

To: Members of the County Council

Date: 17 May 2017

Direct Dial: 01824706141

e-mail: democratic@denbighshire.gov.uk

Dear Councillor

You are invited to attend a meeting of the **COUNTY COUNCIL** to be held at **10.00 am** on **TUESDAY, 23 MAY 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 APPOINTMENT OF THE CHAIR OF COUNTY COUNCIL

To appoint the Chair of the Council for the municipal year 2017/2018.

4 APPOINTMENT OF THE VICE-CHAIR OF COUNTY COUNCIL

To appoint the Vice-Chair of the Council for the municipal year 2017/2018.

BREAK (15 MINUTES)

5 URGENT MATTERS AS AGREED BY THE CHAIR

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

6 ELECTION OF THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

To consider nominations for the appointment of the Leader of the Council.

7 MINUTES (Pages 5 - 22)

To receive the minutes of the meetings of County Council held on 31 January 2017 and 14 February 2017 (copy attached).

8 ANNUAL DELIVERY DOCUMENT 2017/2018 (Pages 23 - 64)

To consider a report by the Strategic Planning Team (copy attached) to approve the final version of the Annual Delivery Document.

9 SIZE AND COMPOSITION OF PLANNING COMMITTEE (Pages 65 - 68)

To consider a report by the Monitoring Officer (copy attached) of changes required to the Council's Constitution as a result of legislation requiring changes to the size and composition of the Council's Planning Committee.

10 ANNUAL REVIEW OF POLITICAL BALANCE AND APPOINTMENT OF SCRUTINY CHAIRS (Pages 69 - 76)

To consider a report by the Democratic Services Manager (copy attached) seeking decisions on Committee related issues.

11 LAY MEMBER APPOINTMENTS TO CORPORATE GOVERNANCE AND THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE (Pages 77 - 80)

To consider a report by the Deputy Monitoring Officer (copy attached) regarding the appointments to the Standards Committee and Corporate Governance Committee which require the approval of the Full Council.

12 UPDATES TO THE CONSTITUTION (Pages 81 - 82)

To consider a report by the Deputy Monitoring Officer (copy attached) of the proposed changes that are required to the Council Constitution in order to keep it up to date and relevant.

13 INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL FOR WALES ANNUAL REPORT 2017/2018 (Pages 83 - 90)

To consider a report by the Democratic Services Manager (copy attached) to advise of the Independent Remuneration Panel's determinations for 2017/18 in respect of payments to members and co-opted members and to adopt a schedule of remuneration.

14 TEMPORARY APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER TO BODELWYDDAN TOWN COUNCIL

(papers to follow).

15 COUNTY COUNCIL FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME (Pages 91 - 92)

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

MEMBERSHIP

Councillors

Councillor Ann Davies (Chair)

Mabon ap Gwynfor	Christine Marston
Brian Blakeley	Barry Mellor
Joan Butterfield	Melvyn Mile
Jeanette Chamberlain-Jones	Bob Murray
Ellie Chard	Merfyn Parry
Gareth Davies	Paul Penlington
Meirick Davies	Pete Prendergast
Hugh Evans	Arwel Roberts
Peter Evans	Anton Sampson
Bobby Feeley	Peter Scott
Rachel Flynn	Glenn Swingler
Tony Flynn	Andrew Thomas
Huw Hilditch-Roberts	Rhys Thomas
Martyn Holland	Tony Thomas
Hugh Irving	Julian Thompson-Hill
Alan James	Graham Timms
Brian Jones	Joe Welch
Huw Jones	Cheryl Williams
Pat Jones	David Williams
Tina Jones	Eryl Williams
Gwyneth Kensler	Huw Williams
Geraint Lloyd-Williams	Emrys Wynne
Richard Mainon	Mark Young

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COUNTY COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the County Council held in Council Chamber, County Hall, Ruthin LL15 1YN on Tuesday, 31 January 2017 at 10.00 am.

PRESENT

Councillors Joan Butterfield, Jeanette Chamberlain-Jones, Ann Davies (Chair), Meirick Davies, Peter Duffy, Hugh Evans, Bobby Feeley, Huw Hilditch-Roberts, Martyn Holland, Colin Hughes, Rhys Hughes, Hugh Irving, Alice Jones, Huw Jones, Pat Jones, Gwyneth Kensler, Geraint Lloyd-Williams, Jason McLellan, Barry Mellor, Dewi Owens, Merfyn Parry, Paul Penlington, Pete Prendergast, Arwel Roberts, Anton Sampson, Gareth Sandilands, David Simmons, Barbara Smith, David Smith, Julian Thompson-Hill, Joe Welch, Cefyn Williams, Cheryl Williams, Eryl Williams, Huw Williams and Mark Young

ALSO PRESENT

Chief Executive (MM), Corporate Director: Economic & Community Ambition (RM), Head of Legal, HR & Democratic Services (GW), Head of Finance (RW), Head of Facilities, Assets & Housing (JG) and Committee Administrator (SLW)

1 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Brian Blakeley, Bill Cowie, Stuart Davies, Peter Evans, Alan James, Win Mullen-James, Bob Murray, Bill Tasker and David Williams

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors Jason McLellan, Martyn Holland and Meirick Lloyd Davies declared personal interests

3 URGENT MATTERS AS AGREED BY THE CHAIR

No urgent matters.

At this juncture, the Chair paid tribute to the late Councillor Raymond Bartley who had passed away just before Christmas.

Tributes were paid by Councillor Gwyneth Kensler, on behalf of Plaid Cymru, Councillor Joe Welch on behalf of the Independent Group, Councillor Colin Hughes, on behalf of the Labour Group and Councillor Martyn Holland, on behalf of the Conservative Group.

Condolences were conveyed to Councillor Bartley's wife and family and as a mark of respect, all in attendance stood in silent tribute.

The Chair then spoke regarding the Holocaust Memorial Day. She read a poem, Yn gyntaf fe ddaethon nhw (First they came) followed by the Leader, Councillor Hugh Evans reading a poem entitled "Birdsong" which had been written especially for this year's theme by Gillian Clarke, the National Poet of Wales.

4 CHAIRMAN'S DIARY

A list of civic engagements undertaken by the Chair and Vice-Chair for the period 5 December 2016 – 27 January 2017 had been circulated prior to the meeting.

The Chair commended the Curriculum Enrichment Co-ordinator, Sarah Dixon, for arranging the Harry Potter events at the schools.

The Chair also attended the premier of the Star Wars film which had featured local Rhyl man, Spencer Wilding as Darth Vader.

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

5 MINUTES

The minutes of Full Council held on 6 December 2016 were submitted.

At this juncture, Councillor Arwel Roberts wished to thank the Head of Legal, HR and Democratic Services for the work carried out regarding "Drones". Councillor Roberts extended thanks to Councillor Jason McLellan and the Scrutiny Chairs and Vice-Chairs Group who discussed "Drones" and also the businesses who rely on them.

RESOLVED that subject to the above, the minutes of Full Council held on 6 December, 2016 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

6 APPROVAL OF THE COUNCIL'S BUDGET

The Lead Member for Finance, Corporate Plan and Performance, Councillor Julian Thompson-Hill, presented the Budget 2017/18 – Final Proposals Report (previously circulated).

The report set out the implications of the Local Government Settlement 2017/2018 and proposals to finalise the budget for 2017/2018.

The Council was 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.

The purpose of the report was to provide an overview of the budget process, the impact of the Local Government Settlement and to consider proposals to set the budget for 2017/18, including the level of Council Tax.

The final Local Government Settlement for 2017/18 had been received on 21 December 2016 and provided a cash increase of 0.6%. The Provisional Settlement

provided an increase of 0.5%. Although the Settlement provided for a cash increase, in real terms, it was a cut as it took no account of inflation or service demand pressures.

As the funding for the Council Tax Reduction Scheme had been frozen for several years, the Council had to fund the cost of Council Tax increases, estimated at £350k. The proposals would allow for £200k of new investment in priorities.

The level of Council Tax increase proposed was 2.75%. This was in line with assumptions around inflation for the coming year and was likely to be below the average level of increase in Wales.

At the Budget Workshop in November 2016, there had been 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% was thought to be prudent and sustainable.

The Leader, Councillor Hugh Evans reminded Members this would be the final budget the current Council would set and would be the most important. The term of the current Council had been the most challenging Denbighshire had faced, but during that, Denbighshire had continued as one of the highest performing Councils in Wales. The Council would need to change how they delivered services in the future.

The Leader went on to thank the Lead Member for Finance, Corporate Plan and Performance, Councillor Julian Thompson-Hill and the Finance Team for their work during the term of the current council.

During debate the following were discussed:

- Energy efficiency – the council were members of a procurement framework which meant the best rates available for both gas and electricity. The price of oil has risen which had caused an increase in prices. The Local Authority do the best to minimise energy costs eg: replacing street lighting with LED lighting, work had been carried out regarding swimming pool covers to conserve energy. There were a lot of Victorian buildings under the ownership of the council which were not energy efficient, therefore there were variances in external costs.
- Denbighshire had no input into the Police precept as they are an autonomous body for which Denbighshire collect and forward the amount they expect. This was the most efficient way for all elements to be collected in one go.
- Most of the grants announced to date had a small reduction but were not massively cut.
- In terms of the PFI, it was terminated to realise savings. Other councils had since contacted Denbighshire requesting advice regarding their PFI building contracts.

