

To: Members of the County Council

Date: 25 January 2017

Direct Dial: 01824706141

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Dear Councillor

You are invited to attend a meeting of the **COUNTY COUNCIL** to be held at **10.00 am** on **TUESDAY, 31 JANUARY 2017** in **COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNTY HALL, RUTHIN LL15 1YN**.

Yours sincerely

G Williams
Head of Legal, HR and Democratic Services

AGENDA

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

1 APOLOGIES

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

3 URGENT MATTERS AS AGREED BY THE CHAIR

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

4 CHAIRMAN'S DIARY (Pages 5 - 6)

To note the civic engagements undertaken by the Chairman of the Council (copy attached).

5 MINUTES (Pages 7 - 12)

To receive the minutes of the meeting of County Council held on 6 December 2016 (copy attached).

6 APPROVAL OF THE COUNCIL'S BUDGET (Pages 13 - 32)

To consider a report (copy attached) providing an update on the budget setting process and detailing proposals to be approved by County Council to set the Council's revenue budget for 2017/2018.

7 COUNCIL TAX REDUCTION SCHEME (Pages 33 - 56)

To consider a report (copy attached) to adopt the Council Tax Reduction Schemes and Prescribed Requirement (Wales) Regulations 2013 and the Prescribed Requirements (Wales) Amendment Regulations 2016 in respect of the 2017/2018 financial year.

8 APPROVAL OF RHYL AQUATIC CENTRE (Pages 57 - 92)

To consider a report (copy attached) to approve the development of the "Rhyl Waterpark and Leisure Attraction".

9 NOTICE OF MOTION

Councillor Mark Young put forward the following Notice of Motion for the consideration of Full Council:

"That Denbighshire County Council makes parking exempt (free) for Blue Badge holders in Denbighshire County Council run car parks, thus treating disabled people in a fair and equal manner in our Authority and across North Wales".

10 COUNTY COUNCIL FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME (Pages 93 - 96)

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

MEMBERSHIP

Councillors

Councillor Ann Davies (Chair)

Brian Blakeley

Joan Butterfield

Jeanette Chamberlain-Jones

Bill Cowie

Meirick Davies

Stuart Davies

Peter Duffy

Hugh Evans

Peter Evans

Bobby Feeley

Carys Guy

Councillor Win Mullen-James (Vice-Chair)

Jason McLellan

Barry Mellor

Bob Murray

Dewi Owens

Merfyn Parry

Paul Penlington

Pete Prendergast

Arwel Roberts

Anton Sampson

Gareth Sandilands

David Simmons

Huw Hilditch-Roberts
Martyn Holland
Colin Hughes
Rhys Hughes
Hugh Irving
Alan James
Alice Jones
Huw Jones
Pat Jones
Gwyneth Kensler
Geraint Lloyd-Williams

Barbara Smith
David Smith
Bill Tasker
Julian Thompson-Hill
Joe Welch
Cefyn Williams
Cheryl Williams
David Williams
Eryl Williams
Huw Williams
Mark Young

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Agenda Item 4

Digwyddiadau wedi eu mynychu gan y Cadeirydd / Events attended by Chairman

<u>Dyddiad/Date</u>	<u>Digwyddiad/Event</u>	<u>Lleoliad/Location</u>
05/12/16	Dathlu Darllen gyda'n Gilydd, Menter Mentora Darllen Sir Ddinbych 2016 Celebrating Reading Together, Denbighshire Reading Mentor Initiative 2016	Rhuthun / Ruthin
06/12/16	Gwasanaeth Carolau Dathliad Nadolig y Cadeirydd Chairman's Christmas Celebration Carol Service	Rhuddlan
08/12/16	Ymweliad Cyngor Ysgol Gynradd i Neuadd y Sir Primary School Council Visit to County Hall	Rhuthun / Ruthin
09/12/16	Noson agoriadol Peter Pan Opening Night of Peter Pan	Y Rhyl / Rhyl
14/12/16	Radio Glan Clwyd	Bodelwyddan
18/12/16	Gwasanaeth Dinesig Cadeirydd Conwy Conwy Chairman's Civic Service	Hen Colwyn / Old Colwyn
22/12/16	Digwyddiad Carped Coch Star Wars Star Wars Red Carpet Event	Y Rhyl / Rhyl
15/01/17	Gwasanaeth Eglwysi Ardal Aber-Morfa Aber Morfa Area Church Service	Rhuddlan
18/01/17	Mynychu angladd Cyng Raymond Bartley Attended Cllr Raymond Bartley's funeral	Dinbych / Denbigh
19/01/17	Ymweliad Cyngor Ysgol Gynradd i Neuadd y Sir Primary School Council Visit to County Hall	Rhuthun / Ruthin
19/01/17	Seremoni Ddinasyddiaeth Citizenship Ceremony	Rhuthun / Ruthin
23/01/17	Digwyddiad Ysgolion/Schools event – Owl Encounters - Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone	Trefnant & Llanelwy / St. Asaph
24/01/17	Digwyddiad Ysgolion/Schools event – Owl Encounters - Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone	Rhuthun/Ruthin & Llanbedr D.C.
25/01/17	Digwyddiad Ysgolion/Schools event – Owl Encounters - Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone	Y Rhyl/Rhyl
27/01/17	Mynychu angladd cyn-gynghorydd Glyn Williams Attended former councillor Glyn Williams' funeral	Fflint / Flint

COUNTY COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the County Council held in Council Chamber, County Hall, Ruthin LL15 1YN on Tuesday, 6 December 2016 at 10.00 am.

PRESENT

Councillors Brian Blakeley, Jeanette Chamberlain-Jones, Bill Cowie, Meirick Davies, Stuart Davies, Hugh Evans, Bobby Feeley, Carys Guy, Huw Hilditch-Roberts, Rhys Hughes, Alan James, Huw Jones, Gwyneth Kensler, Jason McLellan, Barry Mellor, Win Mullen-James (Vice-Chair), Bob Murray, Merfyn Parry, Pete Prendergast, Arwel Roberts, Anton Sampson, Gareth Sandilands, David Simmons, Barbara Smith, David Smith, Bill Tasker, Julian Thompson-Hill, Joe Welch, Cefyn Williams, Cheryl Williams, Eryl Williams, Huw Williams and Mark Young

ALSO PRESENT

Chief Executive (MM), Head of Legal, HR & Democratic Services/Monitoring Officer (GW), Public Protection Manager (EJ), and Committee Administrator (SLW)

Prior to commencement of the meeting, Members were informed that the Chair, Councillor Ann Davies, would be unable to attend the meeting and, in her absence, the Vice-Chair, Councillor Win Mullen-James, would Chair the Full Council meeting (hereinafter referred to as "the Chair").

1 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Raymond Bartley, Joan Butterfield, Ann Davies, Martyn Holland, Colin Hughes, Hugh Irving, Alice Jones, Pat Jones, Geraint Lloyd-Williams, Dewi Owens, Paul Penlington and David Williams

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No Declarations of Interest.

3 URGENT MATTERS AS AGREED BY THE CHAIR

At this juncture, Councillor Huw Jones expressed his gratitude to everyone who had shown concern and sent him cards, gifts and good wishes throughout his recent illness.

The Chair, Councillor Win Mullen James offered congratulations to the Denbighshire Youth Brass Band who had recently won the North Wales Brass Band Youth Award.

4 CHAIRMAN'S DIARY

A list of civic engagements undertaken by the Chair and Vice-Chair for the period 1 October 2016 to 25 November 2016 had been circulated prior to the meeting.

Councillor Ann Davies had requested that the Denbighshire Community Sport Awards be highlighted as there had been so much talent within Denbighshire. The Guest Speaker had been Mark Colbourne MBE, the former Welsh Paralympic cyclist.

At this juncture, Councillor Brian Blakeley asked thanks to be extended to Sian Davies (Festival and Events Manager) for all her hard work arranging events, the most recent being the Christmas Pops in Rhyl which had taken place on Sunday 4 December. Almost £1000 had been raised for children who otherwise would not have a party or any gifts at Christmas.

Councillor Huw Hilditch-Roberts stated that there were a large number of officers within the county who carried out good work and thanks should also be extended to them for their hard work.

RESOLVED that the list of civic engagements undertaken by the Chair and Vice-Chair be received.

5 MINUTES

The minutes of Full Council held on 18 October 2016 were submitted.

Matters Arising:

Page 12 – The Head of Legal, HR and Democratic Services stated that Members had asked that North Wales Ambulance Service be invited to Scrutiny Committee. It had recently been confirmed that a senior representative of the Ambulance Service would be attending a Scrutiny Committee in the New Year. The date was yet to be confirmed.

RESOLVED that subject to the above the minutes of Full Council held on 18 October 2016 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

6 WELSH LANGUAGE STEERING COMMITTEE

The Lead Member for Community Development, Councillor Huw Jones, presented the Welsh Language Steering Group report (previously circulated) for Council to establish a formal Welsh Language Steering Committee within the Council's Constitution.

The Welsh Language Standards had been issued to the Authority by the Welsh Language Commissioner. The majority of the standards had come into force on 1 April 2016. Further standards relating to policy development had come into force on 1 October 2016.

Denbighshire being a predominantly bilingual county with a rich culture and heritage encouraged this to be reflected in the day to day interaction with communities, residents and staff.

A Welsh Language Steering Group currently existed within the council, chaired by the Lead Member for Community Development. The Steering Group membership contained officer representation through Corporate Director: Communities, Public Protection Manager and Team Leader Communications.

During indepth discussion the following points were raised:

- Membership of the Committee would be 11 councillors to include, where possible, the Lead Cabinet Member with responsibility for Welsh language issues. The Committee would be politically balanced with the Lead Cabinet Member's seat counting towards the political balance calculations. Membership of the Committee would be open to executive and non-executive councillors.
- It would be the responsibility of each political group to allocate councillors as representatives of the Committee.
- There would be no restriction on councillors attending as observers, except during consideration of any matter where the member would have been required to declare a person and prejudicial interest in that matter.
- As the Committee would be a public Committee, members of the public, schools and other bodies would be permitted to attend. The Committee would be able to call on expert witnesses and service users to inform its work.
- It had been confirmed that the Committee would be an advisory Committee and would not have delegated decision-making powers except in regards to certain areas of its own proceedings e.g. appointment of Chair, confirmation of minutes etc.
- The existing Terms of Reference for the Welsh Language Steering Group had been adapted by officers within Democratic Services and it had been proposed that this would be the Terms of Reference for the new Welsh Language Steering Committee.
- The Action Plan was to be developed out of the Strategy and would be presented to the Welsh Language Steering Group on Friday 9 December 2016.
- The Committee would monitor progress with the implementation of the Welsh Language Standards.
- The aim of the Committee would be to champion the Welsh language within the county.

The recommendation was proposed by Councillor Meirick Lloyd Davies and seconded by Councillor Cefyn Williams.

RESOLVED that Council:

- Adopt the Welsh Language Steering Committee approving its addition to the Council's principal Committee structure, and*
- Confirm the scope/remit of the Welsh Language Steering Group.*

7 NOTICE OF MOTION

Councillor Arwel Roberts put forward the following Notice of Motion for the consideration of Full Council.

“It has been brought to my notice that there is a prevalence of flying drones around Rhuddlan and Rhyl at present. Technology is a marvellous thing but it seems that these flying machines hover over people’s houses and gardens. The law states that they cannot be flown over built up areas or within 50 metres of people you don’t have control over.

These drones can be bought quite cheaply with cameras fitted on them, they are affordable and therefore accessible to anyone.

I believe that they have been banned in London’s Royal Parks and there should be an exclusion zone over all parks and beaches in Denbighshire. A trip to the local park or beach could result in some angry parents and if you send these remote control drones over people’s property it will not go down very well.

These drones should be banned over all Denbighshire’s public places.”

The Head of Legal, HR and Democratic Services (HLHR&DS) confirmed that the Air Navigation Order 2016 set out the law relating to the use and operation of aircraft. The definition of aircraft, subject to this regulation included “small unmanned aircraft” which were defined as “any unmanned aircraft, other than a balloon or kite, having a mass of not more than 20kg without its fuel (drones or model aircraft).

It also included “small unmanned surveillance aircraft” which was defined as “a small unmanned aircraft that was equipped to undertake surveillance or data acquisition” (drones with cameras attached).

The HLHR&DS suggested presenting a report to Scrutiny Chairs and Vice Chairs Group for further discussion.

There were rules requiring the operators of such aircraft to always maintain a line of sight with the aircraft and there were rules about flying over certain heights and in certain types of airspace. There were also rules about flying surveillance aircraft within specified distances of congested areas or people or near vehicles etc.

The use of drones for commercial purposes required a licence or permission from the Civil Aviation Authority.

Following discussion it was:

RESOLVED that the Head of Legal, HR and Democratic Services/Monitoring Officer provide a report to Scrutiny on the regulatory framework relating to drones and the powers, if any, for the council to introduce further restrictions.

8 COUNTY COUNCIL FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

The Monitoring Officer/Head of Legal, HR & Democratic Services introduced the Council’s Forward Work Programme (previously circulated).

The Head of Legal, HR and Democratic Services informed Members that there would be a Council Briefing, regarding approval of Rhyl Aquatic Centre, prior to Full Council on 31 January 2017. The date of the Council Briefing was yet to be confirmed but would take place between 25 – 27 January 2017. Once the date had been agreed, invitations would be sent out to all councillors.

RESOLVED that subject to the above, the Council Forward Work Programme be approved and noted.

The meeting concluded at 11.05 a.m.

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Report To: County Council

Date of Meeting: 31st January 2017

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

Report Author: Richard Weigh, Head of Finance

Title: Budget 2017/18 – Final Proposals

1. What is the report about?

The report sets out the implications of the Local Government Settlement 2017/18 and proposals to finalise the budget for 2017/18.

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 Local Government Settlement and to consider proposals to set the budget for 2017/18, including the level of Council Tax.

3. What are the Recommendations?

To note the impact of the Local Government Settlement 2017/18.

That Council approves the proposals outlined in Appendix 1, which are in line with the assumptions presented to members at the budget workshop held on 1st November 2016 in order to finalise the 2017/18 budget.

That Council approves the resulting average Council Tax rise of 2.75% required to support the budget proposals.

4. Report details

The Final Local Government Settlement for 2017/18 8 was received on 21st December and provided a cash increase of 0.6%. The Provisional Settlement provided an increase of 0.5%. The change between the two is as a result of 'new responsibilities' around homelessness prevention (+£156k) and tax base adjustments of (-£31k) giving a net change between Provisional and Final Settlements of +£125k. Although the Settlement provides for a cash increase, in real terms it is a cut as it takes no account of inflation or service demand pressures. For the funding position to have been neutral, the Settlement would have needed to be around +4%.

The Welsh Government approved its budget on 20th December and included a number of announcements which may benefit councils financially but, with the exception of the new responsibilities for homeless prevention outlined above, are not part of the financial settlement to councils and therefore do not impact on the budget for 2017/18. These announcements included an additional £10m of revenue for social services (likely to be in the form of a grant) and £10m to support high street retailers with business rates. In addition, a number of areas of additional capital expenditure were announced, including funding for affordable homes (£53.4m), regeneration (£50m), energy efficiency (£40m) and flood alleviation (£33m). Again, none of these are reflected in the funding settlement to councils though ultimately there may be a benefit through individual capital schemes.

The average increase to local government in Wales for 2017/18 is +0.2%. The council's increase of +0.6% allows for a number of factors through various formulae but also reflects movement in indicators such as the benefit claimant count aged over 65 and the number of children in out of work families. The range of settlement values across Wales is +1.1% (Gwynedd) to -0.5% (Powys, Wrexham and Merthyr Tydfil).

The final position is better than earlier planning forecasts had suggested but once again, this is a one-year financial settlement and no reliable forward planning figures have been provided for future years. It is hoped that this will be addressed early in 2017 as the lack of reliable multi-year financial settlement data hinders the council's financial planning and budgetary processes.

