

To: Members of the Cabinet

Date: 6 January 2016

Direct Dial: 01824712589

e-mail: dcc_admin@denbighshire.gov.uk

Dear Councillor

You are invited to attend a meeting of the **CABINET** to be held at **10.00 am** on **TUESDAY, 12 JANUARY 2016** 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 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS (Pages 3 - 4)

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

3 URGENT MATTERS

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

4 MINUTES (Pages 5 - 8)

To receive the minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on 15 December 2015 (copy enclosed).

5 DENBIGHSHIRE SUPPORTING PEOPLE LOCAL COMMISSIONING PLAN 2016-19 (Pages 9 - 48)

To consider a report (including a **confidential appendix**) by Councillor Bobby Feeley, Lead Member for Social Care, Adult and Children's Services (copy enclosed) seeking approval of the Supporting People Local Commissioning Plan 2016-19 for submission to the North Wales Regional Collaborative Committee.

6 BUDGET 2016/17 (FINAL PROPOSALS - PHASE 6) (Pages 49 - 56)

To consider a report by Councillor Julian Thompson-Hill, Lead Member for Finance, Corporate Plan and Performance (copy enclosed) setting out the implications of the Draft Local Government Settlement 2016/17 and proposals to finalise the budget for 2016/17.

7 FINANCE REPORT (Pages 57 - 72)

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.

8 CABINET FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME (Pages 73 - 76)

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

COPIES TO:

All Councillors for information
Press and Libraries
Town and Community Councils

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2000

Code of Conduct for Members

DISCLOSURE AND REGISTRATION OF INTERESTS

I, *(name)*

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

Denbighshire County Council

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

Date of Disclosure:

Committee *(please specify)*:

Agenda Item No.

Subject Matter:

Nature of Interest:

*(See the note below)**

Signed

Date

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

This page is intentionally left blank

CABINET

Minutes of a meeting of the Cabinet held in Conference Room 1a, County Hall, Ruthin on Tuesday, 15 December 2015 at 10.00 am.

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 Ray Bartley and Meirick Davies

ALSO PRESENT

Chief Executive (MM); Corporate Directors: Economy and Public Realm (RM) and Communities (NS); Heads of Service: Legal, HR and Democratic Services (GW) and Head of Finance, Assets and Housing (JG); Strategic Planning Team Manager (LG); Valuation and Estates Manager (GT); Chief Finance Officer (RW), and Committee Administrator (KEJ)

1 APOLOGIES

There were no apologies.

2 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

No declarations of interest had been raised.

3 URGENT MATTERS

No urgent matters had been raised.

4 MINUTES

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

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

5 CORPORATE PLAN PERFORMANCE REPORT QUARTER 2 - 2015/16

Councillor Julian Thompson-Hill presented the report providing an update on the delivery of the Corporate Plan 2012 – 17 as at the end of quarter 2 of 2015/16.

The performance report provided a summary position for each outcome in the Plan together with an analysis of key exceptions. All outcomes had been evaluated as acceptable or better and an explanation behind the status of each indicator had been included within the report with key issues elaborated upon further at the meeting. In terms of the Corporate Project Register there were no projects with a 'Red' status and only three projects with an 'Orange' acceptable status with all projects on track. Cabinet was advised that the Quarter 2 report had been considered by Performance Scrutiny Committee where issues relating to the new British Gas billing system and dog fouling byelaws had been raised.

During consideration of the report members discussed the following –

- Pupil attendance in school – latest annual figures (to April 2014) showed performance 0.1% below the acceptable level of 93.7%. Whilst this indicator was a priority for improvement it was not a particular area of concern
- Percentage of open cases of children on the child protection register who have an allocated social worker – in order to provide assurances on the removal of this indicator members were advised that the outcomes framework was changing in line with the requirements of the new Social Services and Wellbeing Act and the indicator was being replaced with a raft of indicators which could capture data in a more meaningful way – the service would likely continue to monitor this particular indicator pending the establishment of the new indicators
- Residents Survey – members were advised that the data was from the 2013 survey and results from the 2015 survey reflecting the latest views would be available for the next quarterly report. It was agreed that a comparative of the two survey results be included in that report
- Carbon Emissions – information could not be produced at present due to a major issue with the new British Gas billing system which they were working to resolve. The problem was not unique to Denbighshire with a number of local authorities affected and it was suggested that consideration be given to seeking support from the WLGA and LGA in raising the issue with Energy Ministers. In any event the Council was due to change its energy provider from April 2016. Reference was also made to the work of the Council in reducing its carbon emissions and the Head of Finance, Assets and Housing agreed to circulate a briefing note clarifying the current position with regard to the billing system issue and steps being undertaken in order to reduce the Council's carbon footprint
- Developing the Local Economy – the Leader highlighted changes to Welsh Government support and funding for new business and concerns over the proposed new model which he felt could impede business growth in Denbighshire. The Corporate Director: Economy and Public Realm reported further upon the way Welsh Government support for businesses was changing and provided assurances that the Council was working closely with other business advice and support providers for the benefit of businesses locally.

Cabinet commended the positive nature of the performance report and discussed how best to convey that message to the public and generate positive publicity. Members advocated a drip feed approach to ensure a regular supply of information on the excellent performance and wider good work and investment in other areas and on major projects. It was also suggested that the success of previously completed projects, such as the Rhyl Harbour Development, be re-promoted.

Councillor Hugh Irving agreed to take the matter up with the Communications Team.

RESOLVED that Cabinet receives the report and notes the progress in delivering the Corporate Plan 2012 – 17 as at the end of quarter 2 of 2015/16.

6 FINANCE REPORT

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

- a net under spend of £0.410m was forecast for service and corporate budgets
- 91% of agreed savings had been achieved to date (target £7.3m) and the majority of the remaining savings were projected to be achieved by 2016/17 at the latest
- highlighted key variances from budgets or savings targets relating to individual service areas, and
- a general update on the Housing Revenue Account, Housing Capital Plan and the Capital Plan (including the Corporate Plan element).

Cabinet commended the West Rhyl Coastal Development scheme which was nearing completion and it was confirmed that work on the relief scheme across Rhyl Golf Course was also well underway which would provide greater protection for residents in East Rhyl. The Nova Development was also commended and members applauded the promotion and publicity generated in marketing the excellent facility for both residents and visitors alike. Members took the opportunity to congratulate and thank all staff involved with that project.

RESOLVED that Cabinet notes the budgets set for 2015/16 and progress against the agreed budget strategy.

7 CABINET FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

The Cabinet Forward Work Programme was presented for consideration and members noted the following amendments –

- removal of Treasury Management Strategy item for January
- an additional item for February on the Rhyl Waterfront Development Project.

In terms of the Corporate Plan Projects progress report Cabinet had agreed to receive an initial report in January and then at regular intervals thereafter. The Chief Executive suggested a professional presentation to the media beforehand in order to raise awareness and generate positive publicity. Cabinet felt it was important to highlight previous successes as well as planned projects and to highlight other important projects outside of the Corporate Plan to show the Council's commitment and investment in the county.

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 Paragraphs 14 and 16 of Part 4 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972

8 21 - 26 WEST PARADE, RHYL (FORMER HONEY CLUB SITE)

Councillor Julian Thompson-Hill presented the confidential report seeking an alternative development route for 21 – 26 West Parade, Rhyl.

Cabinet was advised of the complexities and background to the current situation together with the financial implications and reasoning behind the report recommendations. The Head of Legal, HR and Democratic Services reported upon the legalities involved and responded to the issues raised by Chesham Estates (Rhyl) Ltd in their recent communication to Cabinet members.

Members considered the current situation and various options put forward in order to proceed with development of the site and raised questions regarding various aspects of the report and lessons learnt from the process. Assurances were given regarding Whitbread/Premier Inn Hotels Ltd's commitment to developing the site.

Cabinet was keen to secure the best development opportunity for the site as part of the overall regeneration of Rhyl and to avoid any undue delay within that process. Members were satisfied that the recommendations as detailed within the report were a reasonable and proportionate course of action given the circumstances and represented the best option for future development of the site. Consequently it was –

RESOLVED that Cabinet –

- (a) *approve the termination of the existing Development Agreement with Chesham Estates (Rhyl) Ltd and authorize the Head of Legal, HR and Democratic Services to issue a termination notice;*
- (b) *approve the disposal of land situated at 21 – 16 West Parade (the site) and Crescent Road Car Park on a 125 year lease to Whitbread/Premier Inn Hotels Ltd on terms that offer the Council the best consideration reasonably obtainable based on the information in this report, and*
- (c) *such disposal terms are as approved by the Head of Legal, HR and Democratic Services and Head of Finance, Assets and Housing.*

The meeting concluded at 11.50 a.m.

Report To:	Cabinet
Date of Meeting:	12 th January 2016
Lead Member / Officer:	Councillor Bobby Feeley, Lead Member for Social Care & Children's Services / Katie Newe, Supporting People Team Manager
Report Author:	Sophie Haworth-Booth, Commissioning & Tendering Officer
Title:	Denbighshire Supporting People Local Commissioning Plan 2016-19

- 1. What is the report about?**
The three year Local Commissioning Plan (LCP) for the Supporting People (SP) Programme in Denbighshire.
- 2. What is the reason for making this report?**
A decision is required on approving the LCP for 2016-19 prior to submission to the North Wales Regional Collaborative Committee (RCC) in February 2016.
- 3. What are the Recommendations?**
To approve the Supporting People Local Commissioning Plan 2016-19, prior to the plan being submitted to the RCC in February 2016.
- 4. Report details**
Supporting People is a Welsh Government funding stream that provides housing related support to vulnerable people at risk of homelessness including; young people, older people, people fleeing domestic violence, ex-offenders, people with drug or alcohol issues and people with physical, mental or learning disabilities. Housing related support aims to enable people to develop and maintain their confidence and skills to live as independently as possible. The SP Programme is a spend-to-save programme and has been shown to deliver financial and non-financial benefits. Supporting People teams across Wales are required to submit an LCP to their Regional Collaborative Committee in January/February of each year detailing their priorities and actions over the next 3 years, as well as a 3 year spend plan.

Current Position

Changes to the funding distribution formula for the Supporting People grant in 2012 resulted in proposed cuts to Denbighshire Supporting People of 20% over 5 years from 2011-12 to 2016-17. Additional cuts to all public services in Wales have resulted in further cuts to SP, which are indicated to continue into 2017-18. These cuts were managed from 2012 to 2015 without significantly impacting on service levels. 2015-16 is the first year in which Denbighshire Supporting People have had to decommission services that are in demand and are strategically relevant, following a 10.4% cut. The grant allocation for 2015-16 is £5.4 million.

The provisional Welsh Government budget for 2016-17 has highlighted there will be no reduction to the Supporting People budget in comparison with 2015-16, however, we have yet to receive notification of the Denbighshire allocation for 2016-17 and so it is still unclear whether cuts will be applied. However, by working with providers

throughout the year, we have been able to identify in excess of the savings expected and do not expect to have to apply any further cuts to current contracts, other than those agreed and notified already.

The Denbighshire Supporting People budget has been reduced by 21.5% (£1.5 million) between 2012 and 2016, with a further 10% minimum cuts expected by 2018. We will continue to seek to mitigate these cuts as far as possible through careful planning and negotiation with service providers and other stakeholders locally and regionally. However, the scale of the cuts requires some services to be decommissioned despite being assessed as strategically relevant; this will be carried out using the Denbighshire Supporting People Decommissioning Strategy.

Denbighshire Supporting People and the services funded by the Programme face significant pressure on already limited budgets to help those in Denbighshire who are most vulnerable. These services are delivered internally by Community Support Services and Children & Family Services, and externally by charitable organisations. Details of the proposed actions in 2016-19 can be found on pages 19-31 of the attached Local Commissioning Plan.

Given the uncertainty around budgets beyond the next year, it has not been possible to produce a final 3 year spend plan. Until we are given a degree of certainty around likely funding levels in the longer term, we are not in a position to plan this far ahead.

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

The projects and proposed actions within the LCP will contribute to supporting Denbighshire's Corporate Plan 2012-17 in the following areas:

- Developing the local economy
- Vulnerable people are protected and are able to live as independently as possible
- Ensuring access to good quality housing
- Modernising the Council to deliver efficiencies and improve services for our customers

Regional collaboration across North Wales and a regional strategy for commissioning and delivering services will contribute towards managing the downsizing of the grant and the protection of frontline services for vulnerable groups.