- The Well-being Impact Assessments were criticised by some members as they did not contain sufficient information. It had been confirmed by the Lead Member for Finance, Corporate Plan and Performance that the Assessments were new but were a work in progress and, therefore, not the finished article. The Chief Executive had asked they be included in every recommendation for all public committee's hereon in.
- A number of members expressed their disagreement to the recommended rise of 2.75% for Council Tax. It was stated that this debate had taken place at the budget workshops and agreement had been obtained to carry the 2.75% forward to Full Council for approval.

The Chief Executive clarified to Members that this was the final budget for the current council. During the previous 5 years, investment had taken place in schools and libraries, Leisure had done extremely well. While taking £30million out of Denbighshire's expenditure, the council had maintained its position as one of the leading councils.

There had been pressure on the Council, 15% of staff had been lost during the past 5 years, 10 official council buildings had gone to 4 and would soon be down to 3. This had saved money for the council whilst not impacting on the quality of the service. This year £1.9million has been put into education and increasing social care.

It was forecast that the current year would probably be the last of the good budgets. The budget had been balanced utilising cash but that was not sustainable.

It was important to appreciate what had been done well during the past 5 years but the future predicted to show difficult times ahead for all councils.

At this juncture Councillor Rhys Hughes PROPOSED the council tax level be set at 2.5%, SECONDED by Councillor Arwel Roberts.

The Head of Legal, HR and Democratic Services explained that the amendment put forward by Councillor Rhys Hughes, seconded by Councillor Arwel Roberts would be voted on in the first instance for a council tax rise of 2.5%.

VOTE:
 For – 4
 Abstain – 1
 Against – 27

Therefore, the amendment was defeated.

Lead Member, Councillor Julian Thompson-Hill PROPOSED the original recommendation for a council tax rise of 2.75%, SECONDED by the Leader, Councillor Hugh Evans.

At this juncture, it was agreed by all Members that the date of the budget workshop (1 November 2016) be deleted from the recommendation.

VOTE:
For – 29
Abstain – 1
Against – 4

RESOLVED that Council:

- *Note the impact of the Local Government Settlement 2017/18*
- *Approves the proposals outlined in Appendix 1, in order to finalise the 2017/18 budget*
- *Approves the resulting average Council Tax rise of 2.75% required to support the budget proposals.*

7 COUNCIL TAX REDUCTION SCHEME

The Lead Member for Finance, Corporate Plan and Performance, Councillor Julian Thompson-Hill, presented the Council Tax Reduction Scheme 2017/18 Report (previously circulated).

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 had 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.

Councillor Julian Thompson-Hill PROPOSED the report recommendations, SECONDED by Councillor Colin Hughes.

VOTE:
For – 34
Abstain – 0
Against - 0

RESOLVED that 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.*
- *Approve the 3 discretionary elements of the scheme, shown in section 4.2 for 2017/18*

At this juncture (12.10 p.m.) there was a 25 minute break.

The meeting reconvened at 12.35 p.m.

8 APPROVAL OF RHYL AQUATIC CENTRE

The Leader, Councillor Hugh Evans, introduced the report (previously circulated) for Members to consider proposals for the development of the “Rhyl Waterpark and Leisure Attraction” – working title (RWLA).

The future upgrading of the leisure and tourism offer on the coastal front was 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 the development proposal had spanned over 6 years.

It was important to note that the proposals for the new “Waterfront” had been developed in such a way as to compliment the whole coastal regeneration plan and, because of its location, serving as a catalyst for attracting more footfall into Rhyl and driving increased visitor numbers through the Town Centre.

The location close to the town centre had been considered to be very important with regard to the regeneration and footfall creation of objectives of the development.

During the term of this council, there had taken place more strategic planning. The Rhyl Aquatic Centre was to be an investment for generations with the hope Rhyl would move from a challenging regeneration project to one of economic development.

The Corporate Director: Economic and Community Ambition confirmed to Members the current strategy was to move Rhyl to an area of economic development and the key project was to increase footfall into the town to create more jobs and allow more opportunities for local residents.

The previous phase of regeneration had created new homes with active residents and work would now commence with the waterfront development.

The Economic Impact Assessment showed additional finance into the town together with 60 additional jobs for local people who would be well placed for those jobs when made available.

The Head of Facilities, Assets and Management introduced a presentation to expand on the details of the Rhyl Waterpark and Leisure attraction. An explanation of the two options was detailed and reasons why officers considered Option 2 to be the preferred option, both on grounds of cost but more importantly customer and resident experience.

Rhyl Town Council were to make a capital contribution of £2million, together with a contribution from the Welsh Government of £800,000. Those contributions would reduce the Council’s capital contribution and Prudential Borrowing costs by approximately £159,000.

For the purpose of the business case, the income targets were extremely conservative and those were expected to be exceeded. Local Partnerships were comfortable that the business case income assumptions based on 60% occupancy were achievable by year 5 and were a prudent basis of budgeting. The Council’s current track record (strong leisure model – Nova) was 76% occupancy level across its other facilities.

The next steps were to start the planning process with full public engagement regarding the planning elements of the scheme. If planning approval were to be obtained in July 2017, the project would commence on site in September 2017 with the opening of the new facility in early 2019.

The Head of Finance explained the options for funding years 1-4.

The Lead Member for Finance, Corporate Plan and Performance confirmed the recommendation from the Strategic Investment Group had been to agree to Option 2. Reassurances had been given that this had been a very rigorously reviewed project. It would be largely dependent on the occupancy hitting the 60% target and by year 5 the council would be looking at a cost neutral proposal for the project.

During intense discussion, the following points were raised:

- Lessons learnt since the Nova project – time needed to be taken on the Rhyl Waterfront attraction as it was to be such a vast facility. Detailed studies had taken place of the water sports north of the A55 and detailed analysis of the Sun Centres final years. The facility approach had always been to compliment other attractions.
- It had been a difficult decision to close the Sun Centre but the new waterfront attraction would be an asset to the coast and Denbighshire as a county.
- Rhyl Leisure Centre were to retain the swimming pool as local schools and swimming clubs utilised the facility for swimming lessons.
- The new waterfront attraction would include an indoor and outdoor splash park – the indoor facility would remain open all year round. A large climbing structure, food and beverage offer, indoor and outdoor spectating, indoor and outdoor changing rooms, were to be included within the facility.
- The skate park was to be relocated following discussion with the community and young people who utilised the park.
- Regarding affordability and travel to the facility. It will be positioned centrally for easy access to buses, trains and car parking. A discount price was to be offered to Denbighshire residents who were holders of a leisure card. The current predicted cost of a family ticket would be £39.
- The underground car park located near to the sky tower area, was to be upgraded to ensure maximum use by car users.
- A number of Councillors expressed concern regarding risk with regards to the amount of £2million due from Rhyl Town Council. A question had been raised as to how the Town Council proposed to generate the funding. The Corporate Director: Economic and Community Ambition clarified to Members that Full Council was not the forum for raising this issue and it was a matter for Rhyl Town Council of how they raised their funding.
- The waterfront facility would provide year round employment for local people which would aid with the regeneration of the town.
- Marketing of the facility would be paramount and the council would provide excellent marketing in terms of social media, online presence etc. With the framework, Alliance Leisure and Neptune were to partner the council to assist the facility up to its occupancy levels.

- It was stated that profit was needed to be put back into leisure and there had been future plans for work to be carried out on various leisure centres throughout the county.
- Road and pathway signage would achieve accreditation to assist navigation of people through the town and from the A55.

The Leader, Councillor Hugh Evans PROPOSED the recommendation, SECONDED by Councillor Barry Mellor.

Thanks were extended to the whole team for their work and willingness to press forward to invest in, and improve Rhyl.

VOTE:

For – 27

Abstain – 1

Against – 0

RESOLVED that Council:

- *Approve the recommendation of the Strategic Investment Group 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 £2million from Rhyl Town Council and £800,000 from the Welsh Government TISS fund.*
- *Agree the funding strategy set out in Section 6*
- *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.*

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”.

The Head of Legal, HR and Democratic Services explained the legal position in respect of blue badge holders was not to provide free parking but to provide accessibility. It was suggested the issue be forwarded to Scrutiny Chairs and Vice-Chairs Group for discussion at a Scrutiny Committee following which, the process would provide a recommendation to the Executive function.

At this juncture, there was a unanimous show of hands in favour of submitting to Scrutiny.

RESOLVED that the Notice of Motion regarding free parking for blue badge holders to be presented to Scrutiny Chairs & Vice Chairs Group for consideration.

10 COUNTY COUNCIL FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

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

14 February 2017 - Review of Political Balance – this item would now be discussed at the Annual Council meeting to be held on 23 May 2017.

4 April 2017 – Remuneration for Members – this items would also now be discussed at the Annual Council meeting to be held on 23 May 2017.

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

The meeting concluded at 2.20 p.m.

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COUNTY COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the County Council held in Council Chamber, County Hall, Ruthin LL15 1YN on Tuesday, 14 February 2017 at 10.00 am.