The council's budget proposals are set out in the Medium Term Financial Plan extract attached as **Appendix 1**. The narrative below sets out some of the key issues. The following points remain as presented to members at the November budget workshop:

- Since 2011 there has been a ministerial pledge to financially '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 council has always met this pledge and has actually exceeded the requirement over the period. The current settlement makes no reference to this pledge, however the council's budget proposals include additional funding of £1.9m for schools in 2017/18. Schools then have to absorb all inflationary pressures.
- The council's budget proposals also recognise the continuing financial pressures facing social care and as such, a pressure of £750k has been funded in 2017/18 with further increases assumed in future years.
- A budget pressure of £300k has been included to fund the council's school transport policy.
- Pay and pension cost increases – including the impact of the National Living Wage and the Apprenticeship Levy amount to £1.9m.
- As the funding for the Council Tax Reduction Scheme has been frozen for several years, the council has to fund the cost of Council Tax increases, estimated at £350k.
- The proposals allow for £200k of new investment in priorities.

At the November workshop, a number of uncertainties remained and have since been confirmed. These include the following:

- Fire Service Levy – 3.68% increase which results in £161k
- Energy inflation – latest forecasts show an expected 29% average increase in 2017/18 resulting in an additional £145k pressure
- Insurance premiums – have increased by £25k as a consequence of the increase in tax announced in the Autumn Statement

The savings proposed remain as forecast with £902k delivered as efficiency savings across all services and £1.355m of PFI/capital financing savings.

The budget also proposes the use of £2.122m of cash balances and reserves. This is sustainable in the short-term and forms part of the strategy to deliver the 2017/18 and 2018/19 budgets but is not a long-term solution. The use of cash has to be recovered over future years but can be used to smooth the impact of funding reductions in a planned way.

The level of Council Tax increase proposed is 2.75%. This is in line with assumptions around inflation for the coming year and is likely to be below the average level of increase in Wales. At the start of this council term, Denbighshire had the third highest level of Council Tax in Wales. Four consecutive years of below average increases has changed that position to now being the seventh highest in Wales and possibly the eighth by 2017/18. At the budget workshop in November, there was some debate around the level of Council Tax rise and the subsequent impact on the budget of higher or lower levels of increase.

Given the range of pressures the council faces, particularly the continuing pressures on social care budgets and the trajectory of general inflation, a rise of 2.75% is thought to be prudent and sustainable. At the November workshop, there was some discussion of a 2.5% increase being possible, with the difference being funded by using more cash in 2017/18. While the lower rate of 2.5% is deliverable it has two notable impacts:

- A permanent loss of funding of £112k to the council's base position, so increases the budget gap in 2018/19 by the same amount, while at the same time social care and other pressures continue to grow and
- Less cash available (£112k) to support the 2018/19 budget

Further analysis of the impact of various council tax rises is included as **Appendix 2**.

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 beyond those already agreed as a consequence of these proposals.

7. What are the main conclusions of the Well-being Impact Assessment (WBIA) undertaken on the decision?

A Wellbeing Assessment has been completed for the efficiency savings element of the budget proposals and is attached to this report. The Assessment concludes that the efficiency proposals are either positive or neutral when assessed against the seven wellbeing goals.

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

The budget process is a standing item for the Corporate Governance Committee, Cabinet Briefing and CET. Budget workshops with members have been held in July and November. The trade unions have been kept informed via the Corporate Joint Meetings. The Cutting Our Cloth Task & Finish group reviews savings and assesses their impact on the public. The proposals in this report have been considered by the Cabinet and are recommended to Council for approval.

9. Chief Finance Officer Statement

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 2017/18 is better than the council had been led to believe it would be and this is clearly welcomed, there is still a lack of meaningful financial planning indications for the future.

It is likely that real terms 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.

Social care budget pressures are forecast to continue into the medium term and will present a challenge to the delivery of future budgets.

The budget proposals include the use of cash. This is sustainable in the short-term but is not a long-term solution. It merely buys time for the council to smooth the impact of funding reductions.

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.

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Final Proposals 2017/18

	2016/17 £'000	2017/18 £'000	2018/19 £'000	2019/20 £'000
Funding				
Revenue Support Grant & NNDR (RSG)	139,608	140,474	139,069	137,678
Council Tax	44,954	46,656	48,214	49,821
SSA / Budget Requirement	184,562	187,130	187,283	187,500
Use of Balances	500	2,122	1,378	
Total Funding	185,062	189,252	188,661	187,500
Expenditure				
Base Budget	184,756	185,062	189,252	192,443
Inflation / Pressures:				
Pay	519	519	519	519
Pensions	927	350	350	350
National Insurance	900	-	-	-
Living Wage	50	500	500	500
Price - targeted	58	125	100	100
Price - NSI Energy	125	395	150	150
CTRS / Contingency	320	350	350	350
Fire Levy		161		
Social Services		750	500	500
Transport		300		
Apprenticeship Levy		500		
Schools Protection	1,173	1,246	948	1,075
Schools Demography Adjustment	(320)	656	600	600
Contingency	486			
Other known items:				
Investment in Priorities	250	200	50	50
Transfers into/out of Settlement	1,036	68		
New Responsibilities		327		
EFFICIENCIES:				
Freedoms and Flexibilities	(5,218)			
17/18 Budget Process:				
Capital and Corporate Savings		(1,355)		
1% Service Efficiency Target		(902)	(875)	(875)
Total Expenditure	185,062	189,252	192,443	195,762
Funding Shortfall / (Available)	(0)	(0)	3,783	8,262
Annual increase/(decrease) in shortfall	(0)	0	3,783	4,481
Key Assumptions				
Settlement %	-1.20%	0.62%	-1.00%	-1.00%
Council Tax Increase % Band D	1.50%	2.75%	2.75%	2.75%
Schools Protection	1.85%	1.93%	1.44%	1.61%

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2017/18 Options	Increase %	Funding Increase £'000	C/Tax Benefit £'000	Net Increase £'000	Budget Impact £'000	Impact on 17/18 £'000	Use of Balances 17/18 £'000	Budget Shortfall 17/18 £'000
Further Savings would need to be identified / approved - Impact on futures years savings requirement	0.90%	405	-101.15	303.44	404.59	-832	2,500	454
	1.00%	450	-112.39	337.16	449.54	-787	2,500	409
	1.10%	494	-123.62	370.87	494.49	-742	2,500	364
	1.20%	539	-134.86	404.59	539.45	-697	2,500	319
	1.30%	584	-146.10	438.30	584.40	-652	2,500	274
	1.40%	629	-157.34	472.02	629.36	-607	2,500	229
	1.50%	674	-168.58	505.73	674.31	-562	2,500	184
	1.60%	719	-179.82	539.45	719.26	-517	2,500	139
	1.70%	764	-191.05	573.16	764.22	-472	2,500	94
1.80%	809	-202.29	606.88	809.17	-427	2,500	49	
Max Use of Balances	1.90%	854	-213.53	640.59	854.13	-382	2,500	4
Using reserves/balances just delays the requirement to make savings. The central case means £337k less savings required in 18/19.	2.00%	899	-224.77	674.31	899.08	-337	2,459	0
	2.10%	944	-236.01	708.03	944.03	-292	2,414	0
	2.20%	989	-247.25	741.74	988.99	-247	2,369	0
	2.30%	1,034	-258.49	775.46	1,033.94	-202	2,324	0
	2.40%	1,079	-269.72	809.17	1,078.90	-157	2,279	0
	2.50%	1,124	-280.96	842.89	1,123.85	-112	2,234	0
	2.60%	1,169	-292.20	876.60	1,168.80	-67	2,189	0
2.70%	1,214	-303.44	910.32	1,213.76	-22	2,144	0	
Central Case	2.75%	1,236	-309.06	927.18	0.00		2,122	0
	3.00%	1,349	-337.16	1,011.47	1,348.62	112	2,010	
	3.50%	1,573	-393.35	1,180.04	1,573.39	337	1,785	
	4.00%	1,798	-449.54	1,348.62	1,798.16	562	1,560	
	4.50%	2,023	-505.73	1,517.20	2,022.93	787	1,335	
	5.00%	2,248	-561.93	1,685.78	2,247.70	1,011	1,111	

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1% Efficiency Savings 2017/18

Wellbeing Impact Assessment Report

This report summarises the likely impact of a proposal on the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of Denbighshire, Wales and the world.

Assessment Number:	156
Brief description:	Proposals are all deemed to be genuine efficiencies which involve changes to how we deliver services rather than the level of services we deliver. They are about delivering services more efficiently.
Date Completed:	Version: 0
Completed By:	
Responsible Service:	Finance
Localities affected by the proposal:	Not Applicable,

IMPACT ASSESSMENT SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

Before we look in detail at the contribution and impact of the proposal, it is important to consider how the proposal is applying the sustainable development principle. This means that we must act "in a manner which seeks to ensure that the needs of the present are met without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs."

Score for the sustainability of the approach

Could you do more to make your approach more sustainable?

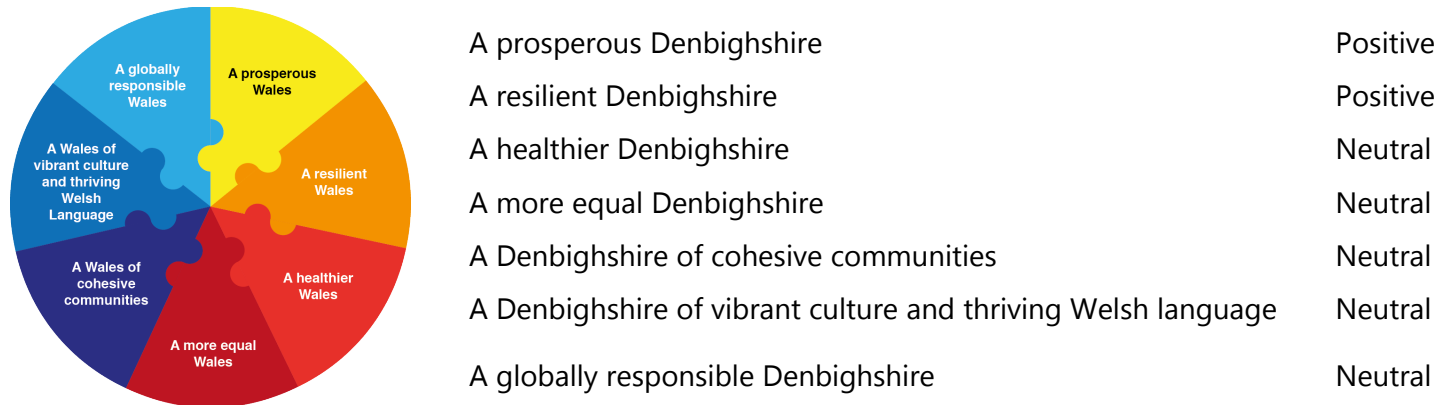
(2 out of 4 stars)



Actual score: 13/ 24.

Summary of impact

Wellbeing Goals



Main conclusions

The Assessment has shown that the identification of genuine efficiency savings have a positive effect on the prosperity and resilience of Denbighshire. However it also shows that by identifying genuine efficiency savings, cuts and reductions to service levels can be minimised which also helps the Council deliver its legal responsibilities and wider corporate ambitions.

THE LIKELY IMPACT ON DENBIGHSHIRE, WALES AND THE WORLD

A prosperous Denbighshire

Overall Impact:	Positive
Justification for Impact:	Efficiencies contribute to robustness of the council's finances which allow it to develop strategies and investment priorities which it would not otherwise be able to afford. Also £346k of the efficiencies take advantage of voluntary staff reductions - this means that the need for any compulsory reduction in jobs is mitigated against.

Positive consequences identified:

More efficient working will always use less resources eg re-mapping green waste collection rounds will use less fuel

Efficiencies contribute to robustness of the council's finances which allow it to develop strategies and investment priorities which it would not otherwise be able to afford

£346k of the efficiencies take advantage of voluntary staff reductions - this means that the need for any compulsory reduction in jobs is mitigated against

Many efficiencies complement and enable individuals to care for their childcare. Many of the reduction in hours etc are to enable individuals to balance their care and work needs

Unintended negative consequences identified:

A minority of efficiencies involve service restructures which may reduce the total number of jobs in the council

Mitigating actions:

The overall approach of the MTFP has hopefully resulted in maximising the positives from the budget process by ensuring that genuine efficiencies are taken first, therefore limiting the number of savings (service cuts) that need to be made (none for 2017/18).

A resilient Denbighshire

Overall Impact:	Positive
Justification for Impact:	A sound medium term financial plan allows the Council to make spending and investment decisions that enable the council to react to external pressures both in the medium to long term and also within the financial year.

Positive consequences identified:

Unintended negative consequences identified:

Mitigating actions:

see previous response

A healthier Denbighshire

Overall Impact:	Neutral
Justification for Impact:	Proposals have little or no direct impact on the vast majority of residents.

Positive consequences identified:

Efficiencies allow the Leisure service to carry on the good work of encouraging participation. The vast majority of staff savings are voluntary - this reduces the need for any stressful compulsory process as well as facilitating the approval of requests for changes to working patterns (eg reduction in hours)

Unintended negative consequences identified:

Service restructures may involve some levels of stress within the staff involved which will need careful management.

Mitigating actions:

N/A

A more equal Denbighshire

Overall Impact:	Neutral
Justification for Impact:	Identification of efficiencies mitigate against the need for compulsory reductions in staff or services.

Positive consequences identified:

Unintended negative consequences identified:

Mitigating actions:

Identification of efficiencies mitigate against the need for compulsory reductions in staff or services.

A Denbighshire of cohesive communities

Overall Impact:	Neutral
Justification for Impact:	Identification of efficiencies mitigate against the need for compulsory reductions in staff or services. Identification of genuine efficiency savings allow for the continued investment in Corporate Priorities, including capacity building work within communities.

Positive consequences identified:

Unintended negative consequences identified:

Mitigating actions:

N/A

A Denbighshire of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language

Overall Impact:	Neutral
Justification for Impact:	Although no direct impact the identification of genuine efficiencies mitigate against the need for compulsory reductions in staff or cuts to service which may impact on services ability to deliver the Welsh language aspirations of the Council and Welsh Government.

Positive consequences identified:

Unintended negative consequences identified:

Mitigating actions:

N/A

A globally responsible Denbighshire

Overall Impact:	Neutral
Justification for Impact:	There is no direct impact however the identification of efficiencies mitigate against the need for compulsory reductions in staff or services. Cuts to services may have involved a reduction in the ability of partner organisations to deliver services.

Positive consequences identified:

Unintended negative consequences identified:

Mitigating actions:

N/A

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Report To:	Full Council
Date of Meeting:	31 st January 2017
Lead Member / Officer:	Julian Thompson-Hill / Richard Weigh, Chief Finance Officer
Report Author:	Dawn Davies, Service Delivery Manager / Steve Gadd, Chief Accountant
Title:	Council Tax Reduction Scheme 2017/18

1. What is the report about?

The adoption of the All Wales Council Tax Reduction Schemes and Prescribed Requirements (Wales) Regulations 2013 and the All Wales Council Tax Reduction Schemes and Prescribed Requirements (Wales) Amendments Regulations 2017.

2. What is the reason for making this report?

The Welfare Reform Act 2012 contained provisions to abolish council tax benefit in its current form across the UK. From 31 March 2013 council tax benefit ceased and the responsibility for providing support for council tax and the funding associated with it, has been passed to the Welsh Government. The Welsh Government, in partnership with local authorities in Wales, introduced a new scheme to provide council tax support which was adopted by the Council in January 2013.

The Welsh Government have finalised both sets of regulations on 17th January 2017 and the new Council Tax Reduction Schemes and Prescribed Requirements (Wales) Regulations 2013 and amendments Regulations 2017 are required to be adopted by 31st January 2017.

3. What are the Recommendations?

Members adopt the Council Tax Reduction Schemes and Prescribed Requirements (Wales) Regulations 2013 and the Prescribed Requirements (Wales) Amendments Regulations 2017, in respect of the 2017/18 financial year.

That members approve the 3 discretionary elements of the scheme, shown in section 4.2, for 2017/18.

4. Report details

4.1 The Proposed Scheme 2017/18

In considering the development of a new scheme for 2017/18 the Welsh Government agreed that the amended scheme should observe the following parameters:

- To continue with a single nationally defined scheme to providing a consistent level of support to claimants across Wales. The maximum level of support is set at 100%.