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

Denbighshire Supporting People have been modelling the 2016-17 budget on anticipated minimum 10% cuts and as such, have worked with providers to identify these savings. However, on 8th December the Welsh Government announced that the Supporting People budget would remain the same for 2016-17.

Denbighshire is also in the final year of redistribution of the SP grant, where it was expected that 5% of the budget would be reduced and redistributed to other Local Authorities. It was agreed by the Supporting People National Advisory Board earlier in 2015-16 that redistribution would be paused due to the cuts and also queries raised about the formula use. Now there are no planned cuts to the SP Grant, it is yet unclear whether redistribution will be applied to Denbighshire for 2016-17.

For this reason, the budget for 2016/17 has been modelled at both 5% and 0% cuts (see Appendix 1).

Any cuts, now and in future years, will inevitably have an impact on internal services funded by Denbighshire Supporting People, including Community Support Services, and Children and Family Services, however, these have been mitigated in the short term with cuts likely to be less than expected.

The projects and changes identified will be managed within the Supporting People budget allocated to Denbighshire by the Welsh Government.

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

An Equality Impact Assessment was completed for the LCP in 2013, which:

- Details the consultation carried out to develop the LCP and identify any unanticipated negative impact;
- Highlights the data collected and analysed via the needs mapping process, including anonymised data on protected characteristics;
- Acknowledges the challenges faced in implementing the cuts to services provided for vulnerable people;
- Confirms that Supporting People services are accessed by all protected characteristic groups;
- Confirms that every reasonable effort has been made to eliminate or reduce any potential disproportionate negative impact on those with protected characteristics, and that Supporting People will continue to monitor the impact of any changes made.

This EqIA has a review date of 2016, however in the interim, Denbighshire Supporting People will consider and ensure any impact on protected characteristics is identified and addressed. As part of the Denbighshire Supporting People Decommissioning Strategy, an EqIA will be completed for each project being considered for decommissioning.

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

The Denbighshire Supporting People Planning Group (SPPG) held four meetings during the development of the LCP and considered strategic priorities, needs mapping data and service gaps.

An eight week consultation process was held from July to September, during which the draft LCP was published on the DCC Consultations web page, and circulated to service providers and numerous stakeholders operating in Denbighshire and wider North Wales. A Supporting People information day was held in Rhyl Pavilion where a summary of the LCP was presented to over 80 people including provider staff, service users and other stakeholders. A number of stakeholder meetings were also attended to present the LCP. Views, comments and suggestions from the consultation process have informed the development of this plan.

Following consultation, the LCP was considered at Partnership Scrutiny Committee in October 2015, before being brought to Cabinet for approval. SPPG have been kept informed of progress during this time. It will be submitted to the North Wales Supporting People RCC in February 2016, to inform the development of the North Wales Regional Commissioning Plan.

The final document will be published on the Supporting People pages of the DCC website and circulated to all stakeholders of SP in Denbighshire.

9. Chief Finance Officer Statement

There is a significant degree of uncertainty around all revenue grant streams currently. The publication of the Local Government draft Financial Settlement in December has confirmed that there will be no reduction in the grant at a national level for 16/17 but we are still awaiting confirmation of the impact at a regional level.

However it is unlikely that future years' funding will become clear until May or June. Plans may have to be reconsidered as a consequence and must be contained within the funding available.

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

- The short notice of any cuts to be applied make it difficult to make decisions about how to administer savings in a strategic and transparent way. The scale of cuts over time may have a disproportionate impact on smaller providers who have very little room for efficiency savings. With a smaller reduction now anticipated in 2016-17, we plan to reinvest the money into short-term bank-to-save projects which are likely to be attractive to the smaller providers.
- Cuts must be considered regionally – not only are there potentially differing views around regional priorities to fund, but the way in which cuts are applied could destabilise entire providers who work across the region. This can have a knock on effect of damaging provider confidence and the good relationships we have with them – this can be managed to some extent by continuing to share relevant information with providers.
- Whilst we have largely protected front line services since cuts started in 2012, it is not possible to manage ongoing cuts of this scale by simply remodelling services to find efficiency savings, but it necessitates the decommissioning of entire services which are providing quality support, reducing much needed support for some of our most vulnerable residents in Denbighshire. Denbighshire Supporting People have developed a Decommissioning Strategy in order to manage this process fairly and transparently.
- SP relieves the burden on already overstretched statutory services such as Social Services, Health and Police, by preventing people declining and entering into a crisis situation. Further cuts to SP will place even greater pressure on these statutory services at a time when there are already budget cuts resulting in significant changes to public services.
- SP are key in supporting the delivery of the new Housing Act (Wales) Act 2014 and Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014, as their early intervention focus aligns well with Supporting People's key aim of preventing homelessness.
- In September 2015, DCC full Council voted unanimously in favour of a motion to protect the Supporting People budget from further cuts, and to support the national 'Let's Keep on Supporting People' campaign run by Cymorth Cymru and Community Housing Cymru.
- Supporting People Reserves may be used to mitigate these cuts, but careful consideration must be given to the sustainability of this given the potential that budget cuts will continue for a number of years.
- Denbighshire Supporting People also anticipate there will be a significant administrative burden as a result of implementing new SP guidance due out in 2016, a new SP Outcomes Framework due in 2017, and the RCC Memorandum of Understanding agreed in December 2015.
- The Minister and WG officials are also encouraging the alignment of SP with the Tackling Poverty programmes, the extent of which is not yet known, but this provides further uncertainty and administrative burdens on the programmes at a time of reducing budgets.

11. Power to make the Decision

Section 111 Local Government Act (1972).

By virtue of paragraph(s) 14, 15 of Part 4 of Schedule 12A
of the Local Government Act 1972.

Document is Restricted

This page is intentionally left blank

Denbighshire County Council Supporting People Local Commissioning Plan 2016-19

Page 15

Contents

Introduction	2
Strategic Priorities	3
Need, Supply and Service Gaps	6
Consultation Evidence	12
Priorities for Development	14
Service Development	19
Equality Impact Assessment	32
Spend Plan	33

Date	December 2015
Version	0.4
Status	Final draft for Cabinet

Introduction

What is Supporting People?

Supporting People is a Welsh Government Programme which provides housing related support services to vulnerable people over the age of 16. It enables them to live independently in the community and avoid the risk of becoming homeless.

What is Housing related support?

Housing related support is provided to help vulnerable people develop or maintain the skills and confidence necessary to live as independently as possible. Housing related support can include help and advice with:

- Developing life and domestic skills
- Budgeting and managing money
- Accessing other services and opportunities
- Establishing safety and security

Page 16

Denbighshire Supporting People Vision Supporting people to improve their quality of life

Our Mission Statement

We are working together to ensure the delivery of quality housing support services that enable vulnerable people to live independently or avoid homelessness

Our Principles

- ❖ **Early intervention**
- ❖ **Service user focus**
- ❖ **Creative, flexible, pro-active and responsive solutions**
- ❖ **Transparency**
- ❖ **Outcomes focus**

Strategic Priorities

The Supporting People Programme aims to support vulnerable people to live as independently as possible by providing housing-related support services. It is focused on early intervention by preventing homelessness or a move to higher dependency institutional settings where possible, which can often result in savings to other front-line services such as social care, health and criminal justice. The Programme must therefore remain up-to-date with recent trends and developments both locally and nationally in order to remain relevant and cost-effective to other services.

There are significant legislative and policy changes affecting Supporting People, along with continued economic pressures not only on Supporting People but on wider public services. It is therefore imperative that we focus our efforts to ensure the services we deliver remain strategically relevant and take advantage of opportunities to streamline our work through increased collaboration with key partners.

Denbighshire Supporting People's current strategic priorities are:

1. Managing the ongoing budget cuts

The provisional Welsh Government budget for 2016-17 has highlighted there will be no reduction to the Supporting People budget in comparison with 2015-16. Denbighshire Supporting People have yet to receive notification of the Denbighshire allocation for 2016-17 and so it is still unclear whether cuts relating to the redistribution of Supporting People funding nationally will be applied. If these cuts are applied, this would mean a 5% reduction to the Denbighshire Supporting People budget. However, by working with providers throughout the year, we have been able to identify this level of savings and we do not expect to have to apply any further cuts to current contracts, other than those agreed and notified already.

It is expected that Supporting People will continue to face additional cuts in subsequent years as a result of reduced public spending nationally. The Denbighshire Supporting People budget has been reduced by 21.5% (£1.5 million) between 2012 and 2016, with a further 10% minimum cuts expected by 2018. Denbighshire Supporting People will continue to seek to mitigate these cuts as far as possible through careful planning and negotiation with service providers

and other stakeholders locally and regionally. However, the scale of the cuts requires some services to be decommissioned despite being assessed as strategically relevant; this will be carried out using the Denbighshire Supporting People Decommissioning Strategy.

2. Implementation of Housing (Wales) Act 2014 and Social Services & Well-being (Wales) Act 2014

The implementation of these two acts are likely to have a substantial impact on Supporting People. Both have a heavy focus on early intervention where people need support to live independently, which aligns well with Supporting People's key aim of preventing homelessness through early intervention, therefore it is anticipated there will be increased demand on our services.

Denbighshire Supporting People have already begun to work more closely with colleagues within the Homelessness Team and Social Services to support the implementation of these two acts within Denbighshire. Whilst there may be increased pressure on our services, it is anticipated that working more closely together will generate efficiencies.

3. Contributing to the Tackling Poverty Agenda

In 2014, Supporting People along with Housing and Homelessness was incorporated into the Communities and Tackling Poverty Ministerial portfolio. Welsh Government have highlighted the opportunities for greater links to be forged between Supporting People and the Tackling Poverty programmes Communities First, Families First and Flying Start.

Denbighshire Supporting People have begun to make links with these programmes locally and will explore opportunities to reduce duplication and strengthen the support delivered to vulnerable people through joint commissioning. North Wales Supporting People are also represented at the recently established National Supporting People Outcomes Group, which is exploring the potential for a joint outcomes framework across the four programmes.

4. Closer regional collaboration

The establishment of the North Wales Supporting People Regional Collaborative Committee (RCC) in 2012 has enabled a strategic overview of developments that affect Supporting People both locally and regionally through improved information-sharing. This presents opportunities for closer regional working between Supporting People Teams across North Wales, which presents an additional opportunity for making efficiency savings.

Denbighshire Supporting People are already engaged with a small number of regional and sub-regional projects and are exploring further opportunities for regional and sub-regional commissioning where appropriate. Supporting People Teams across the region are also working closely together to adopt standardised paperwork and processes, which will deliver time and cost savings to both Supporting People Teams and service providers who work across more than one authority.

Whilst working on these priorities, Denbighshire Supporting People will continue to be informed by local and national factors, including those already referenced above and:

- Equality considerations, including Denbighshire's Strategic Equality Plan and Welsh Language Scheme
- Corporate guidance, including Denbighshire's Corporate Plan 2012-17, the Wellbeing Plan 2014-2018 (Single Integrated Plan) and the Supporting Independence in Denbighshire agenda
- National guidance, including the Supporting People Programme Grant Guidance 2013, the Ten Year Homelessness Plan for Wales 2009-2019 and the Standards for Improving the Health and Well-being of Homeless People and Specific Vulnerable Groups 2013
- Developments in key areas of Health, Social Care, and Criminal Justice such as the new Probation arrangements in England and Wales

Need, Supply and Service Gaps

Need and supply

A range of data is used to identify need, assess current provision and shape future development of Supporting People services.

Needs mapping forms are completed for everyone who is identified as having housing-related support needs, with the data recorded whether a referral is taken forward or not. A regional form has been in operation since 2012, providing three years of comparable data for all six North Wales authorities. The needs mapping data helps to identify any shifting trends in the demography and specific needs of those requiring housing-related support, which may require services to be remodelled.

Regular quantitative and qualitative monitoring of Supporting People-funded projects is carried out throughout the year, which informs full service reviews that take place every three years. Monitoring data verifies demand for the project and assesses value for money, quality of the service, compliance against the contract, and identifies areas for improvement.