PRESENT

Councillors Brian Blakeley, Joan Butterfield, Jeanette Chamberlain-Jones, Ann Davies (Chair), Meirick Davies, Stuart Davies, Peter Duffy, Hugh Evans, Peter Evans, Bobby Feeley, Huw Hilditch-Roberts, Martyn Holland, Rhys Hughes, Hugh Irving, Alan James, Alice Jones, Huw Jones, Pat Jones, Gwyneth Kensler, Jason McLellan, Barry Mellor, Win Mullen-James (Vice-Chair), Bob Murray, Dewi Owens, Merfyn Parry, Paul Penlington, Arwel Roberts, Anton Sampson, Gareth Sandilands, Barbara Smith, Julian Thompson-Hill, Joe Welch, Cefyn Williams, David Williams, Eryl Williams, Huw Williams and Mark Young

ALSO PRESENT

Chief Executive (MM), Corporate Director: Economic and Community Ambition (RM), Corporate Director: Communities (NS), Head of Legal, HR & Democratic Services (GW), Head of Finance (RW), Service Manager: Strategic Development (GG), Strategy & Development Officer (JW), and Committee Administrator (SLW)

1 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Bill Cowie, Carys Guy, Colin Hughes, Geraint Lloyd-Williams, Pete Prendergast, David Simmons, David Smith, Bill Tasker and Cheryl Williams

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No Declarations of Interest.

3 URGENT MATTERS AS AGREED BY THE CHAIR

No urgent items.

At this juncture, Councillor Hugh Irving spoke in his capacity as the Armed Forces Champion, to ascertain whether Full Council were prepared to accept the resolution to request the Ministry of Defence to re-visit the decision to merge the 101 Regiment – whose Headquarters are in Wrexham and the Recovery Unit Company premises in Prestatyn - with the 103 Regiment based in the south west of England. The military footprint in North Wales was diminishing and having an impact on recruitment.

Councillor Dewi Owens seconded the resolution explaining he had recently written to the Brigadier to look again at possible ways of keeping the military in Wrexham and Prestatyn.

There was a unanimous show of hands in agreement to the proposal.

4 NORTH WALES POPULATION ASSESSMENT

The Lead Member for Social Care, Adult and Children's Services introduced the report (previously circulated) to provide general information regarding the draft Population Assessment for North Wales, which had been produced in partnership with the other five North Wales Local Authorities, Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board and Public Health Wales.

The Population Assessment had to be produced on a legal basis under Section 14 of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 and the Care and Support (Population Assessment) Wales Regulations 2015. It must be jointly produced by the six North Wales Local Authorities and the Local Health Board. Once completed, it had to be published on the Denbighshire website and submitted to the Welsh Government.

The Service Manager: Strategic Development gave an in-depth explanation to Members of the Population Assessment.

The Population Assessment would ensure services were planned and developed in an efficient and effective way by public sector partners to promote the well-being of people with care and support needs.

The Strategy and Development Officer (SDO) confirmed he had been involved in writing the chapter regarding children and young people.

The population of children and young people had remained fairly stable during the past five years. There had been an increase in the number of children on the child protection register and in the number of children looked-after in North Wales. There had also been an increase in cyber-crime and victimisation.

During in-depth discussions, the following main points were raised:

- The use of caravans as a residence by people who were registered outside the county. This added pressure on to existing services e.g. hospitals, doctors, schools etc. The precept was for the number of people registered within the county. The Service Manager: Strategic Development (SM:SD) ensured he would check the statistics with colleagues as to what the latest position was. At this point, the Corporate Director: Economic and Community Ambition confirmed there was a live piece of work taking place regarding people residing in caravans and she would ensure colleagues in Planning and Public Protection would keep Members informed. It was also raised that there were single caravans on pieces of land in which people resided and those would need to be included within the investigation.
- The work taking place between the six Local Authorities and the Local Health Board working required a strategy that action would be taken following this report. The SM:SD confirmed he would ensure the changes would be noted and the report be correct in that respect.
- Working with veterans would be required as they had specific needs and there were a large number who were homeless.

- Petty crimes committed by school aged children who were vulnerable between 3 p.m. and 4 p.m. It had been requested research take place covering the end of the school day and the time parents returned home from work. The SDO confirmed the question would be fed back to the Steering Group and the response included in a further document.
- During the past 2 years, there had been a significant improvement in the wellbeing of young carers. Denbighshire had been working in partnership with social services, Wrexham and Conwy Council, together with the Health Board and the work was developing immensely.
- It was agreed that the Assessment needed to be more than a worded document. The Assessment would inform the North Wales area plan which had to be produced by 1st April 2018. Denbighshire would need to continue working with partner Authorities, the Local Health Board and the third sector in producing this plan. Members were also to be encouraged to be involved with the work on the area plan.
- North Wales had a high number of children from outside the region who were being looked after locally and the number had been increasing. This placed additional demand on local services. Information was being collated and it was to be part of the next phase and partnership key element.
- Denbighshire were increasing the provision of Extra Care Housing as an alternative to residential care (unless nursing or mental health care was required). Analysis in February 2016 suggested, with the exception of Elderly Mental Health Nursing, in most areas there were sufficient care home beds to meet demand and over-capacity in certain areas.
- People moving into care homes from outside the region – some of those placements would be self-funded. If people needed to be closer to their families, they could purchase a bed in a care home directly, likewise if anyone needed to move from Denbighshire to another area. This would need to be addressed in the future.
- The impact of Berwyn Prison, Wrexham would be addressed. A Homeless Strategy was currently being developed. Prisoners were referred to a housing officer to deal with their needs prior to discharge from prison. This would need to be addressed and consultation with colleagues with a possible report back to Council in 2-3 months' time.
- Welsh language was a key priority. 25% of the population of Denbighshire were Welsh speakers. There were some challenges to recruit Welsh speaking staff in some areas.
- There were four wards in Denbighshire which were in the top twenty most deprived areas in Wales (Welsh Government 2014). The figures were produced every three years with the next being produced in 2018.
- Reference was made to high rates of smoking and obesity levels in Denbighshire as compared to other North Wales authorities

The Corporate Director: Communities explained the North Wales Population Assessment had to be produced and published by 1 April 2017 but any chapters could be referred to Scrutiny. The statutory requirement was to have it published and agreed by 1 April 2017 but it was a living document, and this was one area of information which could shape and develop that.

The Lead Member for Social Care, Adult & Children's Services clarified that work had been taking place across North Wales with all six Local Authorities and the Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board.

She confirmed that the Berwyn Prison issue was being led by Wrexham County Council, and the Population Assessment was being led by Conwy County Borough Council.

At this juncture the Lead Member expressed gratitude to all the work which had been carried out over the years by Gwynfor Griffiths, the Service Manager: Strategic Development. He was retiring at the end of March 2017 and wished him well in his retirement.

RESOLVED that subject to the above, Members approved the draft Population Assessment pending the final versions being produced.

5 COUNCIL TAX 2017/18 AND ASSOCIATED MATTERS

The Lead Member for Finance, Corporate Plan and Performance, Julian Thompson-Hill, introduced the report (previously circulated).

Councillor Thompson-Hill particularly referred to:

- the main features of the budget had been approved on 31 January 2017
- observations of the Head of Finance on the robustness of the budget estimates
- a breakdown of the precepts from City, Town and Community Councils and the Police & Crime Commissioner for North Wales, and
- Recommendations for the levels of Council Tax for 2017/18.

A minority of Members expressed their disagreement to the rate of council tax set as they had the opinion that more cuts should be carried out to ensure that Denbighshire were a leaner and sharper Local Authority.

Following the discussion it was:

RESOLVED that Council unanimously:

- Note that it is necessary for the County Council, as the Billing Authority, to consider the precepts received from the Police & Crime Commissioner for North Wales and the Town/Community Councils and declare the Council Tax levels for the 2017/18 financial year*
- Approve the recommendation that the amounts calculated by the Council for the 2017/18 financial year, in accordance with Sections 32 to 34 (1) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 (the Act) and Alteration of Requisite Calculations (Wales) Regulations 2008 be as Appendix A section 3*
- Approve the recommendation that the amounts calculated by the Council for the 2017/18 financial year, in accordance with Sections 34 (2) to 36 (1) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 (the Act) be as Appendix A section 4*
- That the amounts of Council Tax for the 2017/18 financial year for each of the categories of dwellings be as shown in Appendix C*

- (v) *Approve the level of discount for Class A, B and C as prescribed under the Council Tax (Prescribed Class of Dwellings)(Wales) Regulations 2004 be set at zero for the financial year 2017/18 with the caveat that this is dependent on no changes to legislation or local conditions.*

At this juncture (12.10 p.m.) there was a 20 minute break.

The meeting reconvened at 12.30 p.m.

6 CAPITAL PLAN 2016/17 - 2019/20

The Lead Member for Finance, Corporate Plan and Performance, Councillor Julian Thompson-Hill, introduced the Capital Plan report (previously circulated) to provide Members with an updated Capital Plan including an update on major projects and the Corporate Plan.

The full Capital Plan had been last reported to Council in February 2016. Monthly updates had been presented to Cabinet. The estimated Capital Plan was now £38.9million. The Plan had been updated since being report to Cabinet on 24 January 2017.

Councillor Thompson-Hill guided Members through the report.

