
HES103a	Microasphalt laying works, including: Highlands Close, Rhuddlan (Elwy) Birch Hill, Llangollen (Dee) Marion Road, Prestatyn (Prestatyn)	01/04/14	31/03/15
HES104a	Surface dressing works, including: Hiraddug Road, Dyserth (Elwy) A548: Coast road from Bodnant Bridge to boundary (Prestatyn)	01/04/14	31/03/15
HES105a	Pedestrian safety improvements at Trellewellyn Road, Rhyl	01/09/14	30/11/14
HES106a	Continue to strengthen the Elwy Bridge, St Asaph, and undertake extensive repairs to the East Abutment of Foryd Road Bridge, Rhyl.	01/04/14	31/03/15
HES107a	Local transport infrastructure barriers to growth (from Economic & Community Ambition Programme Plan)	01/09/14	30/11/14
HES108a	Improved integration of local public transport services and information (from Economic & Community Ambition Programme Plan)	01/04/14	31/03/15
HES109a	Parking & Traffic Management Review (from Economic & Community Ambition Programme Plan)	01/09/14	30/11/14
HES110a	Establishment of a baseline for Denbighshire County Council's own road condition indicator	01/04/14	31/03/15
HES111a	Assess cost benefits of different highway treatments, and adjust spend patterns accordingly.	01/04/14	31/03/15
HES112a	Introduce revised winter maintenance agreements for 2014/15 season. Finished sept 2014.	01/04/14	30/09/14
HIA004	Implement policy by delivery of dropped kerbs on prioritised key routes	01/04/14	31/03/16

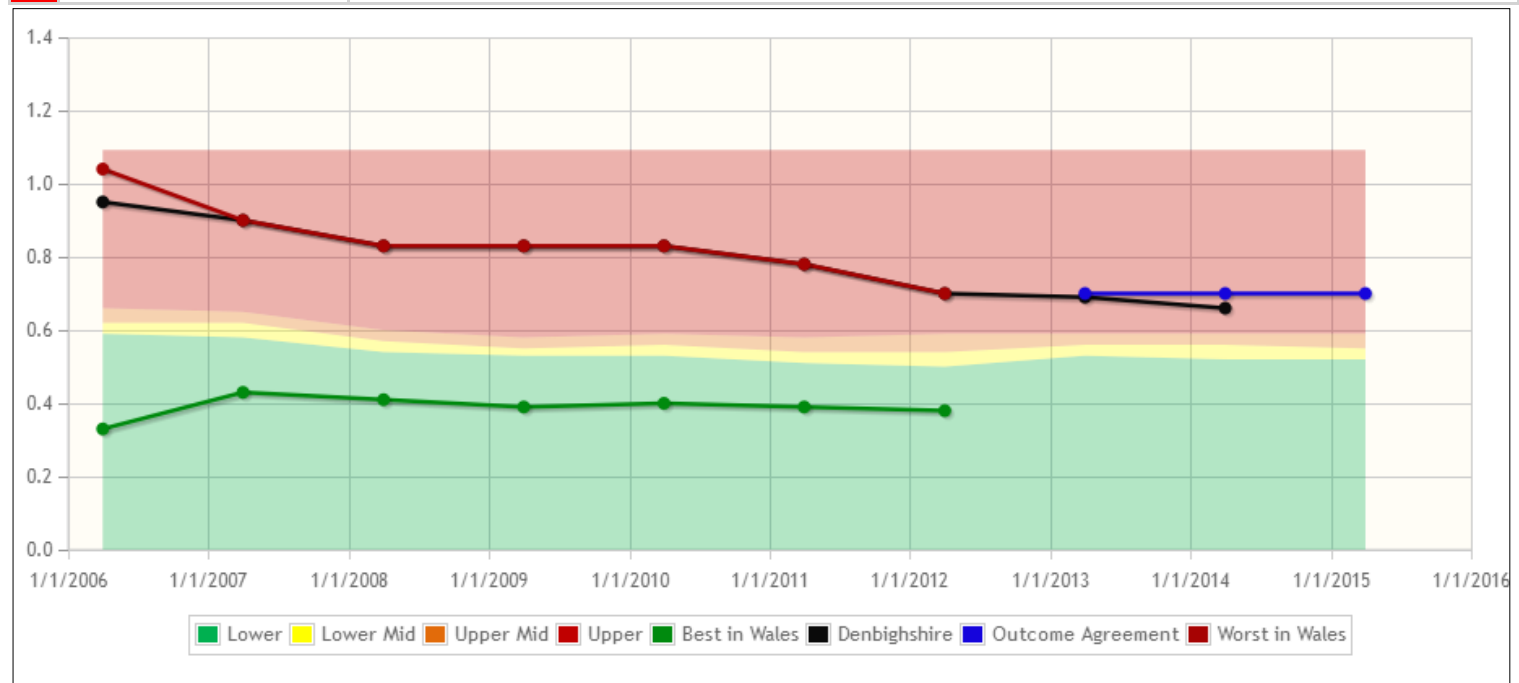
**PRIORITY - VULNERABLE PEOPLE ARE PROTECTED & ABLE TO LIVE AS INDEPENDENTLY AS POSSIBLE**

**OUTCOME 9 - VULNERABLE PEOPLE ARE ABLE TO LIVE AS INDEPENDENTLY AS POSSIBLE**

<b>Status</b>	<b>Good</b>
<b>Outcome Summary</b>	The overall position for this outcome is Yellow: Good. There is one indicator that is considered to be a Priority for Improvement. This is detailed below.

**Indicators**

<b>Independent18</b>	The percentage adults who live independent of a formal package of social care provided/arranged by the council (aged 18 or over)
<b>Residential18</b>	The percentage of the population who cannot live independently (aged 18 or over)



**Latest Data Comment**

Denbighshire has traditionally experienced a higher rate of placements than many other LAs. We are working to reduce the number of new admissions through the use of both modern and traditional care packages in the home and working with people to maximise their independence. Overall, this means the number of people we support in residential care is diminishing, but it will take a number of years to bring the total to an acceptable level due to the long term nature of the services already being provided.

**Measures**

<b>ABS m3</b>	The percentage of people no longer needing a social care service following involvement from the reablement and intake service
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Assistive18	The number of adult clients in receipt of assistive technology (aged 18 or over)
Newcarehome65	The number of new placements of adults whom the authority supports in care homes (aged 65 or over)

### Latest Data Comment

This is a `count` only, no status applicable

PSR002	The average number of calendar days taken to deliver a Disabled Facilities Grant
SCA001	The rate of delayed transfers of care for social care reasons per 1,000 population aged 75 or over
Supported(a)18	Of the people who can live independently with a package of care, the percentages that are supported to live independently through, modern supportive options (aged 18 or over)
Supported(b)18	Of the people who can live independently with a package of care, the percentages that are supported to live independently through, traditional care options (aged 18 or over)

### Activities

ABS101a	Implement a model of Citizen Directed Support (CDS) that enables individuals to be as independent as possible while maintaining choice and control over their social care needs in line with the Social Services & Wellbeing Modernisation Programme	01/04/14	31/03/15
ABS103a	Implementing the framework for delivering integrated health and social care (including Intermediate Care Fund; implementing a new locality model; re-focussing reablement; and integrated assessment)	01/04/14	31/12/15
ABS104a	To modernise disability services coherently across the whole age range ensuring a focus on enablement and inclusion in "ordinary" services, sensitivity to current users and continuity across the transition from children's to adult services	01/04/14	31/03/15
ABS105a	Develop a strategy, which will be used to raise the corporate and partnership profile of SID and drive the coordination of DCC services to deliver preventative services.	01/04/14	01/09/14

ABS106a	Develop a communication strategy regarding SID and modern adult social care services. This will identify the strategic approach to reviewing provision across Denbighshire in order to provide better social services	01/04/14	01/09/14
ABS107a	Implement revised arrangements for the delivery of LD Day & Work Opportunity Services.	01/04/14	31/03/15
ABS108a	Service Challenge Action: Supporting Independence in Denbighshire (SID) Vision to be actively promoted on a Corporate scale. MMC dedicated sessions to be scheduled and delivered.	30/09/14	31/03/15
ABS109a	Service Challenge Action: Revisit Senior Leadership Team (SLT) to promote and embed SID Vision.	30/09/14	30/11/14
ABS110a	Service Challenge Action: Carry out review of Single Point of Access (SPoA) and develop a meaningful set of indicators with data available late 2015.	30/09/14	30/09/15
MSSEWB2013/03	Extra Care - Independent living in a safe and supported environment	15/04/13	
PR000173	Single Point of Access		

## OUTCOME 10 - VULNERABLE PEOPLE ARE PROTECTED

<b>Status</b>	Excellent
<b>Outcome Summary</b>	The overall position for this outcome is Green: Excellent. There are no exceptions to report on, the indicator and measures are all either excellent or good.

Indicators	
SCC010	The percentage of child referrals that are re-referrals within 12 months

Measures	
SCC013ai	The percentage of open cases of children on the Child Protection Register who have an allocated social worker
SCC015	The percentage of initial core group meetings due in the year which were held within 10 working days of the initial child protection conference
SCC034	The percentage of child protection reviews carried out within statutory timescales during the year



	SCA019	The percentage of adult protection referrals completed in the year where the risk has been managed
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**Activities**

	ABS202a	Develop & deliver corporate safeguarding training	01/04/14	01/03/17
	ABS203a	Improve Quality Assurance of outsourced services (including developing a quality assurance strategy for externalised services)	01/04/14	01/09/14
	CFS301a	Establish corporate safeguarding arrangements.	01/02/14	01/07/14
	CFS302a	Establish a learning framework for identifying and prioritising safeguarding issues to be addressed	01/02/14	30/09/14

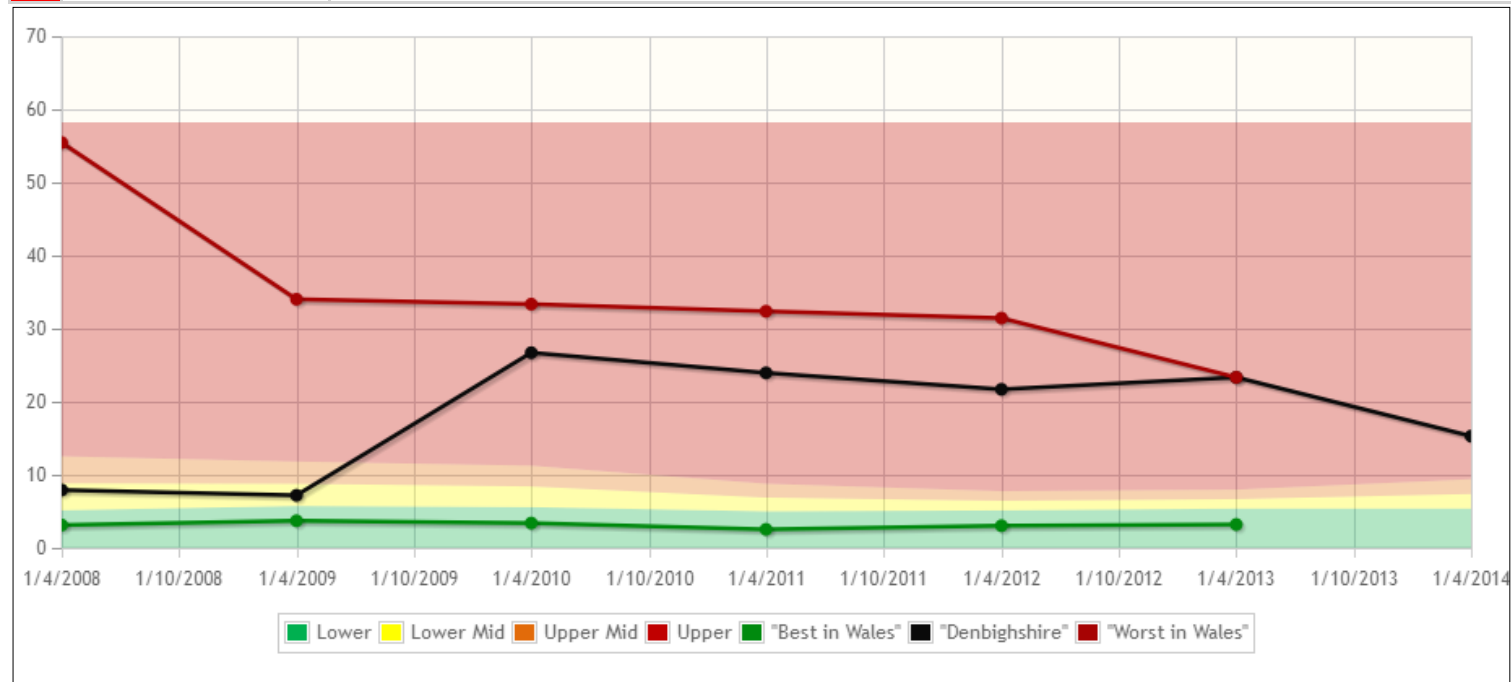
**PRIORITY - CLEAN & TIDY STREETS**

**OUTCOME 11 - TO PRODUCE AN ATTRACTIVE ENVIRONMENT FOR RESIDENTS AND VISITORS ALIKE**

<b>Status</b>	<b>Excellent</b>
<b>Outcome Summary</b>	The overall position for this outcome is Green: Excellent. There is one indicator that is considered to be a priority for improvement. It is also proposed that the Cleanliness Index is replaced with the Keep Wales Tidy Cleanliness Indicator, as the Index is no longer to be collected. These are all detailed below.

**Indicators**

HES201i	The percentage of respondents reporting satisfaction with the cleanliness of the streets within their local area
HES202i	The percentage of respondents reporting satisfaction with the cleanliness of the streets within their local area in relation to dog fouling
HES203i	The percentage of respondents reporting satisfaction with the cleanliness of the streets within their nearest town centre
HES204i	The percentage of respondents reporting satisfaction with the cleanliness of the streets within their nearest town centre in relation to dog fouling
HES207i	Clean Streets Survey - Improvement Areas
RATE/STS/006D	The rate of fly-tipping incidents reported per 1000 population



**Latest Data Comment**

The rate of fly-tipping incidents has fallen from 23.34 to 15.3 per 1000 population in 2014/15. Although the national picture is not yet known, projections suggest that this

will continue to be a Priority for Improvement. National data will be published in September. We believe that we may be reporting this indicator differently from other councils because we include incidents that we identify ourselves through our street cleaning activities in addition to incidents reported by the public.

STS005a The Cleanliness Index

#### Latest Data Comment

This indicator, which formed part of the national Service Improvement Dataset, has been discontinued in 2014-15 as a result of WG cuts to the Data Unit's Budget. It is proposed that this is replaced with the Keep Wales Tidy Cleanliness Indicator (which did form part of this average score indicator). This will allow us to continue comparing ourselves with other authorities in Wales.

KWT001i Keep Wales Tidy - Cleanliness Indicator

#### Measures

PPP101m	The percentage of untidy land incidents resolved within 12 weeks
STS006	The percentage of reported fly tipping incidents cleared within 5 working days
PPP102m	The rate of fixed penalty notices (all types) issues per 1000 population
PPP103m	The rate of fixed penalty notices (dog fouling) issues per 1000 population

#### Activities

HES201a	Integrate Grounds Maintenance, Street Cleansing and Highways Maintenance functions within Streetscene	01/04/14	31/03/15
HES202a	Introduce a change of emphasis from the routine scheduling of Streetscene activities towards a demand based service.	01/04/14	31/03/15
HES203a	Assess resource allocations within Streetscene, in particular north versus south, and urban versus rural. Reorganise service delivery arrangements as necessary	01/04/14	31/03/15
PPP101a	Lead and coordinate a multi-agency group, including council officers, Welsh Water, National Resources Wales, etc. to seek to improve the bathing water quality along the Denbighshire coast	01/04/14	31/03/15
PPP102a	Tackle environmental crime and associated anti-social behaviour	01/04/15	31/03/16
PPP103a	Support and regulate the night time economy within	01/04/15	31/03/16

		the County including the sale of alcohol and standards in the taxi/private hire vehicle sector		
	PPP104a	Develop and implement a coordinated approach to tackling identified eyesore sites across the county	01/04/14	31/03/15
	PPP105a	Local identity and Conservation Areas	01/04/14	31/03/15

**Latest Data Comment**

PPP105a - No progress/not a service priority.