It is noted that all projects are different which makes it challenging to compare like-for-like or introduce benchmark measurements. However, given the year-on-year reductions to the Supporting People Programme Grant allocation, it is necessary to determine which projects are higher priorities to fund. Denbighshire Supporting People have designed a Strategic Priority To Fund (SPTF) matrix to assess both the performance and strategic relevance of a project using only data that can be appropriately compared. Denbighshire Supporting People will use the SPTF as an initial indicator of a project's priorities to begin discussions on remodelling or decommissioning services to ensure the grant continues to be used effectively to provide high quality value for money support services.

There continues to be significant demand for Supporting People services within Denbighshire at a challenging time of national economic austerity with heavy cuts to public services impacting greatly upon communities and individuals, particularly those most vulnerable. Supporting People services are funded to support over 1 300 service users at any one time (excluding Alarms). In 2014/15, almost 2500 vulnerable individuals and families received housing-related support through Supporting People services in Denbighshire alone. This highlights the hidden problem of homelessness when compared with the number of people accepted as homeless and having a full duty owed to them by the statutory homelessness team within Denbighshire –

90 in 2014/15 (illustrated in Graphic 1). It also clearly indicates the value of the work of Supporting People services, who work to prevent vulnerable people reaching a situation where they have to present to statutory homelessness services, and also pick up a number of those who make enquiries and/or are ineligible for statutory homelessness support.

Graphic 1 – Hidden Problem of Homelessness
(each figure represents 10 people)

Number of people eligible for statutory homelessness assistance in 2014/15.....



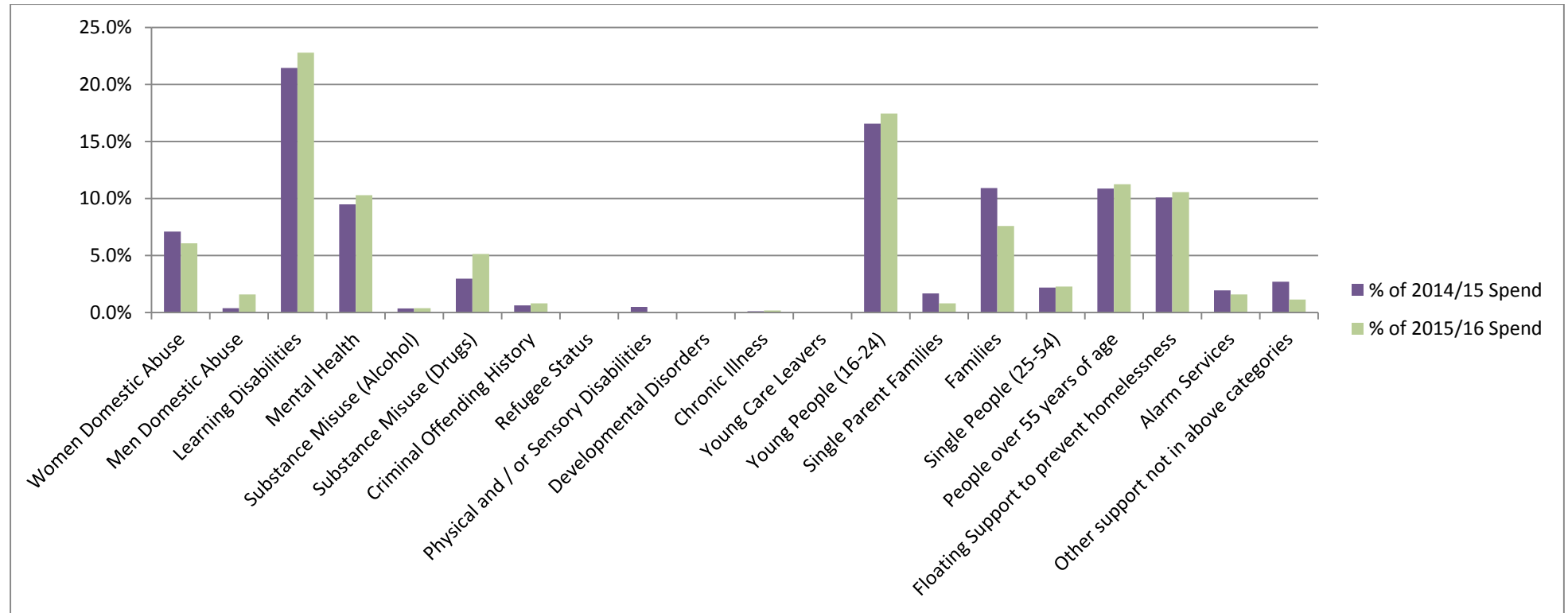
Number of people supported by Supporting People services in 2014/15.....



Whilst we have managed a significant 10.4% cut to the 2015-16 budget, no client group has been disproportionately affected with the percentage share of total spend remaining similar from 2014-15 to 2015-16 with no variance higher than +/- 3.3%

(see Graph 1). Where there is a significant increase or decrease in proportion of total spend, this has been the result of remodelling with little, if any, change to the number of service users supported.

Graph 1 - Comparison of 2014/15 & 2015-16 Spend

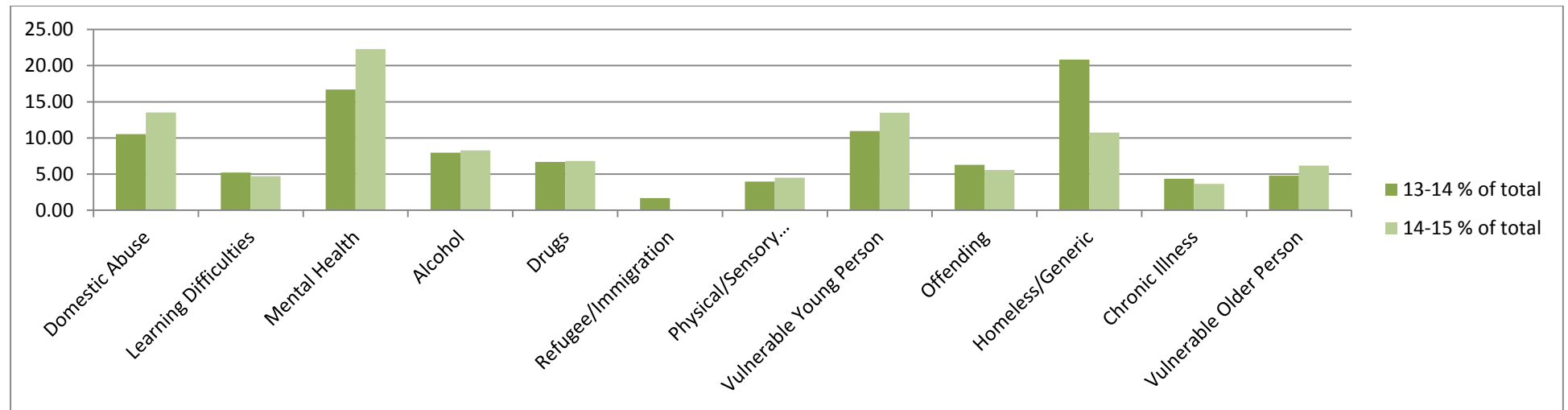


Page 22

Support needs reported in 2014-15 through the needs mapping exercise are following a similar trend to 2013-14 (see Graph 2), with rises in the proportion of forms reporting both domestic abuse and mental health related support needs. There has also been a rise in the proportion of forms specifying needs relating to being young and vulnerable. The sharp fall in the proportion of forms reporting homelessness as a need is highly likely to be due to the Welsh Government spend category changing from 'Homelessness' to 'Generic', which lacks clarity, however it is still reported as the 4th highest need. The top

four needs of mental health, domestic abuse, vulnerable young person and homelessness/generic have all had their budgets protected or increased in 2015-16.

Graph 2 - Comparison of 2013/14 & 2014/15 Support Needs Identified



Page 23

There is a shift in personal and household characteristics from previous years, with a fall in the proportion of young people, couples and families presenting for support and a corresponding rise in the proportion of single people with no dependent children. There has also been a continuing increase in the proportion of females requiring support, rising in the last two years from 53% in 2012-13 to 60% in 2014-15.

The reason for homelessness has shifted slightly with a fall in the proportion of people receiving a notice of eviction and a corresponding rise in the proportion of people with mortgage or rent arrears. Whilst the change in numbers is small, it may be an indicator of the impact of the so-called ‘bedroom tax’ causing people to fall into arrears.

There are a number of changes to the needs mapping data for 2014-15 against 2013-14, which are believed to be attributable to changes to the needs mapping form and process, including the move from a paper form to referrers completing the form themselves online. The number of questions remaining unanswered has fallen sharply making the data more reliable, which

is encouraging and likely due to the process of a referrer moving through the questions online and being less likely to miss a question out.

There has also been significant work carried out with rough sleepers during 2014-15, including outreach work and a new emergency access project, which has caused an increase in the proportion of forms reporting use of a night shelter or hostel. There has also been a six-fold increase in the number of forms reporting current or previous membership of the armed forces – from 7 people in 2013-14 to 42 people in 2014-15. Whilst improved reporting may have contributed to this in Denbighshire, the numbers have significantly increased across the North Wales region too – from 19 in 2013-14 to 100 in 2014-15, which is likely to be as a result of the introduction of the Armed Forces Community Covenants in each local authority.

Service gaps

The North Wales Regional Collaborative Committee have requested a piece of work be undertaken to identify the unmet need and service gaps across the region, and to produce a robust methodology for the region to adopt in future. Currently, only those spend plan categories with no projects are highlighted as potential service gaps and it is felt that met and unmet need should be more robustly checked and evidenced, in order that support is available to those most in need especially given the pressure on budgets.

Service gaps against the spend plan are currently as follows:

- People with Refugee Status – numbers reporting needs relating to refugee status remain very low, therefore, it is anticipated that anyone presenting with these needs can access support from a generic Supporting People project.
- People with Physical and / or Sensory Disabilities – funding for this category accounted for 0.5% of 2014-15 spend, but has been removed in 2015-6 through mutual agreement with the organisations involved due to changing needs of the service users. It is anticipated that service users with needs relating to physical and/or sensory disabilities will be able to access a number of other Supporting People projects.
- People with Developmental Disorders – Supporting People are continuing to investigate the feasibility of a separate project for this specific client group with both internal and external partners, especially given continuing anecdotal evidence that low level need in this area is increasing. If a separate project is commissioned, funding for it will have to be reallocated from other existing projects given that the Supporting People budget is reducing yearly.

- Young People who are Care Leavers – whilst no projects sit within this service user group, the DCC Family Support Team (in Families service user group) does specifically support care leavers. There are also a significant number of projects for young people in Denbighshire, which those leaving care are able to access. There is no evidence that a specific project for care leavers is necessary.

Anecdotal evidence from service providers and other partner agencies have highlighted there may currently be service gaps which warrant further exploration, including:

- Access times for support services that are not flexible or suitable for everyone, e.g. a lack of services open during evening and weekend hours;
- A lack of services based in the South of Denbighshire, or poor accessibility to services for residents in the South of the County;
- Limited provision of Supported Housing for single women with no dependent children and with no history of domestic abuse.

Consultation Evidence

Denbighshire Supporting People value feedback from all stakeholders about the commissioning and delivery of Supporting People contracts. This ensures that Supporting People-funded support services are held to a high quality standard and continue to meet the needs of vulnerable people.

When projects are reviewed every 3 years, feedback is sought from staff, service users and stakeholders by Supporting People through interviews and questionnaires to ensure that projects are delivering the service as required and that they continue to meet the needs of service users effectively. Any significant issues or themes emerging from the feedback will be addressed within the review recommendations, which may include improvements to existing practices or remodelling a project to better meet demand.

If a project is considered for decommissioning, Supporting People will seek the views of service users and stakeholders when completing the Decommissioning Report, and consider how any negative impacts can be alleviated.

During 2014 and 2015, Supporting People's Service User Involvement Officer has been working with service providers and service users to capture levels of engagement, areas of good practice and collaboration opportunities within Denbighshire, in order to develop an easy-to-use quick-reference toolkit for service providers to use in developing their own service user involvement opportunities.