The Leader, Councillor Hugh Evans, clarified that during the term of the current council, a very ambitious Corporate Plan had been set. It had been Denbighshire's intention to deliver modern schools, good highways, leisure facilities and extra care housing. It had been an internally robust challenge. The Leader expressed thanks to the finance officers for all their work and confirmed he supported the recommendations within the report.

Councillor Thompson-Hill responded to questions raised regarding various aspects of the Capital Plan. Main areas of discussion focused on the following:

- Councillor Stuart Davies queried the money being spent in Rhyl particularly for the Rhyl Aquatic Centre. It was confirmed that Rhyl Town Council were supporting the project with a contribution of £2.3million towards the scheme in the same way Prestatyn Town Council had previously supported the Scala by contributing £1.1 million. Councillor Davies responded that the Town Council precepts should have been increased to fund the project further.
- Agricultural Estates – the council own a number of units and have a strategy whereby the tenants have the right to offer to buy all or part of the buildings, and some capital receipts were as a result of sales which had gone through.

Members expressed their gratitude to the Head of Finance, Richard Weigh and his team, together with the Lead Member, Councillor Julian Thompson-Hill for all their hard work.

RESOLVED that:

- *Members note the latest position on the 2016/17 element of the Capital Plan and the update on major projects*

- *Members support the recommendation of the Strategic Investment Group as detailed in Appendix 5 and summarised in Appendix 6*
- *To approve the 2017/18 Capital Plan*

7 TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY STATEMENT 2017/18 (TMSS) AND PRUDENTIAL INDICATORS 2017/18 - 2019/20

The Lead Member for Finance, Corporate Plan and Performance, Councillor Julian Thompson-Hill, introduced the report (previously circulated) seeking the approval of the Treasury Management Strategy Statement (TMSS) for 2017/18 together with the Prudential Indicators 2017/18 to 2019/20.

The Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy's Code of Practice on Treasury Management required the Council to approve the TMSS and Prudential Indicators annually.

Council considered the report and following discussion, Members expressed their thanks to the Head of Finance, Richard Weigh and his team, together with Councillor Julian Thompson-Hill for all their hard work.

RESOLVED that Council approves:

- *The Treasury Management Strategy Statement for 2017/18 detailed in Appendix 1 to the report*
- *The setting of Prudential Indicators for 2017/18, 2018/19, and 2019/20 detailed in Appendix 1 Annex A to the report*
- *The Minimum Revenue Provision Statement as detailed in Appendix 1 Section 6 to the report.*

8 COUNTY COUNCIL FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

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

The Head of Legal, HR & Democratic Services informed Members there was to be a Council Briefing on 6 March 2017.

The Full Council date of 4 April 2017 was to be kept free unless any urgent matters arose.

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

The meeting concluded at 1.40 p.m.

Report To:	Council
Date of Meeting:	23 May 2017
Lead Member / Officer:	Cllr Hugh Evans, Leader; Cllr Julian Thompson-Hill, Lead Member for Finance, Corporate Plan and Performance; Alan Smith, Head of Business Improvement & Modernisation
Report Author:	Carol Evans, Strategic Planning Team
Title:	Annual Delivery Document 2017-2018

1. What is the report about?

- 1.1 This report presents the Annual Delivery Document for April 2017 to March 2018 (which includes the transition period between the end of the Corporate Plan 2012-2017 and the new Corporate Plan 2017-2022).

2. What is the reason for making this report?

- 2.1 A decision is required to approve the final version of the Annual Delivery Document which is attached to this report as **Appendix 1**.

3. What are the Recommendations?

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

4. Report details.

- 4.1 An Annual Delivery Document is created for every year of the Corporate Plan. Its purpose is to outline some of the key projects that will be started and / or delivered during the financial year for each of our priorities, with the intention of illustrating how the Corporate Plan affects the work that we're doing. The Annual Delivery Document will be published on the Denbighshire County Council website
- 4.2 The Council's Corporate Plan for 2012-2017 has now come to an end, and County Council elections in May have resulted in a new team of elected members shaping a new Corporate Plan for 2017-2022. 2017 is a year of transition.
- 4.3 This document covers the transition period between April 2017 and March 2018 (within this time period we will publish our new Corporate Plan) and explains how we will continue to deliver progress in relation to our previous priorities.
- 4.4 As well as making sure that we deliver on what we've said in our recent Corporate Plan, and preparing for a new Corporate Plan, we will be supporting the Public Services Board in the development of its new Well-being Objectives.

- 4.5 The activities highlighted within the Annual Delivery Document are designed to have a positive impact on our Corporate Priorities and community wellbeing. They offer the key projects and activity Denbighshire County Council we will be delivering in the next twelve months.
- 4.6 Activities originate from Service and Programme Plans. Progress will be reported to Performance Scrutiny and Cabinet through our Quarterly Performance Reports. An overall evaluation of the council's progress in delivering the Corporate Plan will be included in the Annual Performance Report, published each October.
- 4.7 Our new Corporate Plan for 2017–2022 will be published in autumn 2017.
5. **How does the decision contribute to the Corporate Priorities?**
- 5.1 The Annual Delivery Document sets out the activity that the council has planned for the financial year 2017-2018 to support the delivery of its corporate priorities (Corporate Plan 2012–2017) and in preparation for the new Corporate Plan priorities 2017-2022.
6. **What will it cost and how will it affect other services?**
- 6.1 The Corporate Plan 2012-2017 included a five-year financial strategy which outlined the anticipated capital investment required to deliver the priorities. **Appendix 1** incorporates a section on the final implications for 2017 and plans for the new Corporate Plan 2017-2022.
7. **What are the main conclusions of the Well-being Impact Assessment? The completed Well-being Impact Assessment report can be downloaded from the website and should be attached as an appendix to the report.**
- 7.1 An Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) was undertaken on the Corporate Plan and presented to Council on 9 October 2012.
- 7.2 A Wellbeing Impact Assessment (WIA) has been undertaken to accompany this Annual Delivery Document; there is positive impact noted for six of the seven Wellbeing Goals. **See Appendix 2.** The Annual Delivery Document contains information from all Services within the Council via their Service Business Plans; all of the activities identified should have been Wellbeing Impact Assessed and Heads of Service will have considered the impact of individual activities in order to ensure they do not have any disproportionate detrimental impact on people who share protected characteristics.
8. **What consultations have been carried out with Scrutiny and others?**
- 8.1 The Annual Delivery Document has been developed from activity identified from Service Plans for 2017-2018 (which were agreed with Lead Members) and from Programme Plans. Activities have been further defined and refined through discussions with key personnel involved with their delivery. A draft was circulated to the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) and the Lead Member for Finance, Corporate Plan and Performance for comment before being presented to Council for approval.

9. **Chief Finance Officer Statement**

9.1 The Corporate Plan 2012-2017 set out our ambitious - but deliverable - priorities for the five year period. The funding to deliver an investment plan of £132.5m has been secured and therefore the priorities are deliverable financially. £40.3m has been spent from 2011-2012 to 2015-2016, with £20m expected to be spent in 2016-2017 and £22.5m in 2017-2018. The Council has maintained the priority of delivering the Corporate Plan whilst having to make savings elsewhere over the period of approximately £30m. The Corporate Plan is financially robust and fully funded.

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

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

11. **Power to make the Decision**

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

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Corporate Plan 2017-2022

Annual Delivery Document



This booklet outlines the key projects and activity Denbighshire County Council will be delivering in the next twelve months – a period which sees the 2012 – 2017 Corporate Plan draw to a close, and a new Corporate Plan for 2017 – 2022 developed with new Council Members.

This document is also available in Welsh, and may be available in other formats on request.

Language Signpost

Os oes angen mwy o wybodaeth arnoch, gofynnwch i rywun yr ydych yn eu hadnabod sydd yn siarad Cymraeg neu Saesneg ffonio 01824 706291

If you need further information, please ask someone you know who speaks English or Welsh to telephone 01824 706291

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اگر آپ کو مزید معلومات درکار ہوں تو برائے مہربانی انگریزی یا ویلش زبان جاننے والے اپنے کسی واقف کار سے کہیں کہ وہ آپ کی جانب سے فون نمبر 01824 70 6291 سے رابطہ کریں۔

আপনার যদি আরো তথ্যের প্রয়োজন হয়, তাহলে আপনার জানা ইংরেজী অথবা ওয়েলশ ভাষা বলতে পারেন এমন কাউকে অনুগ্রহ করে 01824 70 6291 নম্বরে টেলিফোন করতে বলুন

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Introduction

The Council's Corporate Plan for 2012 - 2017 has now come to an end, and County Council elections in May will result in a new team of elected members shaping a new Corporate Plan for 2017 - 2022. 2017 is a year of transition.

Extensive research and consultation has been carried out, involving all aspects of the Council and our communities, to assist in the development of new priorities for the Council that will meet the needs of those communities. This work has been undertaken under the banner of "County Conversation" and began back in 2016.

Our new Corporate Plan for 2017 – 2022 will be published in autumn 2017 and we will be holding a Senior Leadership Team and new Councillor Workshop to set priorities within the Plan in July offering results of our consultation work for consideration.

This document covers the twelve month period from April 2017, mindful of publication of our new Corporate Plan, and explains how we will continue to deliver progress in relation to our previous priorities.