	PPP106a	Develop protocols to deal with obstructions on highways	01/04/14	31/03/15
	PPP107a	Develop protocols to deal with fly posting	01/04/14	31/03/15

**Latest Data Comment**

PPP106a and PPP107a - Progress has been minimal. There is a need to review these projects in light of the Freedom & Flexibilities Programme

	PR000069	Former North Wales Hospital	01/03/10	31/03/16
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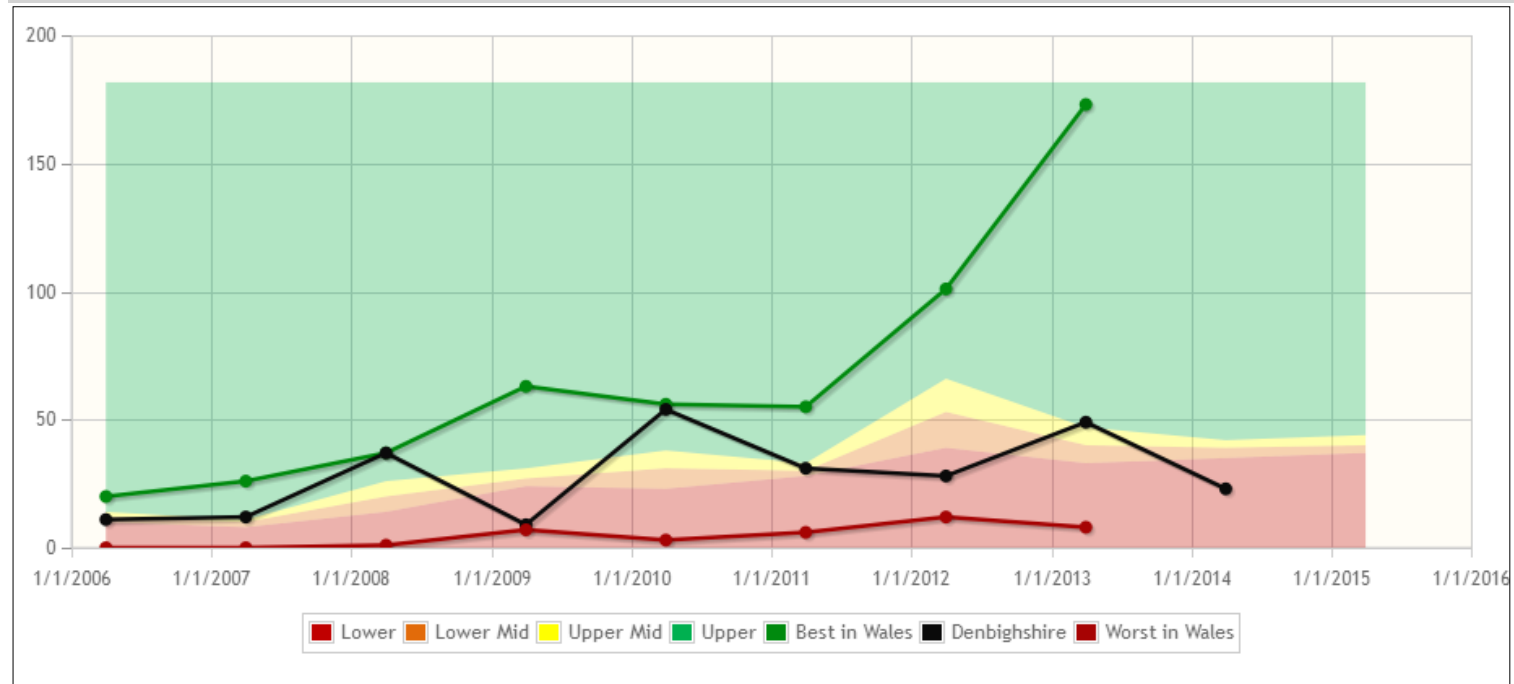
**PRIORITY - ENSURING ACCESS TO GOOD QUALITY HOUSING**

**OUTCOME 12 - THE HOUSING MARKET IN DENBIGHSHIRE WILL OFFER A RANGE OF TYPES AND FORMS OF HOUSING IN SUFFICIENT QUANTITY TO MEET THE NEEDS OF INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES**

<b>Status</b>	<b>Acceptable</b>
<b>Outcome Summary</b>	<p>The overall position for this outcome is Orange: Acceptable. There has been considerable improvement and this outcome is nearly at a Yellow: Good level with the exception of two indicators which are currently a priority for improvement. These are detailed below.</p> <p>We are awaiting data for two measures (The years of supply of housing land as determined by the Joint Housing Land Availability Study and The percentage of core KPI's Benchmarked with HouseMark that are in the top quartile) within this outcome.</p>

**Indicators**

<b>PLA006</b>	The number of additional affordable housing units provided during the year as a percentage of all additional housing units provided during the year
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**Latest Data Comment**

Although the national picture is not yet known, projections suggest this be a Priority for Improvement. National data will be published in September. The validity of the all Wales NSI data is questioned - nationally qualified in 2012/13.

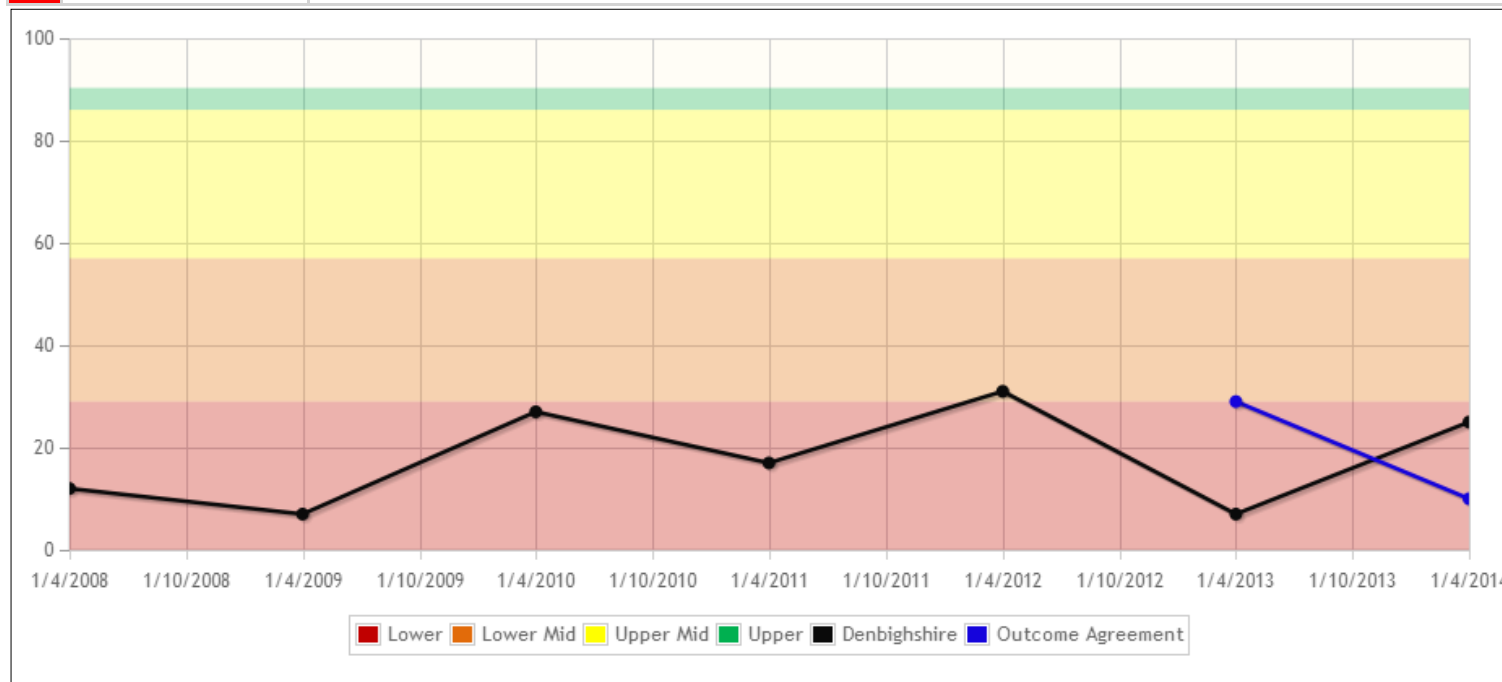
<b>JHLAS03i</b>	The years of supply of housing land as determined by the Joint Housing Land
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Availability Study

**Latest Data Comment**

JHLAS03i - Data will not be available for this indicator until August 2015.

PSR007a	Of the Houses in Multiple Occupation known to the local authority, the percentage that have a full licence
HCD101i	The current supply of social housing
HCD102i	The current supply of affordable housing



**Latest Data Comment**

Priority for improvement against Corporate Plan thresholds, however, the Outcome Agreement of 10 has been achieved. The definition for this indicator has been reviewed to include all properties which are made available for affordable housing during the year, including new builds, conversions and acquisitions, which is different to the definition provided against the NSI - PLA/006 (above). A revised indicator, PPPAH001 - 'The additional supply of affordable housing, including social housing, provided during the year' will replace HCD101i and HCD102i for 2015/2016 onwards.

HCD103i	The current supply of market housing
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**Measures**

HHA013	The percentage of all potentially homeless households for whom homelessness was prevented for at least 6 months
PLA004c	The percentage of householder planning applications determined during the year within 8 weeks

PSR002	The average number of calendar days taken to deliver a Disabled Facilities Grant
PSR004	The percentage of private sector dwellings that had been vacant for more than 6 months at 1 April that were returned to occupation during the year through direct action by the local authority
Q-CMPI03	The number of calendar days taken to let empty properties - GN & HFOP
Q-HSG406i	The percentage of core KPI's Benchmarked with HouseMark that are in the top quartile

Q-LI/HS/13	The number of potential homeless people assisted to find a home
Y-HSG304m	Percentage of council properties improved to Welsh Housing Quality Standard

Activities				
PPP201a	Deliver the Renewal Area projects in Rhyl to improve the conditions of private sector housing and environmental enhancements	01/04/14	31/03/15	
PPP202a	Implement new Welsh Government home load scheme to allow home owners to improve conditions in the private housing stock	01/04/14	31/03/15	
PPP203a	Take a pro-active approach to encourage the private sector to bring forward allocated housing sites, to deliver mixed type and range of housing, by producing master plans and planning briefs (emphasise on key strategic sites and eyesore sites)	01/04/14	31/03/15	
PPP204a	Identify service contribution to improving standards in private rented sector housing	01/04/14	31/03/15	
PPP205a	Ensure as many Affordable Houses as possible are provided through the planning system and other methods of delivery	01/04/14	31/03/15	
HCD101a	Develop and follow action plan to work more closely with PRS to achieve more solutions i.e. increasing the supply of good quality, energy efficient, affordable private rented homes, reduce tenancy breakdown within sector to prevent homelessness and increase access to sector to relieve homelessness	01/08/13	30/06/14	
HCD103a	The Housing Strategy for 2014 - 2019 shall be	01/04/14	01/11/14	

		published		
	HCD104a	Deliver 38 units of new affordable housing in 14/15 within Denbighshire	01/04/14	01/03/15
	HCD105a	Improve arrangements for Move On accommodation from supported housing to allow more service users to move into independent living, so that supported housing resources can be better used to accommodate the most vulnerable	01/04/14	31/03/15
	HCD106a	To tender the grounds maintenance service in 2014/15 which shall result in a new service provider being appointed to deliver the service in 2015/16 and shall support the councils obligations to levy charges in accordance with the requirements from Welsh Government	01/04/14	30/09/14
	HCD107a	To negotiate a settlement with Welsh Government for the abolition of the Housing Revenue Account Subsidy System which places the Council in the best possible position to take forward its strategic priorities including the development of new build council housing	01/04/14	31/03/15



**PRIORITY - MODERNISING THE COUNCIL TO BE EFFICIENT & IMPROVE SERVICES FOR CUSTOMERS**

**OUTCOME 13 - SERVICES WILL CONTINUE TO DEVELOP AND IMPROVE**

<b>Status</b>	<b>Good</b>
<b>Outcome Summary</b>	<p>The overall status for this Outcome is Yellow: Good.</p> <p>Two indicators with a Red: Priority for Improvement status are from the Residents' Survey that was conducted in 2013, and which will be repeated in summer 2015. It's at this point that more analysis will be provided.</p> <p>The proportion of complaints that were replied to within timescales has dipped this quarter, despite a reduction in the overall number received. This has been reported to SLT, and will also be reported to Performance Scrutiny in June for further direction.</p>

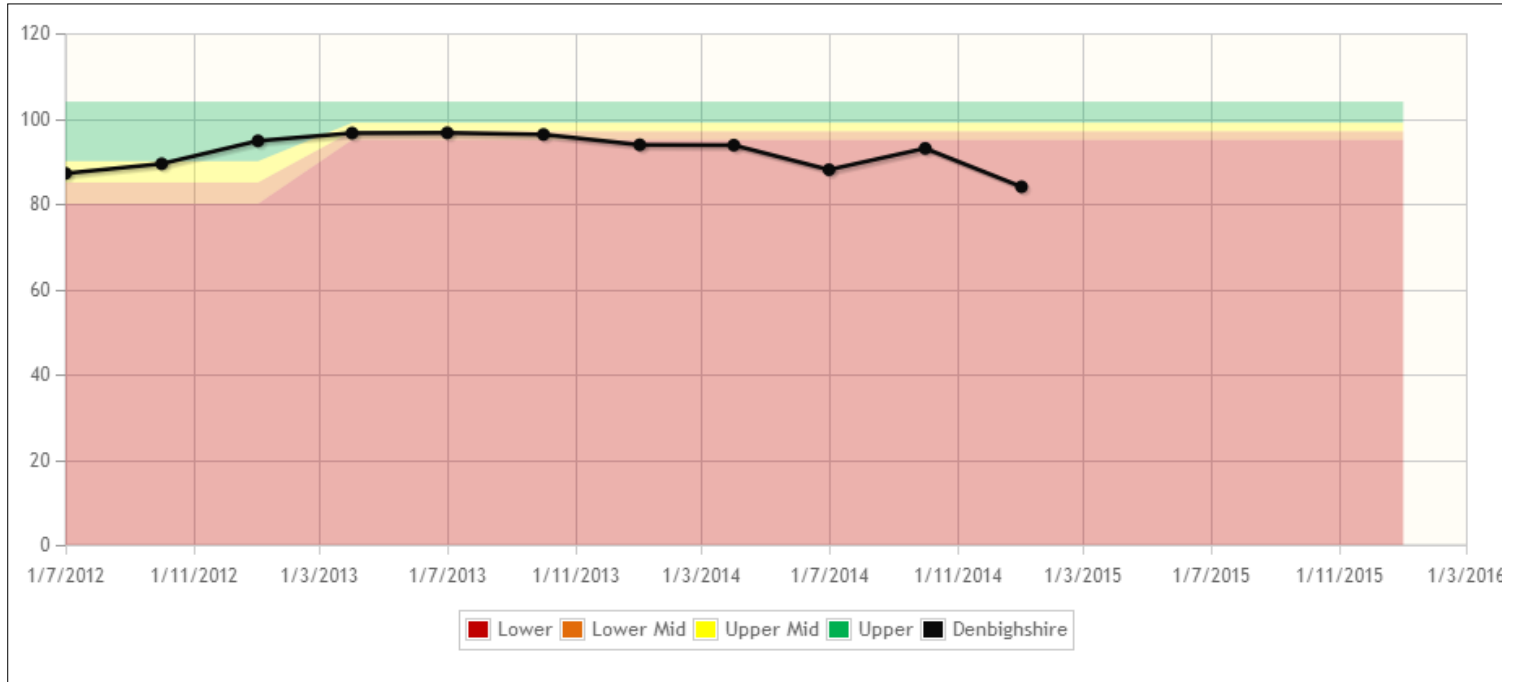
Indicators	
BPP1002	The number of formal recommendations for improvement within the WAO Improvement Reports
BPP101i	The percentage of Open projects generating a Green or Yellow ROYG status in terms of being on-track to deliver their outputs according to pre-defined scope
RSQ16B	The percentage of residents responding positively to the statement: My Council is efficient and well-run
RSQ16C	The percentage of residents responding positively to the statement: My council acts on the concerns of residents (excluding don't know)

**Latest Data Comment**

RSQ16B and RSQ16c - Indicators are taken from the 2013 Residents' survey, which will be repeated in summer 2015.