An 8 week consultation period was held between July – September to discuss this Plan with Supporting People service providers, service users and stakeholders and gather feedback on the commissioning, remodelling and decommissioning intentions of Denbighshire Supporting People. Summary feedback as follows:

- Supporting Housing providers should have formal strategies in place to source properties to ensure move-on.
- The Supporting People Team and projects provide invaluable support in dealing with complex individuals, which then reduces the burden on other services. Examples include input to DCC Top 20 meetings and working with Probation to reduce re-offending rates through the provision of accommodation and support.
- When I Am Ready legislation should help to reduce the demand from care leavers on Supporting People services.

- Consideration needs to be given to the possibility of increased demand from displaced refugees following recent events.
- Supporting People should make more use of third sector organisations.
- High staff turnover can impact on the effectiveness of support, as building up trusting relationships is crucial.
- Information about support services available and partnership working are important to ensure we're not giving mixed messages and that we're effectively planning support services. Examples include statutory services struggling to meet demand and not being aware of support projects that could relieve the pressure. Recognition that some support services could be provided in other ways or by other organisations if they were no longer provided by Supporting People.
- Delivering the same services with reduced resources is very challenging for everyone, it can lead to staff and wider organisations feeling that they can't question or challenge decision makers.

Denbighshire Supporting People Planning Group are consulted throughout the development of this Plan and agree any changes to the content. Following the formal consultation period, the Plan will be submitted to the Partnership Scrutiny Committee before the final document is submitted and signed off by Denbighshire County Council Cabinet for submission to the North Wales Regional Collaborative Committee in January 2016.

Priorities for Development

In Summer 2014, Denbighshire Supporting People outlined key priorities to be investigated or developed over the following 12-18 months. Table 1 details the work carried out by Supporting People so far and Table 2 outlines ongoing and new priorities for the next 12-18 months.

Table 1

What we planned.....	What we did.....
<p>Community Support Model Develop a model of community support where sessions are held in appropriate and accessible settings in the community, away from service users homes, as a means of efficiently and economically delivering low level services.</p>	<p>Piloted a number of projects supporting individuals in group settings, examples include Countryside Services, DVSC training, Men's Sheds.</p>
<p>24:7 Support Model Consider how to develop a model of intense, flexible 24:7 support within current provision to meet the needs of high needs high risk single people, couples and families who are hard to reach and hard to engage with, as a means of preventing repeat presentations and failure to progress.</p>	<p>Piloted Rough Sleeper Personal Budgets with Ty Golau project as an innovative way of supporting individual needs.</p>
<p>Services for People with Offending Related Support Needs To further investigate the apparent fall in demand for support from people with needs related to offending, considering referrals data and building links with relevant organisations to ensure clear referral routes.</p>	<p>Confirmed that Denbighshire Single Pathway have excellent links with North Wales Police and Probation, however, recent changes to Probation services nationally are still being embedded which could be causing a drop in referrals - Denbighshire Single Pathway will continue to build upon these links as the new services take shape.</p>

What we planned.....	What we did.....
<p>Service User Involvement Denbighshire County Council team will implement the regional statement of service user involvement agreed by the North Wales Regional Collaborative Committee.</p>	<p>Denbighshire Supporting People contribute to the regional service user involvement statement and are developing a Service User Involvement Toolkit to assist providers with embedding their own processes.</p>
<p>Denbighshire Top 50 To contribute to the identification of Denbighshire’s top 50 individuals or families who are collectively having the biggest impact on all public services and work towards a more coordinated approach to supporting these individuals or families, reducing duplication.</p>	<p>Denbighshire Supporting People Single Pathway have been attending Denbighshire Top 20 meetings (revised from Top 50) and piloted a Top 20 Personal Budgets project. Many of those assisted were known to the Pathway so this pilot will be continued and revised as a Complex Case Personal Budgets project.</p>
<p>Women & Men experiencing Domestic Abuse (all Domestic Abuse projects) Stage one of the remodelling of Denbighshire’s domestic abuse services is in the process of implementation and is progressing successfully to date. Stage two remodelling will be considered in the context of developing regional priorities and confirmed Welsh Government budget allocation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to review the configuration of Refuge accommodation in the north of the county. • Seek to secure a third unit of supported housing • Floating support services will be combined into a single contract <p>Staffing at Rhyl Cluster will increase to enhance capacity to support higher needs and higher risk.</p>	<p>The planned remodel of Supporting People Domestic Abuse services has been successfully implemented. All providers are working in partnership and floating support services now have the increased ability to support males as well as females. All projects are now subject to regular monitoring and contract management.</p>

What we planned.....	What we did.....
<p>People with Learning Disabilities (DCC Community Living) As identified in the Scrutiny report 24/06/13, Adult Services to continue to reduce overall funding to reflect overall grant cuts. Proposals for reconfiguration to be developed following the conclusion of the ongoing SP Solutions review and in response to its recommendations.</p>	<p>Review recommendations are being implemented to ensure the service is providing effective support with a proportionate level of reporting requirements. A new Service Level Agreement is now in place to reflect these changes and the yearly reduction in funding. The service will be subject to regular monitoring and contract management.</p>
<p>People with Developmental Disorders (DCC Community Living) To give consideration to the possibility of redeploying funding within the DCC Learning Disabilities Community Living allocation to develop a small supported housing project for people with a diagnosis of high functioning autistic spectrum disorder.</p>	<p>Demand for such a service and options available have been considered with relevant internal and external partners with the view to drafting a proposal during the next 12-18 months.</p>
<p>Generic / Floating Support / Peripatetic (Night Shelter / Rhyl Resettlement) To continue to pursue the development of a new model of services for Rough Sleepers following the closure of the present Night Shelter in October 2014.</p>	<p>A new No Second Night Out project (Ty Golau) has been developed in collaboration with Clwyd Alyn Housing Association and implemented within a building that is fit for purpose. This includes a reduced number of emergency beds, a short-term hostel and a Housing First floating support service – the accommodation elements of the service are Housing Benefit-eligible, making the service more sustainable.</p>

Table 2

Priority 2016-19
1 Community Support Model Develop a model of community support where sessions are held in appropriate and accessible settings in the community, as a means of efficiently and economically delivering low level services. This may contribute to the RCC pilots (see no. 4).
2 People with Developmental Disorders To give consideration to the possibility of redeploying funding within the DCC Learning Disabilities Community Living allocation to develop a small supported housing project for people with a diagnosis of high functioning autistic spectrum disorder.
3 Generic / Floating Support / Peripatetic (Ty Golau) Denbighshire Supporting People will continue to work in collaboration with Clwyd Alyn Housing Association to implement the new Ty Golau project to ensure it effectively supports the new Housing (Wales) Act 2014, continues to develop a multi-agency approach to support the No Second Night Out model, and generates additional funding streams.
4 Regional Collaborative Committee Pilots Denbighshire Supporting People will support the piloting of new cost-effective approaches of support that have been put forward by support providers to the Regional Collaborative Committee, such as trialling the use of technology, e.g. Skype, Facebook, rather than traditional face-to-face support; and supporting the development of community support and social groups.
5 Supported Housing Review all Supporting People Supported Housing provision to ensure it continues to meet demand appropriately and to address any issues that prevent service users from moving on to independent living quickly and sustainably.
6 Off the Shelf Develop a bank of off-the-shelf specifications for short-term initiatives, in order that any in-year underspend that is identified can be addressed and utilised quickly.

Priority 2016-19

7 Education and Employment

Investigate the low attainment of outcomes related to education, training, employment and volunteering and renew the focus on this area of support amongst existing projects.

8 Specialist vs Generic

Following the remodelling of the majority of Supporting People services, reconsider the balance of specialist and generic support provision and consider realigning if appropriate.

9 Review Benchmark

Denbighshire Supporting People will review their benchmark cost for a full time support worker in line with the Value For Money Policy.

10 Local Connection

Consider the case for introducing a clear local connection policy for all Denbighshire Supporting People projects.

Service Development

All units currently funded by Denbighshire Supporting People are detailed in Table 3 below, along with proposals for service development, decommissioning and remodelling during the next 3 years.

Due to ongoing reductions to the Supporting People budget, Denbighshire Supporting People Team will consider all projects in line with the Decommissioning Strategy to determine what will be a priority to fund moving forward. This will also be informed by work carried out on the Priorities for Development detailed within this Plan. Service provision may change during the development of this Plan as Denbighshire Supporting People take advantage of opportunities to remodel services at contract end and/or according to demand.

Table 3

Service User Group	Current Service Provision & Number of Units	Service Development, Decommissioning and Remodelling Proposals
Women Experiencing Domestic Abuse	United Against Domestic Abuse <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12 floating support units Glyndwr Women’s Aid <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 refuge units Hafan Cymru <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8 supported housing units North Denbighshire Domestic Abuse Services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 refuge units 	<p><i>Applicable to both male and female domestic abuse services:</i></p> <p>All domestic abuse provision has been reviewed and remodelled within the last two years to reduce costs and improve services through greater partnership working.</p> <p>Work will be undertaken over the next 12 months to further develop strategic local links with the Community Safety Partnership and re-establishing a local or sub-regional Domestic Abuse Forum.</p> <p>The Regional Collaborative Committee are currently establishing a Domestic Abuse Task and Finish Group to review current service provision across the region and strengthen links with the All Wales Domestic Abuse Modernisation Group by having more North Wales representatives in the group.</p>

Service User Group	Current Service Provision & Number of Units	Service Development, Decommissioning and Remodelling Proposals
		<p>Women only: Domestic Abuse remains one of the highest support needs reported by those accessing Supporting People services.</p>
Men Experiencing Domestic Abuse	<p>North Denbighshire Domestic Abuse Services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 refuge units <p>United Against Domestic Abuse</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12 floating support units 	<p><i>See notes in service user group above (Women Experiencing Domestic Abuse) regarding domestic abuse services for both males and females.</i></p> <p>Men only: There is increased flexibility within the floating support project to provide support to men. The number of males reporting domestic abuse have remained the same as previous years, so demand for the service will be monitored over the next 2 years.</p>
People with Learning Disabilities	<p>Denbighshire County Council</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 floating support units • 109 community living units <p>KeyRing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 18 floating support units <p>Cymryd Rhan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 floating support units 	<p>DCC community living has been reviewed and adapted to ensure it is providing a Supporting People eligible service. Funding to the community living service will continue to be reduced every year, as agreed in 2013.</p> <p>Floating support services may be remodelled in 2016-17 into one larger floating support project with the DCC floating support units (Adult Placement) being considered for decommissioning.</p> <p>The Regional Collaborative Committee are currently establishing a Task and Finish Group to explore initiatives and opportunities to make savings, which will include Learning Disabilities services.</p>

Service User Group	Current Service Provision & Number of Units	Service Development, Decommissioning and Remodelling Proposals
People with Mental Health Issues	<p>Cymryd Rhan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 floating support units <p>Hafal</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 20 floating support units • 8 supported housing units <p>Hafan Cymru</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 floating support units <p>Vale of Clwyd Mind</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 19 supported housing units <p>Grwp Cynefin</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12 floating support units <p>Denbighshire County Council</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 supported housing units • 5 floating support units 	<p>Mental Health remains one of the highest support needs reported by those accessing Supporting People services.</p> <p>The supply and demand for mental health support provision will be reviewed and current services are likely to be remodelled in 2016-17 to more effectively meet demand in light of reduced funding. This may include combining projects for efficiency savings and upskilling generic support services enabling them to effectively support people with lower level mental health needs.</p> <p>Work will be undertaken over the next 12 months to work more closely with Community Mental Health Services.</p> <p>Work will continue regionally with BCUHB to assess current provision, identify demand and research different service models in order to contribute to meeting the 'Together for Mental Health' housing objective of having a full range of accommodation with support options available at all stages of the recovery process.</p> <p>Supporting People are currently considering decommissioning the Vale of Clwyd Mind project at the end of March 2016 and working with partners to identify more appropriate funding.</p> <p>Supporting People are also considering integrating the Cymryd Rhan floating support units into the Supporting Independent Living project (in People over 55 years service user group).</p>