- To continue providing a small number of discretionary elements, similar to those available under the current scheme, allowing local authorities to respond to their differing local circumstances (provided that the costs of any local variation are locally funded).
- To continue to be based on a reform of the previous Council Tax Benefit system, until 2018-19 so that operational risks are managed and that support can continue to be provided.

Uprating for 2017-18

The 2013 CTRS Regulations are amended in order to uprate certain financial figures for 2017-18 used to calculate entitlement to a reduction for non-passported applicants.

A number of other figures included in the 2013 CTRS Regulations will be amended, these include:

- **Personal allowances in relation to working age, carer and disabled applicants.**
The financial figures in respect of these allowances have been amended and have increased in line with the cost of living rises. The convention is to uprate in line with the Consumer Price Index September figure from the previous year (which is 1.0% for 2017-18). As the Welfare Reform and Work Act has frozen the uprating of working age allowances in social security benefits, the effect of increasing these allowances within CTRS is that they will no longer be aligned with similar components in Housing Benefit.
- **Personal allowances in relation to pensioner applicants**
The financial figures in respect of pensioner rates have been amended and are aligned with Housing Benefit. These have been calculated with assistance from the Department of Work and Pensions following the Chancellor's Autumn Statement 2016 and have been uprated by different mechanisms. For example, the Pension Credit standard minimum guarantee is uprated by earnings, whereas the Additional Pension and increments are uprated by prices.
- **Non-dependant deductions**
The financial figures in relation to both the income bands and deductions made in relation to 'non-dependants' will be uprated. If amendments are not made, appropriate deductions would not be made from CTRS awards as the income thresholds would no longer reflect average earnings and the deduction would no longer reflect the overall cost of council tax.

Additional Amendments

In addition to the uprating, a number of consequential amendments to the 2013 CTRS Regulations are required to incorporate a number of changes which have been necessary due to changes to legislation which governs interrelated benefits:

- Amendments are made in relation to how a local authority should calculate an applicant's weekly income to ensure that when calculating this, the authority

considers income that the applicant expects to receive as well as income that has been received. This ensures that the method to calculate weekly income is fair and more accurately reflects the applicants' current circumstances;

- Currently an applicant receiving a carer's allowance will not be eligible to receive the severe disability premium when determining their applicable amount. On the other hand, a person receiving Universal Credit with a carer's element can be eligible to receive the severe disability premium. As such, amendments are required to ensure applicants receiving Universal Credit with a carer's element will no longer be eligible for the severe disability premium. This is consistent with other inter-related social security legislation; and
- When determining the net earnings of employed earners, deductions are made in relation to any tax reliefs the applicant may receive. Amendments are made to ensure that all tax reliefs are taken into account when determining net earnings. This is consistent with other inter-related social security legislation.

4.2 **Discretionary Elements for Council decision**

- a) The ability to increase the standard extended payment period of 4 weeks given to people after they return to work, when they have been in receipt of a relevant qualifying benefit for at least 26 weeks
- b) Discretion to disregard part or the whole amount of War Disablement pensions and War Widows Pensions when calculating income
- c) The ability to backdate, for up to 6 months any application of Council Tax Support awards for working age customers more than the standard period of 3 months prior to the claim.

4.3 The Welsh Government undertook a formal consultation exercise on the current scheme and potential changes, enabling it to be cost neutral to Local Authorities. Representation was made by many organisations, including Denbighshire County Council, suggesting amendments to the scheme.

After due consideration it was decided to continue with the scheme as is , with any shortfall between the amount of reduction granted and the specific grant received being owned by the Local Authority.

Unfortunately the Welsh Government has also decided that the funding levels for the scheme are to remain at the 2013/14 levels, which created a budgetary pressure in 2016/17 and will continue to do so in 2017/18.

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

Adopting this scheme will help vulnerable people, ensuring they live as independently as possible.

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

£9.323 has been identified in the settlement for Denbighshire for Council Tax Support from the Welsh Government. However current expenditure is £9.511m and if the Net Council Tax increased by 3.1% (i.e the councils proposed increase and an allowance

for changes to other precepts included in the total bill) the forecast expenditure for 2017/18 is circa £9.843m. This gives a shortfall of around £520k for 2017/18 for which budgetary provision has been made as part of the budget proposals for 2017/18.

7. What are the main conclusions of the Well-being Impact Assessment?

A Well-being Impact Assessment has not been completed for this report as the proposal is for the extension of the current scheme which was consulted on in 2012. There are no material changes proposed (and no changes to the discretionary elements), however it is a legal requirement that the scheme is formally approved by Council on an annual basis.

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

Not applicable as this is an extension of the current scheme, which was consulted on in 2012.

9. Chief Finance Officer Statement

The Council is required to adopt a reduction scheme annually. As funding for CTRS has remained static across Wales for a number of years the impact of Council Tax rises on the reduction scheme has to be funded locally. The proposals in this report have been included as part of the budget proposals for 2017/18.

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

There are risks to the Council in not adopting this scheme, in that Denbighshire CC would then have to adopt the default scheme, which may increase the total cost.

11. Power to make the Decision

- Council Tax Reduction Schemes and Prescribed Requirements (Wales) Regulations 2013.
- The Council Tax Reduction Scheme (Default Scheme)(Wales) Regulations 2013.
- Council Tax Reduction Schemes (Prescribed Requirements and Default Scheme) (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2017.

Draft Regulations laid before the National Assembly for Wales under section 13A(8) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, for approval by resolution of the National Assembly for Wales.

DRAFT WELSH STATUTORY
INSTRUMENTS

2017 No. (W.)

COUNCIL TAX, WALES

**The Council Tax Reduction
Schemes (Prescribed Requirements
and Default Scheme) (Wales)
(Amendment) Regulations 2017**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations)

These Regulations amend the Council Tax Reduction Schemes and Prescribed Requirements (Wales) Regulations 2013 (“the Prescribed Requirements Regulations”) and the Council Tax Reduction Schemes (Default Scheme) (Wales) Regulations 2013 (“the Default Scheme Regulations”) made under section 13A(4) and (5) of, and Schedule 1B to, the Local Government Finance Act 1992.

The Prescribed Requirements Regulations require each billing authority in Wales to make a scheme specifying the reductions which are to apply to amounts of council tax payable by persons, or classes of persons, whom the authority considers are in financial need. The Prescribed Requirements Regulations also set out the matters that must be included within such a scheme.

The Default Scheme Regulations set out a scheme that will take effect, in respect of dwellings situated in the area of a billing authority, if the authority fails to make its own scheme.

These Regulations amend both the Prescribed Requirements Regulations and the Default Scheme Regulations.

The amendments to the Prescribed Requirements Regulations made by regulations 3(a), 4(a) and (c)(ii), 5(a), 6(a) and (c)(ii) to (e) increase certain figures that are used in calculating whether a person is entitled to a

reduction and the amount of that reduction. The updated figures relate to non-dependant deductions (adjustments made to the maximum amount of reduction a person can receive to take account of adults living in the dwelling who are not dependants of the applicant); and the applicable amount in relation to an application for a reduction (the amount against which an applicant's income is compared in order to determine the amount of reduction to which the applicant is entitled). The same amendments are made in relation to the Default Scheme Regulations by regulations 8, 17(a) and (c)(ii), 18(a) and (c)(ii) to (e).

The amendments to the Prescribed Requirements Regulations made by regulations 3(a)(iii) to (vi), 4(a) and 5(a)(iii) to (vi) also rectify inconsistencies between the figures within the Welsh language and English language versions of those Regulations that were inserted by the Council Tax Reduction Schemes (Prescribed Requirements and Default Scheme) (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2016. The same amendments are made in relation to the Default Scheme Regulations by regulations 8(c) to (f) and 17(a).

The amendments to the Prescribed Requirements Regulations made in regulations 3(b) and 5(b) and (c) make changes to provisions about when an applicant's average weekly earnings from employment are taken into account. The earnings will be taken into account in the reduction weeks specified, even if the applicant does not actually receive the earnings from their employer in that week. The same amendments are made in relation to the Default Scheme Regulations by regulations 9, 11 and 12.

The amendments to the Prescribed Requirements Regulations made by regulations 3(c) to (e) and 5(d) to (g) update references to "personal reliefs" so as to refer to the relevant provisions of the Income Tax Act 2007. The same amendments are made in relation to the Default Scheme Regulations by regulations 10 and 13 to 16.

The amendments to the Prescribed Requirements Regulations made by regulations 4(b) to (c)(i) and 6(b) and (c)(i) provide that, where a carer for a severely disabled person has an award of universal credit which includes the carer element, that severely disabled person will not be entitled to the severe disability premium when determining that person's applicable amount. The same amendments are made in relation to the Default Scheme Regulations by regulations 17(b) and (c)(i) and 18(b) and (c)(i).

The Welsh Ministers' Code of Practice on the carrying out of Regulatory Impact Assessments was considered in relation to these Regulations. As a result, a regulatory impact assessment has been prepared as to

the likely costs and benefits of complying with these Regulations. A copy can be obtained from the Local Government Finance and Public Services Performance Division, Welsh Government, Cathays Park, Cardiff, CF10 3NQ.

Draft Regulations laid before the National Assembly for Wales under section 13A(8) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, for approval by resolution of the National Assembly for Wales.

DRAFT WELSH STATUTORY
INSTRUMENTS

2017 No. (W.)

COUNCIL TAX, WALES

**The Council Tax Reduction
Schemes (Prescribed Requirements
and Default Scheme) (Wales)
(Amendment) Regulations 2017**

Made ***

*Coming into force in accordance with
regulation 1(2)*

The Welsh Ministers make the following Regulations in exercise of the powers conferred upon them by section 13A(4) and (5) of, and paragraphs 2 to 7 of Schedule 1B to, the Local Government Finance Act 1992(1).

In accordance with section 13A(8) of that Act, a draft of this instrument has been laid before and approved by resolution of the National Assembly for Wales.

Title, commencement and interpretation

1.—(1) The title of these Regulations is the Council Tax Reduction Schemes (Prescribed Requirements and Default Scheme) (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2017.

(2) These Regulations come into force the day after the day on which they are made.

(3) These Regulations apply in relation to a council tax reduction scheme made for a financial year beginning on or after 1 April 2017.

(1) 1992 c. 14. Section 13A was substituted by section 10(1) of the Local Government Finance Act 2012 (c. 17) and Schedule 1B was inserted by section 10(2) of, and Schedule 4 to, that Act.

(4) In these Regulations “council tax reduction scheme” (“*cynllun gostyngiadau'r dreth gyngor*”) means a scheme made by a billing authority in accordance with the Council Tax Reduction Schemes and Prescribed Requirements (Wales) Regulations 2013⁽¹⁾, or the scheme that applies in default by virtue of paragraph 6(1)(e) of Schedule 1B to the Local Government Finance Act 1992.

Amendments to the Council Tax Reduction Schemes and Prescribed Requirements (Wales) Regulations 2013

2. The Council Tax Reduction Schemes and Prescribed Requirements (Wales) Regulations 2013 are amended in accordance with regulations 3 to 6.

3. In Schedule 1 (determining eligibility for a reduction: pensioners)—

- (a) in paragraph 3 (non-dependant deductions: pensioners)—
 - (i) in sub-paragraph (1)(a) for “£12.25” substitute “£12.70”;
 - (ii) in sub-paragraph (1)(b) for “£4.05” substitute “£4.20”;
 - (iii) in sub-paragraph (2)(a) of the Welsh language version for “£195.00” substitute “£200.00”;
 - (iv) in sub-paragraph (2)(a) of the English language version for “£194.00” substitute “£200.00”;
 - (v) in sub-paragraph (2)(b) of the Welsh language version for “£195.00”, “£338.00” and “£8.10” substitute “£200.00”, “£346.00” and “£8.40” respectively;
 - (vi) in sub-paragraph (2)(b) of the English language version for “£194.00”, “£338.00” and “£8.10” substitute “£200.00”, “£346.00” and “£8.40” respectively;
 - (vii) in sub-paragraph (2)(c) for “£338.00”, “£420.00” and “£10.25” substitute “£346.00”, “£430.00” and “£10.60” respectively;
- (b) in paragraph 11 (calculation of weekly income: pensioners)—
 - (i) in sub-paragraph (1) for “sub-paragraph (2) or (4)” substitute “sub-paragraph (2), (3A), (4A) or (5)”;

(1) S.I. 2013/3029 (W. 301), as amended by S.I. 2014/66 (W. 6), S.I. 2014/825 (W. 83), S.I. 2015/44 (W. 3), S.I. 2015/971 and S.I. 2016/50 (W. 21).

(ii) after sub-paragraph (3) insert—

“(3A) Income calculated pursuant to sub-paragraphs (2) and (3) must be taken into account—

- (a) in the case of an application, on the date on which the application was made or treated as made, and the first day of each reduction week thereafter, regardless of whether those earnings were actually received in that reduction week;
- (b) in the case of an application or a reduction under a scheme where the applicant commences employment, the first day of the reduction week following the date the applicant commences that employment, and the first day of each reduction week thereafter, regardless of whether those earnings were actually received in that reduction week; or
- (c) in the case of an application or a reduction under a scheme where the applicant's average weekly earnings from employment change, the first day of the reduction week following the date the applicant's earnings from employment change so as to require recalculation under this paragraph, and the first day of each reduction week thereafter, regardless of whether those earnings were actually received in that reduction week.”;

(iii) after sub-paragraph (4) insert—

“(4A) An applicant's earnings from employment as an employed earner not calculated pursuant to sub-paragraphs (2) and (3) must be taken into account—

- (a) in the case of an application, on the date on which the application was made or treated as made, and the first day of each reduction week thereafter, regardless of whether those earnings were actually received in that reduction week;
- (b) in the case of an application or a reduction under a scheme where the applicant commences employment, the first day of the reduction week following the date the applicant commences that employment, and the first day of each reduction week thereafter, regardless of whether those earnings were actually received in that reduction week; or

- (c) in the case of an application or a reduction under a scheme where the applicant's average weekly earnings from employment change, the first day of the reduction week following the date of the change, and the beginning of each reduction week thereafter, regardless of whether those earnings were actually received in that reduction week.”;
 - (c) in paragraph 13(5)(a) (calculation of net earnings of employed earners: pensioners)—
 - (i) for “personal relief to which the applicant is entitled under section 35, 36 or 37” substitute “personal reliefs to which the applicant is entitled under Chapters 2, 3 and 3A of Part 3”;
 - (ii) omit “(personal allowances)”;
 - (iii) for “relief” in the second place it occurs substitute “reliefs”;
 - (d) in paragraph 22(b) (disregard of changes in tax, contributions etc) for “relief” substitute “reliefs under Chapters 2, 3 and 3A of Part 3 of the Income Tax Act 2007(1)”;
 - (e) in paragraph 24(1)(b) (calculation of deduction of tax and contributions of self-employed earners) for “personal relief to which the applicant is entitled under section 35, 36 or 37” substitute “personal reliefs to which the applicant is entitled under Chapters 2, 3 and 3A of Part 3”.
4. In Schedule 2 (applicable amounts: pensioners)—
- (a) in column (2) of the Table in paragraph 1 (personal allowances)—
 - (i) in the Welsh language version—
 - (aa) in sub-paragraph (1) for “£155.60” and “£168.70” substitute “£159.35” and “£172.55” respectively;
 - (bb) in sub-paragraph (2) for “£237.55” and “£252.30” substitute “£243.25” and “£258.15” respectively;
 - (cc) in sub-paragraph (3) for “£237.55” and “£81.95” substitute “£243.25” and “£83.90” respectively;
 - (dd) in sub-paragraph (4) for “£252.30” and “£83.60” substitute “£258.15” and “£85.60” respectively;

(1) 2007 c. 3.