Measures	
BPP1004	The percentage of Outcome Agreement Grant awarded by WG
M102m	The percentage of Modernisation projects that were due a post-implementation review this quarter that have been subject to one

	<b>PCOTDCC</b>	The % of external stage 1 complaints that are responded to within corporate timescales (DCC)
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**Latest Data Comment**

15 out of 92 not responded to within timescale across the authority. The performance issue was highlighted to SLT in March, and is due to be presented to Performance Scrutiny in June

	<b>ROCDCC</b>	The rate of stage 1 complaints received by Denbighshire County Council per 10,000 population
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**OUTCOME 14 – MORE FLEXIBLE AND EFFECTIVE WORKFORCE SUPPORTED BY COST EFFICIENT INFRASTRUCTURE**

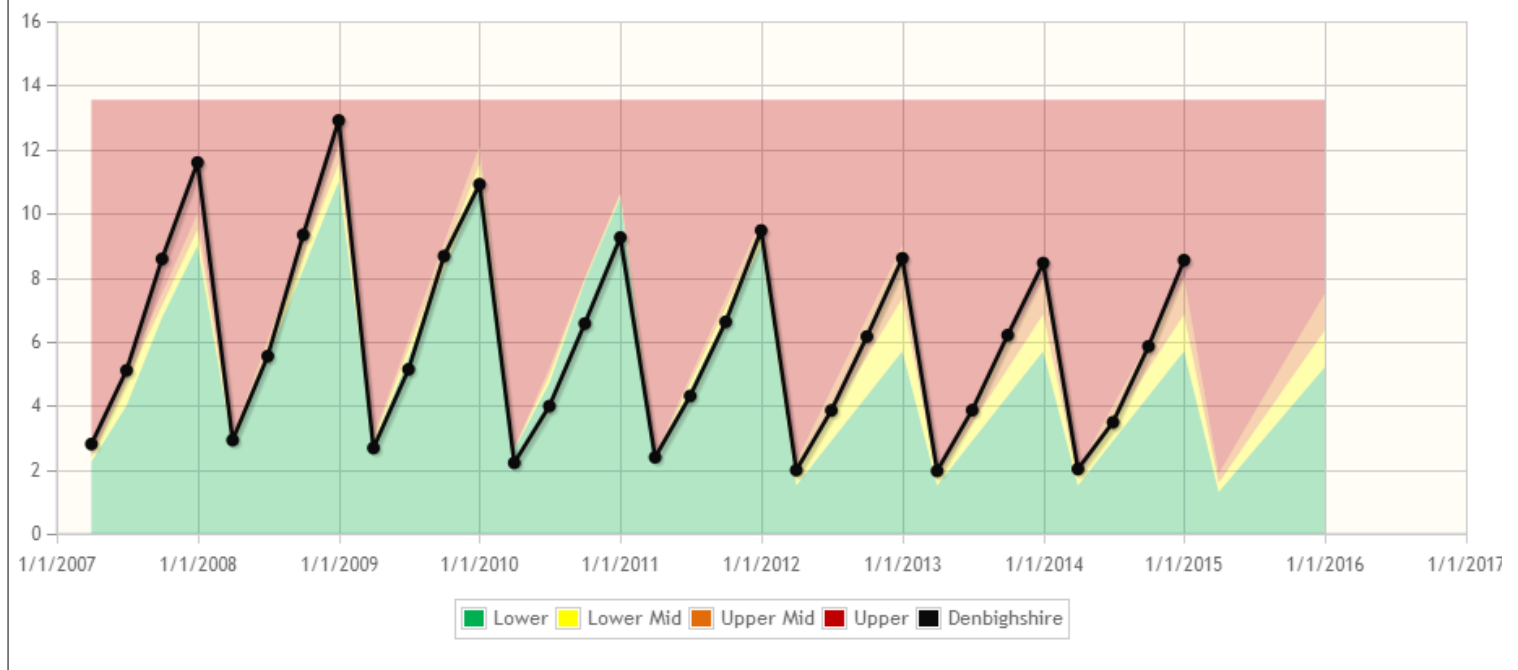
<b>Status</b>	Acceptable
<b>Outcome Summary</b>	<p>The overall status for this Outcome is Orange: Acceptable.</p> <p>Sickness absence levels continue to be a Priority for Improvement, and performance has actually worsened compared to the same period last year.</p> <p>Carbon emissions in primary schools continue to be a Priority for Improvement. Some behaviour change would improve performance, but the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools programme of work will have a greater impact, and the programme is progressing well.</p> <p>The proportion of our staff that are equipped for agile working is a Priority for Improvement but, again, this reflects that the overall agile working programme of work is in its infancy. The fact that our current performance is</p>

in the Red shows the need for the work, but the fact that the work is progressing as planned is encouraging.

The organisation's performance appraisal completion rate remains a Priority for Improvement.

**Indicators**

	M202a	Staff Survey Q3a - The percentage of staff responding positively to the statement: I have the skills to do my job effectively
	QCHR002	(Corporate) The number of working days/shifts per full time equivalent (FTE) local authority employee lost due to sickness absence



**Latest Data Comment**

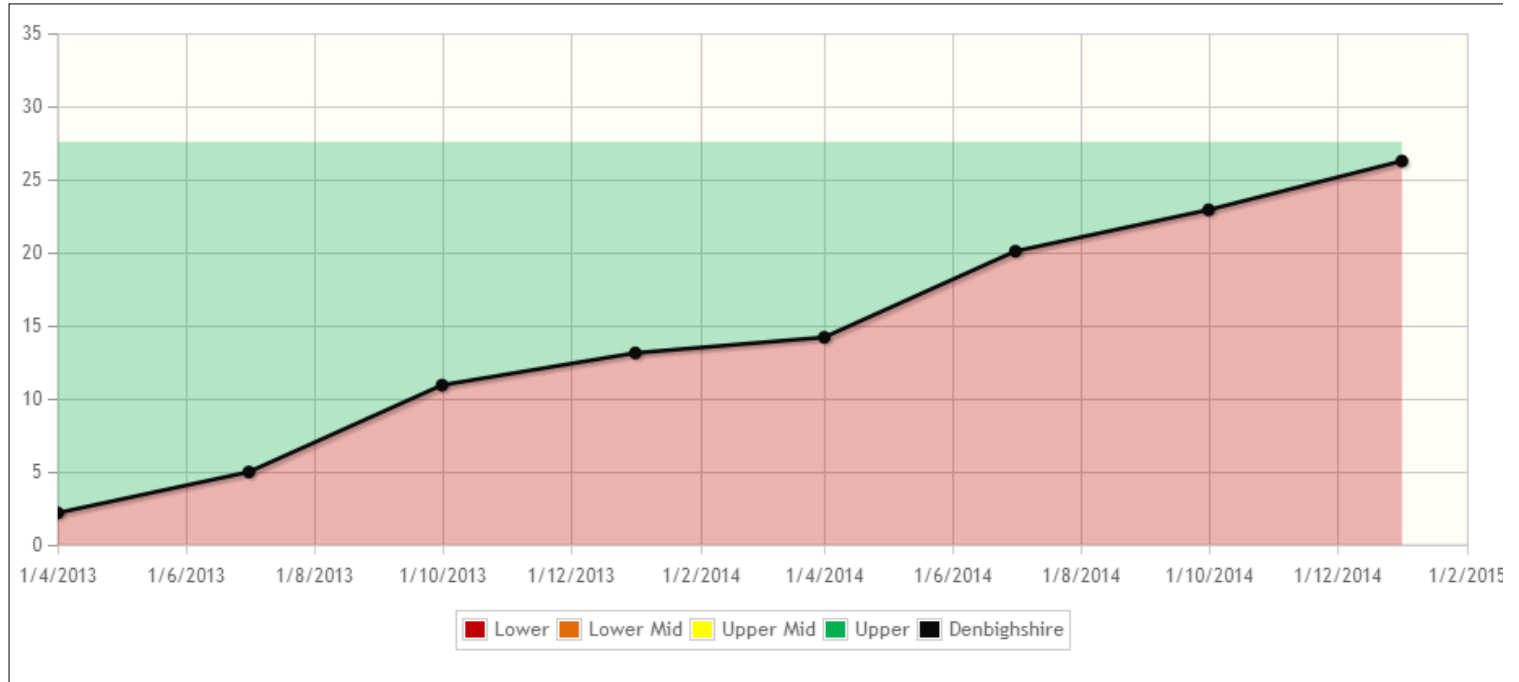
No data comment has been provided for this indicator.

	SSQ13a	The percentage of staff responding positively to the statement: I have access to the information and IT I need to work efficiently
	SSQ1A	The percentage of staff responding positively to the statement: I know what is expected of me

**Measures**

	ABMCORP	The average number of business miles recorded per FTE across all corporate services
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CES301	The percentage of transactions undertaken via the web, compared to the total number of transactions undertaken using all access channels
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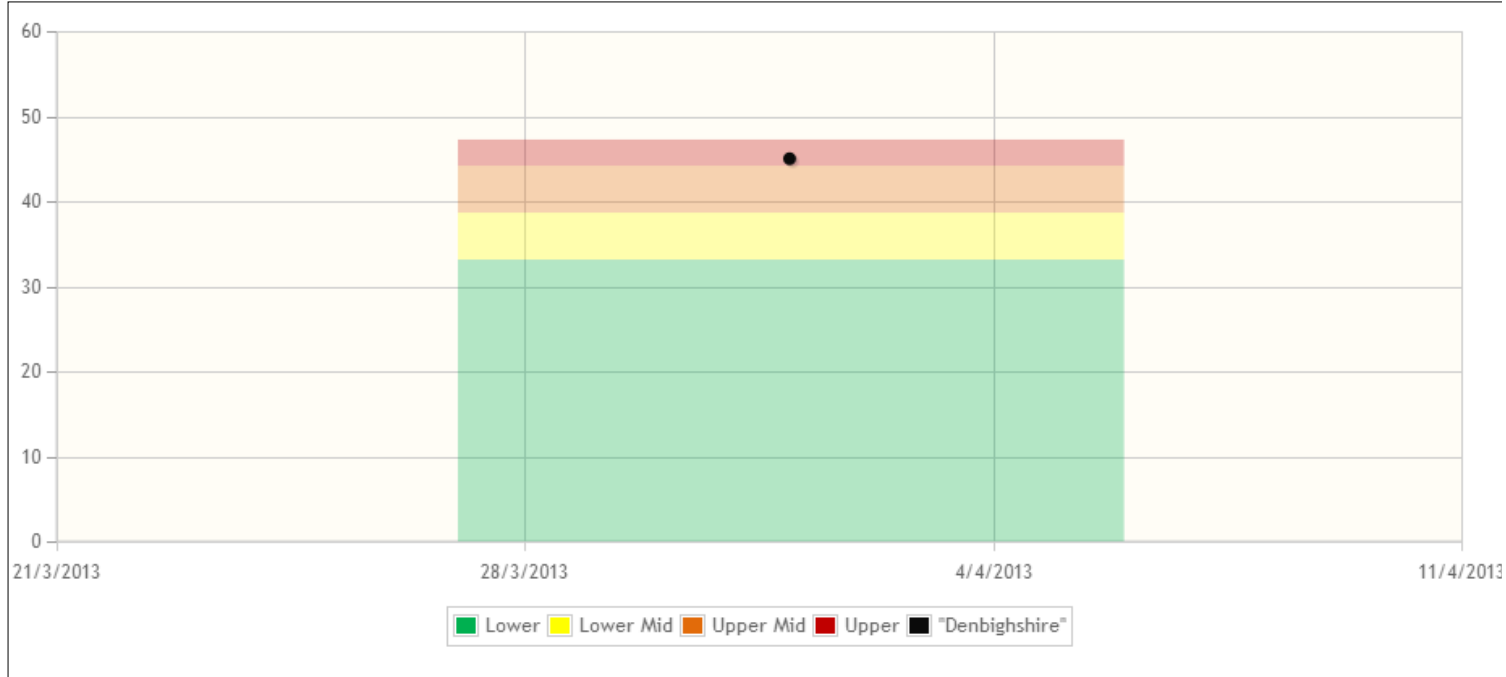


**Latest Data Comment**

12% increase on the same quarter last year and 2% increase on Q2. This is customer driven. No publicity and/or marketing activities have been undertaken

FAA101m	Corporate office space occupied by Denbighshire County Council (m2) per FTE
FAA110i	Carbon emissions (carbon kgs) per m2 of Denbighshire's corporate office space

	FAA111i	Carbon emissions (carbon kgs) per m2 in Denbighshire's primary schools
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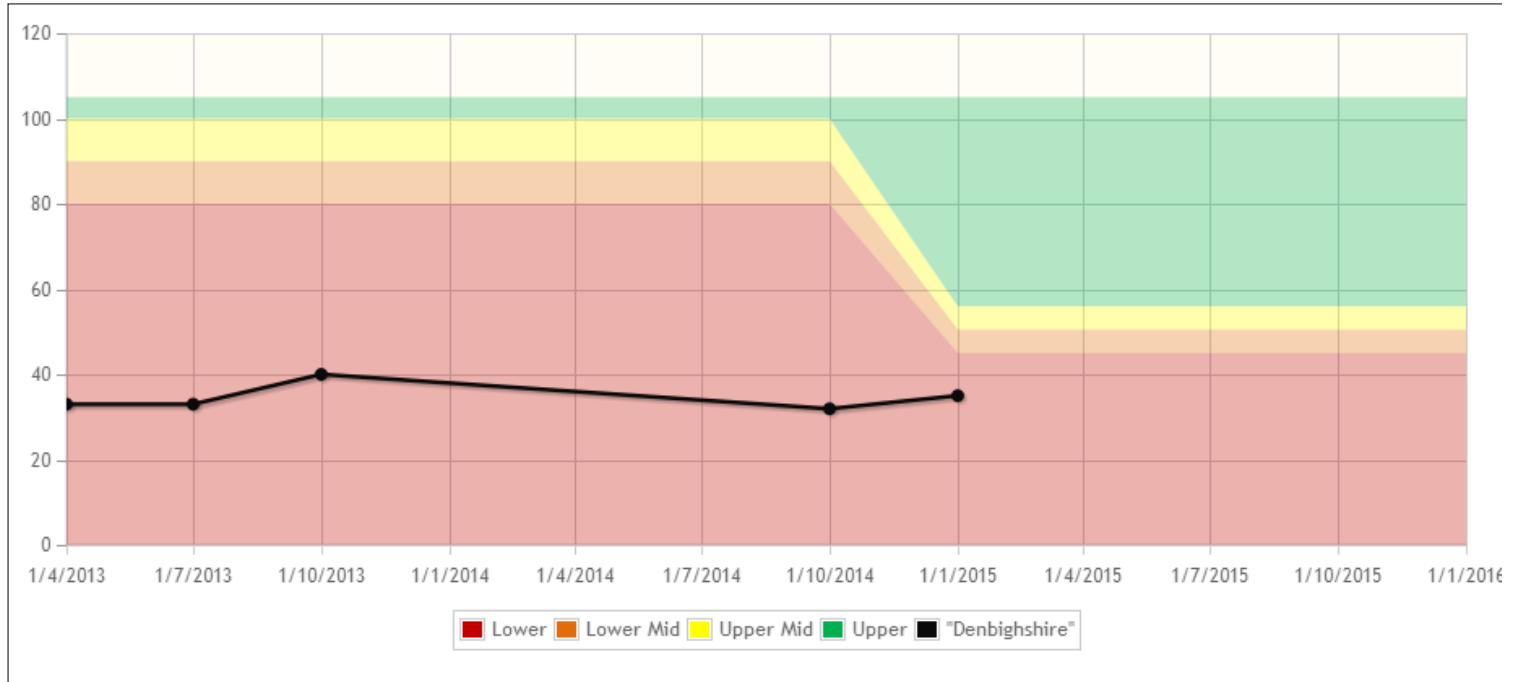


**Latest Data Comment**

This performance is attributed to the fact that Denbighshire has a high proportion of old primary school buildings, and mobile classrooms. There has also been an increase in IT use in primary schools, which contributes to carbon emissions.