Service User Group	Current Service Provision & Number of Units	Service Development, Decommissioning and Remodelling Proposals
People with Substance Misuse Issues (Alcohol)	CAIS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 floating support units 	<p><i>Applicable to both drug and alcohol services:</i></p> <p>Substance misuse services (alcohol and drugs) have been reviewed and remodelled to provide a more flexible service. A new rough sleeper project has also been established with capital funding from the Substance Misuse Action Fund.</p> <p>Evidence suggests that there is a gap in supply of supported housing for single females with no dependents with substance misuse issues (drug and/or alcohol), which will be explored in more detail during 2016-17.</p> <p>Denbighshire Supporting People are currently working in collaboration with Chester University to establish the Rhyl Recovery Project, a pilot to support individuals to address substance misuse issues through mutual aid groups. This 6 month pilot has attracted revenue funding from the Substance Misuse Action Fund (SMAF).</p> <p>Denbighshire Supporting People also received SMAF funding in 2014-15 to purchase starter packs for people moving into new tenancies, e.g. bedding, crockery, microwave, toiletries.</p> <p>Work will be undertaken to explore future revenue funding available from the Substance Misuse Action Fund and consider any opportunities for regional or sub-regional working from 2016-17.</p> <p>Further work will be undertaken to improve links with Substance Misuse Services through continued representation regionally on the Area Planning Board Delivery Group.</p>

Service User Group	Current Service Provision & Number of Units	Service Development, Decommissioning and Remodelling Proposals
People with Substance Misuse Issues (Drugs & Volatile Substances)	CAIS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 11 supported housing units • 17 floating support units Clwyd Alyn Housing Association <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 hostel units • 3 floating support units 	<p><i>See notes in service user group above (Substance Misuse Issues (Alcohol)) regarding both drug and alcohol services.</i></p> <p>People with Substance Misuse Issues (Drugs & Volatile Substances) only: the CAIS Doorstop supported housing project (6 units) is currently being considered as a potential sub-regional project with Conwy from May 2016.</p>
People with Criminal Offending History	Nacro Cymru <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 supported housing units 	<p>There has been a continued decline over the past two years in offending being reported as a support need by those accessing Supporting People services. This has been investigated and further work will be done to ensure links are built with the new National Probation Service and Community Rehabilitation Company.</p> <p>Wrexham Prison for male offenders will open in 2017 and will have a focus on the education, training and resettlement of offenders. Along with legislative changes within the Housing (Wales) Act 2014 and the Social Service and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014, this will have a significant impact upon the resettlement of offenders within North Wales. Denbighshire Supporting People will continue to attend the North Wales Prisoner Resettlement Steering Group to address these changes.</p> <p>Demand for specialist provision for offenders will be monitored over the next 1-2 years.</p>

Service User Group	Current Service Provision & Number of Units	Service Development, Decommissioning and Remodelling Proposals
People with Refugee Status	No specific projects	<p>The number of people reporting refugee status remains very low in Denbighshire, however, consideration needs to be given to the possibility of increased demand from displaced refugees following events in 2015. Demand for support from this service user group will continue to be monitored and if required, a regional project may be considered if it is felt that the needs of this group could not be met by existing services.</p>
People with Physical and / or Sensory Disabilities	No specific projects	<p>Projects for this service user group have been decommissioned as the projects could not demonstrate eligibility for Supporting People funding. Whilst the number of people reporting mobility issues has risen within the past 12 months, it is recognised that this is due to an increase in needs mapping forms being completed by Older People's services and so does not necessarily reflect actual trends.</p> <p>Numbers reporting needs in this area will continue to be monitored alongside considering whether needs can be met by existing services.</p>
People with Developmental Disorders (i.e. Autism)	No specific projects	<p>Work will be undertaken to assess the needs of people with high functioning autistic spectrum disorder over the next 2 years and dependent on the level of cuts in future years, some funding removed from community living may be redeployed into a specific project.</p> <p>Supporting People will continue to make links with specialist services to promote knowledge of, and access to, existing Supporting People services.</p>

Service User Group	Current Service Provision & Number of Units	Service Development, Decommissioning and Remodelling Proposals
People with Chronic Illness (including HIV, AIDS)	Body Positive <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7 floating support units 	The service review of this regional project has found that service users could have their needs met more appropriately, and more cost-effectively, by generic services rather than by a specialist service. This project is therefore being considered for decommissioning at the end of the current contract in March 2016 with a proposed exit strategy of delivering chronic illness awareness training to other Supporting People providers to ensure there are no barriers to people accessing generic services.
Young People who are Care Leavers	No specific projects	There are a number of Young People projects that young people leaving care can, and do, access. The DCC Family Support Team (in Families with Support Needs service user group) can also support those leaving care where a statutory duty still exists. There is currently no evidence to suggest that a specific project is required and it is anticipated that the When I Am Ready scheme may actually reduce the demand from care leavers on Supporting People services. Supporting People will continue to work with Homelessness and Social Services teams to ensure the needs of care leavers are met appropriately.
Young People with Support Needs (16 to 24)	Clwyd Alyn Housing Association <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 33 supported housing units Barnardo's Cymru	Young People continue to make up a significant proportion of those requiring housing-related support. It is expected that demand from this service user group might rise further given changes to welfare benefits affecting young people. Denbighshire Supporting People will work with Housing Benefit to reduce the impact on vulnerable young people.

Service User Group	Current Service Provision & Number of Units	Service Development, Decommissioning and Remodelling Proposals
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 floating support units <p>Local Solutions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 14 supported housing units <p>Hafan Cymru</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 supported housing units • 15 floating support units <p>Nacro Cymru</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 supported housing units <p>Grwp Cynefin</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 floating support units • 6 supported housing units <p>The Wallich</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 floating support units 	<p>Supporting People will explore whether current services continue to meet the needs of young people appropriately and whether alternative support models could be used more effectively. Supporting People are currently considering remodelling the Dyfodol project delivered by Clwyd Alyn Housing Association from 2016. Work will also be undertaken to learn from the House Share Project being funded in 2015-16, and to develop closer links with short-term crisis intervention services such as conflict resolution which can be effective at helping young people to remain in the family home.</p> <p>Denbighshire Supporting People are also keen to increase the number of young people accessing education and training to improve their ability to move on to independent living.</p> <p>Denbighshire's contribution to the sub-regional projects delivered by Local Solutions will continue to be monitored against demand.</p> <p>Supporting People are currently considering decommissioning the Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) project delivered by Barnardo's Cymru at the end of March 2016 due to a lack of demand for ongoing floating support services. Supporting People are confident that CSE awareness has been embedded within the Supported Housing projects and internal DCC services.</p> <p>Subject to review findings, Denbighshire Supporting People will consider remodelling The Wallich floating support units as part of a wider remodel of the GIFT project (in Generic service user group) and a wider review of support for Young People.</p>

Service User Group	Current Service Provision & Number of Units	Service Development, Decommissioning and Remodelling Proposals
Single Parent Families with Support Needs	Nacro Cymru <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 supported housing units 	<p><i>Applicable to both single parent families and families services:</i></p> <p>Families account for a significant proportion of those accessing Supporting People services, however, this has decreased slightly in the past year.</p> <p>Families can and often do access projects within other service user groups, for example, domestic abuse, young people or generic projects. Therefore, there isn't a significant demand for family-specific projects.</p> <p>Supporting People are developing close links with Families First and Flying Start locally and nationally, which may help to streamline support for families.</p>
Families with Support Needs	Denbighshire County Council <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 59 floating support units The Wallich <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 floating support units 	<p><i>See notes in service user group above (Single Parent Families with Support Needs) regarding services for both single parent families and families.</i></p> <p>Families with Support Needs only: Supporting People are currently considering whether the proportion of funding for DCC Family Support Team is appropriate and funding eligible support tasks and not statutory functions.</p> <p>Subject to review findings, Denbighshire Supporting People will consider remodelling The Wallich floating support units as part of a wider remodel of the GIFT project (in Generic service user group).</p>

Service User Group	Current Service Provision & Number of Units	Service Development, Decommissioning and Remodelling Proposals
Single People with Support Needs not listed above (25 to 54)	Seashells <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 supported housing units 	<p>As noted above (in Substance Misuse service user groups), evidence suggests that there is a gap in supply of supported housing for single females with no dependents.</p> <p>This will be explored in more detail during 2016-17 to ascertain what specifically needs addressing, for example, drug and/or alcohol, mental health, or simply generic provision for females.</p>
People over 55 years of age with Support Needs	Clwyd Alyn Housing Association <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 24 sheltered housing units Denbighshire County Council <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 700 floating support units • 10 floating support units Grwp Cynefin <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 21 sheltered housing units 	<p>A significant amount of work has been carried out within the past 3 years to implement the Aylward Review recommendation of making older people's services tenure neutral. The number of units funded by Supporting People have decreased as a result, as not all residents in sheltered housing require active support beyond the provision of an alarm, and some organisations have rejected Supporting People funding in order to continue operating a traditional warden service.</p> <p>This work will continue over the next 12 months and funding reduced where appropriate and in line with a reduction in the support needed.</p> <p>Supporting People are also considering decommissioning DCC Extra Care project at the end of March 2016. It is hoped that this will provide opportunities for learning within similar shared living and community settings.</p>
Generic / Floating	Clwyd Alyn Housing Association <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 50 floating support units 	<p>Generic homelessness support remains one of the highest support needs reported by those accessing Supporting People services.</p>

Service User Group	Current Service Provision & Number of Units	Service Development, Decommissioning and Remodelling Proposals
Support / Peripatetic (tenancy support services which cover a range of support needs)	<p>The Wallich</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 60 floating support units <p>Denbighshire County Council</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 128 floating support units 	<p>Whilst projects offering specialist knowledge and support are crucial to supporting vulnerable people with complex needs, it remains equally important to provide more generic services that can offer flexible support on a number of issues. Supporting People will be reviewing the balance between specialist and generic services over the next 2 years to ensure demand is met appropriately.</p> <p>Supporting People will consider regional or sub-regional opportunities for the provision of generic floating support services and the coordination of the Single Pathway & Complex Case Project, both of which would improve flexibility, knowledge across county borders, and consequently, the services provided to vulnerable people.</p> <p>Supporting People are currently considering remodelling the DCC Reablement project from April 2016 to find cost savings and ensure the project is Supporting People eligible.</p> <p>Subject to review findings, Denbighshire Supporting People will consider remodelling The Wallich GIFT project to incorporate other Wallich floating support units (in Families service user group).</p>
Alarm services	<p>Abbeyfield</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 25 alarm units <p>Clwyd Alyn Housing Association</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 123 alarm units 	<p>A significant amount of work has been undertaken during 2014-15 to review alarm provision and reduce Supporting People funding to monitoring of alarms only.</p> <p>This work will continue over the next 12 months to align all alarms contracts.</p>

Service User Group	Current Service Provision & Number of Units	Service Development, Decommissioning and Remodelling Proposals
	<p>Denbighshire County Council</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1043 alarm units <p>Grwp Cynefin Housing Association</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 97 alarm units <p>Wales & West Housing Association</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 67 alarm units 	<p>Supporting People are currently considering decommissioning the Denbighshire County Council Telecare project at the end of March 2016 due to the lack of evidence to demonstrate the project is Supporting People eligible.</p>
<p>Expenditure which does not directly link to the spend plan categories above</p>	<p>Clwyd Alyn Housing Association</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 emergency bed units <p>Denbighshire County Council</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting People Administration 	<p>A new rough sleeper project has been established, which includes 4 emergency beds not tied to any specific service user group. This provision will be reviewed during the next 12-18 months to assess demand for the service and the No Second Night Out approach being used within the project.</p> <p>Welsh Government have issued notice that the Supporting People Programme Grant cannot be used to fund the Local Authority's Supporting People Team from 2019/20 and that between 2016 and 2019, funding for the team must reduce by at least 10% year on year.</p> <p>The Supporting People Team have already begun to make savings in 2014/15 and 2015/16 by restructuring the team where possible when staff have left.</p>

Service User Group	Current Service Provision & Number of Units	Service Development, Decommissioning and Remodelling Proposals
		<p>Denbighshire County Council are currently considering options for how the Supporting People Programme Grant can continue to be administered effectively in the future, ensuring that services funded by the Programme continue to meet demand, operate safely and to a high quality.</p>

Equality Impact Assessment

Denbighshire Supporting People carried out an Equality Impact Assessment on the Local Commissioning Plan in 2013 with a full review date of March 2016. In the interim, Supporting People will consider and ensure any impact on protected characteristics is identified and addressed.

All projects that are newly commissioned or that are considered for decommissioning will be subject to an equality impact assessment to ensure there will be no disproportionate impact upon any protected characteristics.