- (ii) in the English language version—
 - (aa) in sub-paragraph (1) for “£155.60” and “£170.45” substitute “£159.35” and “£172.55” respectively;
 - (bb) in sub-paragraph (2) for “£237.55” and “£255.00” substitute “£243.25” and “£258.15” respectively;
 - (cc) in sub-paragraph (3) for “£237.55” and “£81.95” substitute “£243.25” and “£83.90” respectively;
 - (dd) in sub-paragraph (4) for “£255.50” and “£84.55” substitute “£258.15” and “£85.60” respectively;
- (b) in paragraph 6 (severe disability premium)—
 - (i) in sub-paragraph (2)(a)(iii) after “carer’s allowance” insert “under section 70 of the SSCBA(1) or has an award of universal credit which includes the carer element under regulation 29 of the Universal Credit Regulations 2013(2)”;
 - (ii) in the closing words of sub-paragraph (2)(b)—
 - (aa) after “carer’s allowance” insert “or has an award of universal credit which includes the carer element”;
 - (bb) after “such an allowance” insert “or has such an award of universal credit”;
 - (iii) in sub-paragraph (7)(d)—
 - (aa) after “carer’s allowance” insert “or having an award of universal credit which includes the carer element”;
 - (bb) after “be so entitled and in receipt” insert “or have such an award of universal credit”;
 - (iv) in sub-paragraph (8)(a) after “carer’s allowance” insert “or an award of universal credit which includes the carer element”;
 - (v) in sub-paragraph (8)(b)—
 - (aa) after “carer’s allowance” insert “or having an award of universal

(1) The “SSCBA” (“DCBNC”) means the Social Security Contributions and Benefits Act 1992 (c. 4); see the definition in regulation 2 of the Council Tax Reduction Schemes and Prescribed Requirements (Wales) Regulations 2013.

(2) S.I. 2013/376 as amended by S.I. 2015/1754.

- credit which includes the carer element”;
- (bb) after “that allowance” insert “or had such an award of universal credit”;
- (c) in the Table in Part 4 (amounts of premium specified in Part 3)—
 - (i) in the first column—
 - (aa) in sub-paragraph (1)(b)(i), after “carer’s allowance” insert “or who has an award of universal credit which includes the carer element under regulation 29 of the Universal Credit Regulations 2013,”;
 - (bb) in sub-paragraph (1)(b)(ii), after “such an allowance” insert “or such an award of universal credit”;
 - (ii) in the second column—
 - (aa) in sub-paragraph (1) for “£61.85” in each place where it occurs substitute “£62.45” and for “£123.70” substitute “£124.90”;
 - (bb) in sub-paragraph (2) for “£24.43” substitute “£24.78”;
 - (cc) in sub-paragraph (3) for “£60.06” substitute “£60.90”;
 - (dd) in sub-paragraph (4) for “£34.60” substitute “£34.95”.

5. In Schedule 6 (determining eligibility for a reduction: persons who are not pensioners)—

- (a) in paragraph 5 (non-dependant deductions: persons who are not pensioners)—
 - (i) in sub-paragraph (1)(a) for “£12.25” substitute “£12.70”;
 - (ii) in sub-paragraph (1)(b) for “£4.05” substitute “£4.20”;
 - (iii) in sub-paragraph (2)(a) of the Welsh language version for “£195.00” substitute “£200.00”;
 - (iv) in sub-paragraph (2)(a) of the English language version for “£194.00” substitute “£200.00”;
 - (v) in sub-paragraph (2)(b) of the Welsh language version for “£195.00”, “£338.00” and “£8.10” substitute “£200.00”, “£346.00” and “£8.40” respectively;
 - (vi) in sub-paragraph (2)(b) of the English language version for “£194.00”, “£338.00” and “£8.10” substitute

- “£200.00”, “£346.00” and “£8.40” respectively;
- (vii) in sub-paragraph (2)(c) for “£338.00”, “£420.00” and “£10.25” substitute “£346.00”, “£430.00” and “£10.60” respectively;
- (b) in paragraph 10(2)(a) (average weekly earnings of employed earners: persons who are not pensioners) after “if the applicant has received any earnings” insert “or expects to receive an amount of earnings”;
- (c) after paragraph 10 insert—

“Date on which income consisting of earnings from employment as an employed earner are taken into account: persons who are not pensioners

10A. An applicant’s average weekly earnings from employment estimated pursuant to paragraph 10 (average weekly earnings of employed earners: persons who are not pensioners) and paragraphs 14 and 15 (earnings of employed earners: persons who are not pensioners) of this Schedule must be taken into account—

- (a) in the case of an application, on the date on which the application was made or treated as made, and the first day of each reduction week thereafter, regardless of whether those earnings were actually received in that reduction week;
- (b) in the case of an application or a reduction under a scheme where the applicant commences employment, the first day of the reduction week following the date the applicant commences that employment, and the first day of each reduction week thereafter, regardless of whether those earnings were actually received in that reduction week; or
- (c) in the case of an application or reduction under a scheme where the applicant’s average weekly earnings from employment change, the first day of the reduction week following the date of the change, and the beginning of each reduction week thereafter, regardless of whether those earnings were actually received in that reduction week.”;

- (d) in paragraph 15(6)(a) (calculation of net earnings of employed earners: persons who are not pensioners)—
 - (i) for “personal relief to which the applicant is entitled under sections 35 to 37” substitute “personal reliefs to which the applicant is entitled under Chapters 2, 3 and 3A of Part 3”;
 - (ii) omit “(personal allowances)”;
 - (iii) for “relief” in the second place it occurs substitute “reliefs”;
- (e) in paragraph 19(10)(a) (notional income: persons who are not pensioners)—
 - (i) for “personal relief to which the applicant is entitled under sections 35 to 37” substitute “personal reliefs to which the applicant is entitled under Chapters 2, 3 and 3A of Part 3”;
 - (ii) omit “(personal allowances)”;
 - (iii) for “relief” in the second place it occurs substitute “reliefs”;
- (f) in paragraph 23(b) (disregard of changes in tax, contributions etc) for “relief” substitute “reliefs under Chapters 2, 3 and 3A of Part 3 of the Income Tax Act 2007”;
- (g) in paragraph 25(1)(b) (calculation of deduction of tax and contributions of self-employed earners)—
 - (i) for “personal relief to which the applicant is entitled under section 35 to 37” substitute “personal reliefs to which the applicant is entitled under Chapters 2, 3 and 3A of Part 3”;
 - (ii) omit “(personal allowances)”.

6. In Schedule 7 (applicable amounts: persons who are not pensioners)—

- (a) in column (2) of the Table in paragraph 1 (personal allowances)—
 - (i) in sub-paragraph (1) for “£73.10” in each place in which it occurs substitute “£73.85” and for “£57.90” substitute “£58.50”;
 - (ii) in sub-paragraph (2) for “£73.10” substitute “£73.85”;
 - (iii) in sub-paragraph (3) for “£114.85” substitute “£116.00”;
- (b) in paragraph 11 (severe disability premium)—
 - (i) in sub-paragraph (2)(a)(iii) after “SSCBA” insert “or has an award of universal credit which includes the carer

- element under regulation 29 of the Universal Credit Regulations 2013”;
- (ii) in the closing words of sub-paragraph (2)(b)—
 - (aa) after “carer’s allowance” insert “or has an award of universal credit which includes the carer element”;
 - (bb) after “such an allowance” insert “or has such an award of universal credit”;
 - (iii) in sub-paragraph (5)(b)—
 - (aa) after “carer’s allowance” insert “or having an award of universal credit which includes the carer element”;
 - (bb) after “be so entitled and in receipt” insert “or have such an award of universal credit”;
 - (iv) in sub-paragraph (6) after “carer’s allowance” insert “or an award of universal credit which includes the carer element”;
 - (v) in sub-paragraph (7)—
 - (aa) after “carer’s allowance” insert “or having an award of universal credit which includes the carer element”;
 - (bb) after “that allowance” insert “or had such an award of universal credit”;
 - (c) in the Table in Part 4 (amounts of premiums specified in Part 3)—
 - (i) in the first column—
 - (aa) in sub-paragraph (2)(b)(i), after “carer’s allowance” insert “or who has an award of universal credit which includes the carer element under regulation 29 of the Universal Credit Regulations 2013,”;
 - (bb) in sub-paragraph (2)(b)(ii), after “such an allowance” insert “or such an award of universal credit”;
 - (ii) in the second column—
 - (aa) in sub-paragraph (1) for “£32.25” and “£45.95” substitute “£32.55” and “£46.40” respectively;
 - (bb) in sub-paragraph (2) for “£61.85” in each place in which it occurs substitute “£62.45” and for “£123.70” substitute “£124.90”;

- (cc) in sub-paragraph (3) for “£60.06” substitute “£60.90”;
- (dd) in sub-paragraph (4) for “£34.60” substitute “£34.95”;
- (ee) in sub-paragraph (5) for “£24.43”, “£15.75” and “£22.60” substitute “£24.78”, “£15.90” and “£22.85” respectively;
- (d) in paragraph 23 (amount of work-related activity component), for “£29.05” substitute “£29.35”;
- (e) in paragraph 24 (amount of support component), for “£36.20” substitute “£36.55”.

Amendments to the Council Tax Reduction Schemes (Default Scheme) (Wales) Regulations 2013

7. The scheme set out in the Schedule to the Council Tax Reduction Schemes (Default Scheme) (Wales) Regulations 2013(1) is amended in accordance with regulations 8 to 18.

8. In paragraph 28 (non-dependant deductions: pensioners and persons who are not pensioners)—

- (a) in sub-paragraph (1)(a) for “£12.25” substitute “£12.70”;
- (b) in sub-paragraph (1)(b) for “£4.05” substitute “£4.20”;
- (c) in sub-paragraph (2)(a) of the Welsh language version for “£195.00” substitute “£200.00”;
- (d) in sub-paragraph (2)(a) of the English language version for “£194.00” substitute “£200.00”;
- (e) in sub-paragraph (2)(b) of the Welsh language version for “£195.00”, “£338.00” and “£8.10” substitute “£200.00”, “£346.00” and “£8.40” respectively;
- (f) in sub-paragraph (2)(b) of the English language version for “£194.00”, “£338.00” and “£8.10” substitute “£200.00”, “£346.00” and “£8.40” respectively;
- (g) in sub-paragraph (2)(c) for “£338.00”, “£420.00” and “£10.25” substitute “£346.00”, “£430.00” and “£10.60” respectively.

9. In paragraph 37 (calculation of weekly income: pensioners)—

(1) S.I.2013/3035 (W. 303), as amended by S.I. 2014/66 (W. 6), S.I. 2014/825 (W. 83), S.I. 2015/44 (W. 3), S.I. 2015/971 and S.I. 2016/50 (W. 21).

- (a) in sub-paragraph (1) for “sub-paragraph (2) or (4)” substitute “sub-paragraph (2), (3A), (4A) or (5)”;
- (b) after sub-paragraph (3) insert—
 - “(3A) Income calculated pursuant to sub-paragraphs (2) and (3) must be taken into account—
 - (a) in the case of an application, on the date on which the application was made or treated as made, and the first day of each reduction week thereafter, regardless of whether those earnings were actually received in that reduction week;
 - (b) in the case of an application or a reduction under a scheme where the applicant commences employment, the first day of the reduction week following the date the applicant commences that employment, and the first day of each reduction week thereafter, regardless of whether those earnings were actually received in that reduction week; or
 - (c) in the case of an application or a reduction under a scheme where the applicant's average weekly earnings from employment change, the first day of the reduction week following the date the applicant's earnings from employment change so as to require recalculation under this paragraph, and the first day of each reduction week thereafter, regardless of whether those earnings were actually received in that reduction week.”;
- (c) after sub-paragraph (4) insert—
 - “(4A) An applicant's earnings from employment as an employed earner not calculated pursuant to sub-paragraphs (2) and (3) must be taken into account—
 - (a) in the case of an application, on the date on which the application was made or treated as made, and the first day of each reduction week thereafter, regardless of whether those earnings were actually received in that reduction week;
 - (b) in the case of an application or a reduction under a scheme where the applicant commences employment, the first day of the reduction week following the date the applicant commences that employment, and the

first day of each reduction week thereafter, regardless of whether those earnings were actually received in that reduction week; or

- (c) in the case of an application or a reduction under a scheme where the applicant's average weekly earnings from employment change, the first day of the reduction week following the date of the change, and the beginning of each reduction week thereafter, regardless of whether those earnings were actually received in that reduction week.”

10. In paragraph 39(5)(a) (calculation of net earnings of employed earners: pensioners)—

- (a) for “personal relief to which the applicant is entitled under sections 35 to 37” substitute “personal reliefs to which the applicant is entitled under Chapters 2, 3 and 3A of Part 3”;
- (b) omit “(personal allowances)”;
- (c) for “relief” in the second place it occurs substitute “reliefs”.

11. In paragraph 44(2)(a) (average weekly earnings of employed earners: persons who are not pensioners) after “if the applicant has received any earnings” insert “or expects to receive an amount of earnings”.

12. After paragraph 44 insert—

“Date on which income consisting of earnings from employment as an employed earner are taken into account: persons who are not pensioners

44A. An applicant’s average weekly earnings from employment estimated pursuant to paragraph 44 (average weekly earnings of employed earners: persons who are not pensioners) and paragraphs 48 and 49 (earnings of employed earners: persons who are not pensioners) must be taken into account—

- (a) in the case of an application, on the date on which the application was made or treated as made, and the first day of each reduction week thereafter, regardless of whether those earnings were actually received in that reduction week;
- (b) in the case of an application or a reduction under a scheme where the applicant commences employment, the first day of the reduction week

following the date the applicant commences that employment, and the first day of each reduction week thereafter, regardless of whether those earnings were actually received in that reduction week; or

- (c) in the case of an application or reduction under a scheme where the applicant's average weekly earnings from employment change, the first day of the reduction week following the date of the change, and the beginning of each reduction week thereafter, regardless of whether those earnings were actually received in that reduction week."

13. In paragraph 49(6)(a) (calculation of net earnings of employed earners: persons who are not pensioners)—

- (a) for "personal relief to which the applicant is entitled under sections 35 to 37" substitute "personal reliefs to which the applicant is entitled under Chapters 2, 3 and 3A of Part 3";
- (b) omit "(personal allowances)";
- (c) for "relief" in the second place it occurs substitute "reliefs".

14. In paragraph 53(10)(a) (notional income: persons who are not pensioners)—

- (a) for "personal relief to which the applicant is entitled under sections 35 to 37" substitute "personal reliefs to which the applicant is entitled under Chapters 2, 3 and 3A";
- (b) omit "(personal allowances)";
- (c) for "relief" in the second place it occurs substitute "reliefs".

15. In paragraph 57(b) (disregard of changes in tax, contributions etc) for "relief" substitute "reliefs under Chapters 2, 3 and 3A of Part 3 of the Income Tax Act 2007".

16. In paragraph 59(1)(b) (calculation of deduction of tax and contributions of self-employed earners)—

- (a) for "personal relief to which the applicant is entitled under sections 35 to 37" substitute "personal reliefs to which the applicant is entitled under Chapters 2, 3 and 3A of Part 3";
- (b) omit "(personal allowances)".