	FAA112i	Carbon emissions (carbon kgs) per m2 in Denbighshire's secondary schools
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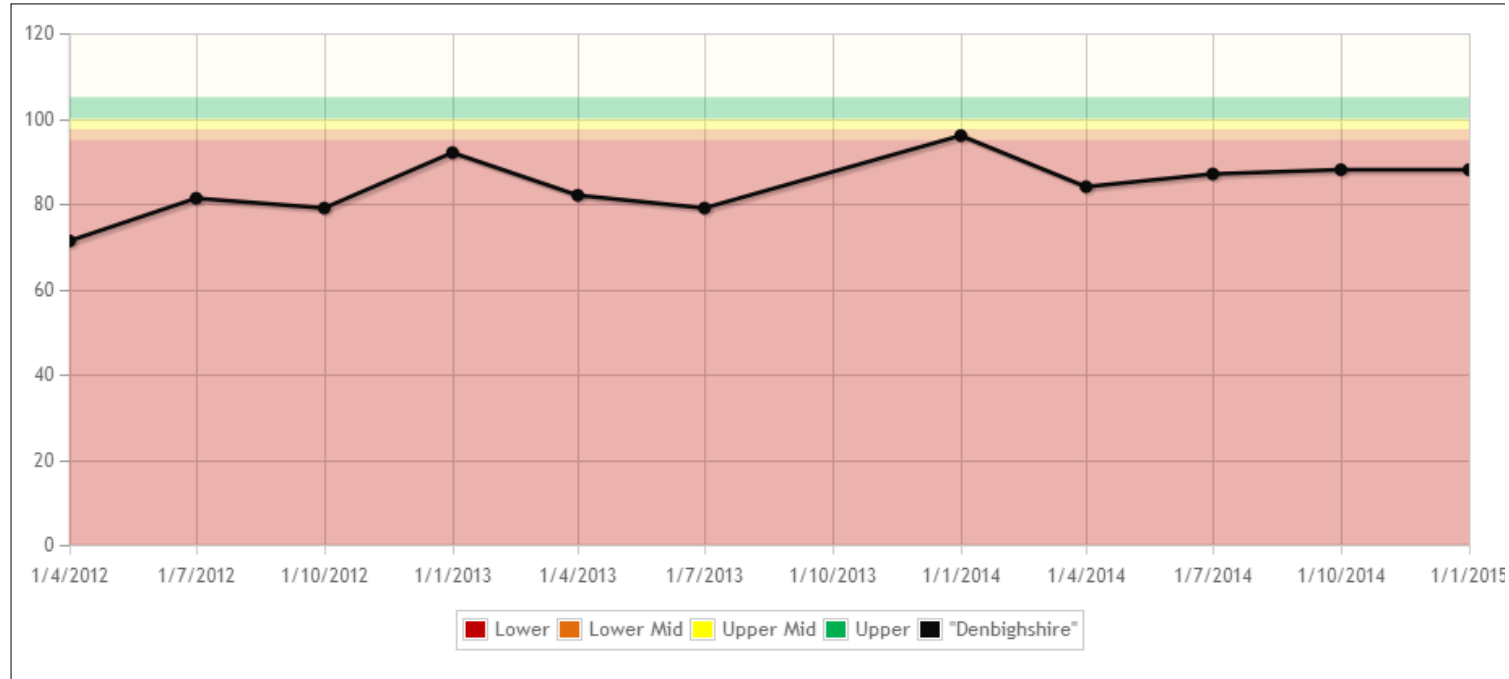
	ICT106i	The percentage of non-school staff who have been equipped for agile working
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**Latest Data Comment**

Thresholds will need to be adjusted from this point - originally only those with a role that could be made agile were counted, but we now know it's not possible to identify the exact number of these roles. This ROYG status is Red, which is where we'd expect it to be in this stage of the corporate rollout - it reflects the fact that we are not yet where we want to be, although the project itself is performing well.

SHR104i	The percentage of eligible staff that were due a performance appraisal within the last 13 months and have received one (corporately)
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**Latest Data Comment**

There is a low tolerance for deviation from the Excellence figure of 100% here.

Activities				
PR000157	Electronic Document and Record Management System (EDRMs)	01/04/13	31/03/16	
PR000163	E Invoicing & Central Invoice Registration	06/05/13	05/05/14	
PR000241	North Denbighshire Accommodation Modernisation	02/09/13	01/09/14	
PR000264	Denbighshire Telephony	06/01/14	31/03/14	
PR000305	Domino Migration	01/05/14	01/04/15	
PR000317	Review of Rhyl Cash Office / One Stop Shop	11/04/14	01/04/15	
PR000318	Digital Choice	01/10/14		

## PROJECT REGISTER

This is the summary position for each project on the Corporate Project Register as at March 31, 2015. The status has been determined based on an evaluation of project performance against the project management methodology.

## CORPORATE PROGRAMME: ECONOMIC &amp; COMMUNITY AMBITION

Digital Denbighshire	GREEN
Supportive Procurement (Phase 1 - Procurement Strategy)	GREEN
Rhyl Coastal Facilities (Phase 1)	GREEN
Rhyl Harbour: Pedestrian and cycle bridge, public square, quayside building and extended quay wall	ORANGE

## CORPORATE PROGRAMME: MODERNISATION

Electronic Document and Record Management System (EDRMs)	YELLOW
Electronic Invoicing & Central Invoice Registration	GREEN
Denbighshire Telephony	GREEN
Outlook Roll-out	GREEN
Domino Migration	GREEN
Windows 2003 Migration	GREEN
Digital Choice (Outline Business Case)	YELLOW
Flexible Working	YELLOW

## CORPORATE PROGRAMME: MODERNISING EDUCATION

Bodnant Community School Extension and Refurbishment	YELLOW
Welsh Medium Primary's North Denbighshire - Ysgol Twm o'r Nant	YELLOW
Office Accommodation Review	GREEN
Extending Secondary Welsh Medium Provision – Ysgol Glan Clwyd – Extension & Refurbishment	GREEN
Rhyl New School	GREEN

## CORPORATE PROGRAMME: MODERNISING SOCIAL SERVICES &amp; ENHANCING WELLBEING

Single Point of Access	YELLOW
Vulnerable People Mapping	YELLOW
Intelligence Requirement for Children and Family Services	YELLOW



## PROJECT REGISTER

Service Inclusion Review	YELLOW
Review of Assessed Services for Children with Disabilities	GREEN

## RHYL GOING FORWARD

West Rhyl Housing Improvement Project	GREEN
The Honey Club, Rhyl	GREEN
49-55 Queen Street	GREEN

## SERVICE: BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT & MODERNISATION

Vodafone On-line Billing	GREEN
2 <sup>nd</sup> Internet Feed	GREEN
i-Share	GREEN

## SERVICE: BUSINESS TRANSFORMATION & ICT

Vodafone On-Line Billing	GREEN
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## SERVICE: CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES

Capturing the voice of children, young people and families	GREEN
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## SERVICE - COMMUNITY SUPPORT SERVICES

PARIS 5.1 upgrade	YELLOW
Cefndy Capital Investment	GREEN
Welfare Advice Modernisation Project	GREEN

## SERVICE: CUSTOMERS & EDUCATION SUPPORT

Capita Regional MIS	ORANGE
School Workplace Transport	YELLOW

## SERVICE: FINANCE & ASSETS

Excellent Housing	ORANGE
PROACTIS eSourcing Rollout	YELLOW

## SERVICE: HIGHWAYS & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

Residual Waste (North Wales Collaboration)	GREEN
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## PROJECT REGISTER

Loggerheads Traffic Congestion Initiative	YELLOW
Foryd Harbour Blue Bridge Concrete Repairs	YELLOW
Corwen Flood Risk Management Scheme	GREEN
Rhyl Promenade Railings	GREEN
West Rhyl Coastal Defence Scheme Phase 3	GREEN
East Rhyl Flood Defence	YELLOW
Foryd (Blue) Bridge East Abutment Strengthening	YELLOW

## SERVICE: PLANNING & PUBLIC PROTECTION

Former North Wales Hospital Denbigh	YELLOW
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## OUTCOME AGREEMENT

This is the summary position for each outcome in the Outcome Agreement as at March 31, 2014. The overall evaluation for each outcome has been determined by taking account of the indicators and performance measures within the agreement and whether or not the agreed targets have been achieved. A fully achieved outcome scores 2 points, and a partially achieved outcome 1 point. We must achieve 8 points to qualify for full payment of the Outcome Agreement grant.

### OUTCOME AGREEMENT SUMMARY

<a href="#">Outcome 1</a>	Improving our roads	EXCELLENT
<a href="#">Outcome 2</a>	Students achieve their potential	EXCELLENT
<a href="#">Outcome 3</a>	Independent vulnerable people	PRIORITY FOR IMPROVEMENT
<a href="#">Outcome 4</a>	Access to good quality housing	PRIORITY FOR IMPROVEMENT
<a href="#">Outcome 5</a>	Reduce economic & fuel poverty	EXCELLENT

### OUTCOME AGREEMENT PERFORMANCE REPORT

**Please Note:** The performance report is in a different format than usual. This report has been generated from the new Verto Performance Management System. The system has just been launched, and there are some minor issues in the report that will be dealt with during its next development phase, namely:

- Dates appear on the x-axis, rather than quarters;
- The status key is not consistent with our labels of Excellent, Good, Acceptable, and Priority for Improvement (although the colours are consistent).
- Some graphs are hard to view because the axis range is not appropriate to the measure and the values concerned are very narrow.

## Outcome Agreement 2013–16

<b>Status</b>	Excellent
<b>Rationale</b>	Each local authority in Wales has developed an Outcome Agreement with the Welsh Government, which sets out how each council will work towards improving outcomes for local people within the context of the Welsh Government’s national priorities. Outcome Agreements run for a 3 year period from 2013-14 to 2015-16, and successful delivery against the agreement results in the payment of an annual Outcome Agreement Grant to the council.
<b>Areas of Responsibility</b>	<p>Our Outcome Agreement with the Welsh Government is aligned with our Corporate Plan priorities, and supports the following themes from the Wales Programme for Government:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Growth and sustainable jobs – Improving our infrastructure</li> <li>• Education – Improving school attainment</li> <li>• 21st Century Health Care – Ensuring people receive the help they need to</li> </ul>

	<p>live fulfilled lives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Welsh Homes / Supporting People – Improving quality and increasing the supply and choice of housing</li> <li>• Tackling poverty – Poverty and material deprivation</li> </ul>
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**Assessment** This document summarises Denbighshire’s Outcome Agreements with the Welsh Government for the three years (2013/14, 2014/15 and 2015/16) and tracks our performance in 2014-15 against the agreed thresholds.

The total grant for Wales in 2014-15 is £31.1 million, which is proportioned to Local Authorities in the same way as the Revenue Support Grant. Denbighshire’s share therefore equates to just over £1 million. The amount of grant that is awarded is judged according to two parts: **Outcomes** (worth 70% of the available grant) and **Corporate Governance** (worth 30%).

**1. Outcomes:** The local authority has to choose five themes under this component. Each outcome will be assessed to determine if it is fully successful (2 points), partially successful (1 point), or unsuccessful (0 points) by the Minister for Local Government and Government Business at the end-of-year assessment. All points are totalled up against the following methodology to judge the proportion of grant that should be awarded.

Based on only an analysis of the data available for 2014-15 and the scoring guidelines outlined by the Welsh Government, Denbighshire’s current score is 8, which entitles us to 100% of this component (£730,100).

Score	Grant (approximate)	Current Score
8 – 10	Full payment (£730,100)	<b>8</b>
6 or 7	75% payment (£547,575)	
4 or 5	50% payment (£365,050)	
Less than 4	No payment	

Where points have been lost due to some missed targets, we will argue that there were mitigating circumstances for those, and hopefully increase our score further.

**2. Corporate Governance:** The second component (worth 30%) is based on standards of corporate governance as reported by the Auditor General for Wales. The Welsh Government will consider whether:

a. The Auditor General for Wales has made any statutory recommendations to the Welsh Ministers to provide assistance to the authority through improvement assessment letters or reports following any special inspections; or

b. The Auditor General for Wales has made any statutory recommendations to the Welsh Ministers in direction to the authority through

improvement assessment letters or reports following any special inspections; or

- c. The Local Authority has already had some, or all, of its corporate governance functions removed from the Authority, i.e. the authority is already subject to statutory intervention.

There are no statutory recommendations by the Wales Audit Office that apply to Denbighshire, nor is the authority under any statutory intervention. We are therefore entitled to 100% of this component (£312,900). The following table summarises our provisional position against the Outcome Agreement for 2014-15, pending Welsh Government assessment.

**Summary - Overall Position**

OA Grant (100%)		% Outcome Achieved	Score	% Component Achieved	£1,043,000	
<b>Part I (70%)</b>	Outcome 1	100%	94% Achieved	2	80% (8/10)	£730,100
	Outcome 2	100%		2		
	Outcome 3	93%		1		
	Outcome 4	77%		1		
	Outcome 5	100%		2		
<b>Part II (30%)</b>	Governance	100%	-	100%	£312,900	
<b>Total Outcome Agreement Grant Awarded =</b>					<b>£1,043,000 (100%)</b>	

**OUTCOME 1 – IMPROVING OUR INFRASTRUCTURE: RESIDENTS AND VISITORS TO DENBIGHSHIRE HAVE ACCESS TO A SAFE AND WELL-MANAGED ROAD NETWORK**

<b>Status</b>	<b>Excellent</b>
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**Indicators**

HES101i	The percentage of respondents reporting satisfaction with the council's work in maintaining rural roads in good condition
RSQ09A	The percentage of respondents reporting satisfaction with the council's work in maintaining main roads in good condition (excluding don't know)
RSQ09B	The percentage of respondents reporting satisfaction with the council's work in maintaining streets in towns and villages in good condition (excluding don't know)
THS012	The percentage of principal (A) and non-principal (B) and (C) roads that are in overall poor condition
THS011a	The percentage of principle A roads that are in overall poor condition
THS011b	The percentage of non-principal/classified B roads that are in overall poor condition
THS011c	The percentage of non-principal/classified C roads that are in overall poor condition

**Measures**

HES102m	The percentage of planned dropped-kerbs delivered along key routes within the year
HIM006	The percentage of Category C (Final) Street Works inspections carried out on utility works before their guarantee period ends (legislation states 10%)
HIM042	The proportion of the planned Highways Capital Maintenance Programme achieved (schemes)
THS003	The percentage of the annual structural maintenance expenditure that was spent on planned structural maintenance

## OUTCOME 2 – IMPROVING SCHOOL ATTAINMENT: STUDENTS ACHIEVE THEIR POTENTIAL

<b>Status</b>	Excellent
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Indicators	
Ed001i	The average capped points score for pupils aged 15 at the preceding 31 August in schools maintained by the local authority (all pupils)
Ed005i	The percentage of pupils achieving the level 2 threshold including English/Welsh and Mathematics (all pupils)
Ed006i	The percentage of pupils achieving the level 2 threshold or vocational equivalents (all pupils)
EDU002i	The percentage of pupils (including those in local authority care) in any local authority maintained school, aged 15 as at the preceding 31 August who leave compulsory education, training or work based learning without an approved external qualification.
EDU003all	The percentage of pupils who achieve the Core Subject Indicator at Key Stage 2 (all pupils)

Measures	
EDU016a	Percentage of pupil attendance in primary schools
EDU016b	Percentage of pupil attendance in secondary schools

**OUTCOME 3 – ENSURING PEOPLE RECEIVE THE HELP THEY NEED TO LIVE FULFILLED LIVES: VULNERABLE PEOPLE ARE PROTECTED AND ARE ABLE TO LIVE AS INDEPENDENTLY AS POSSIBLE**