Supporting People have carried out analysis on the equalities data collected on the needs mapping form, comparing 2014/15 with 2013/14. Positively, there has been a much higher completion rate of this information, which ensures that the data is much more representative of the people being supported. For example, in 2013/14, 42% of people did not respond to the question about Sexual Orientation; this dropped to 19% non-respondents in 2014/15. There has been no marked change to any of the data except for a shift in identified Nationality. In 2014/15, the number of people identifying themselves as British doubled from 22% in 2013/14 to 44% in 2014/15. Whilst a 14% rise in completion rate accounts for part of this, it still represents a significant shift away from people identifying themselves as English (reduction from 34% in 2013/14 to 28% in 2014/15).

Spend Plan 2016/17

To be completed upon receipt of 2016/17 budget from Welsh Government.

This page is intentionally left blank

Report To: Cabinet

Date of Meeting: 12th January 2016

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

Report Author: Richard Weigh, Chief Finance Officer

Title: Budget 2016/17 (Final Proposals – Phase 6)

1. What is the report about?

The report sets out the implications of the Draft Local Government Settlement 2016/17 and proposals to finalise the budget for 2016/17.

2. What is the reason for making this report?

The Council is legally required to set a balanced and deliverable budget before the start of each financial year and to set the resulting level of Council Tax to allow bills to be sent to residents.

To provide an overview of the budget process and the impact of the Provisional Local Government Settlement and to consider proposals for Cabinet to recommend to the full Council to set the budget for 2016/17, including the level of Council Tax.

3. What are the Recommendations?

To note the impact of the Provisional Local Government Settlement and that no further savings beyond the £5.2m already approved are required from services for 2016/17.

That cabinet supports the following proposals and accordingly recommends them to the full Council in order to finalise the 2016/17 budget:

1. To increase funding to schools to meet the national level of protection of +1.85%
2. To set aside a one-year budget delivery contingency of £480k for 2016/17 to mitigate the risks to the delivery of the budget set out in this report
3. To recommend to Council the resulting average increase in Council Tax of 1.5%.

4. Report details

The Local Government Settlement for 2015/16 provided a cash reduction to the council's budget of 3.6% which equated to £5.3m. Indications were that the Settlement for 2016/17 would be worse and accordingly, the council planned for

a reduction of -4% (equating to a reduction of £5.6m approximately). With inflationary cost pressures the council has to fund and allowing for an estimate of budget protection for schools, the budget gap for 2016/17 was calculated as £8.0m.

At the same time as dealing with a funding cut and inflation, the council set priorities to protect and invest in important service areas such as schools, social care and the roads and has continued to do this throughout the budget process.

The draft Welsh Government budget and therefore the Provisional Settlement to local government were announced later than usual this year as a consequence of the timing of the UK Government's Autumn Spending Review. The draft Welsh Government budget announced on the 8th December showed growth in cash terms from £15.6bn to £15.9bn, an increase of £351m, or 2.3% in total. Nearly two-thirds of the increase £230m (15.8% uplift) applied to capital budgets and £121m (0.85%) to revenue. The budget provided an additional £278m to the NHS, including a £30m increase to the Intermediate Care Fund, which should have benefits for local government.

Since 2011 there has been a ministerial pledge to 'protect' school budgets. The mechanism for this has been to suggest that local authorities uplift school budgets by 1% more than the revenue 'block grant' to Wales. The revenue funding to Wales has increased by 0.85% and so to comply with the required protection policy, the council would need to increase school budgets by 1.85% in total. This level of protection is double what had been assumed (which was based on last year's figure) and results in a cash increase to schools, before adjusting for pupil numbers, of £1.173m.

The Settlement announced on 9th December was much better than expected with an overall cash reduction to local government of -1.4% and a reduction to Denbighshire of -1.2%. The range of reductions across Welsh councils varied from -0.1% (Cardiff) to -4.1% (Powys) with the impact generally worse for rural counties. Previous funding floor mechanisms have been removed from the Settlement which is why the range is relatively wide.

Approximately three-quarters of the council's net funding comes via the Settlement so the impact of small percentage changes to it is always significant. The council's funding settlement of -1.2% means the resulting headline funding reduction is £3.9m less than had been anticipated with a -4% reduction.

The process to identify the savings required to deliver the budgets over the last two years is called Freedoms & Flexibilities and has identified savings of £7.7m in 2015/16 and £5.2m in 2016/17. It has involved a review of every service and activity and an analysis of the council's revenue budget. The process incorporated a series of budget workshops with elected members where the council's entire revenue budget was presented on a line-by-line basis, along with saving proposals from each service. The process has delivered sixteen budget workshops with members with the final session held on 14th December.

The Freedoms & Flexibilities process ends with the setting of the 2016/17 budget and a new budget process will be developed for 2017/18.

In December, a report to full council set out the latest budget position and assumptions, which indicated a remaining budget gap of £2m. This gap was calculated with a number of assumptions which have changed as a consequence of the Provisional Settlement. Appendix 1 sets these out in detail but a summary is shown in the table below. These were explained in detail at the budget workshop with members on 14th December:

	Pre Settlement	Post Settlement	Impact '000
Funding Settlement	-4%	-1.20%	£3,884
Council Tax	2.75%	1.50%	-£551
Total			£3,333
Existing Budget Gap	£2,000k	0	£2,000
Additional School Protection	0	£1,173k	£1,173
Pupil Demography Reduction	-£320k	0	-£320
Total			£2,853
Funding Position			£480

The changes to the Settlement value allow for a proposal to lower the level of proposed Council Tax rise from 2.75% to an average of 1.5%. This will reduce council funding by £551k but will mean that some of the benefits of the Settlement are passed directly onto Council Tax payers. Despite several years of low increases, Denbighshire's Council Tax is relatively high compared to others in Wales and the proposed lower level increase will help to redress this position. The impact of the proposal to increase Council Tax by 1.5% is set out in detail in Appendix 2 and the council's relative position compared to others in Wales in 2015/16 is shown in Appendix 3. At the budget workshop in December, there was a consensus among members that the level of Council Tax rise should be no lower than 1.5%.

The proposals set out above require no further savings from services in 2016/17. Savings of £5.2m have already been identified in previous phases of the two-year process.

Applying the assumptions above results in a positive funding position of £480k. However, this must be considered in the context of the likelihood of further reductions in future years. The Settlement for 2016/17 is better than expected but it is a one-year settlement with no indications about future years. It is hoped that post the Welsh Government elections in May, reliable multi-year settlements will be provided but until then, there are no firm planning guidelines. Appendix 1 shows that budgets for future years (assuming a 3% reduction and

Council Tax of 2.75%) have gaps of almost £6m each year. Even if the budget was 'cash flat' in 17/18, pressures of over £3m would need to be funded. Therefore, the council should not commit the funding available in 2016/17 to any long-term proposals that would have to be cut in 2017/18. The table below summarises the position:

	2016/17 £'000	2017/18 £'000	2018/19 £'000
FUNDING			
Total Funding	185,056	182,104	179,312
EXPENDITURE			
Base Budget carried forward	184,756	184,576	187,939
PRESSURES:			
Inflation (excluding Schools)	2,899	1,969	1,969
Schools Protection	1,173	1,194	1,217
Investment in Priorities	250	200	
Transfers into/out of Settlement	1,036		
SAVINGS / ADJUSTMENTS:			
Phases 1-5	(5,218)		
Net Schools Demography Adjustment	(320)		
Total Expenditure	184,576	187,939	191,125
Funding Shortfall / (Available)	(480)	5,835	11,813

There are also a number of risks remaining within the current Settlement. These include a number of revenue grants that have not yet been confirmed and that there may be further direction to financially 'protect' social care but this is not yet defined. Most importantly however, all councils are having to set budgets and Council Tax based on a provisional settlement. Whilst there is a legal provision to allow this, there is a risk that if, for example, revenue grant streams are transferred into the Revenue Support Grant between the provisional and final settlements, there could be a financial adjustment to the final settlement and it is therefore prudent to have a buffer to be able to absorb this without affecting the tax base. Ongoing national discussions about the range of settlement values between councils could also affect the final position. The Final Local Government Settlement will not be published until 2nd March 2016 and the final Welsh Government budget will not be put before the Senedd until 8th March. Changes to the tax base at this stage would pose a risk in meeting the requirement to set the Council Tax before the required date of 11th March.

It is also prudent, given the level of savings made over recent years to have a financial contingency against non-delivery or slippage in the delivery of savings already agreed. Whilst the council's track record is excellent in delivery of savings, some of the items agreed for 16/17 may require a longer lead-in time to deliver.

It is therefore recommended that surplus in-year resources are set aside as a budget delivery contingency for 2016/17. This can be reviewed during 2016/17 and decisions taken about the best use of any remaining resource during the year if the budget risks are removed. The contingency should then be released as part of the savings required for 2017/18 and should therefore not be committed to funding any ongoing revenue expenditure.

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

Effective management of the council's 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?

No further savings are required from services as a consequence of these proposals. The proposals include additional net funding for schools of £853k.

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

An EqIA has been completed for all relevant proposals.

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

Previous reports have highlighted in detail the significant consultation process undertaken to deliver the 2015/16 and 2016/17 budgets, including workshops, scrutiny committees, Corporate Governance Committee, task and finish groups, Joint Consultative Committee and a public engagement exercise last year. The engagement exercise completed last year, called 'Cutting our Cloth' included proposals covering the two financial years and yielded 822 survey responses and over 5,179 website hits. The detailed report of responses to the engagement exercise was presented to council last year and is available on the Modern.gov system. A member task and finish group has been established to assess the impact of savings proposals that have been implemented as part of this budget process. Since the conclusion of the second phase of the two-year budget process, proposals to address the budget gap have focussed on efficiency and not measures that would have an impact on the public and therefore further engagement on such proposals would not be worthwhile.

9. Chief Finance Officer Statement

This report presents the final phase of the two-year Freedoms & Flexibilities budget process which will have successfully achieved what it set out to do – deliver two budgets. It has been a difficult process at times and some tough decisions have had to be made. However, the vast majority of savings – over 80% - been efficiency or modernisation savings and the impact on services to the public has therefore not been significant.

The aim of the budget process is to ensure that the council delivers a balanced budget. The uncertainty over the level financial settlements in recent years has made financial planning in already difficult circumstances even more challenging. Whilst the revenue settlement for 2016/17 is better than the council had been led to believe it would be and this is clearly welcomed, there is still a lack of any meaningful financial planning indications for the future. It is hoped that this will be addressed following the elections in May 2016 because the uncertainty and variations from year to year that have been the norm since 2013 pose a significant risk to the delivery of future budgets.

Although the precise levels are not known it is likely that funding reductions to local authorities in Wales will continue in the medium term and while the council will always endeavour to be more efficient to save money, this in itself may not be sufficient in future years. Budget decisions will get harder and will probably have a longer lead-in time to deliver.

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

The budget process itself is a risk management measure with the aim of identifying, assessing and agreeing budget proposals in a planned and timely way. Risk management of the budget process is a key consideration of the Corporate Governance Committee.

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.