In this transition document, formed in two sections, we explain how any outstanding commitments from our Corporate Plan 2012- 2017 will be managed, and how work to support our corporate priorities will be managed in the future. Additionally we offer insight into the proposed priorities which have emerged from

consultation in readiness for consideration by new Council Members.

Performance for the Corporate Plan is monitored closely with annual reports on our progress published by 31 October each year. You can view our latest annual performance report on our website at www.denbighshire.gov.uk or for direct link - [click here](#).

As well as making sure that we deliver on what we've said in our recent Corporate Plan, and preparing for a new Corporate Plan, we will be supporting the Public Services Board in the development of its new Well-being Objectives.

A great deal of change has taken place within the council in the last 5 years, and we will continue in the next five years (duration of the new Plan) to modernise the way we work to ensure that we are equipped to tackle the challenges that lie ahead. We must also look at the continuing challenges and opportunities that new legislation has brought, including:

- The Well-being of Future Generations(Wales) Act 2015
- The Planning (Wales) Act 2015
- The Social Services & Well-being (Wales) Act 2014
- The Housing (Wales) Act 2014

These place greater emphasis on the well-being agenda than there has been previously.

Financing our Corporate Plans

When the Corporate Plan was launched it set out an ambitious programme of capital investment in schools, roads, social care, and modernisation that underpinned the priorities the council set for the current administrative term.

Since 2012, as the plan has developed, the funding underpinning it has moved from an aspirational forecast to a robust, affordable strategy. To make the Plan affordable, some revisions have been necessary alongside changes to planning assumptions.

An update of the plan was taken to Cabinet on 24th November 2015, and a further £4.8m contingency to support Glasdir and Ysgol Carreg Emlyn Schemes (within the 21st Century Schools Programme) was approved by Cabinet on 16th February, 2016.

The current expected expenditure on the Corporate Plan is £132.5m (Denbighshire's funding element is £70.7m) for the period 2011/12 to 2019/20. £40.3m has been spent from 2011/12 to 2015/16, with £20m expected to be spent in 2016/17 and £22.5m in 2017/18. The Plan is fully funded to deliver the capital projects agreed within it. A new Plan and funding strategy will be developed with the new council during 2017.

Corporate Plan 2012 – 2017

Ongoing Activity

Priority 1: Developing the local economy

For this priority we identified six outcomes that we aimed to deliver for our communities up until 2023, in line with our Economic & Community Ambition Strategy.

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

Below is a selection of the activities we plan to undertake in the 2017-18 Financial Year.

Outcome 1: The right infrastructure for growth

- By March 2018, our Digital Denbighshire project will have provided advice to over 1,500 local businesses and directly assisted more than 100 businesses to make best use of the improved digital and mobile communications being rolled out across the county. We will focus our attention on bringing the county in line with UK levels of connectivity by identifying and supporting businesses lacking adequate broadband and mobile connectivity and lobbying for improved coverage, aiming to see more than

80% of businesses able to access superfast broadband over the course of this year.

- This year we will focus our attention on working with the Department for Work and Pensions and other partners to connect local residents to the job opportunities presented by our Priority Strategic Employment Sites work.
- The business case for expansion of accommodation at St Asaph Business Park will be completed and considered for investment in order to support our work on creating future well paid jobs in the county.
- We will facilitate the development of the Bodelwyddan Key Strategic Site and other sites allocated for employment development in the Local Development Plan (LDP).

Outcome 2: Supported and connected business

- Our March for Business programme will focus in on issues raised through the 2017 business survey, helping businesses in the county to network with each other and overcome barriers to growth through knowledge and skills development.
- The successfully established Denbighshire Business Development Grant scheme will continue to support small local businesses to create new jobs and will lever more than £100,000 of private sector investment into their expansion.

- Our 'Better Business for All' project will become business as usual, bringing improved provision of support & advice to regulated businesses and better coordination of visits as standard.
- The Council will continue to work with the Federation of Small Businesses, North Wales Business Council and Business Wales to provide support for local businesses when selling their goods or services to the Council.

Outcome 3: Opportunities for growth

- We will work with businesses, Welsh Government, Universities and support providers to actively promote St Asaph Business Park as an ideal location for growth sector businesses. This includes building the business case for additional expansion on the business park to be considered.
- Works to regenerate Rhyl Waterfront and its tourism offer have begun, including on-site construction which will continue through 2017 and into 2018.

Outcome 4: High quality skilled workforce

- Working with schools and local businesses, we will develop further the work carried out by our Pathways + project that provided practical support (such as interview skills) to young people across the county in order to make them better prepared for the world of work before they leave school.

- We will have a strong focus on developing apprenticeships and work experience opportunities with the Council taking a leading role - both as employer and by encouraging other employers. This will offer a range of work experience and apprenticeship opportunities to local residents in order to improve their success in the world of work.
- The Opus programme will support individuals who are either economically inactive or long term unemployed and are eager to progress into training, volunteering and work.
- We will create a professional development framework for Libraries/One Stop Shop staff.

Outcome 5: Vibrant towns and communities

- We will continue to support local businesses in Rhyl and Prestatyn with the interest they have expressed in exploring a potential Business Improvement District.
- We will explore development of a 'Living Over The Shop' initiative that aims to bring back into (mainly residential) use the redundant floor space in our town centres, and we will continue to develop new council housing that increases footfall on our high streets.
- We will develop and deliver Denbighshire's next Destination Management Plan 2017-2022.

- We will redevelop St Asaph Library/One Stop Shop and facilitate extended community activity and involvement.

Outcome 6: Well-promoted Denbighshire

- We have launched our inward investment website and are now developing the campaign to go alongside this.
- We will further develop the Tourism Ambassador Scheme across Denbighshire, train Library/One Stop Shop staff as Tourism Ambassadors.
- We will work with partners across North East Wales to promote Visit Wales' Year of Legends.
- We will develop and deliver a media and social media training programme for staff and elected members.

Priority 2: Improve performance in education and the quality of our school buildings

For this priority we identified one outcome that would support our communities. Below is a selection of the activities we plan to undertake in 2017-18 in support of this outcome.

Outcome 7: Students achieve their potential

- We will continue our ambitious programme to modernise our schools and school facilities to ensure that our children have a learning environment that supports their education. There will be a number of schools receiving investment in their buildings during 2017/18, including:
 - The extension and refurbishment of Ysgol Glan Clwyd to a capacity of 1,180 to address the need to meet increasing demand for Welsh medium secondary education in the County. The new state of the art building was occupied by the school in January and work is currently ongoing on the refurbishment of the existing school building to create a modern, fit for purpose learning environment.

- The delivery of the new primary schools programme in the Ruthin area is ongoing, with construction work to the new schools for Rhos Street School and Ysgol Pen Barras already commenced and anticipated for completion in spring 2018. The new schools proposed for Ysgol Carreg Emlyn and Llanfair are anticipated to begin construction in early 2018.
 - Work has commenced on the design of a new replacement school for Blessed Edward Jones and Ysgol Mair in Rhyl. This new Faith School will provide new state of the art facilities for pupils from 3 to 16 years of age and is anticipated to be complete in 2019.
 - Work is currently being undertaken to identify schemes to form DCC's submission for the next phase of 21st Century Schools funding programme (Band B).
-
- Working with our partners, our Intervention and Prevention Strategy will enhance our primary school low-level mental health agenda.
 - We will review Denbighshire's approach in the secondary sector with a view to developing an approach to teaching and learning, which successfully prepares students for the Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA).

Priority 3: Improving our roads

Within this priority we identified one outcome that we aimed to deliver for our communities. Below is a selection of the activities that we plan to undertake in 2017-18 in support of this outcome.

Outcome 8: Residents and visitors to Denbighshire have access to a well-managed road network

- We will implement a programme of surface dressing on a number of high priority roads where this represents the most cost-effective method of prolonging the life-span of the road, including:
 - Sarn Lane, Bodelwyddan
 - Marine Road East, Prestatyn
 - A525 Gate House to Pen y Stryt, Llandegla and
 - A543 Blue Hand Corner to St. Bridgit's School, Denbigh.

This will include the necessary preparation works such as patching; the value of this programme will be in excess of £700,000.

- We will implement a programme of patching across the county aimed at ensuring that a large number of roads are protected from further rapid deterioration, which would subsequently cost larger sums of money to repair. The specific roads to be treated will be prioritised according to risk assessments undertaken throughout the year, but the total value of the programme is approximately £1.3 million.

- We will deliver Year 1 of a 10-year maintenance programme for bridges and other highways structures. The aim of this programme is to minimise the need to implement weight restrictions on our bridges.

Priority 4: Vulnerable people are protected and are able to live as independently as possible

For this priority we have identified two outcomes that we will aim to deliver for our communities. Below is a selection of the activities we plan to undertake in 2017-18 in support of each outcome.

Outcome 9: Vulnerable people can live as independently as possible

- We will deliver a programme of regular press briefings through 2017/18 which will outline positive new ways of working in social care, emphasising the focus on self-managed care and support.
- We will maximise the benefits of Talking Points and the Community Navigator Service and ensure that communities across Denbighshire are supported by local resources to become more resilient.