**Status** Priority for Improvement

**Indicators**

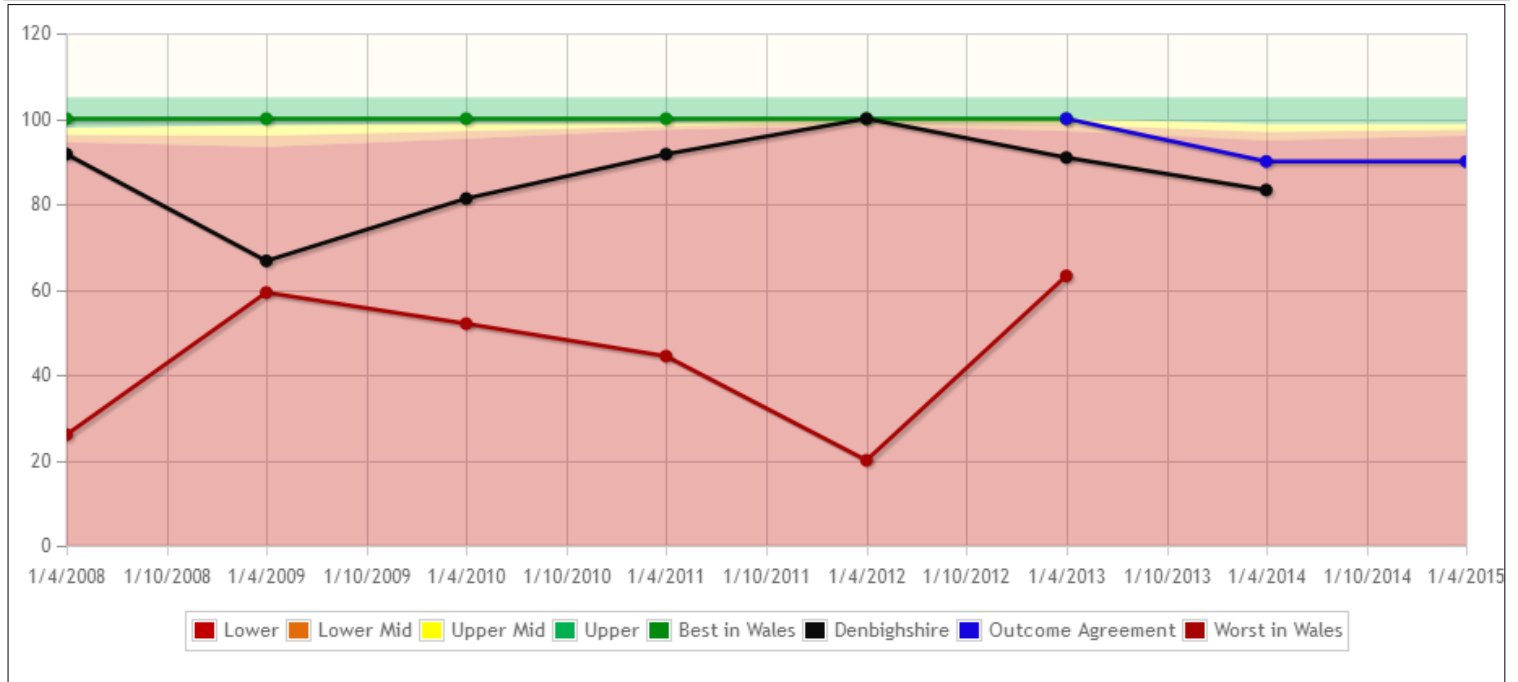
ABSm2	The number of service users in receipt of Direct Payments
Independent18	The percentage adults who live independent of a formal package of social care provided/arranged by the council (aged 18 or over)
Residential18	The percentage of the population who cannot live independently (aged 18 or over)
SCC010	The percentage of child referrals that are re-referrals within 12 months

**Measures**

PSR002	The average number of calendar days taken to deliver a Disabled Facilities Grant
SCA001	The rate of delayed transfers of care for social care reasons per 1,000 population aged 75 or over
SCC004	The percentage of children looked after on 31 March who have had three or more placements during the year
SCC013ai	The percentage of open cases of children on the Child Protection Register who have an allocated social worker
SCC015	The percentage of initial core group meetings due in the year which were held within 10 working days of the initial child protection conference
SCC034	The percentage of child protection reviews carried out within statutory timescales during the year



SCC041a	The percentage of eligible, relevant and former relevant children that have pathway plans as required
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**Latest Data Comment**

2014/15 - 83% completed against Outcome Agreement of 90%. This equates to 5 out of 6 pathway plans completed within timescale. 1 completed out of timescale.

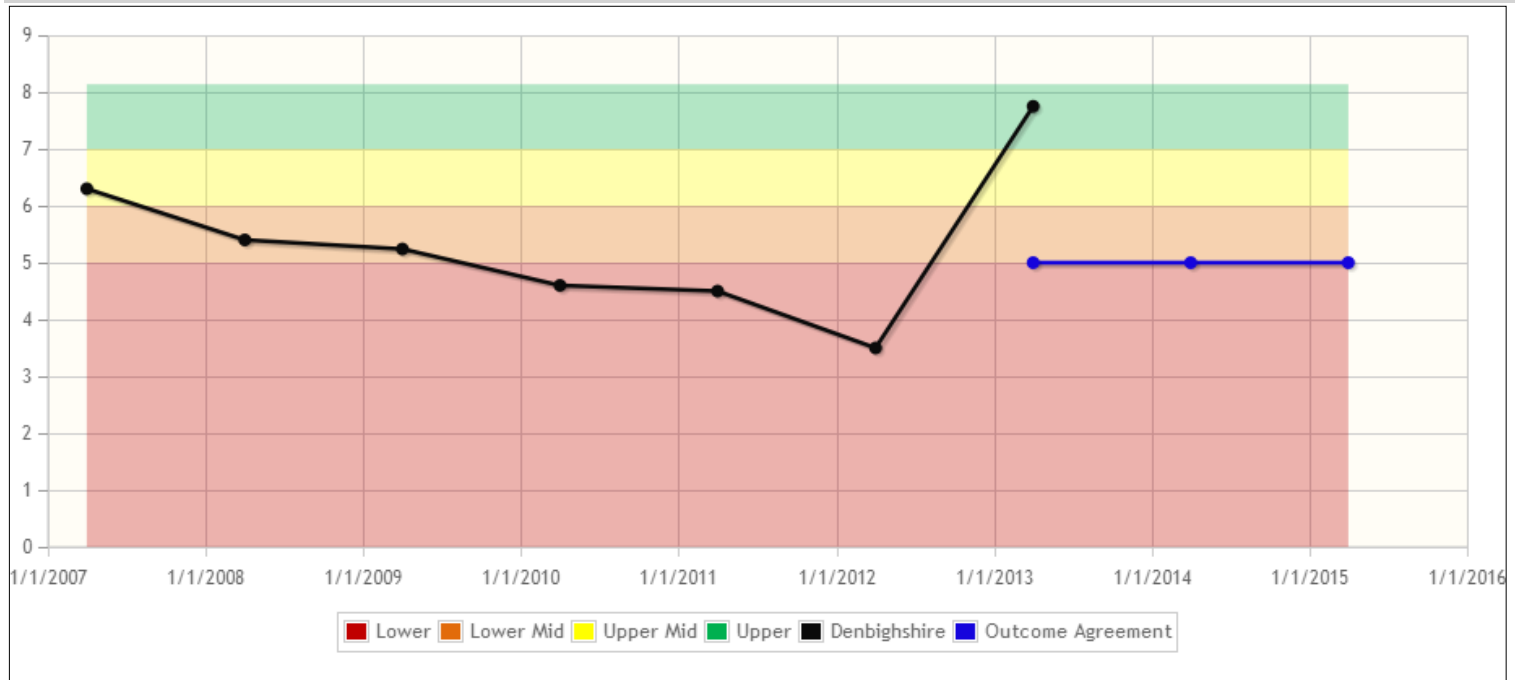
Supported(a)18	Of the people who can live independently with a package of care, the percentages that are supported to live independently through, modern supportive options (aged 18 or over)
Supported(b)18	Of the people who can live independently with a package of care, the percentages that are supported to live independently through, traditional care options (aged 18 or over)
SCA019	The percentage of adult protection referrals completed in the year where the risk has been managed
SCA019N	The number of adult protection referrals completed in the year where the risk has been managed

**OUTCOME 4 – WELSH HOMES, IMPROVING QUALITY AND INCREASING THE SUPPLY AND CHOICE: THE HOUSING MARKET IN DENBIGHSHIRE WILL OFFER A RANGE OF TYPES AND FORMS OF HOUSING IN SUFFICIENT QUANTITY TO MEET THE NEEDS OF INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES**

**Status** Priority For Improvement

**Indicators**

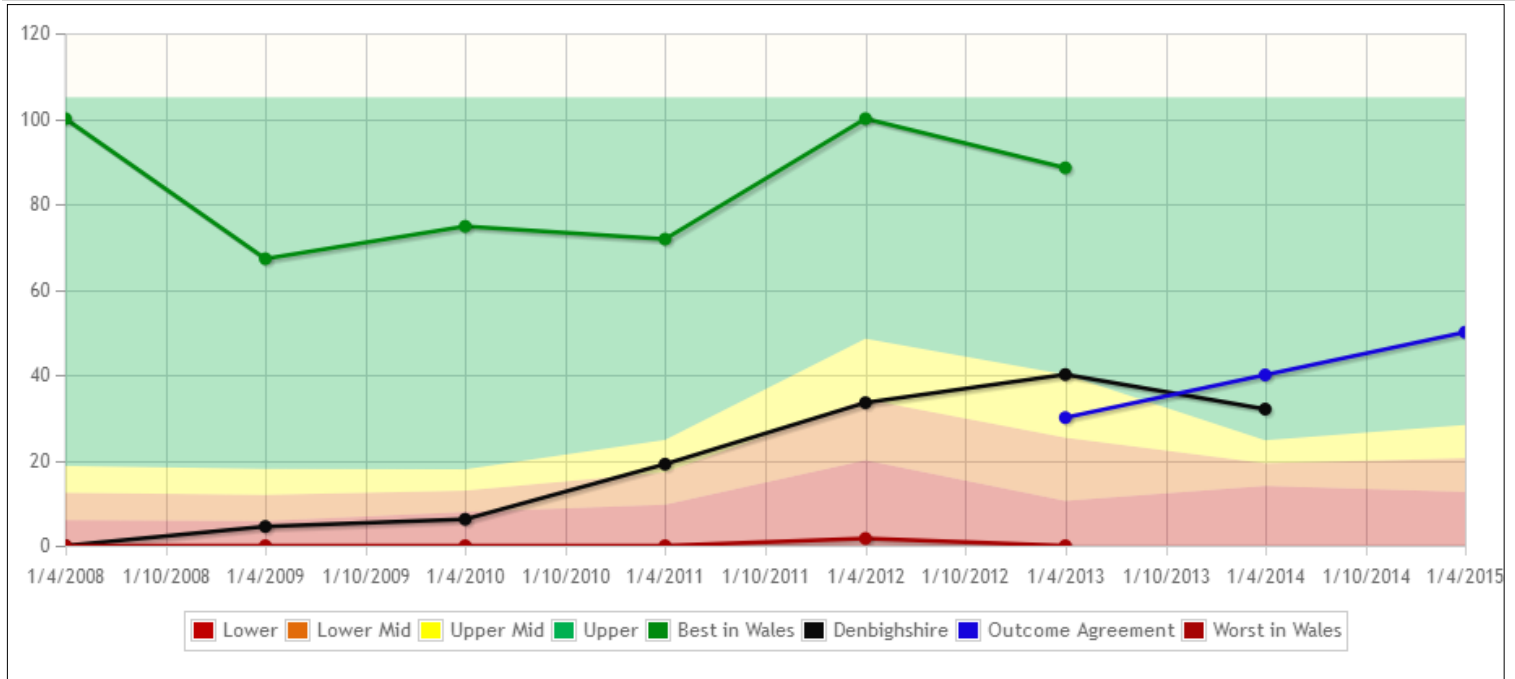
JHLAS02i	The number of new houses built and ready for occupation during the year as determined by the Joint Housing Land Availability Study
JHLAS01i	The number of new build affordable housing units delivered during the year as identified in the Joint Housing Land Availability Study
JHLAS03i	The years of supply of housing land as determined by the Joint Housing Land Availability Study



**Latest Data Comment**

Data for 2014/15 is not available until August 2015.

PSR007a	Of the Houses in Multiple Occupation known to the local authority, the percentage that have a full license
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**Latest Data Comment**

2014/15 - 32% achieved against the Outcome Agreement of 40%. The number of HMOs known to us (the denominator) has increased by 45 during the year, which has affected our performance. A service wide approach was taken not to license HMOs until an assessment was made on planning matters. Performance against this indicator is accumulative and the target of 40% is based on the year-end position, even though the all Wales median for 2013/14 was 10%.

HCD101i	The current supply of social housing
HCD102i	The current supply of affordable housing
HCD103i	The current supply of market housing

**Measures**

HHA013	The percentage of all potentially homeless households for whom homelessness was prevented for at least 6 months
PLA004c	The percentage of householder planning applications determined during the year within 8 weeks
PSR004	The percentage of private sector dwellings that had been vacant for more than 6 months at 1 April that were returned to occupation during the year through direct action by the local authority

■	Q-HSG406i	The percentage of core KPI's Benchmarked with HouseMark that are in the top quartile
■	Y-HSG304m	Percentage of council properties improved to Welsh Housing Quality Standard
■	ABS101m	The number of people helped with Care and Repair services

**OUTCOME 5 – POVERTY AND MATERIAL DEPRIVATION: IMPROVE FINANCIAL INCLUSION, AND REDUCE ECONOMIC AND FUEL POVERTY**

<b>Status</b>	<b>Excellent</b>
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**Indicators**

OA501i	The value (£m) of income gains achieved by all WRT clients on closed cases
OA502i	The total number of individuals who received support for income maximisation (people count)
OA503i	The percentage of clients reporting satisfaction with the service
OA504i	The percentage of people receiving the service who had income gains

**Measures**

OA501m	The percentage success rate with reviews and appeals
OA502m	The percentage of people with income gains lifted out of poverty
OA503m	The percentage of households with gains lifted out of fuel poverty
OA504m	The total number of individuals who received support that moved out of relative income poverty
OA505m	The total number of households who received support that moved out of fuel poverty

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**Report To: Cabinet**

**Date of Meeting: 30th June 2015**

**Lead Member / Officer: Councillor Julian Thompson-Hill /Richard Weigh**

**Report Author: Steve Gadd, Chief Accountant**

**Title: Finance Report**

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**1. What is the report about?**

The report gives details of the council's revenue budget and savings as agreed for 2015/16. 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 2015/16 and progress against the agreed budget strategy.

**4. Report details**

The report provides a summary of the council's revenue budget for 2015/16 detailed in **Appendix 1**. The council's net revenue budget is £185m (£188m in 14/15). The position on service and corporate budgets is a forecast underspend of £0.534m. Further narrative around the reasons for variances and the risks and assumptions underlying them are outlined below.

Savings of £7.3m were agreed as part of the budget and a summary of the savings is shown as **Appendix 2**. 72% of the savings have already been achieved. Progress on the remaining 28% will be monitored closely over the coming months, however there is a high degree of confidence that the majority of these savings will also be achieved.

**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?

Significant service narratives are shown in the following paragraphs.

**Children's Services** – The service is currently expected to underspend by £80k due to a projected decrease in legal costs. However projections in this service can change as the year progresses due to possible in-year changes in high cost placements.

**Other Service Risks / Assumptions** – Although other services are currently projected to break even there are a number of risks and assumptions that will be monitored closely over the coming months and reported to Members.

These include:

- Early indications are that Leisure income levels remain strong and may result in a positive budget position as the year progresses.
- Risks around School Transport, Parking and the work carried out on behalf of the Trunk Road Agency remain in 2015/16. It is currently projected that management action already identified during 2014/15 will allow the Highways and Environmental Service to break-even overall this year.
- The proposal to create and increase a severe weather reserve from the previous year's Highways and Environmental Service underspend contained in the Financial Outturn Report (which also absorbed the existing winter maintenance reserve and a previous provision set aside for floods) will help to mitigate the financial risks associated with the cost of responding to any future severe weather events. It is projected that this contingency will enable volatile service areas such as Winter Maintenance to be delivered within existing budgets.

**Schools** brought forward balances of £3.538m from 2014/15. They are currently working on detailed financial plans for the new academic year.

**Corporate** – It is currently projected that there will be an underspend on Corporate budgets of £0.454m as a result of an ongoing review of contingency budgets held centrally. The current assumption is that corporate underspends will be used to support the delivery of the Corporate Plan.

**Corporate Plan** cash reserves at the beginning of 2015/16 are £17.413m. Allowing for projected funding and expenditure during the year, the Corporate Plan balance at the end of the year is estimated to be £6.538m.

The **Housing Revenue Account (HRA)** is currently being reported as per the agreed Budget, approved by Cabinet in February 2015. However as a result of the increased 14/15 surplus, the projected balance at year end has increased to £1.9m (from £1.5m). A review of the HRA operational budget is on-going to take into account a number of legislative changes and operational restructuring.



The Capital budget of £7.8m is allocated across Repairs and Maintenance planned repairs (£7.2m), Environmental Improvements (£0.5m) and an IT project (£150k).

**Treasury Management** – At the end of May, the council's borrowing totalled £184.813m at an average rate of 5.13%. Investment balances were £25.194m at an average rate of 0.50%.

A summary of the council's **Capital Plan** is enclosed as **Appendix 3**. The approved general capital plan is £40.4 with expenditure to date of £2.89m. Also included within Appendix 2 is the proposed expenditure of £29.2m on the **Corporate Plan**.

**Appendix 4** 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 detailed impact assessment was produced as part of the budget setting process and was reported to Council in December 2014.