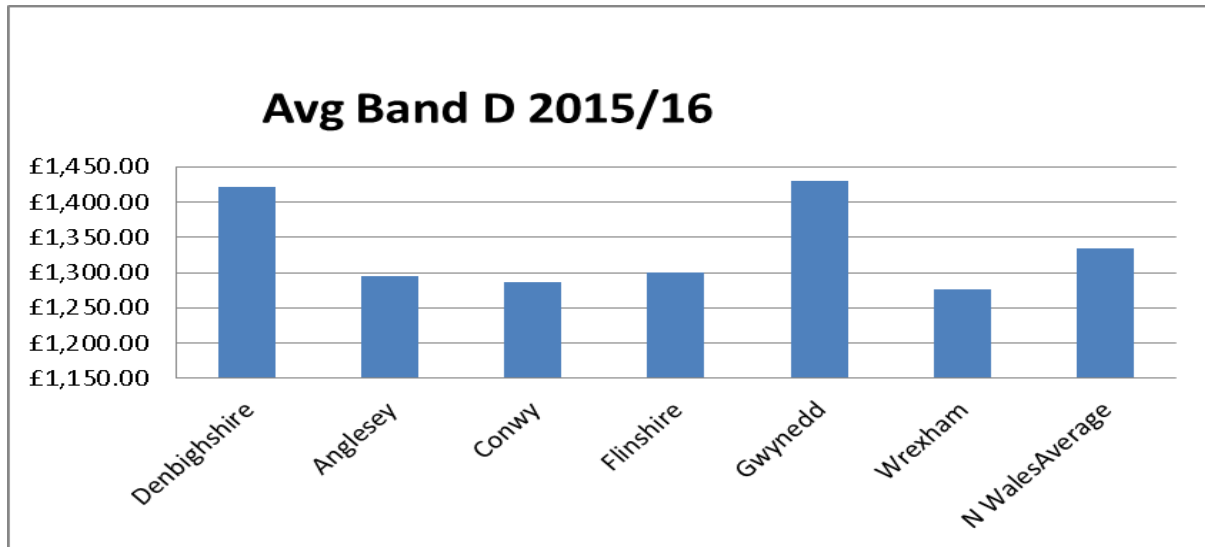
Appendix 1

	at 1st Dec £'000	2016/17 £'000	2017/18 £'000	2018/19 £'000
FUNDING				
Revenue Support Grant & NNDR (RSG)	134,533	139,602	135,414	131,352
Council Tax	45,731	44,954	46,190	47,461
SSA / Budget Requirement	180,264	184,556	181,604	178,812
Use of Balances	500	500	500	500
Total Funding	180,764	185,056	182,104	179,312
EXPENDITURE				
Base Budget carried forward	184,756	184,756	184,576	187,939
PRESSURES:				
Inflation (excluding Schools)	2,977	2,899	1,969	1,969
Schools Protection	320	1,173	1,194	1,217
Investment in Priorities	250	250	200	
Transfers into/out of Settlement		1,036		
EFFICIENCIES / SAVINGS:				
F&F Phase 1	(870)	(870)		
F&F Phase 2	(1,785)	(1,785)		
F&F Phase 4	(1,290)	(1,290)		
F&F Phase 5	(1,273)	(1,273)		
Schools Demography Adjustment	(320)	(320)		
Total Expenditure	182,765	184,576	187,939	191,125
Funding Shortfall / (Available)	2,001	(480)	5,835	11,813
Annual increase/(decrease) in shortfall	2,001	(480)	6,315	5,978

Appendix 2

2016/17 Options	Increase %	Funding Increase £'000	Budget Impact £'000	Avg Band D Annual Impact	Avg Band D Annual £
	0.00%	0	-661.71	£0.00	£1,142.22
	0.25%	110	-551.43	£2.86	£1,145.08
	0.50%	221	-441.14	£5.71	£1,147.93
	0.75%	331	-330.86	£8.57	£1,150.79
	1.00%	441	-220.57	£11.42	£1,153.64
	1.25%	551	-110.29	£14.28	£1,156.50
New Proposal	1.50%	662	0.00	£17.13	£1,159.35
	1.75%	772	110.29	£19.99	£1,162.21
	2.00%	882	220.57	£22.84	£1,165.06
	2.50%	1,103	441.14	£28.56	£1,170.78
Original Case	2.75%	1,213	551.43	£31.41	£1,173.63
	3.00%	1,323	661.71	£34.27	£1,176.49
	3.50%	1,544	882.28	£39.98	£1,182.20
	4.00%	1,765	1,102.85	£45.69	£1,187.91
	4.50%	1,985	1,323.42	£51.40	£1,193.62
	5.00%	2,206	1,543.99	£57.11	£1,199.33

Appendix 3



Report To: Cabinet

Date of Meeting: 12th January 2016

Lead Member / Officer: Councillor Julian Thompson-Hill / Richard Weigh, Chief Finance Officer

Report Author: Steve Gadd, Chief Accountant

Title: Finance Report

1. What is the report about?

The report gives details of the council's revenue budget and savings as agreed for 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 £0.460m (£0.410m under at the end of November). 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**. £6.647m (91%) of the savings have already been achieved. As reported previously, the majority of the remaining 9% of savings are projected to be achieved by 2016/17 at the latest.

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 overspend by £241k (£237k overspend last month). As noted last month there is always the possibility of changes to high costs placements which can adversely affect the projected outturn within this service. It is still hoped the service can reduce the current projected overspend before the end of the financial year, otherwise the pressure will be funded through the Specialist Placement Reserve.

Planning and Public Protection – The service is currently projected to underspend by £61k (£60k last month) due to the early implementation of agreed budget savings.

Highways and Environmental Services – Risks around School Transport, Parking and the work carried out on behalf of the Trunk Road Agency remain in 2015/16. The following management action has been identified:

- **Parking** - Better performance management of the enforcement staff to increase PCN income and a review of operational costs had already been implemented during last year. Pricing tariffs for the car parks are being reviewed.
- **School Transport** – Although the service has made good progress this financial year in dealing with an underlying overspend there are a number of additional issues and risks that have occurred during the year:
 - The new policy applicable from September 2015 has been the subject of a number of appeals around the application of the policy. This has led to a number of changes including the need for some one-off investment to ensure the new routes to the pick-up points are safe. This may lead to an increase in the projected overspend in this area depending on the timing of the completion of the improvement works.
 - There is currently a legal challenge ongoing around the designation of a safe route in the south of the county. The outcome of this challenge will be monitored closely.
- **North and Mid Wales Trunk Road Agency** - The service has reduced costs in order to limit the impact of the reductions in fee income that are currently known. However, as reported last month, there are projected to be further reductions in income and levels of work in this area which have resulted in a pressure of £96k.
- **Management Restructure** - The restructure will contribute to the overall savings target for next financial year however £80k of one-off costs are included this year. It is currently hoped that this will be able to be met from within the service.

The specific pressures and risks highlighted above have been partly offset by a number of underspends elsewhere within the service. The service is therefore currently still projected to overspend by £112k (£112k overspend

reported last month), although management will continue to try and identify in year savings to offset this pressure. So far, expenditure on winter maintenance activity has been much lower than in previous years and if this continues, it will also contribute to funding the pressures highlighted above.

Business Improvement and Modernisation – The service is now projected to underspend by £86k (£89k underspend last month) largely due to vacancy savings related to the early achievement of efficiencies agreed as part of the Phase 4 savings for 2016/17.

School Improvement and Inclusion – The service is currently projected to underspend by £116k (£111k underspend reported last month). £33k of the underspend is due to the early achievement of the School Library Service efficiency, the remaining £83k is due to temporary vacancy savings pending the merger of the service with Children's Services. It is hoped that this underspend can be utilised in future years to help fund the additional service requirements resulting from the draft Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal Bill which sets out proposals for a new legislative system for supporting children and young people, aged 0-25, who have additional learning needs. There remains a risk around the projected outturn for the Out of County service area as we are yet to receive notifications for the Autumn Term from other Local Authorities. However the service could draw on the Out of County Reserve if there was a projected overspend in this area.

Schools - The latest projection for school balances is £1.894m, which is a reduction of £1.644m on the balances brought forward from 2014/15 (£3.538m). Monitoring reports have been submitted to finance detailing the risks and assumptions that have informed the projections and summaries of plans in place for using reserves and/or dealing with projected deficits. The non-delegated budget is currently projected to overspend by £68k due to additional costs related to the expansion of Broadband in Schools. It is hoped this overspend will be offset by a reduction in historic pension costs, although these figures will not be known until the end of the financial year.

Economic and Business Development - The service is currently projected to underspend by £51k (projected to break-even last month). In May the newly restructured EBD Team was put in place, with a significant change in direction and new focus on engagement with the business community which required the development of a new programme of work for the team. The underspend is due to a delay in project development work and the effect of this on the delivery of actions in the Town Centre Growth Plan and the Tourism Growth Plan. There is no reduction in the number or scale of actions proposed in both Plans and costs are now expected to be incurred in the next financial year.

Corporate – It is still currently projected that there will be an underspend on Corporate budgets of £0.454m. The current assumption is that corporate underspends will be used to support the delivery of the Corporate Plan. A review of corporate contingencies, provisions and reserves is ongoing and will be reported on next month.

As highlighted over recent months, the risk remains on corporate budgets around the likelihood of further contributions being levied to service the council's obligations (along with most others in the UK) in respect of the former Mutual Municipal Insurance Company. Councils were mutual members of the company and have inherited liabilities upon its winding up. The liabilities relate to historical claims. This follows £393k that was paid in 2014/15. No figures have been quoted as yet for the latest levy but the council's maximum exposure is £2.225m. Although we are not expecting notification of the financial obligation before March 2016, it is likely that the figure will be similar to that paid in 2014/15 and if so, it will be funded from corporate contingencies.

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

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 reserve at the end of the year is estimated to be £4.231m.

A summary of the council's **Capital Plan** is enclosed as **Appendix 3**. The approved general capital plan is £48.2m with expenditure to date of £30.9m. Also included within Appendix 3 is the proposed expenditure of £26.4m in 2015/16 on the **Corporate Plan**. **Appendix 4** provides an update on the major projects included in the Capital Plan.

The **Housing Revenue Account (HRA)**. The latest revenue position assumes an increase in balances at year end of £139k compared to a budgeted increase of £168k. HRA balances are forecast to be £1.990m at the end of the year. The Housing Capital Plan forecast expenditure is £5.6m. Any slippage in the capital plan will be rolled forward into the Housing Capital Plan for 2016/17.

Treasury Management – At the end of December the council's borrowing totalled £192.242m at an average rate of 4.87%. Investment balances were £11.3m at an average rate of 0.65%.

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.

This page is intentionally left blank

Appendix 1

DENBIGHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL REVENUE BUDGET 2015/16

Dec-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	10,687	-6,852	3,835	11,389	-7,554	3,835	702	-702	0	0.00%	0
Customers & Education Support	2,454	7,250	-1,918	5,332	7,987	-2,655	5,332	737	-737	0	0.00%	0
School Improvement & Inclusion	4,555	15,594	-11,694	3,900	15,826	-12,042	3,784	232	-348	-116	-2.97%	-111
Business Improvement & Modernisation	3,734	5,738	-1,688	4,050	6,369	-2,405	3,964	631	-717	-86	-2.12%	-89
Legal, HR & Democratic Services	2,395	3,473	-1,061	2,412	3,399	-987	2,412	-74	74	0	0.00%	0
Finance & Assets	8,354	10,945	-4,358	6,587	11,013	-4,471	6,542	68	-113	-45	-0.68%	-45
Highways & Environmental Services	18,829	33,663	-15,486	18,177	34,003	-15,714	18,289	340	-228	112	0.62%	112
Planning & Public Protection	2,480	3,795	-1,434	2,361	3,878	-1,578	2,300	83	-144	-61	-2.58%	-60
Community Support Services	32,269	46,103	-14,332	31,771	46,858	-15,087	31,771	755	-755	0	0.00%	0
Economic & Business Development	1,421	876	-80	796	1,016	-271	745	140	-191	-51	-6.41%	0
Children's Services	8,419	10,491	-2,199	8,292	10,769	-2,236	8,533	278	-37	241	2.91%	237
Total Services	90,637	148,615	-61,102	87,513	152,507	-65,000	87,507	3,892	-3,898	-6	-0.01%	44
Corporate	16,142	45,646	-29,015	16,631	45,192	-29,015	16,177	-454	0	-454	-2.73%	-454
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
Total Corporate	33,814	62,952	-29,015	33,937	62,498	-29,015	33,483	-454	0	-454	-1.34%	-454
Council Services & Corporate Budget	124,451	211,567	-90,117	121,450	215,005	-94,015	120,990	3,438	-3,898	-460	-0.38%	-410
Schools & Non-delegated School Budgets	63,731	73,806	-10,500	63,306	74,832	-9,814	65,018	1,026	686	1,712	2.70%	1,712
Total Council Budget	188,182	285,373	-100,617	184,756	289,837	-103,829	186,008	4,464	-3,212	1,252	0.68%	1,302
Housing Revenue Account	-163	13,441	-13,609	-168	13,609	-13,748	-139	168	-139	29		29