17. In Schedule 2 (applicable amounts: pensioners)—

- (a) in column (2) of the Table in paragraph 1 (personal allowances)—
 - (i) in the Welsh language version—
 - (aa) in sub-paragraph (1) for “£155.60” and “£168.70” substitute “£159.35” and “£172.55” respectively;
 - (bb) in sub-paragraph (2) for “£237.55” and “£252.30” substitute “£243.25” and “£258.15” respectively;
 - (cc) in sub-paragraph (3) for “£237.55” and “£81.95” substitute “£243.25” and “£83.90” respectively;
 - (dd) in sub-paragraph (4) for “£252.30” and “£83.60” substitute “£258.15” and “£85.60” respectively;
 - (ii) in the English language version—
 - (aa) in sub-paragraph (1) for “£155.60” and “£170.45” substitute “£159.35” and “£172.55” respectively;
 - (bb) in sub-paragraph (2) for “£237.55” and “£255.00” substitute “£243.25” and “£258.15” respectively;
 - (cc) in sub-paragraph (3) for “£237.55” and “£81.95” substitute “£243.25” and “£83.90” respectively;
 - (dd) in sub-paragraph (4) for “£255.50” and “£84.55” substitute “£258.15” and “£85.60” respectively;
- (b) in paragraph 6 (severe disability premium)—
 - (i) in sub-paragraph (2)(a)(iii) after “carer’s allowance” insert “under section 70 of the SSCBA or has an award of universal credit which includes the carer element under regulation 29 of the Universal Credit Regulations 2013”;
 - (ii) in the closing words of sub-paragraph (2)(b)—
 - (aa) after “carer’s allowance” insert “or has an award of universal credit which includes the carer element”;
 - (bb) after “such an allowance” insert “or has such an award of universal credit”;
 - (iii) in sub-paragraph (7)(d)—
 - (aa) after “carer’s allowance” insert “or having an award of universal credit which includes the carer element”;

- (bb) after “be so entitled and in receipt” insert “or have such an award of universal credit”;
- (iv) in sub-paragraph (8)(a) after “carer’s allowance” insert “or an award of universal credit which includes the carer element”;
- (v) in sub-paragraph (8)(b)—
 - (aa) after “carer’s allowance” insert “or having an award of universal credit which includes the carer element”;
 - (bb) after “that allowance” insert “or had such an award of universal credit”;
- (c) in the Table in Part 4 (amounts of premiums specified in Part 3)—
 - (i) in the first column—
 - (aa) in sub-paragraph (1)(b)(i), after “carer’s allowance” insert “or who has an award of universal credit which includes the carer element under regulation 29 of the Universal Credit Regulations 2013,”;
 - (bb) in sub-paragraph (1)(b)(ii), after “such an allowance” insert “or such an award of universal credit”;
 - (ii) in the second column—
 - (aa) in sub-paragraph (1) for “£61.85” in each place in which it occurs substitute “£62.45” and for “£123.70” substitute “£124.90”;
 - (bb) in sub-paragraph (2) for “£24.43” substitute “£24.78”;
 - (cc) in sub-paragraph (3) for “£60.06” substitute “£60.90”;
 - (dd) in sub-paragraph (4) for “£34.60” substitute “£34.95”.

18. In Schedule 3 (applicable amounts: persons who are not pensioners)—

- (a) in column (2) of the Table in paragraph 1 (personal allowances)—
 - (i) in sub-paragraph (1) for “£73.10” in each place in which it occurs substitute “£73.85” and for “£57.90” substitute “£58.50”;
 - (ii) in sub-paragraph (2) for “£73.10” substitute “£73.85”;
 - (iii) in sub-paragraph (3) for “£114.85” substitute “£116.00”;

- (b) in paragraph 11 (severe disability premium)—
 - (i) in sub-paragraph (2)(a)(iii) after “SSCBA” insert “or has an award of universal credit which includes the carer element under regulation 29 of the Universal Credit Regulations 2013”;
 - (ii) in the closing words of sub-paragraph (2)(b)—
 - (aa) after “carer’s allowance” insert “or has an award of universal credit which includes the carer element”;
 - (bb) after “such an allowance” insert “or has such an award of universal credit”;
 - (iii) in sub-paragraph (5)(b)—
 - (aa) after “carer’s allowance” insert “or having an award of universal credit which includes the carer element”;
 - (bb) after “be so entitled and in receipt” insert “or have such an award of universal credit”;
 - (iv) in sub-paragraph (6) after “carer’s allowance” insert “or an award of universal credit which includes the carer element”;
 - (v) in sub-paragraph (7)—
 - (aa) after “carer’s allowance” insert “or having an award of universal credit which includes the carer element”;
 - (bb) after “that allowance” insert “or had such an award of universal credit”;
- (c) in the Table in Part 4 (amounts of premiums specified in Part 3)—
 - (i) in the first column—
 - (aa) in sub-paragraph (2)(b)(i), after “carer’s allowance” insert “or who has an award of universal credit which includes the carer element under regulation 29 of the Universal Credit Regulations 2013,”;
 - (bb) in sub-paragraph (2)(b)(ii), after “such an allowance” insert “or such an award of universal credit”;
 - (ii) in the second column—
 - (aa) in sub-paragraph (1) for “£32.25” and “£45.95” substitute “£32.55” and “£46.40” respectively;

- (bb) in sub-paragraph (2) for “£61.85” in each place in which it occurs substitute “£62.45” and for “£123.70” substitute “£124.90”;
- (cc) in sub-paragraph (3) for “£60.06” substitute “£60.90”;
- (dd) in sub-paragraph (4) for “£34.60” substitute “£34.95”;
- (ee) in sub-paragraph (5) for “£24.43”, “£15.75” and “£22.60” substitute “£24.78”, “£15.90” and “£22.85” respectively;
- (d) in paragraph 23 (amount of work-related activity component), for “£29.05” substitute “£29.35”;
- (e) in paragraph 24 (amount of support component), for “£36.20” substitute “£36.55”.

Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Local Government,
one of the Welsh Ministers

Date

Report To: Council

Date of Meeting: 31st January 2017

Lead Member / Officer: Cllr Hugh Evans / Cllr Huw Jones/ Jamie Groves

Report Author: Jamie Groves, Head of Facilities, Assets and Housing

Title: Rhyl Waterpark and Leisure Attraction

1. What is the report about?

1.1 This report considers proposals for the development of the 'Rhyl Waterpark and Leisure Attraction' – working title (RWLA).

1.2.1 The report sets out the required information for a Council decision on whether to proceed with the RWLA, alongside the necessary capital and revenue provision.

2. What is the reason for making this report?

2.1 A decision is required by Council to approve the recommendation of the Strategic Investment Group to proceed with the development, and funding, of the RWLA.

3. What are the Recommendations?

3.1 To approve the recommendation of the Strategic Investment Groups to adopt option 2 of the business case for development of a new Waterpark and Leisure Attraction in Rhyl as part of the overall Rhyl Regeneration and Waterfront development programme as described in **Appendix B**. This includes assumptions of financial contributions of £2m from Rhyl Town Council and £800k from the Welsh Government TISS fund.

3.2 To agree the funding strategy as set out in Section 6.

3.3 To instruct officers to progress with the next stages of implementation, including seeking planning approval and securing funding contributions from Rhyl Town Council and Welsh Government, enabling the facility to be operational by early 2019.

4. Report details

4.1 The future upgrading of the leisure and tourism offer on the coastal front is considered the most critical element of the overall regeneration of Rhyl – serving as a better place to live as well as a great place to visit. The sequence of events leading to this development proposal has spanned over 6 years and is set out in **Appendix A**.

- 4.2 It is important to note that the proposals for the new 'Waterfront' have been developed in such a way as to complement the whole coastal regeneration plan and, because of its location (next to the Sky Tower & Cinema, opposite the new Premier Inn development and close to the Town Centre/High Street retail area), serving as a catalyst for attracting more footfall into Rhyl and driving increased visitor numbers through the Town Centre.
- 4.3 A decision to proceed with the new facility will also help stimulate investment by other private sector partners – as a dynamic for increasing visitor numbers in the area, it will underpin their emerging business plans for future developments.
- 4.4 A detailed description of the vision, design brief and proposals is attached as **Appendix B**.
- 4.5 Two options for the facility have been developed. The original option (Option 1) included transfer of the formal swimming waters from Rhyl Leisure Centre to the new facility. This was on the basis of anticipated economies of scale of having all wet leisure offers in one building. A second option (Option 2) has now also been developed that retains formal swimming waters in their current location at Rhyl Leisure Centre. A detailed appraisal and options matrix is attached as **Appendix C**.
- 4.6 The purpose of this option review was to consider both the potential for achieving savings in both the capital and revenue budgets necessary to undertake the development of the RWLA and the best delivery model for the formal, community swimming offer to most effectively serve local needs. The conclusion of the review is that Option 2 represents the best value for money and customer experience and also still meets the regeneration objective of increased footfall for the town centre as **Appendix E**.
- 4.7 Finally, it should be noted that the proposed Waterpark and Leisure Attraction will remove the skate, and water-play, parks. However:
- Relocation options for the skate park will be explored in consultation with local young people. This will secure enhancement, allowing current, best practice experience of skate park provision to be applied in adopting the most appropriate location, as well as offering new, more attractive, design features. This process will start once approval for the Waterpark has been given. It should be noted that notwithstanding the Waterpark development, the existing Skatepark is in need of replacement due to its age and condition.
 - The water play park will be replaced by a significantly enhanced outdoor splash pad, and sun terrace, as part of the new development.
- 4.8 If approved by Council, the anticipated timeline for delivery is as follows:
- March 2017 – planning process started.
 - July 2017 – planning approval secured.
 - September 2017 – start on site.

- Early 2019 – Aquatic Centre opens.

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

- 5.1 The RWLA is an essential component of both the Economic Ambition Strategy 'Developing the Local Economy' (bringing footfall into the town centre, creating jobs, increasing spend in the local economy, improving salaries) and has been at the forefront of the Rhyl Waterfront Development Strategy. It is a core component of the current phase of the Regeneration strategy for the town, which focuses on increasing footfall/visitors and filtering their additional spend into reinvigorating the Town Centre and its businesses.
- 5.2 The vision within Denbighshire's Leisure Strategy is to increase the number of people participating in a range of leisure opportunities and work with partners to make best use of resources to design, deliver and promote leisure across Denbighshire. Our Leisure Strategy sets out our vision and commitment to improve access to high quality settings in which to enjoy leisure activities, for both visitors and community alike.

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

- 6.1 Two options have been developed for the proposed facility:
- Option 1 comprises 25m 8 lane swimming pool with spectator gallery, indoor and outdoor water play areas, including flumes, a large children's soft play activity zone and a climbing zone.
 - Option 2 provides the same leisure activities as Option 1 but leaves the community swimming provision at Rhyl Leisure Centre, reducing the size and complexity of the building design. This option is a more recent proposal developed, the cost and income estimates are reasonable and detailed in **Appendix F**.
- 6.2 Capital costs for the options are as follows:
- Option 1 - £17.9M, with a Prudential Borrowing equivalent cost of £1,104k
 - Option 2 (Preferred and recommended option) - £15.4m, with a Prudential Borrowing equivalent cost of £962k
 - Both options include within the capital costs provision for relocation of the skatepark.
- 6.3 Officers have already secured support in principle for capital contributions from both Rhyl Town Council (£2M) and WG Tourism Department (£800k). The latter includes an interest free loan element (30%), repayable within 10 years, which is assumed to be re-paid over years 5-10. These will reduce the Council's capital contributions and Prudential Borrowing costs by approximately £159k.
- 6.4 A Business Plan for the new facility has been prepared in house, using demand analysis from Alliance Leisure, our framework partner. It has been robustly reviewed internally by officers from Finance, Leisure, Property and the appointed Alliance Leisure project team as well as externally by Local

Partnerships. A sensitivity analysis has also been applied. The vigorous 'value engineering process' has included reviewing the figures and specification to reduce the costs as far as is possible without compromising the whole development or the bottom line income projections. **Appendix D** summarises this process.

- 6.5 It is anticipated that by year 5 of operation, the new Centre should be up to full operational strength. A prudent assumption of 60% occupancy by Year 5 has been applied as the base case for analysis, with additional cash flow support required in the earlier years as custom builds. (Current leisure facilities, including Nova, operate at around 76% occupancy).
- 6.6 The Business Case is based on the Council owning and operating the facilities itself, similar to the Nova model with Alliance Leisure the constructing.
- 6.7 Taking operating costs and income projections from the Business Case, the facility under both options is projected to make a surplus before Prudential Borrowing costs are taken into account. This surplus is then available to contribute towards the Prudential Borrowing costs.

This is shown in the table below:

Business Case Models - Year 5	Option 1	Option 2
	£'000	£'000
Prudential borrowing costs	1,104	962
Less		
Operating Surplus	603	668
Net Trading Position	501	294

Funding Options

The business case options both generate an operating surplus before borrowing costs are applied but result in a funding requirement once these costs are applied. The funding requirement is reduced by £113k when the annual impact of the anticipated funding from Rhyl Town Council is taken into account and a further £46k when the impact of the additional Welsh Government funding is applied (albeit a provision will have to be made to repay 30% of this within 10 years).

- 6.8 In addition, budgets previously available for the Sun Centre and coast (£135k) have been retained and can be used to contribute towards the Prudential Borrowing costs.

Taking the three elements noted above into account, the funding requirement is reduced as follows:

Business Case Models - Year 5	Option 1	Option 2
	£'000	£'000
Prudential borrowing costs	1,104	962
Less		
Operating Surplus	603	668
Net Trading Position	501	294
Rhyl Town Council contribution	113	113
WG Contribution	46	46
Existing Budget	135	135
Additional Budget Funding Required	207	0

The table above shows the anticipated position in the fifth year of operation, applying an occupancy rate of 60% by year 5. For years one to four, a lower occupancy level is assumed as the facility becomes established. This lower occupancy level impacts upon the income received and therefore reduces the operating surplus.

6.9 *The RPT (Robin P Thompson Consulting Ltd) independent rationale for suggesting 60% as a prudent occupancy rate;*

1. *Current Nova performance (as independently) validated by consultants is achieving 73% occupancy*
2. *Data analysed on the Leisure estate and performance showed an average occupancy across consistently across all sites - 70% - 73%*

RPT suggest 50% occupancy as a prudent position. This is often exceeded by operators, and strong operators such as Denbighshire Leisure will often overshoot this by some margin, as they have proved within other sites and developments. The principle is however, to ensure that when evaluating schemes, a cautious approach is considered.

In RPT's professional opinion, if Denbighshire Leisure continue to operate services as they have been, the wider seafront development takes place and trading conditions remain relatively stable; the 60% occupancy levels are a realistic and prudent position to take.

6.10 Based on the preferred Option 2, the funding gap is estimated to be approximately:

- £378k in Year 1 (allowing for additional one-off set up/marketing costs £100k);
- £248k in Year 2
- £23k in Year 3 and
- £11k in Year 4
- Year 5 is targeted to break even as the business case assumption of 60% occupancy should be achieved.

6.11 The above funding is essentially financial provision based on the assumption that the performance doesn't achieve 60% until Year 5. If this performance is achieved earlier, the funding requirement can be reduced accordingly.

6.12 Council policy is that borrowing costs are not applied until the first full year of a facility being fully operational. If the building opens in early 2019 (effectively Year 0) costs and income will largely match.

6.13. A number of options are being considered to address the funding requirement in years 1-4. These include contributions from services, reserves and would be incorporated into the council's budget strategy for those years. A further consideration is that if the facility is not fully operational by April 2019, the borrowing costs could be deferred for a year, potentially completely removing the funding requirement for the first, second and third years. Facilities, Assets and Housing and Economic Development budgets have identified potential revenue savings that could contribute to the cash-flow requirement if needed. In addition there is scope to use reserves if needs be. Corporate financial support would be available to provide cash flow if for any reason the above were insufficient but this is thought to be unnecessary at this stage, particularly if borrowing is deferred for one year.

6.14 Sensitivity Analysis

- The biggest area of cost sensitivity is around the operating surplus. The running costs are assured based on a detailed staffing model and detailed analysis and testing of other cost assumptions and demand. However, the income element of the business case holds the highest risk in terms of certainty and implication. While the income projections are not unreasonable, this is a different investment to previous leisure facility investments and is much more significant in scale than the Nova.
- The Council has a good track record in delivery of such investments but must be accepting of the risk around future income generation. For example, a reduction of 10% in the income would equate to approximately £250k and would add an equivalent annual pressure to the budget. But equally, if the business case were to over achieve by 10% there would be a positive gain on assumptions.
- Further additional capital contributions would reduce Prudential Borrowing costs. However, no such further opportunities have been identified. It had been hoped that the commercial elements of the Waterfront scheme would have created surplus capital receipts that could be applied to the scheme, but the commercial property market post Brexit is significantly less buoyant and prices have been suppressed as a result.

6.15 A more detailed financial commentary on the operating assumption is set out in **Appendix F**.

7. What are the main conclusions of the Well-being Impact Assessment?

A positive assessment. The new facility could deliver significant economic benefits to both the local and regional economy. The additional leisure facilities will create capacity and encourage greater participation amongst residents and visitors. The development will act as a catalyst for further regeneration and create a sense of pride in Rhyl and Denbighshire.