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

In addition to regular reports to the Corporate Governance Committee, the budget process has been considered by CET, SLT, Cabinet Briefing and Council Briefing meetings. Specific proposals were reviewed by scrutiny committees. There were ten budget workshops held with elected members to examine service budgets and consider the budget proposals.

There was a public engagement exercise to consider the impact of budget proposals and there are ongoing discussions between some of the county council's services and some Town councils. The council has consulted its partners through the joint Local Service Board and specific discussions have taken place with the Police.

All members of staff were kept informed about the budget setting process and affected staff have been or will be fully consulted, in accordance with the council's HR policies and procedures. Trade Unions have been consulted through Local Joint Consultative Committee.

**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 2015/16**

May-15	Net Budget	Budget 2015/16			Projected Outturn							Variance
	2014/15	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	5,727	11,829	-6,385	5,444	11,849	-6,405	5,444	20	-20	0	0.00%	0
Customers & Education Support	2,454	3,274	-523	2,751	3,264	-513	2,751	-10	10	0	0.00%	0
School Improvement & Inclusion	4,555	15,419	-11,518	3,901	15,036	-11,135	3,901	-383	383	0	0.00%	0
Business Improvement & Modernisation	3,734	4,566	-907	3,659	4,599	-940	3,659	33	-33	0	0.00%	0
Legal, HR & Democratic Services	2,395	3,475	-1,061	2,414	3,277	-863	2,414	-198	198	0	0.00%	0
Finance & Assets	8,354	13,306	-5,682	7,624	11,737	-4,113	7,624	-69	69	0	0.00%	0
Highways & Environmental Services	18,829	35,379	-17,246	18,133	34,242	-16,109	18,133	-1,137	1,137	0	0.00%	0
Planning & Public Protection	2,480	4,098	-1,734	2,364	3,970	-1,606	2,364	-128	128	0	0.00%	0
Community Support Services	32,269	45,177	-13,071	32,106	45,338	-13,232	32,106	161	-161	0	0.00%	0
Economic & Business Development	1,421	879	-84	795	1,095	-300	795	216	-216	0	0.00%	0
Children's Services	8,419	10,498	-2,199	8,299	9,102	-883	8,219	-1,396	1,316	-80	-0.96%	0
<b>Total Services</b>	<b>90,637</b>	<b>147,900</b>	<b>-60,410</b>	<b>87,490</b>	<b>143,509</b>	<b>-56,099</b>	<b>87,410</b>	<b>-2,891</b>	<b>2,811</b>	<b>-80</b>	<b>-0.09%</b>	<b>0</b>
Corporate	16,142	45,663	-29,006	16,657	45,209	-29,006	16,203	-454	0	-454	-2.73%	0
Precepts & Levies	4,342	4,361	0	4,361	4,361	0	4,361	0	0	0	0.00%	0
Capital Financing	13,330	12,945	0	12,945	12,945	0	12,945	0	0	0	0.00%	0
<b>Total Corporate</b>	<b>33,814</b>	<b>62,969</b>	<b>-29,006</b>	<b>33,963</b>	<b>62,515</b>	<b>-29,006</b>	<b>33,509</b>	<b>-454</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-454</b>	<b>-1.34%</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Council Services &amp; Corporate Budget</b>	<b>124,451</b>	<b>210,869</b>	<b>-89,416</b>	<b>121,453</b>	<b>206,024</b>	<b>-85,105</b>	<b>120,919</b>	<b>-3,345</b>	<b>2,811</b>	<b>-534</b>	<b>-0.44%</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Schools &amp; Non-delegated School Budgets</b>	<b>63,731</b>	<b>72,740</b>	<b>-9,437</b>	<b>63,303</b>	<b>71,393</b>	<b>-8,090</b>	<b>63,303</b>	<b>-1,347</b>	<b>1,347</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.00%</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total Council Budget</b>	<b>188,182</b>	<b>283,609</b>	<b>-98,853</b>	<b>184,756</b>	<b>277,417</b>	<b>-93,195</b>	<b>184,222</b>	<b>-4,692</b>	<b>4,158</b>	<b>-534</b>	<b>-0.29%</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Housing Revenue Account</b>	<b>-163</b>	<b>13,441</b>	<b>-13,609</b>	<b>-168</b>	<b>13,441</b>	<b>-13,609</b>	<b>-168</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>		<b>0</b>

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## Appendix 2 Agreed Savings 2015/16

Agreed Savings by Service Area	STATUS	2015/16 £'000
<b>Highways &amp; Environment</b>		
Street Cleansing - reduce activity	In Progress	100
Increase Cemetary Charges	Achieved	50
Reduce Rights of Way activity	In Progress	71
Reduce Road Safety Programme	Achieved	50
Reduce Street Lighting Inspections	Achieved	5
Introduce Charges for Green Waste	Achieved	400
Remove or reduce public transport subsidy	Achieved	166
Highways general maintenance review	In Progress	125
Reduce grounds maintenance activity	Achieved	40
Rationalisation of Countryside Services	In Progress	65
<b>Communication, Marketing &amp; Leisure</b>		
Reduce spend on recruitment advertising in newspapers	Achieved	30
Stop production of paper version of County Voice	Achieved	19
Leisure Centres - further increase income and efficiency	In Progress	118
Rhyl Pavilion - restructure and introduction of transaction fees	Achieved	62
Youth Services - changes to open access programme	Achieved	28
Youth Services - staffing structure	Achieved	46
Remove subsidy from Scala Prestatyn	Achieved	40
Rationalise Tourist Information Centres - inc. changes to opening hours	Achieved	20
Introduce charges for the use of the Drift Park water play area in Rhyl and reduce the level of Lifeguard Cover on the beaches from 2015/16	In Progress	48
Increase income recharge or transfer Denbigh Town Hall	Achieved	17
Library Service - modernisation programme (Stage 1 - delete vacant posts, reduce book fund)	In Progress	130
Library Service (Ruthin Craft Centre - reduce subsidy)	Achieved	10
<b>Education Support</b>		
Remove historic contingency budgets	Achieved	78
Premises Budget - stop facilities management service provided to schools	Achieved	70
Clothing Grants - end council support with the option to pay passed to schools	Achieved	4
Remission claims - end council support with the option to pay passed to schools	Achieved	34
Governor Support - change the way support is provided	Achieved	31
<b>Schools Delegated Budgets</b>		
Demography reduction to reflect fall in pupil numbers	Achieved	242
Use of Corporate Plan additional funding to meet 1 % protection target	Achieved	581
<b>School Inclusion</b>		
Review Additional Learning Needs - removal of external chair moderation	Achieved	3
Behaviour Support - property savings from moving Project 11	Achieved	3
Specialist equipment - reduce budget to match expenditure	Achieved	5
Review Education Social Worker Service	Achieved	120
Review Educational Psychology Service	Achieved	30
Review of Counselling Service	Achieved	100
Reduce Recoupment Budget to match expenditure	Achieved	140
<b>School Improvement Services</b>		
Regional Consortium Office costs - renegotiate costs	Achieved	30
School Library Service - stop the service	Achieved	45
Music Service - end the agreement with William Mathias	Achieved	103
School improvement discretionary subsidies - remove to match demand	Achieved	141
Outdoor pursuits SLA - involves transferring the cost to schools	Achieved	23
<b>Customer Services</b>		
Website Advertising - scope for additional income	Achieved	10
Rhyl One Stop Shop Review	In Progress	100
<b>Finance &amp; Assets</b>		
Finance - modernisation and efficiency	Achieved	60
Finance - external funding team, removal of base budget	Achieved	65
Property - Office Accommodation Rationalisation	In Progress	100
Property - management restructure	Achieved	80
Reduce the Miscellaneous Property Portfolio	In Progress	20
Property School Facilities Management Agreement	Achieved	48

Agreed Savings by Service Area	STATUS	2015/16 £'000
Revenues & Benefits Commercial Partnership	Achieved	80
<b>Corporate</b>		
Capital Financing & PFI	In Progress	650
Energy Efficiency - result of lower consumption and price increases	Achieved	300
Removal of contingency budgets	Achieved	50
<b>Corporate Complaints</b> - provision to be considered as part of the wider corporate review of support/business services	Review	40
<b>Business Improvement &amp; Modernisation</b>		
Community Safety Partnership - review contribution	Achieved	5
Information Management - service redesign	Achieved	50
Corporate Improvement Team (corporate review of support/business services)	Review	180
Corporate Project Team - increase external charges	Achieved	10
Partnerships & Communities Team	Achieved	30
Internal Audit	Achieved	75
<b>Legal &amp; Democratic Services</b>		
Reduce the Number of Committee Meetings - saving on travel costs	Achieved	2
Reduction of Civics budget	Achieved	5
<b>Strategic HR</b>		
Not replacing Head of Service	Achieved	50
Staff Training & Development - greater use of e-learning etc	Achieved	15
<b>Adult &amp; Business Services</b>		
PARIS - electronic Domiciliary Care Invoices	Achieved	37
Receivership	Achieved	13
Cefndy Healthcare	Achieved	71
Workforce Development	Achieved	75
Restructure of Locality Services	Achieved	100
Benefits & Welfare Advice Service Review	In Progress	200
<b>Children &amp; Family Services</b>		
Staffing Budgets - realign to current requirement	Achieved	150
ICT Desktop Budget	Achieved	10
Young Carers - revised contribution to regional service	Achieved	6
Children with Disabilities - reduction to equipment budget to match spend	Achieved	10
Adoption support costs	Achieved	20
National Youth Advocacy Contract	Achieved	10
Child Protection Training	Achieved	10
Parental contributions for services provided for Children with Disabilities	In Progress	50
<b>Planning &amp; Public Protection</b>		
Development Management - increase income revenue for pre application advice	In Progress	45
Public Protection - closure of Pest Control Service	Achieved	95
Pollution Control - review to consider minimum level of provision	Achieved	20
Trading Standards - stop providing consumer advice	Achieved	45
<b>Housing &amp; Community Development</b>		
HRA Recharges - increase costs funded by the Housing Revenue Account	Achieved	270
Remove Town & Area Plan Budgets	Achieved	356
Reduce Core Project/Development Budget	Achieved	159
Reduce staffing budget - deletion of a vacant post	Achieved	42
Reduce non-staffing elements throughout the Economic & Business Development Budget	Achieved	43
<b>Total Agreed Savings 2015/16</b>		<b>7,285</b>

<b>Summary:</b>	<b>£'000</b>	<b>%</b>
Savings Achieved/Replaced or Pressures Confirmed	<b>5,243</b>	<b>72</b>
Savings In Progress/Being Reviewed	<b>2,042</b>	<b>28</b>
Savings Not Achieved or Deferred and not replaced	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,285</b>	

**General Capital Plan**

**Capital Expenditure**

**Total Estimated Payments - General**  
**Total Estimated Payments - Corporate Plan**  
**Contingency**  
**Total**

	2014/15 £000s	2015/16 £000s	2016/17 £000s	2017/18 £000s
Total Estimated Payments - General	20,491	18,094	100	100
Total Estimated Payments - Corporate Plan	11,587	21,399	2,418	394
Contingency	0	919	500	500
<b>Total</b>	<b>32,078</b>	<b>40,412</b>	<b>3,018</b>	<b>994</b>

**Capital Financing**

- 1 External Funding
- 2 Receipts and Reserves
- 3 Prudential Borrowing
- 5 Unallocated Funding

**Total Capital Financing**

External Funding	19,843	12,294	5,021	4,605
Receipts and Reserves	3,507	12,680	562	61
Prudential Borrowing	8,728	15,438	1,948	433
Unallocated Funding	0	0	(4,513)	(4,105)
<b>Total Capital Financing</b>	<b>32,078</b>	<b>40,412</b>	<b>3,018</b>	<b>994</b>

**Corporate Plan**

**Approved Capital Expenditure**

**included in above plan**

Cefndy Healthcare Investment  
 Extra Care  
 Highways Maintenance and bridges  
 Feasibility Study - New Ruthin School  
 Feasibility Study - Llanfair/ Pentrecelyn  
 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**

	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s
Cefndy Healthcare Investment	301	140		
Extra Care	2			
Highways Maintenance and bridges	6,006	1,750		
Feasibility Study - New Ruthin School	81			
Feasibility Study - Llanfair/ Pentrecelyn	20			
Rhyl High School	4,202	17,116	1,856	333
Ysgol Bro Dyfrdwy - Dee Valley West Review	115	4		
Bodnant Community School	423	2,326	562	61
Ysgol Glan Clwyd	402	63		
Faith Based Secondary	35			
<b>Total Estimated Payments</b>	<b>11,587</b>	<b>29,162</b>	<b>34,389</b>	<b>26,142</b>

**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**

External Funding	5,378	1,005	416	
Receipts and Reserves	1,608	8,123	562	61
Prudential Borrowing	4,601	12,271	1,440	333
External Funding		2,535	8,537	17,277
Receipts and Reserves		5,052	3,593	2,497
Prudential Borrowing		176	19,841	5,974
<b>Total Estimated Funding</b>	<b>11,587</b>	<b>29,162</b>	<b>34,389</b>	<b>26,142</b>

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## Appendix 4 - Major Capital Projects Update May 2015

### Rhyl Harbour Development

Total Budget	£10.648m
Expenditure to date	£10.421m
Estimated remaining spend in 2015/16	£ 0.227m
Future Years estimated spend	£ Nil
Funding	WG £2.613m; WEFO £6.165m; Sustrans £0.700m: RWE £155k; WREN £69k and DCC £0.946m
Comments	<p><b>Programme</b></p> <p>The works to create the new boardwalks and picnic area recently commenced, and are due to be completed before the summer holidays.</p> <p>Work is on-going to rectify any remaining defects associated with the works undertaken at the harbour.</p>
Forecast In Year Expenditure 15/16	£0.227m

### 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools Programme – Bodnant Community School Extension and Refurbishment

Total Budget	£3.441m
Expenditure to date	£0.638m
Estimated remaining spend in 15/16	£2.249m
Future Years estimated spend	£0.554m
Funding	WG £1.687m, DCC £1.754
Comments	<p><b>Bodnant Community School</b></p> <p>This scheme is one of five projects within the Band A proposals for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools Programme.</p> <p>The project will build 7 classrooms, a new school hall and supporting facilities on the current Juniors site. This will allow the Infants pupils to move to the Juniors site and the school to operate on a single site. The Infants site will then become surplus to requirements.</p> <p>Groundworks and works to foundations have commenced for the new extension and the steelworks will begin to be built during June 2015.</p> <p>The new staff car park has been completed and is being used as a temporary playground until the Multi-Use Games Area is completed next year.</p> <p>The project should be delivered in readiness for the start of the new school year in September 2016.</p>
Forecast In Year Expenditure 15/16	£2.395m

## 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools Programme - Rhyl New School

Total Budget	£24.586m
Expenditure to date	£ 5.278m
Estimated remaining spend in 15/16	£17.119m
Future Years estimated spend	£ 2.189m
Funding	DCC £12.293m; WG £12.293m
Comments	<p>The project will provide a new school building for Rhyl High School to serve up to 1,200 pupils in mainstream education whilst also housing approximately 45 pupils from Ysgol Tir Morfa, the community special school in Rhyl.</p> <p>The floor slabs at first and second levels are now substantially in place, and works to complete the ground floor slab are partially complete. The roof installation is complete, the first fix of the mechanical and electrical works is well underway and internal partitioning to form the rooms has commenced.</p> <p>The Youth Centre building and the adjacent car park has now been vacated and fenced off to enable the next phase of the works. Additional parking has been provided at Rhyl Football Club.</p> <p>The scope of the works to the Leisure Centre has been revisited and an affordable programme of priority works has been agreed. The initial works to the roof have been delayed slightly to avoid disturbance to hatching birds and will now commence late July. The planning permission related to the external cladding is due on 20<sup>th</sup> July 2015, so this will tie in with the programme of works.</p> <p>The new school is programmed to complete in February/March 2016, at which point the pupils will transfer to the new school, and the existing school buildings will be demolished and the grounds re-instated to school playing fields.</p> <p>The anticipated completion date of the project is August 2016.</p> <p>There is ongoing consultation with key stakeholders which includes the neighbours.</p>
Forecast In Year Expenditure 15/16	£17.119m