This page is intentionally left blank

Appendix 2 Agreed Savings 2015/16

Agreed Savings by Service Area	STATUS	2015/16 £'000
Highways & Environment		
Street Cleansing - reduce activity	Achieved	100
Increase Cemetery Charges	Achieved	50
Reduce Rights of Way activity	Achieved	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	Achieved	125
Reduce grounds maintenance activity	Achieved	40
Rationalisation of Countryside Services	Achieved	65
Communication, Marketing & Leisure		
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	Achieved	48
Increase income recharge or transfer Denbigh Town Hall	Achieved	17
Library Service - modernisation programme (Stage 1 - delete vacant posts, reduce book fund)	Achieved	130
Library Service (Ruthin Craft Centre - reduce subsidy)	Achieved	10
Education Support		
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
Schools Delegated Budgets		
Demography reduction to reflect fall in pupil numbers	Achieved	242
Use of Corporate Plan additional funding to meet 1 % protection target	Achieved	581
School Inclusion		
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
School Improvement Services		
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
Customer Services		
Website Advertising - scope for additional income	Achieved	10
Rhyl One Stop Shop Review	Achieved	100
Finance & Assets		
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	Achieved	20
Property School Facilities Management Agreement	Achieved	48

Agreed Savings by Service Area	STATUS	2015/16 £'000
Revenues & Benefits Commercial Partnership	Achieved	80
Corporate		
Capital Financing & PFI	Achieved	650
Energy Efficiency - result of lower consumption and price increases	Achieved	300
Removal of contingency budgets	Achieved	50
Corporate Complaints - provision to be considered as part of the wider corporate review of support/business services	Review	40
Business Improvement & Modernisation		
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
Legal & Democratic Services		
Reduce the Number of Committee Meetings - saving on travel costs	Achieved	2
Reduction of Civics budget	Achieved	5
Strategic HR		
Not replacing Head of Service	Achieved	50
Staff Training & Development - greater use of e-learning etc	Achieved	15
Adult & Business Services		
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
Children & Family Services		
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	Achieved	50
Planning & Public Protection		
Development Management - increase income revenue for pre application advice	Achieved	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
Housing & Community Development		
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
Total Agreed Savings 2015/16		7,285

Summary:	£'000	%
Savings Achieved/Replaced	6,647	91
Savings In Progress/Being Reviewed	638	9
Savings Not Achieved or Deferred and not replaced	0	0
Total	7,285	

General Capital Plan

Capital Expenditure

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

	2015/16 £000s	2016/17 £000s	2017/18 £000s	2018/19 £000s
Total Estimated Payments - General	21,221	1,140	171	171
Total Estimated Payments - Corporate Plan	26,227	11,388	5,008	454
Contingency	772	500	500	500
Total	48,220	13,028	5,679	1,125

Capital Financing

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

Total Capital Financing

External Funding	15,377	7,831	7,303	5,055
Receipts and Reserves	15,092	5,914	658	
Prudential Borrowing	17,751	3,651	2,086	438
Unallocated Funding	(0)	(4,368)	(4,368)	(4,368)
Total Capital Financing	48,220	13,028	5,679	1,125

Corporate Plan

Revised October 2015

Approved Capital Expenditure

included in above plan

Cefndy Healthcare Investment
 Extra Care
 Highways Maintenance and bridges
 Feasibility Study - New Ruthin School
 Feasibility Study - Carreg Emlyn
 Llanfair/Pentrecelyn Area School
 Rhyl High School
 Ysgol Bro Dyfrdwy - Dee Valley West Review
 Bodnant Community School
 Ysgol Glan Clwyd
 Faith Based Secondary

	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s
Cefndy Healthcare Investment	140			
Extra Care	788			
Highways Maintenance and bridges	2,881			
Feasibility Study - New Ruthin School	618			
Feasibility Study - Carreg Emlyn	378			
Llanfair/Pentrecelyn Area School	483			
Rhyl High School	17,039	1,935	332	
Ysgol Bro Dyfrdwy - Dee Valley West Review	4			
Bodnant Community School	2,606	277	61	
Ysgol Glan Clwyd	1,248	9,176	4,615	454
Faith Based Secondary	42			
Estimated Capital Expenditure	210	21,853	28,767	15,772
Total Estimated Payments	26,437	33,241	33,775	16,226

Estimated Capital Expenditure

Approved Capital Funding included in above plan

Total Estimated Payments

External Funding
 Receipts and Reserves
 Prudential Borrowing

External Funding	3,022	2,763	2,435	187
Receipts and Reserves	11,876	5,914	658	
Prudential Borrowing	11,329	2,711	1,915	267
Estimated Capital Funding	0	7,507	17,510	9,399
External Funding	0	7,507	17,510	9,399
Receipts and Reserves	210	1,759	2,032	400
Prudential Borrowing	0	12,587	9,225	5,973
Total Estimated Funding	26,437	33,241	33,775	16,226

Estimated Capital Funding

External Funding
 Receipts and Reserves
 Prudential Borrowing

Total Estimated Funding

This page is intentionally left blank

Appendix 4 - Major Capital Projects Update December 2015

Rhyl Harbour Development

Total Budget	£10.631m
Expenditure to date	£10.538m
Estimated remaining spend in 2015/16	£ 0.093m
Future Years estimated spend	£ Nil
Funding	WG £2.605m; WEFO £5.950m; Sustrans £0.700m; RWE £155k; WREN £83k and DCC £1.138m
Comments	<p>Programme Work has commenced on the remainder of the accessible board walk route which has been funded by a grant from Natural Resources Wales.</p> <p>Work is on-going to rectify any remaining defects associated with works undertaken at the harbour, which includes a review of the current maintenance schedule for the bridge.</p>
Forecast In Year Expenditure 15/16	£0.210m

21st Century Schools Programme – Bodnant Community School Extension and Refurbishment

Total Budget	£3.581m
Expenditure to date	£1.530m
Estimated remaining spend in 15/16	£1.708m
Future Years estimated spend	£0.343m
Funding	WG £1.687m, DCC £1.894m
Comments	<p>Bodnant Community School This scheme is one of five projects within the Band A proposals for 21st Century Schools Programme. 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>Installation of windows is now complete and the building is watertight. Plumbing 1st fix will commence during January 2016. 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	£2.606m

21st Century Schools Programme - Rhyl New School

Total Budget	£24.586m
Expenditure to date	£16.584m
Estimated remaining spend in 15/16	£ 5.726m
Future Years estimated spend	£ 2.276m
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 brickwork and the external cladding are substantially complete and the plaster work is being undertaken to the ground floor and the installation of the feature cladding to the main central space within the school is well underway.</p> <p>The mechanical and electrical work is on-going with final fix activities to the upper floors. The ceiling grids, flooring and fixed furniture fittings and equipment installation is taking place to the first and second floors, and the decoration is making good progress.</p> <p>The external works are now well underway; the elevated link between the school and the leisure centre has been installed, the works to the main entrance and car parking are taking place and areas of hard landscaping adjacent to the school are being formed.</p> <p>Design work has commenced on the design for the new PE classroom which will be on the footprint of the squash courts. The external corridor to the Leisure Centre and the squash courts has now been demolished in readiness for the PE classroom and the recladding works to the pool hall and the entrance to the leisure centre which will follow on.</p> <p>There have been some legal issues relating to the substation which has been a cause for concern; this has been resolved but has resulted in a delay to the power supply until January/early February. Generators will be hired to avoid any delays to the programme.</p> <p>The ICT provider for the school is now engaged and design work associated with the servers has</p>

	<p>commenced.</p> <p>The new school is still programmed to complete in March 2016. The pupils are due to start the summer term in the new school, and then works to demolish the existing school buildings and reinstate the grounds will commence.</p> <p>The anticipated completion date of the project is August 2016.</p> <p>There is ongoing consultation with key stakeholders.</p>
Forecast In Year Expenditure 15/16	£17.031m

Nova Development

Total Budget	£4.620m
Expenditure to date	£4.586m
Estimated remaining spend in 15/16	£0.020m
Future Years estimated spend	£0.014m
Funding	DCC £4.528m; Other contributions £0.092m
Comments	<p>The refurbishment of Prestatyn Nova Centre commenced on 5th 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>The Nova opened fully to the public on Monday 23rd November 2015 and was extremely busy from the outset. Staff provided tours of the Nova to enable local residents to view the major changes that have taken place. Feedback has been excellent.</p> <p>The new web page for the Nova can be found at www.novaprestatyn.co.uk.</p>
Forecast In Year Expenditure 15/16	£3.400m

West Rhyl Coastal Development Phase 3

Total Budget	£5.560m
Expenditure to date	£5.261m
Estimated remaining spend in 15/16	£0.299m
Future Years estimated spend	£Nil
Funding	DCC £0.871m; WG/WEFO £4.347m; WG £0.199m; Town Plans/Town Council £0.143m
Comments	<p>This coastal defence scheme is the final phase of works designed to protect 2,700 properties from coastal flooding.</p> <p>The coastal defence works are now operationally complete.</p> <p>The Welsh Government are being approached with a view to obtaining agreement to funding the increased sea defence costs.</p> <p>The final account has been agreed with the main contractor.</p> <p>The NC5 coastal cycle route is complete.</p> <p>Lecterns are due to be delivered mid-December. Rhyl Town Council have agreed to fund an additional lectern. (A total of 3 to be installed)</p>
Forecast In Year Expenditure 15/16	£2.460m

Cabinet Forward Work Plan

Meeting	Item (description / title)		Purpose of report	Cabinet Decision required (yes/no)	Author – Lead member and contact officer
16 February	1	Finance Report	To update Cabinet on the current financial position of the Council	Tbc	Councillor Julian Thompson-Hill / Richard Weigh
	2	Ruthin Primary Proposals - Ysgol Llanbedr	To consider the objections received for the closure of Ysgol Llanbedr, and whether to approve implementation of the proposal	Yes	Councillor Eryl Williams / James Curran
	3	Capital Programme	To agree the Capital Programme	Yes	Councillor Julian Thompson-Hill/Richard Weigh/Richard Humphreys
	4	Former North Wales Hospital, Denbigh - Compulsory Purchase Order	Authorisation to take possession of the site	Yes	Councillor David Smith / Graham Boase / Gareth Roberts
	5	Rhyl Waterfront Development Project	To approve the Umbrella Regeneration Agreement	Yes	Cllrs Hugh Evans & Julian Thompson-Hill / Rebecca Maxwell, Richard Weigh
	6	Denbighshire Gypsy and Travellers Accommodation Needs Assessment	To approve the needs assessment for submission to Welsh Government	Yes	Cllr Hugh Irving / Angela Loftus

Cabinet Forward Work Plan

Meeting		Item (description / title)	Purpose of report	Cabinet Decision required (yes/no)	Author – Lead member and contact officer
	7	Officers Scheme of Delegation	To approve amendments to the scheme	Yes	Cllr Barbara Smith/Gary Williams/Lisa Jones
	8	Items from Scrutiny Committees	To consider any issues raised by Scrutiny for Cabinet's attention	Tbc	Scrutiny Coordinator
29 March	1	Finance Report	To update Cabinet on the current financial position of the Council	Tbc	Councillor Julian Thompson-Hill / Richard Weigh
	2	Corporate Plan Performance Report 2015/16 Q3	To consider progress against the Corporate Plan	Tbc	Cllr Julian Thompson-Hill / Liz Grieve
	3	Corporate Plan Projects – Progress Report	To consider progress made on projects in the Corporate Plan	Tbc	Cllr Julian Thompson-Hill / Richard Weigh
	4	Items from Scrutiny Committees	To consider any issues raised by Scrutiny for Cabinet's attention	Tbc	Scrutiny Coordinator
26 April	1	Finance Report	To update Cabinet on the current financial position of the Council	Tbc	Councillor Julian Thompson-Hill / Richard Weigh
	2	Future of Adult Provider Services	To consider the future of adult provider services.	Yes	Cllr Bobby Feeley / Phil Gilroy / Holly Evans

Cabinet Forward Work Plan

Meeting	Item (description / title)		Purpose of report	Cabinet Decision required (yes/no)	Author – Lead member and contact officer
	3	Corporate Plan Projects – Progress Report	To consider progress made on projects in the Corporate Plan	Tbc	Cllr Julian Thompson-Hill / Alan Smith / Liz Grieve
	4	Items from Scrutiny Committees	To consider any issues raised by Scrutiny for Cabinet’s attention	Tbc	Scrutiny Coordinator

Note for officers – Cabinet Report Deadlines

Meeting	Deadline	Meeting	Deadline	Meeting	Deadline
February	2 February	March	15 March	April	12 April

Updated 05/10/16 - KEJ

Cabinet Forward Work Programme.doc

This page is intentionally left blank