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

- 8.1 The proposal has the full support of Lead Members Huw Jones, and Councillor Hugh Evans. Extensive consultations have been carried out throughout 2016, including Member Area Group, Rhyl Waterfront Project Board, Cabinet briefing, Rhyl Town Council and strategic investment group. Relevant committees and boards have been consulted throughout the development stages. The original waterfront proposals were subject to public consultation in December 2015 and received overwhelming support. The views emerging from all those consultations have helped inform the recommendations.

9. Chief Finance Officer Statement

This project is a significant regeneration investment in Rhyl. The Council has a good track record of delivery on similar projects but this is much more significant in scale. A detailed business case has been produced and tested and the assumptions made within it are reasonable. However, as with any business case, the assumptions can change over time, positively or negatively. Positive variations will be clearly welcome and would help to build further financial resilience into the model. Negative variations could also occur, particularly to a business case model that is so sensitive to changes in levels of income. For example, a 10% reduction to income levels, whether through occupancy or pricing, would cause a funding pressure of around £250k.

In approving the recommendation, the Council should therefore also accept the risk that if the facility does not achieve the business case model, either through unforeseen additional costs, lower income results or a combination of both, then it will create a financial pressure to be funded in future years. The model as presented achieves a break-even position in Year 5 of operation but there is a funding gap in Years 1-4. A number of funding options have been identified that will provide the cash-flow to cover the gap.

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

- 10.1 This is a major and complex project that, if approved, will proceed in difficult financial times.
- 10.2 The Rhyl Waterfront Project Board is reviewing the risk register and project management plan on an ongoing basis - it will be responsible for ensuring all of the required mitigation/amelioration measures are put in place. The fall-back position, in the worst case scenario, will be to retain the Leisure Centre aquatic offer and deliver for the time being what is affordable within the Council's own resources.
- 10.3 The main financial risks are summarised as follows:
- **Increases in capital costs** – the proposals are robust and cost estimates considered to be good. Additional design elements have already been added on advice from Planning. The main cost risk is associated with delay in

appointing a contractor - with steel prices increasing on an ongoing basis as one example; and still having to undergo the full planning consultation process. Once appointed through the Alliance framework, costs would be fixed but until then cost price inflation may apply and the construction market is beginning to 'warm up'.

- **Failure to achieve business case assumptions** – of these, the main risks relate to occupancy/visitor numbers. A prudent approach has been adopted, setting occupancy in year 5 at 60%. Failure to achieve this level of customer usage would reduce income and require additional funding to cover the Prudential Borrowing costs. 10% reduction in occupancy would create a budget pressure of approximately £250k pa.
- **Loss of capital contributions** – Rhyl Town Council members have given support in principle for a £2M contribution. WG Tourism funding is subject to a grant application process but indications from WG officials are very positive. The risk of non-achievement of this level of grant funding is felt to be very low.

10.4 The consequences of not proceeding are set out as a 'Status Quo/Do Nothing' option in the appraisal in **Appendix C**. Whilst financially a seemingly risk averse option, doing nothing, would jeopardise investment and have a significant negative impact on the local economy, visitor trade and public as well as investor perception. Furthermore, officer advice is that there is no alternative leisure attraction that could have the same positive effect on the desired regeneration in Rhyl.

11. Power to make the Decision

1. Section 2 Local Government Act 2000
2. Section 111 Local Government Act 1972

THE BACKGROUND TO THE RHYL WATERFRONT, TOWN CENTRE AND COASTAL REGENERATION PLAN - A CONSISTENT AND CLEAR RATIONALE

Since the production of the 2010 Hyder, Rhyl Attraction Study, which led to the recognition that the Sun Centre had reached the end of its beneficial life, a significant amount of work has been undertaken, and progress made, in respect of the development of the leisure and tourism offer, as a critical element of the whole coastal front, and Rhyl Town Centre, regeneration plan.

The 'journey' so far has included:

- Completion of a detailed review of the Coastal Improvement Plans in 2012, which supported the need to replace the Sun Centre with an offer, complementary to the other facilities in the area – including a wet weather attraction for visitors, as well as being an essential part of the regeneration plans for Rhyl.
- In 2013, Council agreed to explore options for the future of the coastal facilities and at the same time approved recommendations for the redevelopment of the Nova – it was considered most cost effective to 'rescue' and refurbish. The proposals for a new wet Leisure offer in Rhyl were supported and included as a key element of the Rhyl Going Forward Programme.
- In 2014/15 Council ceased funding Clwyd Leisure due to concerns over the quality and level of service provision and Clwyd Leisure's inability to remedy these. Clwyd Leisure ceased trading with immediate effect and the facilities operated by them in Rhyl and Prestatyn closed.
- Determining that the North Wales Bowls Centre could be reopened alongside the Nova redevelopment and a business case justification for a new wet leisure offer be developed for Rhyl, as the Council gave commitment to replace the Sun Centre with an appropriate a new visitor attraction, recognising the need for such a facility in Rhyl to regenerate footfall in the town.
- In December 2015, the 'new Nova' was opened, following a major refurbishment and building transformation programme. A recent independent evaluation report has shown that the Nova is now considered to be a premier, 'fit for the future', seaside attraction and leisure complex – an important visitor destination.
- Soft market testing and formal procurement was undertaken to appoint commercial and leisure development partners.
- In 2016, the Sun Centre building, which was determined to be beyond repair, was demolished, and work commenced on the detailed business case for its replacement

RHYL WATERPARK AND LEISURE ATTRACTION - DESIGN BRIEF/PROPOSALS SUBJECT TO REVISION AS MARKED FOR OPTION 2



Principles

The proposals to establish RWLA have been designed not simply to replace the former Sun Centre, but to ensure that the new facilities contribute to the regeneration of both the whole community and local economy – placing Rhyll firmly back on the map as a visitor destination and encouraging the additional footfall generated to spill out into the Town Centre.

It was also important, that the new Attraction did not compete with the Nova and Rhyll Leisure Centre (RLC) but instead, created a unique image and appeal for Rhyll as a tourist destination, whilst at the same time responding to local community needs.

Initial design considerations for the new Facility, based on the desire to replace the former Sun Centre, considered the establishment of both leisure and formal water features, health and fitness facilities, together with catering and retail outlets.

Subsequently, and through the detailed design development phase, it was considered beneficial to maintain the successful health and fitness business at RLC. An options review has now concluded that retaining formal swimming waters at RLC is also advantageous.

The future leisure and tourism offer must also take account of, and best serve the local community, as well as recognising and complementing the appeal of attractions provided in existing facilities.

Vision and Rationale

1. To create a destination leisure offer that complements and enhances the economic development of Rhyll

2. To create a commercial and unique attraction
3. To be a catalyst for attracting additional funding from regeneration, commercial and other partners
4. To be a catalyst for stimulating investment in the town centre and on the sea front

The outline design brief sets out the following requirements:

1. To replace the outdated facilities provided at the former Sun Centre and to accommodate the displaced swimming activity following the closure of the pool at RLC
 2. To satisfy local swimming needs by developing swimming facilities, complementary to the offer provided at the Nova
 3. To meet the competitive and associated recreational swimming needs of Rhyl and the immediate hinterland
 4. To satisfy school-aged swimming programmes together with all recreational opportunities for adults and families
 5. To accommodate the training needs of clubs, private groups, individuals, swimming competition and personal fitness
 6. To provide an adventurous wet weather attraction for visitors to the area, complementary to the offer at the Nova
 7. To maintain the outside water features currently provided on the coastal front
 8. To act as an unique statement, contributing to the regeneration of Rhyl - stimulating commercial life and providing both activity and excitement
 9. To create a building with a sense of place to contribute to an improved urban form and character.
- 1, 4 and 5 are retained at RLC under option 2

The current design and access statement includes noise, air quality, and flood risk assessment; drainage and energy strategies; a travel and transport assessment; a bat and bird survey; together with a community linguistic statement.

Designs up to RIBA Stage 3 have been prepared for Option 1 and are underway for Option 2 by S&P and ISG to include: floor plans/site plan; elevations and visualisation; operational flow; construction surveys; programme; summary project costs.

Location

The site proposed for the Rhyl Aquatic Centre is located on the seafront alongside the Sky Tower:

1. To be built over the current children's paddling pool and skate park
2. With the north boundary of the infrastructure facing the sea front promenade with direct access to the beach
3. With the eastern boundary facing the Sky Tower and car park, which has been earmarked for redevelopment as part of the Rhyl masterplan
4. With the west side facing the Amphitheatre
5. With the main road and vehicular access to West Parade, on the south side of the site.

Architecturally, it is recognised that the new infrastructure will need to be designed to reduce the likelihood of any detrimental seafront visual impact (blocking views of the beach) – considerations have led to the architects designing a structure with a 'double wedge' distribution of the leisure box/children's play area intersection, which does reduce the visual impact of the building, whilst still accommodating the large leisure zones within.

Design Concepts

The aquatic offer is based on an indoor 'splash adventure', aimed at children of all ages and ability groups, providing a variety of high as well as low, level water features, thus

creating an exciting environment in which children can explore, and develop their water confidence at their own pace.

The leisure area will be based around a large pool that will have a maximum water depth of 300mm, with beach entry at one end, allowing non-swimmers and swimmers alike, to have equal access to play opportunities whilst creating a safe and secure environment.

The pool will have two interactive play areas - a water confidence zone and interactive play structure.

A dedicated 'toddlers area', will cater for the younger and less water-confident child with low-level play, complete with features encouraging both interaction and participation. The indoor leisure offer will include a number of water slides to provide an exciting experience for all ages. It will include:

- A free-fall slide
- A family tyre ride
- A 4 lane, multi-slide

The interactive play structure will provide opportunities for older and more confident children -this will be located in the leisure pool.

The outside 'splash pad' concept will be designed to increase the leisure water area during the warmer, summer months - two wet splash pads will sit amongst the sun lounge areas and café terraces, to provide wet play entertainment in a zero water-depth area

Design Features

In the current design proposals for, **Option 1 which includes formal waters, the Rhyl Aquatic Centre would comprise:**

1. A 25m x 8 lane swimming pool, with moveable floor and associated changing areas
2. Spectator gallery for 110 persons
3. 1,200m² leisure water spaces comprising:
 - a. 500m² of water
 - b. 700m² of leisure facilities
4. Both indoor and outdoor flume rides
5. Children's water play frame and slides
6. Further specialist facilities will include
 - a. a double height children's' play, activity zone
 - b. climbing facilities
 - c. party rooms
 - d. reception
 - e. sales areas

Option 2 would provide all of the above, with the exception of items 1 & 2. Swimming waters would be retained at Rhyl Leisure Centre.

Externally for both options, the development would include:

1. A 600m² splash pad and play facilities, with sun deck and external seating terrace
2. Beach changing huts and WC facilities
3. Bar and terrace to cater for the evening trade
4. Café and bar areas.

RHYL AQUATIC OFFER – OPTIONS APPRAISAL REVIEW

INTRODUCTION

Before proceeding with the final design work and planning application for the proposed new Rhyl Waterpark and Leisure Attraction, officers have undertaken a value for money review of the case for the inclusion of a 'formal swimming pool' and spectator accommodation as part of the new Centre. This has been set in context with a business review of the case for the retention of the swimming pools in Rhyl Leisure Centre (RLC), that currently serve community, competitive swimming and learning needs.

The purpose of the review was to consider the potential for achieving significant savings in both the capital and revenue budgets necessary to undertake the development of the Facility alongside any subsequent conversion of RLC, following closure of the existing pools. Furthermore the review would establish the best delivery model for the formal, community swimming offer to most effectively serve local needs.

BACKGROUND

Initial considerations for the new Aquatic Centre were based on the desire to replace the former Sun Centre - the design was expected to include both leisure and formal water features alongside health and fitness facilities, together with catering and retail outlets.

Subsequently, through the detailed design development phase, it was considered **beneficial to maintain the already very successful health and fitness business at RLC**, whilst concentrating the aquatic activity on the seafront.

Thereafter the proposals were based on delivering 'new facilities' over two sites:

- The existing leisure facility at RLC would be re-modelled and improved to provide an enhanced health and fitness offer, together with continuing to provide the current sports facilities for education and local residents.
- A new and innovative, aquatic park would be developed on the Promenade featuring an exciting leisure offer with a variety of flumes and features, together with an 8 lane x 25 m pool with moveable floor across 2 lengths of the facility, to provide for shallow water swimming lessons; children's play and climbing zone; alongside a food and beverage outlets.

In this model, a refurbishment plan for RLC, based on the relocation of the swimming offer to the new Aquatic Centre, included the conversion of the vacated pool hall into a high quality health and fitness offer, to accommodate the latent demand for health and fitness membership. **However, a detailed appraisal of the capital costs and estimated running costs/profit confirmed that the necessary investment of c£1.6m in an upgraded facility, together with the required £2.5m to move the formal swimming offer to the Aquatic Centre would only provide sufficient operating profit to cover the cost of displacement income.**

SWIMMING FACILITIES PLAN - OPTION REVIEW

Before proceeding with the required Planning Application, consideration has been given to the case for the relocation of the 'formal swimming offer' from RLC to the new Facility.

Attached at **ANNEX 1**, is a 'Rhyl Swimming Pools' options appraisal, informing the following review conclusions.

Reasons not to Change the Original, Option 1, Aquatic Proposal to Include a Formal Swimming Offer

Alterations to the design will demand additional design work.

There may be a view that a 'single' Aquatic facility is essential to create a statement facility - providing an attractive, new swimming pool complex being of paramount importance. Furthermore the 'swimming community' may feel 'let down' if the 'formal pool' is not replaced - although the main focus of the Facility is the leisure attractions and the 'formal swimming pool' design does not provide an enhanced offer, when compared with the existing provision in RLC.

The business plan for a single Aquatic Centre has been fully tested, is commercially viable but would require ongoing subsidy from the Council.

Reasons to Proceed with Option 2 – Retaining the Formal Swimming Offer in RLC and Reducing the Design and Cost of the New RAC

It is important **to make sure the decisions made 'today' are in the best long term interests of both the community and economic regeneration of Rhyl.**

There are a number of significant reasons why the retention of the formal swimming pool at RLC – should be considered to be the preferred delivery model.

The omission of the 'formal swimming pool' from the design of the RAC, together with the limited spectator accommodation, would reduce the capital cost by up to £2.5m - reducing the borrowing costs with a consequential impact on annual revenue budgets. As well as this, further financial benefits would be secured, as there would be no requirement to invest in the refurbishment of the swimming pool hall in the Leisure Centre, following the pool closure – an additional potential saving of over £1.6m, based on current estimates.

Furthermore, as a result of the removal of an 8 lane swimming tank, the reduction in building mass of the Aquatic Centre would make it easier to design a facility that 'enhances the urban form' delivering an improved connection with the town centre and seafront. The focus of the new Centre would become more of a commercial, visitor and 'recreational', leisure offer.

The existing learn to swim, training and competitive programmes would continue to be maintained at the RLC pool - under the current commercially and well tested delivery model.

Despite the proposed new aquatic offer on the Promenade showing a financially beneficial operating position, the inclusion of the 'less profitable' competition and training tank with moveable floor, will place a greater strain on its budget and operating arrangements. Furthermore, the removal of the competition and training pool from RLC may create cash flow issues/'financial tensions' between the two facilities, causing unnecessary future financial risk for the Council.

Without the 'formal swimming pool', there will be lower annual running costs for the RWLA.

Finally, and significantly, there is a risk that the customer experience is negatively affected as a result of the relocation of the formal swimming offer to the new Centre i.e.:

- The RLC pool is well located - easily accessible for the local community and best placed to serve the local school swim programmes.
- A separate offer for regular school, community and swim club needs will mean that existing local customer base is not required to compete with visitors, and contend with seafront car parking and access issues, as a result of relocating their activity from the RLC. The Council's experience of operating the successful seaside visitor attraction at the Nova, confirms that there are many occasions when the facility is at capacity, and customers are 'turned away'.
- The current learn to swim programme is commercially successful, and along with the health and fitness offer, it makes a significant contribution to the Centre's annual operating profit – this financial strength 'bucks the trend' experienced across other local authority run swimming pools in Wales. The design of the existing facility i.e. presence of the small learn to swim pool, which can be maintained at a warmer water temperature, helps contribute to this success.