## Nova Development

Total Budget	£4.424m
Expenditure to date	£1.091m
Estimated remaining spend in 15/16	£3.333m
Future Years estimated spend	£Nil
Funding	DCC £4.380m; Other contributions £0.044m
Comments	<p>The refurbishment of Prestatyn Nova Centre commenced on 5<sup>th</sup> January 2015. This scheme includes external environmental improvements to improve the look of the building as well as the creation of a new entrance , reception, 60 station fitness suite, café, retail units, three storey soft play structure, multi-purpose studios and refurbishment of associated toilets and changing areas throughout the complex. The scheme has also been extended to include the complete refurbishment of the public toilet block to the East of the property together with improvements to the promenade area.</p> <p>Construction works are progressing well. The demolition works and the soft strip are complete; internal block work is nearly complete and internal stud wall partitions are underway.</p> <p>The mechanical and electrical plant has been craned into position and awaits connection. The intrusive pool plant surveys are now complete and the report determining the condition and lifespan of the mechanical and electrical installations in this area is awaited. This is currently outside the scope of the project.</p> <p>The roofing works are progressing well which has been assisted by the recent good weather. The external cladding solutions for the main elevation will commence within the next six weeks.</p> <p>The cladding works will require an 8 week closure of Beach Road West. This will come into effect from the 20<sup>th</sup> July 2015. Prestatyn and Meliden Member Area Group have been informed and local residents and businesses will be informed shortly. Diversions will be put in place for the duration of the closure.</p> <p>Temporary toilets have been installed near Beach Road West. These will remain in place until early September</p>

	<p>2015 to replace the public toilet block currently under construction.</p> <p>Security is on site 7 days a week, and has been proved to be effective and dramatically reduced the number of incidents.</p> <p>The café/restaurant design has been finalised and officers are in discussions with the food and beverage operator regarding day to day operations, processes, procedures and marking /promotion of the centre.</p>
Forecast In Year Expenditure 15/16	£3.337m

### West Rhyl Coastal Development Ph 3

Total Budget	£4.715m
Expenditure to date	£3.979m
Estimated remaining spend in 15/16	£1.108m
Future Years estimated spend	£Nil
Funding	DCC £0.544m; WG/WEFO £3.949m; WG £0.222m
Comments	<p>This coastal defence scheme is the final phase of works designed to protect 2,700 properties from coastal flooding.</p> <p>Dredging of the harbour completed during the early part of June, and this provided sand fill for the defence works.</p> <p>Demolition of the sea walls including toilet block has taken place.</p> <p>A funding package for the coastal flood defence works has been agreed with Welsh Government. In addition, a Welsh Government grant for 222k has recently been awarded to provide for a cycleway linking the National Cycle Network. Anticipated additional funding for £96k from Town and Area Plans is a separate agenda item.</p> <p>The Coastal Defence Works will be complete by 30<sup>th</sup> June 2015 meeting funding deadlines. Remaining works will be complete by the end of July 2015.</p>
Forecast In Year Expenditure 15/16	£2.047m

**Report To:** Cabinet  
**Date of Meeting:** 30<sup>th</sup> June 2015  
**Lead Member:** Councillor Julian Thompson-Hill  
**Report Author:** Richard Weigh, Chief Finance Officer  
**Title:** Final Revenue Outturn 2014/15

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**1. What is the report about?**

Cabinet has received regular monitoring reports throughout the financial year on the performance of expenditure against budget and savings agreed as part of the Medium Term Financial Plan. This report details the final position at financial year end.

The first draft of the Annual Statement of Accounts for 2014/15 will be submitted to the external auditors on 30<sup>th</sup> June. The audited accounts will then be presented to the Corporate Governance Committee in September for formal approval.

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

To report the final revenue position and approve the proposed treatment of balances.

**3. What are the Recommendations?**

To note the final revenue outturn position for 2014/15 and approve the proposed treatment of reserves and balances as detailed in the report and Appendices 1 and 2.

**4. Report details**

The overall financial outturn position for 2014/15 is an under spend against the approved budget, which together with a better than forecast net yield from Council Tax strengthens the financial position of the Council. As a consequence it is possible to make recommendations for services to carry forward balances and to make transfers to specific reserves that will continue to assist the Council in addressing the financial pressures of the next few years and meet the cash commitments required to deliver the Corporate Plan.

The final Revenue Outturn figures are detailed in Appendix 1, along with the proposed treatment of service year end balances. The final position on service and corporate budgets is an under spend of £1.075m (0.57% of the net revenue budget).

Services continue to be proactive in planning for savings for future years, and the financial impact of some of those proposals began to take effect in 2014/15. Services reported commitments against balances in March which are broadly consistent with the final net position. The majority of the balances had been forecast because of timing issues (e.g. delays in implementing service changes or specific expenditure commitments being delayed). In addition, four services have proposals to transfer funds to specific reserves and these are as follows:

- Communication Marketing & Leisure – request to establish a reserve for leisure to help mitigate the risk of any future drop in revenue (as base budgets have been reduced) and to contribute to the funding of replacement equipment and swimming pool plant. Cabinet have previously agreed to £40k being established as an equipment reserve, the proposal is to increase this to £140k.
- Community Support Services – request that the in-year underspend of £151k on Cefndy Healthcare be transferred to a specific reserve to provide a financial contingency against future trading risks as the operational base budget has been removed in 2015/16.
- Economic & Business Development – proposal to transfer £128k to a Town & Area Plan reserve as part of the agreed budget strategy for 2015/16 which removed the base budget allocation on the assumption that cash funding would be carried forward.
- Highways & Environment – proposal to create and make a contribution of £147k to a severe weather reserve. This reserve will absorb the existing winter maintenance reserve and a previous provision set aside for floods totalling £176k and will help to mitigate the financial risks associated with the cost of responding to future severe weather events.

Further information regarding final **service outturn** and proposed use of in-year balances is included as **Appendix 2**.

**Schools** - Expenditure on schools was £0.354m above the delegated budget. School balances now stand at £3.538m which equates to an average of £232 per pupil (£256 last year) and 5.12% of the net schools budget (5.66% last year). School balances are detailed in **Appendix 3**.

The position on the yield from **Council Tax** is impacted upon by the number of dwellings in the County and the collection rate. The council has maintained a relatively high level of tax collection of 97.6% (97.7% last year). Assumptions when the budgets were set had taken account of a possible drop in collection rates and based on previous years experiences, additional contributions to fund provisions for bad debts. However, the council continued to successfully maintain a high collection rate, albeit with a slight reduction and the contribution to the bad debt provision was less than expected. This resulted in there being no requirement to draw down additional funding from general balances.

As a consequence, the final net funding position is £235k (0.6%) higher than

the original estimate and the Council therefore has a one off benefit. It is recommended that this is transferred to the Delivering Change/Modernisation Reserve to help fund the upfront cost of service change management and modernisation projects over the next two years. As this relates to funding and is separate from the service budget position, the transfer has been assumed in the analysis of specific reserves presented as Appendix 4 but is still subject to cabinet approval. Appendix 4 details all specific reserves and the movement within the year.

The council's policy on the management and monitoring of reserves is being updated and will be published alongside the final accounts in September.

The council budgeted to make contributions to the funding of the Corporate Plan. Based on current assumptions, the Plan requires approximately £24m of cash and £40m of borrowing to deliver the council's ambitions. Part of the strategy to deliver this has been identifying revenue budget resources to generate cash to fund capital expenditure. The 2014/15 budget assumed contributions to the funding of the Corporate Plan would be made through priority funding, budgeted provisions within corporate budgets and other in-year cash transfers. The total funding allocated to the Corporate Plan reserve from the 14/15 revenue budget is £3.5m, with a further £280k proposed as part of the final position. In addition, during the year, £1.1m was reallocated from a provision originally set aside to fund the cost of historic equal pay claims (reported to Cabinet in February 2015).

With expenditure of £2.1m against the Corporate Plan reserve during the year, the final position at year-end is a balance of £17.4m.

Given the position overall within services, it is proposed at this stage that services carry forward the net under spends listed as Committed Service Balances in Appendix 1 to help deliver the 2015/16 budget strategy and meet existing commitments. Services will be required to outline in more detail how the balances brought forward have been used in 2015/16 in the Finance Report to Cabinet in October. Unused balances may be reallocated as a result of this review.

The council is in the process of terminating the County Hall PFI contract. The negotiation process is ongoing with the broad substance of the transaction involving the council terminating a lease agreement and paying financial compensation to the lessor. The process to undertake the termination was agreed as part of the budget setting process for 2015/16 and will result in a revenue saving for the council. Assumptions were made within the capital financing budget that the transaction would be completed before the end of the 2014/15 financial year. As the negotiations are still ongoing however, the provisions made in 2014/15 have been transferred to the PFI Reserve to facilitate the transaction during 2015/16.

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

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

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

The council's net revenue budget for 2014/15 was £188m. The final position on service and corporate budgets was a net under spend of £1.075m (0.57% of the net budget). Taking account of funding, the variance on the total budget was £1.3m (0.69%). Where services have highlighted legitimate expenditure commitments against 2014/15 balances, it is proposed that those services carry the net balance forward to 2015/16. The position within each service and intended use of brought forward service balances will be reviewed in the autumn of 2015/16.

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

A summary EqIA was submitted to Council in February 2014.

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

Budget meetings were held with each head of service and cabinet member as the 2014/15 budget was set. Budget workshops were held with members during the year. The capital plan was approved by council following scrutiny by the Strategic Investment Group and recommendation by cabinet.

**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 years.

In the last three years, the council has delivered revenue budgets savings of almost £14m which is a considerable achievement. The council's approach to identifying savings as early as possible means that some savings are delivered early and this impacts upon the in-year position. Even with such a volatility in the current financial climate, the total variance on a gross budget of over £280m is less than half of one percent.

The final position means that the contributions required to fund the Corporate Plan can be made. The Plan cannot be delivered unless the required cash resources are earmarked for investment in schools, social care and other priorities. The successful identification and earmarking of the resources to deliver the Plan over the last three years, coupled with a period of historically low borrowing costs, means that if current assumptions about future costs and funding are consistent, the Plan is affordable and therefore achievable from a financial perspective.



**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.

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	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Outturn</u>	<u>Variance</u>	<u>Schools</u>	<u>Committed</u>	<u>Proposed</u>	<u>Corporate Plan</u>	<u>Service</u>
	<u>£'000</u>	<u>£'000</u>	<u>£'000</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Service</u>	<u>Transfers to</u>	<u>Balances</u>	<u>Overspend</u>
				<u>£'000</u>	<u>Balances</u>	<u>Specific</u>	<u>£'000</u>	<u>£'000</u>
					<u>£'000</u>	<u>Reserves</u>		
						<u>£'000</u>		
<b>Services</b>								
Business Improvement & Modernisation	3,735	3,706	-29		-29			
Legal, HR & Democratic Services	2,395	2,358	-37		-37			
Finance & Assets	7,410	7,343	-67		-67			
Highways & Environmental Services	18,880	18,733	-147			-147		
Planning & Public Protection	2,480	2,597	117					117
Community Support Services	32,301	32,044	-257		-106	-151		
Children's Services	8,421	8,142	-279				-279	
Economic & Business Development	1,418	1,227	-191		-63	-128		
Communication, Marketing & Leisure	6,271	6,069	-202		-62	-140		
Customers & Education Support	2,456	2,455	-1				-1	
School Improvement & Inclusion	4,550	4,346	-204		-204			
<b>Service Budgets</b>	<b>90,316</b>	<b>89,020</b>	<b>-1,296</b>		<b>-568</b>	<b>-566</b>	<b>-280</b>	<b>117</b>
<b>Schools</b>	<b>64,186</b>	<b>64,541</b>	<b>354</b>	<b>354</b>				
<b>Corporate Budgets</b>								
Corporate	16,007	15,874	-133		-16			-117
Capital Financing/Investment Interest	13,330	13,330	0					
Levies	4,342	4,342	0					
<b>Total Services &amp; Corporate Budgets</b>	<b>188,183</b>	<b>187,107</b>	<b>-1,075</b>	<b>354</b>	<b>-584</b>	<b>-566</b>	<b>-280</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>FUNDING</b>								
<b>Welsh Government Funding:</b>								
RSG B03	115,539	115,539	0					
NNDR B15	29,631	29,631	0					
	<b>145,170</b>	<b>145,170</b>	<b>0</b>					
<b>Local Funding:</b>								
Council Tax & Balances	43,012	43,248	-235					
<b>Total Funding</b>	<b>188,183</b>	<b>188,418</b>	<b>-235</b>			<b>-235</b>		<b>0</b>
<b>In-year Position</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-1,310</b>	<b>-1,310</b>	<b>354</b>	<b>-584</b>	<b>-801</b>	<b>-280</b>	<b>0</b>

**RESULTING POSITION AT 31/03/2015**

<b>School Balances Brought Forward</b>	-3,892
<b>In Year requirement</b>	354
<b>School Balances Carried Forward</b>	<b>-3,538</b>

**Earmarked Balances**

**Services**

Business Improvement & Modernisation	29
Legal, HR & Democratic Services	37
Finance & Assets	67
Community Support Services	106
Economic & Business Development	63
Communication, Marketing & Leisure	62
School Improvement & Inclusion	204
Corporate Services	16
<b>Total</b>	<b>584</b>

**Transfers to Earmarked Reserves:**

From Services	566
From Funding	235
<b>Total</b>	<b>801</b>

**Corporate Plan Reserve**

Balance Brought Forward	14,656
In-year Contribution	4,611
In-year Expenditure	-2,134
Year-end Contribution	280
<b>Balance Carried Forward</b>	<b>17,413</b>

## Appendix 2 Summary of Service Commitments & Proposals

Service	Detail	£
<b>Service Commitments (Timing Issues)</b>		<b>000</b>
Communication, Marketing & Leisure	Pontoon replacement for Marine Lake - Health and safety requirement.	10
Communication, Marketing & Leisure	Pool inflatables for Denbigh & Ruthin Leisure Centres.	22
Communication, Marketing & Leisure	Redundancy costs associated with the future agreed efficiencies .	30
Community Support Services	Fund the remaining costs of employing 2 independent agency social workers for the provider services review.	10
Community Support Services	ICT Costs etc. to relocate support staff from Trem-y-Dyffryn to the main offices in Ruthin.	12
Community Support Services	Staff termination costs arising from the agreed 15/16 budget following the Freedoms & Flexibilities exercise.	44
Community Support Services	The delay in implementing the new CAB contract will lead to additional one-off costs being incurred in 15/16.	30
Community Support Services	Works commissioned by Property Services at Cysgod y Gaer that were not completed by 31 <sup>st</sup> March.	10
Economic & Business Development	Fund the remaining committed costs of the Coastal Facilities support project.	23
Economic & Business Development	Economic Community Ambition Board - contribution to projects approved by ECA Board	40
Finance & Assets (Procurement)	Fund the costs of the temporary Procurement Transformation Manager post in 15/16	18
School Improvement and Inclusion	Exit costs and potential timing delays associated with the future agreed efficiencies .	204
Business Improvement & Modernisation	A change to the cost profile of a number of leases which has resulted in unfunded commitments in 15/16	29
Finance & Assets (Property)	Committed exit costs in 2015/16 relating to the achievement of Freedoms and Flexibilities efficiency savings	2
Finance & Assets (Property)	Ongoing pressure relating to the Coastal Facilities which will allow identification of permanent solution	25
Finance & Assets (Finance)	Restructure costs committed and will be spent in May 2015	22
Legal, Democratic & HR	Commitment to purchase new software - procurement was delayed in 2014/15	37
Corporate	Upgrade/renewal of ICT equipment in the Council Chamber	16
	<b>Total Commitments</b>	<b>584</b>
<b>Service Proposals</b>	<b>Transfers to Earmarked Reserves</b>	
Communication, Marketing & Leisure	Costs for replacement pool plant to remove capital requirement and future loss of revenue risk.	100
Communication, Marketing & Leisure	New Leisure Equipment Reserve (previously agreed by Cabinet)	40
Community Support Services	Create a new Cefndy Healthcare Reserve as a result of the function having a nil net budget going forward	151
Economic & Business Development	Contribution to Town and Area Plans reserve to fund final set of projects that has been recommended for approval.	128
Highways & Environment Services	Increase future resilience by placing underspend in a reserve to help fund any future severe weather events	147
	<b>Total Proposals</b>	<b>566</b>
<b>Transfers to Corporate Plan</b>		
Children's Services	Service reserves for developing services for Children with Disabilities and adaptations to foster care properties were established at the end of 2013/14. These reserves have not been fully utilised in 2014/15 so it proposed that the service underspend is transferred to support the Corporate Plan.	279
Customer & Education Support	Minor underspend transferred to Corporate Plan in 2014/15	1
	<b>Total Commitments &amp; Proposals &amp; Transfers to Corporate Plan</b>	<b>1,430</b>