Outcome 10: Vulnerable people are protected

- We will develop new processes to manage Support Budgets (previously known as Direct Payments) for those who require managed care and support in order to provide greater choice and control.

- We will develop a model for positive risk taking in terms of the new way of working within social care.
- We will review Regional Policy Development in working with partners to improve our local practices, such as Assessment, Support Budgets, Eligibility, Advocacy and Customer Engagement.
- The new Adult Safeguarding Team has now been established and new models of working have been implemented. In 2017/18 the new processes will be monitored to consider the effectiveness of the new workings practices.
- During 2017/18 we will further implement the offer to support the Syrian Refugee Programme. In 2016/17 we supported two families to settle in Denbighshire and continue to plan for more families to be supported over the coming months.

Priority 5: Clean & tidy streets

For this priority we have identified one outcome that we will aim to deliver for our communities. Below is a selection of the activities we plan to undertake in 2017-18 in support of this outcome.

Outcome 11: To produce an attractive environment for residents and visitors alike

- As part of the West Rhyl Neighbourhood management project to tackle environmental crime, we will be focussing on waste, fly tipping, dog fouling and untidy land.
- We will implement the Dog Control Order to influence those irresponsible owners to control their dogs and ensure the areas where dog fouling poses the greatest risk, such as playing fields, are protected.
- We will start reviewing and developing a replacement Local Development Plan (LDP).
- We will implement the Group Repair Scheme at Mill Bank Road, Rhyl to renovate the external block of properties.
- We will demolish unsafe buildings in Queen Street, Rhyl and renovate 57 – 59 Queen Street, Rhyl by

replacing shop front and renovating flats above the shop.

- We will continue with our refurbishment programme for nine of our Public Conveniences throughout 2017/18.

Priority 6: Ensuring access to good quality housing

For this priority we have identified one outcome that we will aim to deliver for our communities. Below is a selection of the activities we plan to undertake in 2017-18 in support of this outcome.

Outcome 12: Our housing market will offer a range of types and forms of housing in sufficient quantity and quality to meet the needs of individuals and families

- We will continue to invest in new housing by buying more land for development throughout the county, including work in Prestatyn on the first new Council houses to be built by the County Council.
- We will complete the renovation of properties we have bought in Rhyl to provide new affordable homes.
- Our Tenant Engagement Strategy will be delivered in 2017, accompanied by our Tenant Handbook, which will significantly increase our engagement and maximise the ability of our communities to become more self-reliant.
- We will improve 69 properties across several estates in Rhyl and 61 properties in Ruthin and Llangollen,

replacing roofs, render and roofline materials as well as environmental improvements such as fencing and pathways where necessary.

- We will introduce a Single Access Route to Housing (SARTH) service in April 2017, which is a partnership between the Council and Registered Social Landlords, to hold one waiting list for access to social housing in the area.
- We will deliver Housing Greenspace Projects in Aberwheeler, Bodfari and Rhuddlan to improve car parking and the general street scene in spring 2017.
- We will deliver an agreed strategic approach to Extra Care Housing in Denbighshire by continuing to work with developers, Housing Associations and other partners to develop plans for three further Extra Care Schemes. We expect that at least two schemes will be in development by 2018.
- We will support delivery of appropriate accommodation for Gypsy and Traveller residential and transit sites.
- We will develop and publicise the Council's Empty Homes Delivery Plan and bring a minimum of 5 empty properties back into use as affordable housing by December 2017.

Priority 7: Modernising the council to deliver efficiencies and improve services for our customers

Within this priority we have identified two outcomes that we will aim to deliver for our communities. Below is a selection of the activities we plan to undertake in 2017-18.

Outcome 13: Services will continue to improve and develop

- We will continue to embed the Welsh Language Standards in all our activities and work, to promote and enhance our Welsh Culture.
- We will relocate Rhyl Register Office to Rhyl Town Hall by August 2017 to improve access to birth, marriage and death registration services.
- We will continue to invest in our Leisure Centres with a new website with online booking and fast track entry kiosks.

- We will develop and implement a framework for volunteering opportunities in our Libraries/One Stop Shops.
- We will develop a Digital Futures Programme and explore opportunities for digitising services.

Outcome 14: More flexible and effective workforce supported by cost efficient infrastructure

- We will modernise the Schools Catering service with ICT infrastructure to make the service more efficient.
- We will support new Members to be engaged and effective in their role, and to enhance the reputation of the Council.
- We will develop a new proposal for apprenticeships to match skills to jobs with career progression opportunities.
- We will continue to manage sickness absence closely.

Corporate Plan 2017 – 2022 developed activity

2017 will see a new Council being elected, and a new Corporate Plan being developed with this new Council.

The research and engagement that goes into developing a Plan – in order to be as certain as we can that we are doing the right things – is considerable, and started in July 2016 with the launch of Phase 1 of the County Conversation. Here, we asked people to think about their future aspirations for their communities in terms of health, economy, the environment, etc. The findings from this were presented to our Senior Leadership Team and Cabinet in November 2017, coupled with statistics about the county, and a set of draft Wellbeing Objectives was agreed.

Further consultation took place on these draft objectives between early December 2016 and late January 2017. The purpose of the consultation was to check that there was public agreement that the objectives selected accurately reflected the communities' aspirations, and to also provide further opportunity for different suggestions to be made.

All of the draft objectives were considered important, albeit some to a greater extent than others, and were adopted at Cabinet on 28 February 2017. These objectives are:

- Denbighshire is a place where younger people will want to live and work and they have the skills to do so.
- Communities are connected and have access to goods and services locally, online or through good transport links.
- There is an attractive and protected environment that supports communities' wellbeing and economic prosperity.
- People can live independent and fulfilled lives in strong, caring, safe and resilient communities.
- The Council and communities work together to overcome challenges; devising and delivering joint solutions.
- There are events that bring people together, creating active communities and helping business to prosper.

Moving forward, a Head of Service has been nominated to lead on each objective, and will hold a collaborative

workshop with internal and external invited stakeholders to agree for each objective:

1. Success criteria
2. What's already in place
3. Generate further ideas.

A selection of these ideas will be presented to our new Council in July, so that they can further evaluate and endorse these wellbeing objectives. Once endorsed, we can officially adopt them as our new corporate priorities.

For more information on anything in this booklet

Please feel free to contact us. We would be happy to provide any additional guidance and materials to help you.



Visit us: Find a council office or One-Stop-Shop
– www.denbighshire.gov.uk



Online: General Enquiries Form –
www.denbighshire.gov.uk



Phone: 01824 706101 (Monday to Friday, 8:30am to 5pm). Rydym yn croesawu galwadau ffôn yn Gymraeg / We welcome telephone calls in Welsh.



Write to us: Denbighshire County Council, PO Box 62, Ruthin, LL15 9AZ.



Talk to your councillor: Find your councillor –
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Denbighshire County Council's Annual Delivery Document 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:	223
Brief description:	The Annual Delivery Document is an update on the key activities and projects which the Council will be delivering in the year ahead, to support Corporate Priorities.
Date Completed:	Version: 0
Completed By:	
Responsible Service:	Business Improvement & Modernisation
Localities affected by the proposal:	Whole County,

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?

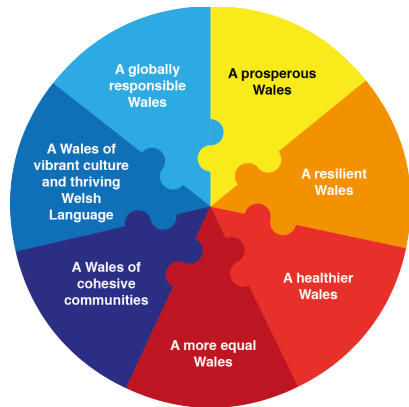
(2 out of 4 stars)



Actual score: 15/ 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	Neutral

Main conclusions

Whilst developing the Corporate Plan for 2012 /2017, Denbighshire County Council undertook a considerable amount of consultation, engagement and analysis work, focussing on residents, personnel and Elected Members. The aim of the work was to help identify priorities to address the needs and concerns of our communities, and a full analysis of impact was then undertaken. You can view the Corporate Plan Equality Impact Assessment on Denbighshire County Council's website.

Each subsequent year, we have worked with Heads of Service, Middle Managers and leaders to develop our Annual Delivery Document, also asking for feedback from elected members (at Full Council) and inviting comment from the public when published (online copy only for 2017/18).

For our transition year, 2017, we have also been undertaking consultation with our communities, developing proposed priorities for newly Elected Members (May 2017) to consider in terms of creating a new Corporate Plan which is due for publication by October 2017.

This Annual Delivery Document does not affect any direct change that will benefit personnel or the community, and many of the projects and activities that it highlights may have a positive impact. Significant activities or projects will have had Wellbeing Impact Assessments undertaken on them to determine positive, negative and / or neutral benefits.

The Annual Delivery Document is a register of the key activities and projects that the Council will take forward in the year ahead. No disproportionate negative impact has, at this stage, been highlighted and it will be for

individual assessments to identify those in greater detail if they exist.