SUMMARY APPRAISAL OF THE ADVANTAGES AND DISADVANTAGES OF INCLUDING AN 8 LANE SWIMMING POOL IN THE RHYL AQUATIC CENTRE OR RETAINING THE EXISTING SWIMMING POOL IN THE LEISURE CENTRE

Facility	Advantages	Disadvantages/Risks
<p>Option 1</p> <p>The Original RAC Scheme</p> <p>Rhyl Aquatic Centre designs including and 8 lane x 25m swimming pool with spectator accommodation for 110 people; moveable floor to 2 lanes to create learn to swim zones</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All of the local swimming activity contained in one building • Concentration of swimming pool expertise under one roof • Shared plant and reduced M&E costs • Integrated marketing of the aquatic offer • Less facility competition 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The inclusion of the 'less profitable' competition and training tank will put a disproportionate financial strain on the RWLA budgets • The loss of the competition and training pool at RLC is likely to put the existing facility into deficit which will create a cash flow issue for the Leisure budget as well as 'financial tensions' between the two facilities and present a potential future financial risk to the Council • The capital cost of moving the 'formal offer' to the Aquatic Centre is £2.5m which demands more revenue to meet borrowing costs • The removal of the swimming facility at RLC would demand capital expenditure (current estimate is over £1.6m) create a useable space • The moveable floor model will not create warm water teaching zones – the temperature of the waters will need to be maintained at cooler competitive swim training levels.
Facility	Advantages	Disadvantages/Risks
<p>Option 2</p> <p>The retention of the formal swimming</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The current swimming offer at RLC provides for two pools with the opportunity to have the water temperature in the learner pool higher than the main 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A change to the design of the RAC will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ incur additional costs – i.e. up to £50k of additional design work

Page 72

<p>offer at RLC</p> <p>A 6 lane x 25m competitive, training, and teaching pool with spectator accommodation and separate warmer water learn to swim pool</p>	<p>pool – this will not be provided in the Aquatic Centre</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parents wishing to drop-off children for 30 minute lessons would find the RLC easier to access • The RLC is closer to the ‘local community’ • A single aquatics destination on the seafront would demand that local people attending classes, swim training and competitions, crossing the town and ‘competing’ with visitors at peak times in the summer months • A 25mx 8 lane pool at the Aquatic Centre significantly increases the building mass which makes the integration of the structure into the urban form, more difficult to achieve • The facility on the seafront would be a more distinct, unique, recognisable tourist and visitor attraction • RLC is viewed as a lifelong learning centre with strong links to both School, College and local community • There would be a capital saving of up to £2.5m by not replacing the current formal swimming pool in Rhyl as well as which the c. £1.6M cost of refurbishing the vacated pool hall will be saved. The reduction in capital costs will have a direct bearing on the levels of borrowing required, reducing repayments/the level of annual revenue budget required • Without the formal swim pool, there will be lower annual running costs for the RAC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ demand re-worked business plan income and expenditure projections ○ potentially delay the planning process and project start ○ potentially undermine confidence in the scheme – communication would be key ○ require a change of name to better reflect the new focus of the facility <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The removal of the formal pool offer from the RAC would take away one of the ‘year round’ features of the facility <p>However, if adopted, this options appraisal could be completed before the Scheme is presented to Council thereby avoiding any further project delays</p>
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Facility	Advantages	Disadvantages/Risks
Option 3		

<p>Do Nothing/Status Quo</p> <p>Do not proceed with the development proposals for a new Waterfront Aquatics Centre/Waterpark and Leisure Attraction</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Council would make financial savings • The Council would avoid the risks of project delays and cost overruns; forecast income projections failing to meet targets or running costs exceeding estimates 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Negative public and partner opinion • The confidence of commercial partners would be undermined – current investment plans are pending the Council’s decision to proceed with a new coastal leisure offer and visitor attraction • There is no other equivalent visitor offer and catalyst for economic regeneration that would deliver the proposed increase in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 350k town centre and coastal front footfalls ○ Over 60 new jobs and related training opportunities ○ New apprenticeships • There would be a negative impact on visitor perceptions damaging the holiday trades, visitor market and impact on the local economy • The demand for leisure waters and fun aquatic features have been excluded from the Nova redevelopment so as not to compete with the proposed Rhyl Aquatics Offer. This omission has been noted by the local community – and particularly young people • There will be significant abortive costs • Funding opportunities would be lost
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Conclusions/Recommendations: It is important make sure the decisions taken are in the best long term interests of both the community and economic regeneration of Rhyl.

Option 3 – the status quo/do nothing approach, whilst financially risk averse would jeopardise investment and have a significant negative impact on the local economy, visitor trade and public and investor perception – there is no alternative leisure attraction that could have the same positive effect on the desired economic coastal regeneration

In comparing Options 1 and 2, there are a number of significant reasons why Option 2 – the retention of the ‘formal swimming pool’ at RLC, is recommended as the preferred aquatics model for Rhyl.

BUSINESS FEASIBILITY PROCESS

A feasibility exercise, including an outline business case, together with a design and access statement has been commissioned through DCC's development partner Alliance Leisure Services Ltd. (ALS), together with an economic impact assessment (EIA) undertaken by OB3 Research - the summary findings of the EIA are attached as **APPENDIX E.**

The feasibility exercise and outline business case for the proposed development has been based on delivering a sustainable, appropriate and engaging community facility, as well as a regional tourist attraction, that would attract visitors to the area delivering significant regeneration benefits.

The professional team appointed to develop the project thus far has comprised: ALS; ISG Construction; Savernake Property Consultants Ltd; AFLSP Architects; Furnace Partnership Structural, Civil and Drainage Engineers – all the companies are specialist in the design and delivery of leisure facilities and attractions. All detailed surveys have been complete in order to obtain a cost confidence position to inform the business case being presented to Council.

RPT Consulting have provided an independent business feasibility appraisal to establish the estimated revenue projections, taking into account the potential footfalls and estimated activity levels that will be delivered by the new facility. This business appraisal has been challenged at every stage by a cross-departmental project team, with sub groups reviewing income and expenditure projections in detail.

To ensure confidence in the projections, and scheme viability, the business appraisal has been further subjected to an internal scrutiny exercise undertaken by the DCC financial team, including sensitivity analysis; critical review by a second set of accountants as well Head of Service, Section 151 Officer, and Corporate Director. The income and expenditure projections have also been independently reviewed and validated by Local Partnerships (a HM Treasury LGA venture providing independent services to Local Authorities). Business Case commentary and Financial Summary in **Appendix F and G.**

ECONOMIC IMPACT ASSESSMENT

OB3 Research were commissioned to undertake an Economic Impact Assessment of the proposed Rhyl Aquatic Centre.

In summary the conclusions were as follows:

- The new facility could deliver significant economic benefits to both the local and regional economy despite the current challenging financial climate
- Anticipated **new** footfalls in the Town Centre as a result of the development are approximately 350,000 per year. The Business plan for the new facility is based on year round opening, with a mix of indoor and outdoor wet and dry side family oriented activities. Catering and retail opportunities within the proposed facility have been minimised to encourage out flow into town centre businesses, and sessions will be offered on a half day basis for the same reason.
- It is estimated that the Gross Value Added (GVA) in Wales supported directly and indirectly by the development and construction phases of the Rhyl Aquatic Centre will be in the region of £7.3m; with 210 FTE Person year opportunities directly and indirectly supported over this 2 year phase
- The GVA supported directly and indirectly during the Centre's first year of operation will be in the region of £1.7m
- 47+ jobs will be directly 'guaranteed' to be connected to the operation of the Centre on the day of opening, and the development will result in an increase in employment of 61FTE jobs. ***The Nova Centre currently employs 75 people, but initially only assumed just over 42.***
- It is recognised that parts of Rhyl experience persistent economic problems – particularly in respect of access to local employment opportunities for local people. The employment opportunities to be provided by the new Centre would be significant. However it must be recognised that the presence of a new, unique facility could lead to a 'spending leakage' from elsewhere in the local economy, particularly with an increase of up to 350,000 visitors through the Town centre.

Over and above the high level of business feasibility scrutiny already reported, as well as the acknowledged prudence of the business case/footfall assumptions, additional assurance in respect of deliverability can be drawn from other comparable case studies.

Case Study 1: The Nova, Prestatyn (Headlines taken from an independent impact evaluation study in 2016)

DCC's commitment to the Nova led to a significant investment in the facility – with the 'new look' facility designed to serve both the local community and visitors to the north Wales coast - **turned the historical annual trading losses into an operating surplus. The Nova is now considered to be a premier, 'fit for the future', seaside attraction and leisure complex – an important visitor destination.**

In the 1st 6 months of opening the Nova attracted:

- Over 22,300 swims

- Over 26,700 play visits
- Over 20,393 fitness swipes
- A 41% growth in DD memberships
- Over 1,000 visits and over £8.5k income from nearby caravan park owners as a result of a local business partnership with Lyons - boosting visit numbers by working in partnership with local business and recognising the importance of the local holiday camp industry as an important contributor to the economic well-being of the area
- 66% - excellent or very good, Trip Advisor feedback

The Nova is a 'major employer' of local people - 75 jobs - over 65% are local employees
During construction:

- Over 20% of the construction costs benefited local industries
- 57% of the 'work' went to local contractors
- 23% was spent on the purchase of materials from local suppliers

N.B. It is noteworthy, that all of the young people surveyed as part of the impact evaluation, commented negatively about the lack of water slides and more adventurous activities and water features - the design of the Rhyl Waterpark will address this demand whilst ensuring a complementary offer to the Nova

The impact evaluation of the recent Nova upgrade showed that:

- Over 20% of the construction costs benefited local industries
- 57% of the 'work' went to local contractors
- 23% was spent on the purchase of materials from local suppliers
- 8% was spent on local labour – through local agencies
- More than 6% was spent on local accommodation for contractors and sub-contractors

Case Study 2: LC, Swansea

LC, located on the sea front in Swansea with facilities including a major water park with many leisure features (flumes and waves); indoor play, climbing wall, health and fitness, food and beverage as well as sports halls

The rationale for LC is to enhance Swansea's reputation as a high quality visitor destination accessible to all – providing reasons to visit Swansea as well as making the most significant single impact on physical activity levels in Swansea

- LC is Wales' most visited paid attraction – for the 7th year running (Visit Wales)
- LC attracts 775k footfalls pa - an increase of over 225,000 since the opening of the Centre including:
 - over 10k climbing wall visits (over half of whom are young people)
 - over 40k play visits
 - over 200k fitness visits
 - over 36k visits to Swansea annually through events

RHYL WATERPARK & LEISURE ATTRACTION BUSINESS CASE Option 2 (Excluding 25m Pool) – Finance Context / Narrative

Senior Finance & Assurance Officer

The below outlines the rationale behind the financial calculations in relation to the five year operating requirement for the Rhyl Water & Leisure Attraction. The Business Case includes the costs of the development return for Neptune and the relocation of the Skate Park. It presumes that the first full trading year for the facility will commence in April 2019, the financial narrative excludes the partial year operational and cash flow requirements for the previous financial year 2018/19 (year 0). The Business Case has been developed in conjunction with RPT Consulting and Alliance Leisure.

1. Employee Costs

The employee costs have been calculated based on the operational hours required for the facility. The operational hours includes the hours that the facility is open to the public plus the additional hours required for the daily set up and closure of the building and shift handovers. The total employee costs are based on varying operational hours for each of the trading elements of the facility. Each area has been costed separately, the 'General' area includes the overall direct Management Team for the facility: Assistant Leisure Officer (full time post to be shared between the other Coastal Leisure Facilities, included at 0.5 FTE in this Business Case), Duty Officers, Receptionists, Technician (responsible for pool plant maintenance, again this is expected to be a shared post). These posts will be permanent positions with additional Casual/Seasonal staff hours included in the financial forecasts to cover school holidays, weekends and staff holiday entitlement. The staff costs associated with the municipal swimming pool (Lifeguards & Swimming Instructors) have been excluded for the Option 2 Business Case.

The 'Water Fun Park' includes the Lifeguards for the indoor Water Fun pools and additional General Operatives for the external Splash Pad. These posts have been included as Casual/Seasonal contracts as the operating hours of this area will differ significantly between school term time and holidays, with the external Splash Pad only open during the summer season. There will be an option to annualise permanent contracts for an average of the term time requirement, this can be considered at the recruitment stage of the project.

The 'Play & Climbing Centre' includes the Leisure Attendants for this area which will include permanently contracted staff and Casual/Seasonal posts to allow for additional operational hours for school holidays and weekends.

We have presumed that the 'Food & Beverage' area will be managed in-house and will include a permanent Catering Manager post, Front of House Supervisor, Chefs, Catering Assistants and Front of House staff. There is additional Casual/Seasonal staff required for the school holidays.

All staff members will be employed on the same generically graded posts as current Leisure Centre staff and staff costs will incrementally increase based on the point at which they are employed on the grade. We have included additional pay costs that are likely to arise from the imminent increases in the employer pension contributions, the impact of the apprenticeship levy and the increases to the National Living Wage.

There is no provision for a designated Senior Management post as it is presumed that the overall management of the facility will be included within the current Leisure Officer structure.

2. Premises Costs

The total 'Repairs & Maintenance' costs include devolved repairs & maintenance, maintenance service contracts, and external grounds maintenance (sand clearance) costs. All contract costs are based on current requirements at Nova and include an element of annual inflation.

The total 'Utilities' costs include Gas, Electricity and Water, these costs are based on the current average costs for Rhyl Leisure Centre & Nova. The Gas and Electricity costs include a price increase from 2017 of 24% and an additional inflationary increase of 10% per annum. The Water costs include 5% inflation per annum.

The 'External Premiums' relate to the building insurance based on a £15m re-build cost as advised by DCC's Risk & Insurance Manager and includes 2% annual inflation.

The NNDR costs have been calculated based upon advice from DCC's Valuations Department, using the rateable value based on the cost of the building with an annual inflationary increase of 2% per annum.

The Cleaning Materials and Facility Cleaning costs are based on Nova and includes additional 'Housekeeping' and annual inflationary increases.

3. Supplies & Services Costs

The supplies & services costs include the purchase, rental and servicing costs of all equipment within the facility. This includes all telephony, ICT maintenance, general equipment purchase, chemicals, marketing and the cost of the F&B provisions. These costs have been calculated based on contract agreements already in place at the other DCC Leisure facilities and applying varying rates of annual inflation. The service contracts for the Water Fun Park equipment, air handling etc have been included in year 2 as the first year will be included in the original purchase cost.

The cost of the F&B stock purchase has been calculated as a direct percentage of the income forecasts, this is based upon advice from DCC's Catering Services and the cost of provisions experienced at other Leisure facilities including the North Wales Bowls Centre and Nova.

The year 0 'set up' costs have been excluded from the Business Case.

4. Income

Option 1 originally included the income for the Municipal Swimming pool, which included swimming lesson provision, Primary school swimming, general public usage and club hire. The original expectation was to be able to grow the current Rhyl Leisure Centre lesson programme as the new facility would have greater programming flexibility as it is not a Dual Use (Leisure & School) site. These swimming figures have been excluded from the Option 2 Business Case model.

The visitor numbers and income projections for the Water Fun Park have been developed through a combination of analysing market positions and utilising local knowledge and data, these forecasts have been developed in partnership with RPT Consulting and Alliance Leisure. The process included:

- Reviewing and agreeing levels of utilisation based on industry norms and local performance (in particular the Nova performance)
- Assessing the catchment area and identifying likely visits based on industry norms and local analysis of existing performance. This has included the impact of tourism visitors and likely visits from day and overnight visitors
- Comparing the overall visitor numbers achieved and forecast with other facilities comparable in nature, including reviewing previous visitor numbers from the Rhyl Sun Centre
- The Water Park reflects tourist use as well as comparing with other facilities.