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Primary School Balances As at 31.03.2015

0.5 = Nursery

Cost Centre	School	Balance as at 31.03.2014	Balance as at 31.03.2015	Movement in Year	Total Pupil Nos Sept 2014	Balance per Pupil	School Budget 2014/2015	Balance as %age of Budget
114	Ysgol Betws Gwerfil Goch	9,448	11,856	2,407	30	402	218,271	5.43%
116	Ysgol Y Faenol	39,510	52,339	12,829	143	366	532,591	9.83%
117	Ysgol Bodfari	25,337	10,582	(14,755)	46	230	205,144	5.16%
136	Ysgol Carrog	38,159	29,549	(8,610)	35	844	211,744	13.95%
140	Ysgol Cefn Meiriadog	15,878	11,192	(4,686)	70	160	312,323	3.58%
147	Ysgol Carreg Emlyn	20,667	3,035	(17,632)	67	45	399,873	0.76%
162	Ysgol Caer Drewyn	61,207	71,750	10,543	87	829	427,285	16.79%
165	Ysgol Bro Dyfrdwy	36,011	2,121	(33,890)	101	21	462,072	0.46%
168	Ysgol Y Parc Infants	62,590	(18,055)	(80,645)	171	(106)	667,962	-2.70%
169	Ysgol Frongoch Juniors	38,030	10,739	(27,290)	207	52	577,488	1.86%
172	Ysgol Twm o'r Nant	23,361	6,208	(17,153)	270	23	979,356	0.63%
173	Ysgol Pendref	(75,786)	(59,406)	16,380	163	(364)	739,666	-8.03%
176	Ysgol Hiraddug	96,221	95,930	(291)	212	453	774,836	12.38%
196	Ysgol Gellifor	22,244	38,068	15,824	91	421	366,857	10.38%
210	Ysgol Bro Elwern	12,304	15,468	3,163	38	412	206,151	7.50%
219	Ysgol Henllan	7,039	23,228	16,189	61	384	357,533	6.50%
247	Ysgol Bro Famau	15,777	(6,723)	(22,500)	88	(76)	416,675	-1.61%
249	Llanbedr Controlled	26,098	1,428	(24,670)	28	52	207,345	0.69%
251	Ysgol Dyffryn Ial	39,551	32,167	(7,384)	42	766	232,547	13.83%
255	Ysgol Bryn Clwyd	13,500	18,290	4,790	25	732	209,359	8.74%
258	Ysgol Llanfair D.C.	81,521	38,963	(42,558)	99	394	386,652	10.08%
266	Ysgol Bryn Collen	23,727	(16,534)	(40,261)	156	(106)	561,395	-2.95%
268	Ysgol Bro Cinmeirch	11,558	15,646	4,088	78	202	351,070	4.46%
284	Ysgol Melyd	71,643	22,911	(48,731)	149	154	720,345	3.18%
325	Ysgol Pentrecelyn	13,254	(4,911)	(18,165)	41	(120)	217,249	-2.26%
332	Ysgol Bodnant Community School	109,162	20,850	(88,312)	445	47	1,497,702	1.39%
333	Clawdd Offa	20,634	11,533	(9,100)	361	32	1,046,727	1.10%
336	Ysgol Penmorfa	95,214	51,739	(43,474)	419	123	1,417,841	3.65%
337	Ysgol Y Lllys	81,881	110,287	28,406	305	362	1,067,428	10.33%
338	Ysgol Pantpastynog	30,530	21,499	(9,031)	66	328	342,033	6.29%
351	Ysgol Rhewl	19,603	13,786	(5,817)	55	253	310,793	4.44%
361	Ysgol Y Castell	49,039	57,680	8,640	198	291	731,749	7.88%
364	Ysgol Bryn Hedydd	72,513	81,181	8,668	444	183	1,409,100	5.76%
365	Christ Church C.P.	112,139	50,531	(61,608)	410	123	1,538,737	3.28%
366	Ysgol Dewi Sant	89,597	69,021	(20,576)	494	140	1,661,889	4.15%
367	Ysgol Emmanuel	140,612	81,007	(59,604)	433	187	1,573,278	5.15%
368	Ysgol Llywelyn	29,755	(42,872)	(72,627)	573	(75)	1,826,004	-2.35%
369	Ysgol Mair R.C.	54,679	11,985	(42,694)	305	39	1,023,335	1.17%
373	Ysgol Borthyn Controlled	25,211	(7,906)	(33,117)	131	(60)	585,948	-1.35%
374	Rhos St. C.P.	80,643	59,050	(21,594)	158	374	592,745	9.96%
375	Ysgol Penbarras	76,808	65,536	(11,272)	241	272	834,592	7.85%
390	St. Asaph Infants V.P.	2,800	1,648	(1,152)	102	16	431,770	0.38%
392	Ysgol Esgob Morgan	16,228	42,633	26,405	107	398	384,904	11.08%
405	Ysgol Treinant Controlled	33,531	42,973	9,442	72	601	339,109	12.67%
408	Ysgol Tremerchion	21,058	25,470	4,412	57	447	297,833	8.55%
467	Ysgol Gymraeg Y Gwernant	(6)	1,027	1,032	134	8	592,791	0.17%
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>1,890,482</b>	<b>1,174,499</b>	<b>(715,982)</b>	<b>8,000</b>		<b>30,248,098</b>	<b>3.88%</b>

Average

147

## Secondary School Balances

Cost Centre	School	Balance as at 31.03.2014	Balance as at 31.03.2015	Movement in Year	Total Pupil Nos Sept 2014	Balance per Pupil	School Budget 2014/2015	Balance as %age of Budget
513	Denbigh High School	216,769	181,161	(35,608)	615	295	3,246,320	5.58%
527	Ysgol Dinas Bran	108,949	172,281	63,331	941	183	4,865,865	3.54%
537	Prestatyn High School	439,459	404,898	(34,561)	1,742	232	7,447,297	5.44%
541	Rhyl High School	(98,505)	142,507	241,012	784	182	3,988,197	3.57%
543	Blessed Edward Jones High School	(213,245)	94,949	308,194	396	240	2,356,678	4.03%
549	Ysgol Brynhyfryd	64,928	54,389	(10,539)	1,077	51	5,456,803	1.00%
553	Ysgol Glan Clwyd	246,315	308,103	61,788	992	311	4,524,077	6.81%

<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>764,670</b>	<b>1,358,287</b>	<b>593,617</b>	<b>6,547</b>		<b>31,885,237</b>	<b>4.26%</b>
					<b>Average</b>	<b>207</b>		

## Special School Balances

Cost Centre	School	Balance as at 31.03.2014	Balance as at 31.03.2015	Movement in Year	Total Pupil Nos Sept 2014	Balance per Pupil	School Budget 2014/2015	Balance as %age of Budget
619	Ysgol Plas Brondyffryn	629,932	483,468	(146,464)	122	3,963	2,741,350	17.64%
655	Ysgol Tir Morfa	469,059	493,244	24,185	124	3,994	2,202,727	22.39%

<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>1,098,991</b>	<b>976,712</b>	<b>(122,279)</b>	<b>246</b>		<b>4,944,077</b>	<b>19.76%</b>
					<b>Average</b>	<b>3,978</b>		

## Middle School Balances

Cost Centre	School	Balance as at 31.03.2014	Balance as at 31.03.2015	Movement in Year	Total Pupil Nos Sept 2014	Balance per Pupil	School Budget 2014/2015	Balance as %age of Budget
790	St. Brigid's	138,217	28,451	(109,766)	489	58	2,090,188	1.36%

<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>138,217</b>	<b>28,451</b>	<b>(109,766)</b>	<b>489</b>		<b>2,090,188</b>	<b>1.36%</b>
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Average 58

<b>TOTAL ALL SCHOOLS</b>		<b>3,892,359</b>	<b>3,537,949</b>	<b>(354,410)</b>	<b>15,281</b>		<b>69,167,600</b>	<b>5.12%</b>
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**Average balance per pupil - all schools**

**232**



**Appendix 4****Transfers to/from Earmarked Reserves**

	Balance at 31/03/2014 £000	Transfers Out 2014/15 £000	Transfers In 2014/15 £000	Balance at 31/03/2015 £000
<b>Schools</b>				
School Balances	(3,892)	1,257	(903)	(3,538)
Early Retirement Fund - Schools	(158)	232	(120)	(46)
Out of County Placements/Recoupment	(331)	0	(28)	(359)
School Year Projects	0	0	(16)	(16)
Schools IT Network Development	0	0	(120)	(120)
	<b>(4,381)</b>	<b>1,489</b>	<b>(1,187)</b>	<b>(4,079)</b>
<b>Grant &amp; Capital Related</b>				
Capital Schemes	(904)	381	(693)	(1,216)
Capital Financing (VAT refund and interest)	(360)	360	0	0
PFI Grant	(4,474)	0	(2,591)	(7,065)
Planning Delivery for Wales	(248)	83	(83)	(248)
Sustainable Waste Management	(3,895)	100	(273)	(4,068)
Revenue Grants Unapplied	(554)	361	(460)	(653)
Energy Efficiency Loan Scheme	(18)	18	0	0
Supporting People Reserve	(2,992)	0	0	(2,992)
External Funding Administration	(150)	99	(79)	(130)
	<b>(13,595)</b>	<b>1,402</b>	<b>(4,179)</b>	<b>(16,372)</b>
<b>Legal Obligations/Commitments</b>				
Town & County Planning Act (s.106) Requirements	(1,543)	146	(14)	(1,411)
Single Status	(782)	412	0	(370)
S.117 Mental Health Act	(52)	0	0	(52)
CESI Pooled Budget	(12)	0	(3)	(15)
Coroner	(30)	0	(70)	(100)
	<b>(2,419)</b>	<b>558</b>	<b>(87)</b>	<b>(1,948)</b>
<b>Social Care</b>				
Specialist PSS Placements	(890)	0	0	(890)
Care Home Fees	(358)	0	0	(358)
Social Care Amenity Fund	(14)	0	0	(14)
Local Safeguarding Children's Board	(64)	3	(43)	(104)
Modernising Social Care	(300)	0	0	(300)
Children with Disabilities	(250)	92	0	(158)
Health & Social Care Support Workers	(24)	0	(20)	(44)
	<b>(1,900)</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>(63)</b>	<b>(1,868)</b>

<b>Service &amp; Corporate</b>				
Environmental Services	(137)	4	(13)	(146)
Modernising Education	(99)	6	0	(93)
Leisure Strategy	(250)	0	0	(250)
Insurance Fund	(750)	17	0	(733)
Major Events Reserve	(117)	90	(21)	(48)
Elections	(53)	0	(40)	(93)
Risk Management Fund	(167)	0	(54)	(221)
IT Networks Development	(162)	0	0	(162)
IT Systems Development (EDRMS)	(80)	40	0	(40)
Delivering Change/Modernisation	(509)	481	(540)	(568)
Regeneration Project (VAT Refund)	(72)	0	(48)	(120)
Winter Maintenance	(76)	0	(100)	(176)
Major Highways Projects	(79)	0	0	(79)
Contract Services Equipment	(108)	0	0	(108)
LDP Future Costs	(71)	4	0	(67)
Design & Development	(120)	0	0	(120)
Area Member Reserve	(44)	14	(11)	(41)
Superannuation Recovery	(795)	5	(135)	(925)
N. Wales Regional Transformation Fund	(17)	10	0	(7)
Training Collaboration	(30)	0	0	(30)
Finance & Legal Reserves	(83)	0	0	(83)
Signing Schemes	(85)	23	(27)	(89)
Corporate Plan	(14,657)	2,133	(4,890)	(17,414)
Resident Survey	(12)	0	(5)	(17)
Town Plans/Economic Development	(515)	0	(193)	(708)
Channel Shift	(252)	0	0	(252)
Digitisation Project	0	0	(46)	(46)
	<b>(19,340)</b>	<b>2,827</b>	<b>(6,123)</b>	<b>(22,636)</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>(41,635)</b>	<b>6,371</b>	<b>(11,639)</b>	<b>(46,903)</b>

Cabinet Forward Work Plan

Meeting		Item (description / title)	Purpose of report	Cabinet Decision required (yes/no)	Author – Lead member and contact officer
<b>28 July</b>	1	Finance Report	To update Cabinet on the current financial position of the Council	Tbc	Councillor Julian Thompson-Hill / Richard Weigh
	2	The Future of In-house Care Services	To consider the results of the consultation with existing users of in-house care services	Yes	Councillor Bobby Feeley / Phil Gilroy
	3	Car Park Charges	To give members the opportunity to decide which car park charging regime they would like to see implemented across the county.	Tbc	Councillor David Smith / Steve Parker / Mike Jones
	4	Business Rates Write Offs	To seek approval for uncollectible Business Rates Debts to be written off	Yes	Cllr Julian Thompson-Hill / Rod Urquhart
	5	Items from Scrutiny Committees	To consider any issues raised by Scrutiny for Cabinet's attention	Tbc	Scrutiny Coordinator
<b>29 September</b>	1	Finance Report	To update Cabinet on the current financial position of	Tbc	Councillor Julian Thompson-Hill /

Cabinet Forward Work Plan

Meeting	Item (description / title)		Purpose of report	Cabinet Decision required (yes/no)	Author – Lead member and contact officer
			the Council		Richard Weigh
	2	Ruthin Primary Proposals – Ysgol Rhewl	To consider the objections received for the closure of Ysgol Rhewl and whether to approve implementation of the proposal	Yes	Councillor Eryl Williams / Jackie Walley
	3	Ruthin Primary Proposals – Ysgol Llanfair DC and Ysgol Pentrecelyn	To consider the objections received for the closure of Ysgol Llanfair DC and Ysgol Pentrecelyn and the opening of a new area school to serve the area of Llanfair DC and Pentrecelyn, and whether to approve implementation of the proposal	Yes	Councillor Eryl Williams / Jackie Walley
	4	Ruthin Primary Proposals – Ysgol Llanbedr	To consider the formal consultation report following the publication of proposals for the closure of Ysgol Llanbedr and to consider whether to publish the relevant statutory notice	Yes	Councillor Eryl Williams / Jackie Walley
	5	Ysgol Glan Clwyd (Part II report)	To seek authority to award the construction contract for the extension and	Yes	Councillor Eryl Williams / Jackie Walley

Cabinet Forward Work Plan

Meeting	Item (description / title)		Purpose of report	Cabinet Decision required (yes/no)	Author – Lead member and contact officer
			refurbishment works at Ysgol Glan Clwyd		
	6	Corporate Plan Performance Report 2015/16 Q1	To consider progress against the Corporate Plan	Tbc	Cllr Julian Thompson-Hill / Liz Grieve
	7	Items from Scrutiny Committees	To consider any issues raised by Scrutiny for Cabinet's attention	Tbc	Scrutiny Coordinator
<b>27 October</b>	1	Finance Report	To update Cabinet on the current financial position of the Council	Tbc	Councillor Julian Thompson-Hill / Richard Weigh
	2	Items from Scrutiny Committees	To consider any issues raised by Scrutiny for Cabinet's attention	Tbc	Scrutiny Coordinator
<b>24 November</b>	1	Finance Report	To update Cabinet on the current financial position of the Council	Tbc	Councillor Julian Thompson-Hill / Richard Weigh
	2	Items from Scrutiny Committees	To consider any issues raised by Scrutiny for Cabinet's attention	Tbc	Scrutiny Coordinator
<b>15 December</b>	1	Finance Report	To update Cabinet on the current financial position of the Council	Tbc	Councillor Julian Thompson-Hill / Richard Weigh

Cabinet Forward Work Plan

Meeting	Item (description / title)		Purpose of report	Cabinet Decision required (yes/no)	Author – Lead member and contact officer
	2	Corporate Plan Performance Report 2015/16 Q2	To consider progress against the Corporate Plan	Tbc	Cllr Julian Thompson-Hill / Liz Grieve
	3	Items from Scrutiny Committees	To consider any issues raised by Scrutiny for Cabinet's attention	Tbc	Scrutiny Coordinator

Note for officers – Cabinet Report Deadlines

<i>Meeting</i>	<b><i>Deadline</i></b>	<i>Meeting</i>	<b><i>Deadline</i></b>	<i>Meeting</i>	<b><i>Deadline</i></b>
<i>July</i>	<b><i>14 July</i></b>	<i>September</i>	<b><i>15 September</i></b>	<i>October</i>	<b><i>13 October</i></b>

Updated 17/06/15 - KEJ

Cabinet Forward Work Programme.doc