THE LIKELY IMPACT ON DENBIGHSHIRE, WALES AND THE WORLD

A prosperous Denbighshire

Overall Impact:	Positive
Justification for Impact:	Key to our economic development is our local businesses building from strength to strength, offering good quality and well paid jobs, and activities, such as Digital Denbighshire, working with Department for Work and Pensions on Priority Strategic Employment Sites, expanding accommodation at St Asaph Business Park and facilitating development of Bodelwyddan key Strategic Sites all contribute to this development. Furthermore our March for Business programme, Denbighshire Business Development Grant Scheme, our "Better Business for All" project and our work with the Federation of Small Businesses will be key projects to enhance development. We will have developed tools to promote Denbighshire to launch inward investment, campaigns such as Tourism Ambassador Scheme, Visit Wales schemes (e.g. Year of Legend). Our ambitious programme to modernise schools and school facilities to ensure that our children have a learning environment to support their education and their skill sets continues.

Positive consequences identified:

New Schools will be more energy efficient (carbon etc.)

New houses will be energy efficient.

Rhyl developments - primarily to enhance regeneration within the area.

Economic development activities encompass various aspects of provision for long term quality jobs.

Workforce development, training opportunities, apprenticeships - these along with our Pathways + project, Opus programme, work with education provider colleges and our focus on work experience opportunities will have a long term effect upon skill sets for individuals.

Unintended negative consequences identified:

Further work might be required to see to ensure people may travel to new work opportunities.

Will childcare issues need to be addressed?

Mitigating actions:

Potential transport and childcare issues will need to be aligned with projects / programmes and activities that enhance job opportunities. Employers and service providers may need to consider these issues. Lead officers for national and EU funded Tackling Poverty Programmes are working with the DWP to better match clients with opportunities.

There is a risk that those most in need of the new jobs do not access them. We cannot assume "trickle down".

A resilient Denbighshire

Overall Impact:	Positive
Justification for Impact:	There is a small positive impact upon the environment.

Positive consequences identified:

There is a proactive approach to Fly tipping.

New buildings will be more energy efficient.

Clean and tidy street work and cleaning up buildings enhances awareness. There will be increased housing green space projects to improve the environment and to create greater awareness of biodiversity issues.

Unintended negative consequences identified:

Mitigating actions:

A healthier Denbighshire

Overall Impact:	Positive
Justification for Impact:	There is a prominence on wellbeing - advice, support and encouragement to take opportunity to improve health for individuals.

Positive consequences identified:

With improved built environment, social environment may improve social wellbeing.
Talking Points supports social wellbeing.
Access and use of Talking Points Services is increasing.

Unintended negative consequences identified:

Mitigating actions:

A more equal Denbighshire

Overall Impact:	Positive
Justification for Impact:	In addition to the positive actions and activities above, we also continue to embed Equality and Diversity throughout Services. In support of the new Corporate Plan, we have engaged with hard-to reach groups on a regional basis, and also consulted online (removing barriers associated with timing, accessibility and so forth).

Positive consequences identified:

We will further implement the offer to support Syrian Refugee programme; we are supporting delivery of appropriate accommodation for Gypsy and Traveller residential and transit sites. Our Intervention and Prevention Strategy enhances our primary school low level mental health agenda. Economic Development activities are taking place in one of the most deprived areas in Wales (Rhyl).

Unintended negative consequences identified:

Tackling Poverty Programmes are somewhat aligned.

Mitigating actions:

We need to know more to enable us to consider the question above in terms of protected characteristics. In terms of the tackling poverty agenda, programmes are aligning under a Tackling Poverty Group, bringing together partners and services.

A Denbighshire of cohesive communities

Overall Impact:	Positive
Justification for Impact:	

Positive consequences identified:

A new Adult safeguarding team has been established and new models of working have been implemented. Talking Points and Community Navigator Services are in place to ensure communities across Denbighshire are supported by local resources to become more resilient. We will review Regional Policy Development in working with partners to improve our local practices for communities such as Support Budgets, Eligibility, Advocacy and Customer Engagement.

Our clean and tidy streets management tackle environmental crime, waste, fly tipping, dog fouling and untidy land; Dog Control Orders are in place to ensure our playing fields and natural environment are protected. Unsafe buildings will be demolished, contributing to more attractive and safe areas.

Unintended negative consequences identified:

Mitigating actions:

A Denbighshire of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language

Overall Impact:	Positive
Justification for Impact:	In embedding our Welsh Language Standards and bi lingual services we are enhancing our Welsh Culture. Heritage and cultural sites offer bilingual provision.

Positive consequences identified:

Bi-lingual services are statutory and we encourage all front line personnel to speak Welsh to offer bilingual services.

We continue to embed the Welsh Language Standards in all our activities and work to promote and enhance our Welsh Language and Culture.

Unintended negative consequences identified:

Mitigating actions:

A globally responsible Denbighshire

Overall Impact:	Neutral
Justification for Impact:	

Positive consequences identified:

Unintended negative consequences identified:

Mitigating actions:

Report To: County Council

Date of Meeting: 23rd May 2017

Lead Member / Officer: Gary Williams, Monitoring Officer

Report Author: Gary Williams, Monitoring Officer

Title: **Size and Composition of Planning Committee.**

1. What is the report about?

1.1 The report is about changes required to the Council's Constitution as a result of legislation requiring changes to the size and composition of the Council's Planning Committee.

2. What is the reason for making this report?

2.1 The Welsh Government has introduced legislation setting restrictions on the number of Members allowed to sit on the Council's Planning Committee.

3. What are the Recommendations?

3.1 That Council confirms the size of the Planning Committee and authorises the Monitoring Officer to amend the Council's Constitution accordingly.

3.2 That Council authorises the Monitoring Officer to make the necessary amendments to the Council's Constitution to reflect the quorum requirements for the Planning Committee as set out in the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2017.

3.3 That Council endorses the approach proposed in the report for the appointment of Members to the Planning Committee from multiple member wards.

4. Report details

4.1 The Planning (Wales) Act 2015 amended the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 to grant the power to Welsh Ministers to make regulations prescribing the size and composition of a local planning authority's Planning Committee.

4.2 Welsh Ministers have used this power to make the Size and Composition of Local Planning Authority Committees (Wales) Regulations 2017 (the Committee Regulations).

4.3 The Committee Regulations provide that a Planning Committee must have no fewer than 11 and no more than 21 Members.

- 4.4 There can be no more than one Member for any particular ward on the Committee. This means that in multiple Member wards only one Member from that ward may be on the Committee at any given time.
- 4.5 In the allocation of seats on the Planning Committee, clearly, where all Members representing a multiple ward are from the same group, the question of which, if any, of those Members are appointed to the Committee will be a matter for the relevant Group Leader. Where the Members representing a multiple member ward are from different Groups it is suggested that the question of which, if any, of those Members is appointed to the Committee will be one to be determined by agreement between the relevant Group Leaders. Where no agreement is forthcoming it is suggested that none of the Members for that ward will be appointed to the Committee until an agreement has been reached.
- 4.6 Failure to comply with the Committee Regulations will invalidate the proceedings of the Planning Committee.
- 4.7 The Welsh Ministers have also made the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2017 (the Standing Orders Regulations) which came into force on 5th May.
- 4.8 The Standing Orders Regulations provide that the quorum of a Planning Committee must be at least 50% of the total number of Members rounded to the nearest whole number, and prohibit the use of substitutes.

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

- 5.1 The decision has no direct impact on the Corporate Priorities

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

- 6.1 The decision should not incur any additional cost.

7. What are the main conclusions of the Well-being Impact Assessment? The completed Well-being Impact Assessment report can be downloaded from the [website](#) and should be attached as an appendix to the report

- 7.1 There is no requirement for a Well-being Impact Assessment for this report.

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

- 8.1 There has not been an opportunity to consult Scrutiny on this issue. The Group Leaders have been consulted with.

9. Chief Finance Officer Statement

- 9.1

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

10.1 There is a risk that if these legislative requirements are not implemented that the decisions made by the Planning Committee are invalidated.

11. Power to make the Decision

11.1 Size and Composition of Local Planning Authority Committees (Wales) Regulations 2017
Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2017.

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Report To: Council

Date of Meeting: 23 May 2017

Lead Officer: Democratic Services Manager

Report Author: Democratic Services Manager

Title: Annual Review of Political Balance and Appointment of Scrutiny Chairs

1. What is the report about?

This report contains information and requests decisions on committee-related issues.

2. What is the reason for making this report?

Following the elections to the County Council on the 4 May 2017 this report requests confirmation of the membership of the political groups and the executive (Cabinet) arrangements.

This will allow the allocation of seats on the Council's committees which are scheduled to meet from the beginning of June.

The Council's Licensing Sub-Committee undertakes a quasi-judicial role in determining applications made under the Licensing Act 2003. The Act places strict timescales for the Council to determine applications and in accordance with these timescales a Sub-Committee meeting has been scheduled for the 5 June 2017. A Sub-Committee comprises 3 members of the full Licensing Committee and members will require training on licensing matters. Training can be arranged before the Sub-Committee meets. Previous members of the last Licensing Committee who have completed the requisite training are Councillors Joan Butterfield, Hugh Irving, Barry Mellor, Pete Prendergast and Huw Williams.