The visitor numbers for the Waterpark have been developed through assessing the utilisation levels as above taking into account term time and holiday use and then utilising an agreed pricing based on existing pricing (where appropriate), competitors and comparable facilities to project income, which reflects different levels of utilisation during term time and holidays. The pricing also reflects leisure card use predominantly utilised during school term time by residents of Denbighshire. We have included a price increase of £1 (gross) in year 3, for this exercise we have excluded any further price increases in year 4 and 5 (Leisure Services currently review their pricing every two years), no additional RPI increases have been applied for this area. The occupation levels included in the Business Case for both Option 1 and Option 2 in year 1 is 50% with the facility operating on a morning and afternoon sessional basis with the expectation of annual growth in visitor numbers years 2 to 5, with the school holiday occupancy expected to grow to 60% by year 5 and term time occupancy growing to 55%.

The Play and Climbing income has been calculated using occupation levels achieved at Nova and advice from both Alliance Leisure and other external providers of Climbing centres. For the Climbing we have used an occupation level of 34% per hour during term time week days and 83% during weekends and school holidays. The staff costs for this area are based on the ratio between staff and customers required at 1:6. This area of the facility will require prior booking for all sessions.

Additional income has been included for Water Fun Park, Play and Climbing parties, again based upon the number of parties currently being held at Nova.

Food and Beverage income is based on spend per head on the attendances in line with industry norms and local performance at the Nova. This has largely been built in as 50% of visitors spending in the café and external catering provision. However this has been quantified by type of visitor: families, adults, children etc. and is also based upon varying spend levels per visitor type.

5. Financing

The 'Prudential Borrowing' costs are based on a total project cost of £15.395M (Option 2, including Neptune development return & Skate Park relocation). The life cycle of the borrowing varies depending on the equipment, however it is presumed that this will be a cyclical requirement where equipment purchased on a shorter borrowing term will require full replacement at the end of the borrowing term, therefore there is no reduction in annual borrowing costs. The purchase of the café equipment and external catering provision costing approximately £144K is expected to be paid for over 5 years, Auto belays for the Climbing centre at a cost of £29.75K over 3 years, Play & Climbing equipment at £364.5K over 10 years, the Water Fun Park equipment at £1.465M over 15 years and the redevelopment /construction cost of approximately £13.391M paid for over 25 years. The prudential borrowing costs have been calculated based on estimated future interest rates.

RHYL WATERPARK & LEISURE ATTRACTION BUSINESS CASE SUMMARY - OPTION 2

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
RHYL WATERPARK & LEISURE ATTRACTION - NET OPERATING COST/(SURPLUS)	£572,697	£542,289	£317,566	£304,482	£293,757
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	£2,652,279	£2,749,370	£2,796,288	£2,848,682	£2,888,627
TOTAL INCOME	(£2,079,582)	(£2,207,081)	(£2,478,722)	(£2,544,200)	(£2,594,870)
TOTAL EMPLOYEE COSTS	£937,420	£990,404	£1,003,940	£1,016,642	£1,037,484
TRAINING & STAFF ADVERTISING	£4,300	£4,500	£4,750	£5,000	£5,250
MANAGEMENT STAFF	£21,476	£21,952	£22,177	£22,405	£22,875
DUTY OFFICERS	£88,494	£87,976	£88,677	£89,384	£70,849
RECEPTIONISTS	£74,394	£77,723	£78,534	£79,353	£81,047
TECHNICIAN	£5,256	£5,579	£5,850	£6,070	£6,388
LEISURE ATTENDANTS & PLAYLEADERS	£457,753	£485,289	£490,836	£498,484	£507,437
CATERING	£264,763	£279,977	£285,212	£289,543	£296,344
CLEANING OPERATIVE	£9,882	£10,515	£10,625	£10,736	£10,966
RELIEF/CASUAL	£33,102	£36,893	£37,278	£37,667	£36,328
TOTAL PREMISES COSTS	£478,811	£501,327	£525,247	£550,697	£577,814
REPAIR & MAINT. - CONTRACTORS & GROUNDS & FIRE	£17,070	£19,427	£21,787	£24,151	£26,518
UTILITIES	£144,757	£157,909	£172,310	£188,082	£205,358
PREMIUMS - EXTERNAL	£12,000	£12,240	£12,485	£12,734	£12,989
N.N.D.R.	£234,340	£239,027	£243,808	£248,684	£253,657
CLEANING MATERIALS/REFUSE COLLECTION & CLEANING	£70,643	£72,723	£74,857	£77,046	£79,291
TOTAL TRAVEL & TRANSPORT COSTS	£500	£500	£500	£500	£500
CASUAL USERS - MILEAGE	£500	£500	£500	£500	£500
TOTAL SUPPLIES & SERVICES COSTS	£273,642	£295,232	£304,694	£318,937	£310,923
GEN. EQUIP. - PURCHASE/RENTAL/SERVICE AGREETS/SIGNAGE	£9,954	£30,228	£36,778	£48,078	£38,147
CHEMICALS	£4,500	£4,635	£4,774	£4,917	£5,065
PRINTING	£8,500	£8,800	£7,100	£7,400	£7,700
PUBLICITY & MARKETING	£10,000	£7,500	£7,750	£8,000	£8,250
PHOTOCOPYING	£1,450	£1,450	£1,450	£1,450	£1,450
RESALE, VENDING & F&B STOCK PURCHASE	£225,666	£228,372	£230,094	£231,834	£232,592
TELEPHONES & COMPUTER COSTS	£2,700	£2,770	£2,840	£2,910	£2,880
STAFF INSURANCE	£4,423	£4,673	£4,736	£4,795	£4,893
SUBSCRIPTIONS, CASH COLLECTION, LICENCES	£8,448	£8,804	£9,171	£9,552	£9,946
TOTAL INCOME	(£2,079,582)	(£2,207,081)	(£2,478,722)	(£2,544,200)	(£2,594,870)
RETAIL SALES	(£20,000)	(£20,200)	(£20,402)	(£20,606)	(£20,812)
F&B	(£533,979)	(£539,319)	(£544,712)	(£550,159)	(£556,660)
FEES - WATER FUN PARK	(£1,149,383)	(£1,267,580)	(£1,529,826)	(£1,585,816)	(£1,626,902)
PLAY & HANGFAST	(£267,033)	(£269,703)	(£272,400)	(£275,124)	(£277,875)
PARTIES	(£109,188)	(£110,279)	(£111,382)	(£112,496)	(£113,621)
TOTAL FINANCING	£961,907	£961,907	£961,907	£961,907	£961,907
BUILD - PB	£758,593	£758,593	£758,593	£758,593	£758,593
CAFE - PB	£30,560	£30,560	£30,560	£30,560	£30,560
PLAY & HANGFAST - PB	£51,951	£51,951	£51,951	£51,951	£51,951
WATERPARK - PB	£120,802	£120,802	£120,802	£120,802	£120,802

ANNUAL NET DCC REQUIREMENT AFTER £135K BUDGET + £2M RTC + £800K WG FUNDING APPLIED	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
	£278,939	£248,532	£23,808	£10,725	(£0)

Rhyl Waterpark and Leisure Attraction

Wellbeing Impact Assessment Report

This report summarises the likely impact of a proposal on the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of Denbighshire, Wales and the world.

Assessment Number:	165
Brief description:	The development of a new leisure attraction on the Rhyl waterfront.
Date Completed:	19/01/2017 16:32:40 Version: 1
Completed By:	Russell Vaughan
Responsible Service:	Facilities, Assets & Housing
Localities affected by the proposal:	Rhyl,

IMPACT ASSESSMENT SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

Before we look in detail at the contribution and impact of the proposal, it is important to consider how the proposal is applying the sustainable development principle. This means that we must act "in a manner which seeks to ensure that the needs of the present are met without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs."

Score for the sustainability of the approach

Could some small changes in your thinking produce a better result?

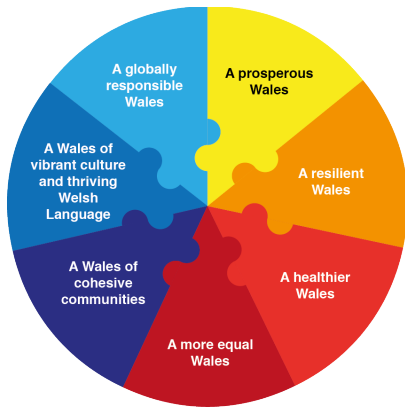
(3 out of 4 stars)



Actual score: 21/ 24.

Summary of impact

Wellbeing Goals



A prosperous Denbighshire	Positive
A resilient Denbighshire	Positive
A healthier Denbighshire	Positive
A more equal Denbighshire	Positive
A Denbighshire of cohesive communities	Positive
A Denbighshire of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language	Positive
A globally responsible Denbighshire	Positive

Main conclusions

A positive assessment. The new facility could deliver significant economic benefits to both the local and regional economy. The additional leisure facilities will create capacity and encourage greater participation amongst residents and visitors. The development will act as a catalyst for further regeneration and create a sense of pride in Rhyl and Denbighshire.

THE LIKELY IMPACT ON DENBIGHSHIRE, WALES AND THE WORLD

A prosperous Denbighshire

Overall Impact:	Positive
Justification for Impact:	Jobs created during construction and after opening. New facility should be a catalyst for further regeneration on Rhyl coastal front.

Positive consequences identified:

New energy efficient building to replace an inefficient, ageing facility.
Create new jobs at the facility, during construction and in the wider town. Catalyst for further regeneration in Rhyl.
A number of new jobs created at varying levels, both full time and seasonal. Working closely with DWP to ensure the local community are geared up for the jobs that will be created.
Qualifications linked to jobs on offer.
Improvements to existing car parking arrangements. The facility is located close to all public transport links.

Unintended negative consequences identified:

Mitigating actions:

A resilient Denbighshire

Overall Impact:	Positive
Justification for Impact:	New energy efficient building and plant to minimise energy consumption.

Positive consequences identified:

New facility on existing promenade.

Encourage recycling within new facility

New building with latest energy efficiency measures and new plant

Sea defences currently in place and the facility has been raised to minimise the risk.

Unintended negative consequences identified:

Additional waste from increased footfall

Mitigating actions:

A healthier Denbighshire

Overall Impact:	Positive
Justification for Impact:	As this is an additional leisure facility for the town it will encourage greater participation and capacity.

Positive consequences identified:

New aquatic and climbing facilities to support healthy lifestyles

A range of healthy and fast food & drink will be available.

New aquatic and climbing facilities to support healthy lifestyles and encourages use from groups from all backgrounds.

Benefits of exercise

Unintended negative consequences identified:

A range of healthy and fast food & drink will be available.

Mitigating actions:

A more equal Denbighshire

Overall Impact:	Positive
Justification for Impact:	Additional capacity and fully inclusive facility

Positive consequences identified:

The facility will be fully inclusive
Creates capacity and encourages use for residents and visitors.

Unintended negative consequences identified:

Mitigating actions:

A Denbighshire of cohesive communities

Overall Impact:	Positive
Justification for Impact:	Regeneration of the Rhyl coast will create a sense of pride in the community and additional facilities will encourage participation for all age groups.

Positive consequences identified:

As there is an increase in the adventure activities on offer to the town, it will encourage youth participation. Will encourage community use through the Denbighshire Leisure card and schools.
A new, well designed facility will create a sense of pride in the area.

Unintended negative consequences identified:

The facility will be built on an existing skate park which will be relocated and upgraded with the involvement of the community.
Some people may feel a new facility will be a barrier between the town and the beach/sea.

Mitigating actions:

A Denbighshire of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language

Overall Impact:	Positive
Justification for Impact:	Investment in Rhyl will portray the town and County in a positive light

Positive consequences identified:

Will be desirable that all customer facing staff will be bilingual
All signage will comply with Welsh Language Standards
Investment in Rhyl will portray the town and County in a positive light

Unintended negative consequences identified:

Mitigating actions:

A globally responsible Denbighshire

Overall Impact:	Positive
Justification for Impact:	Will provide new employment and be a catalyst for further regeneration.

Positive consequences identified:

Principal contractor will encourage use of local supply chain.
A catalyst for regeneration with complimentary businesses being established.

Unintended negative consequences identified:

Mitigating actions:

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COUNCIL FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

Meeting	Item (Description / Title)	Purpose of Report	Council Decision Required (yes/no)	Lead member and Contact Officer	
14 February 2017	1	Setting of the Council Tax	To set the Council Tax levels for the 2017/18 financial year.	Yes	ClIr Julian Thompson-Hill/Richard Weigh
	2	Capital Plan Update and recommendations of the Strategic Investment Group	To provide update on the Capital Plan and approve recommendations of Strategic Investment Group	Yes	ClIr Julian Thompson-Hill/Richard Weigh/Richard Humphreys
	3	Annual Review of Political Balance and the 2018 Committee Timetable	To review the political balance of the Council's committees (subject to changes after the May 2017 elections) and confirm the 2018 committee timetable.	Yes	ClIr Barbara Smith/Steve Price
	4	Draft Population Assessment	For members to share their views before final version is produced	No	ClIr Bobby Feeley / Gwynfor Griffiths / James Wood
	5	WAO report on Denbighshire's Risk Based Corporate Assessment	To consider the WAO's findings.	No	ClIr Hugh Evans / Alan Smith
	6	Treasury Management Strategy Statement 2017 – 18	To approve the Treasury Management Strategy for 2017 – 18	Yes	ClIr Julian Thompson-Hill / Richard Weigh / Rhys Ifor Jones
COUNCIL BRIEFING 6 March 2017	1	Member Training & Development Strategy	To consider and comment on the programme for training and development for 2017 onwards.	N/A	ClIr Barbara Smith / Steve Price
	2.	Superfast Cymru Roll-out in Denbighshire	To discuss with WG the extent of the current roll-out programme, their plans for future roll-out and how they will address not-spot areas in the county	N/A	Leader/Rebecca Maxwell/Stuart Whitfield/Steve Price/Rhian Evans
	3.	Regulation of Un-manned Aircraft	To brief members on the extent of current regulations governing the use	Yes	Gary Williams

COUNCIL FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

			of un-manned aircraft, the potential for introducing byelaws and seek their views on a draft response to a Department for Transport consultation on 'Unlocking the UK's High Tech Economy: Consultation on the Safe Use of Drones in the UK'		
4 April 2017	1	Remuneration for Members	To consider and adopt the determinations of the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales's Report	Yes	Cllr Barbara Smith / Gary Williams / Steve Price
23 May 2017 Annual Meeting	1	Appointment of Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Council	To appoint to these civic posts for the 2017/18 municipal year.	Yes	Gary Williams / Eleri Woolford / Steve Price
	2	Election of Leader of the Council	To elect the Leader of the Council.	Yes	Gary Williams
	3	Review of Political Balance	A statutory annual review of the political balance arrangements	Yes	Gary Williams / Steve Price
COUNCIL BRIEFING 12 June 2017	1.	Water and Flood Management in Denbighshire (Joint presentation by the County Council and Natural Resources Wales (NRW))	To assist councillors to understand both the Council and NRW's statutory responsibilities with respect to water and flood management (including coastal and river maintenance responsibilities, and how both organisations work together to mitigate the risk of flooding) (request made that illustrations are used to explain various responsibilities)	N/A	Wayne Hope/Keith Ivens (NRW) (stemming from a request from Communities Scrutiny Committee – December 2016)

COUNCIL FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

4 July 2017					
5 September 2017					
17 October 2017	1.	Long term empty properties and second home taxation		Yes	Paul Barnes / Richard Weigh
COUNCIL BRIEFING 13 November 2017					
5 December 2017					

Note for Officers – Full Council Report Deadlines

<i>Meeting</i>	<i>Deadline</i>	<i>Meeting</i>	<i>Deadline</i>	<i>Meeting</i>	<i>Deadline</i>
<i>January 2017</i>	17 January 2017	<i>February 2017</i>	31 January 2017	<i>April 2017</i>	21 March 2017
<i>May 2017</i>	9 May 2017	<i>July 2017</i>	20 June 2017	<i>September 2017</i>	22 August 2017
<i>October 2017</i>	3 October 2017	<i>Dec 2017</i>	21 Nov 2017		

Updated 23/01/2017 SP

Council Work Programme.doc

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