3. What are the Recommendations?

- (i) That Council considers the updated position (to be reported at the meeting) in relation to the membership of the political groups, the executive (Cabinet) arrangements and the allocation of the Scrutiny Committee chairing positions;
- (ii) That Council agrees the appointment of the Chair and membership of the Democratic Services Committee for the 2017 / 18 municipal year, subject to any changes notified by the Groups;
- (iii) That Council appoints 2 councillors to the Standards Committee.

4. Report details.

4.1 Committee Timetable

The new municipal year begins with the Annual Meeting of Council in May. The current timetable of committee meetings continues until the end of 2017 and is attached as Appendix 1. A draft timetable for 2018 is being prepared and will be brought to Council for consideration in July.

4.2 Annual Review of Political Balance

The Council is required to consider at least annually how the membership of its committees relates to the political balance of the Groups. At the time of writing this report the political groups on the Council had not formed after the recent elections though the process was underway and should be confirmed by the time Council meets.

Eligibility to sit on or chair certain committees may be dictated by certain factors. For example, whether or not a member is on Cabinet, the political group they are a member of, or whether all the political groups appoint members to Cabinet.

4.3 Democratic Services Committee

Section 11 of the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011 requires the Council to appoint a committee to review the adequacy of provision by the authority of staff, accommodation and other resources to discharge democratic services functions, and to make reports and recommendations to the authority in relation to such provision.

The members of the Democratic Services Committee must be appointed by Full Council. There are to be no co-opted members. Under the Measure there may be no more than one member of the Cabinet on the Committee (who cannot be the Leader), but Council in May 2012 decided that the membership would be 11 councillors and would not include members of the Cabinet.

The Committee must be politically balanced and Council must appoint its chair who must not be a member of any of the political groups represented on the Cabinet.

4.4 Appointment of Chairs of Scrutiny Committees

There are three Scrutiny Committees and the allocation of the chairing positions is determined by the principles laid down in the 2011 Local Government (Wales) Measure. These allocations are based on the political make-up of the Cabinet and the Council which were not known at the time this report was written.

Neither the Measure nor the associated statutory guidance make provisions for changing or re-appointing scrutiny chairs, except where the political make-up of Cabinet changes or where a scrutiny chair is vacated for some reason. Any future changes to the appointment of chairs would therefore be a matter for the political groups entitled to allocate Scrutiny chairing positions to decide.

4.5 Standards Committee

The Council's Standards Committee membership includes 2 county councillors appointed by Council. There is no requirement for political balance in respect of these appointments and Council is therefore requested to appoint 2 members to the Committee.

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

The decisions and information arising from this report are central to the functioning of the democratic and committee systems which are essential elements of the Council's governance arrangements and contribute to the Council's corporate priorities.

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

The costs of maintaining a committee system are covered within existing budgets but the Council in 2015 made a commitment through its *Freedoms and Flexibilities* process to reduce the number of committee meetings being held to save the associated costs. Services throughout the Council may contribute to the meetings included in the timetable, usually by contributing information, reports and officer time.

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

A Well-being Impact Assessment is not required for this report.

The annual timetable of meetings is an established process and meets the aims of the Equality Act. The principal 'service users' are the members of the committees and supporting officers although the press and public are also able to attend most meetings the interest of individuals or groups is likely to depend on the topic under consideration.

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

The issues covered in this report are being consulted upon with the political groups and all members of the Council.

9. Chief Finance Officer Statement

There are no additional costs arising from the recommendations in this report.

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

Failure to confirm councillors' roles and membership of committees would be detrimental to the Council's governance arrangements.

11. Power to make the Decision

Schedule 12 of the Local Government Act 1972; Local Government and Housing Act 1989; Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011.

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COMMITTEE TIMETABLE 2017

Committee	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	
COUNTY COUNCIL 10 a.m.	31	14		4	23 Annual Meeting		4	SUMMER RECESS	5	17		5	
COUNCIL BRIEFING 2 p.m.	25		6			12					13		
CABINET 10 a.m.	24	28	28	25		6	18			26	24	21	12
CABINET BRIEFING 2 p.m.	9	20	13	3			3			4	2	6	4
PLANNING 9.30 a.m.	11	8	15	12		14	12			13	11	15	13
PERFORMANCE SCRUTINY 9.30 a.m.	26		16	27			13			28			7
COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY 9.30 a.m.		2	23			15	20			7	19	30	
PARTNERSHIPS SCRUTINY 9.30 a.m.	19		2	6		22				14		2	14
CORPORATE GOVERNANCE 9.30 a.m.	25		22	26		21	19			27		29	
LICENSING 9.30 a.m.			8			28				20			6

Committee	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	
LICC 2.p.m.		7				26				4			
SACRE 10 a.m.		13					5			13			
STANDARDS 10 a.m.			10			30				22		24	
DEMOCRATIC SERVICES COMMITTEE 10 a.m.			31								20		
CORPORATE HEALTH, S&W 10 a.m.		3		21			28					3	
AONB JOINT COMMITTEE 10a.m.		17 (or 3/3)	3 (or 17/2)			23						10 or 17	
ASSET MANAGEMENT GROUP 9.30 a.m.	5		9		4				7		9		

OTHER MEETINGS IN 2017

Committee	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Conwy & Denbighshire Joint Adoption Panel												
Fostering Panel	11	8	8	12	10	14	12	9	13	11	8	13
MEMBER AREA GROUPS												
Denbigh	9		6		8	5						

Committee	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2 p.m.												
Rhyl 2 p.m.	11		8		10	14						
Prestatyn & Meliden 6 p.m.	25		22		24							
Elwy 1 p.m.	6		3		28		27					
Ruthin 10 a.m.	23		20		24		17					
Dee Valley 2 p.m.	16		13		15		17					

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Report To: County Council

Date of Meeting: 23 May 2017

Lead Member / Officer: Gary Williams, Monitoring Officer

Report Author: Lisa Jones , Legal Services Manager /Deputy Monitoring Officer

Title: Lay Member Appointments to Corporate Governance and the Standards Committee

1. What is the report about?

1.1 The report is about the continued appointment of two lay (independent) Members.

2. What is the reason for making this report?

2.1 Appointments to the Standards Committee and Corporate Governance Committee require the approval of the Full Council.

3. What are the Recommendations?

3.1 That Mr Ian Trigger, be appointed to the Standards Committee for a term of office to expire on the date of the next Local Government Elections in 2022

3.2 That Mr Paul Witham be appointed to the Corporate Governance Committee for a term of office to expire on the date of the next Local Government Elections in 2022.

4. Report details.

4.1 Standards Committee Appointment

The Standards Committee Regulations 2001, as amended, (the Regulations) govern the composition and proceedings of Standards Committee. The Standards Committee is not required to be politically balanced. A Standards Committee must have a membership of between five and nine members to include independent lay members, County Councillors and City, Town and Community Council representation. The Chair and Vice Chair of the Committee must always be independent lay members and the meeting is only quorate if the majority of those present are independent lay members.

- 4.2 The Standards Committee of this Council has a membership of seven members comprised as follows two County Councillors, one Community Council member and four independent lay members.
- 4.3 A lay member to the Standard Committee may under the regulations, only serve two terms of office, this would therefore be the proposed appointee's final term, if re-appointed.
- 4.4 The Member put forward for re-appointment was recruited via a public advert and selected from amongst a number of applicants by the Council's Appointments Panel.
- 4.5 Corporate Governance Appointment
- 4.6 The Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011 (the Measure) requires the Council to appoint an Audit Committee. The membership of which must include at least one lay member. The Committee may have no more than one third of its membership comprised of lay members.
- 4.7 On 15th May 2012 Council agreed to designate the Corporate Governance Committee as the Council's Audit Committee. Council further agreed that one member of the Committee should be a lay member.
- 4.8 The council advertised the position of lay member in the local press by means of a joint advertisement with four other North Wales authorities. Three applications were received for Denbighshire County Council vacancies.
- 4.9 The lay member was selected by the Corporate Governance Committee members.

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

- 5.1 A fully functioning and representative Standards Committee which upholds the high standards expected of Members helps underpin the Council's exercise of its democratic functions.
- 5.2 The requirement in the Measure to appoint a lay member to the Committee is compulsory. Failure to appoint a lay member would render the proceedings of the Committee invalid.

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

The lay member will be entitled under the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales' report to a daily fee and travel expenses reimbursed laid down in law.

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

There are no well being implications as a result of this decision, an open public recruitment exercise was run for these appointments. The decision does not affect well being.

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

There is no statutory requirement to consult on the appointments sought by this report. There is a statutory requirement to advertise publically for independent members of the Committees.

9. Chief Finance Officer Statement

The costs associated with the decision are minor and will be contained within existing resources.

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

With regard to Standards Committee, the Council Constitution stipulates that there are to be four lay members. The risk of not appointing members to the Standards Committee is that a reduced membership may increase the likelihood of the Committee being inquorate.

The requirement in the Measure to appoint a lay member to the Corporate Governance Committee is compulsory. Failure to appoint a lay member would render the proceedings of the Committee invalid.

11 Power to make the Decision

Section 81 and 82 Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011 and Standards Committees (Wales) Regulations 2001 as amended.

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Report To: Full Council
Date of Meeting: May 2017
Lead Member / Officer: Gary Williams, Monitoring Officer
Report Author: Lisa Jones, Deputy Monitoring Officer
Title: **Updates to the Constitution**

1. What is the report about?

To report proposed changes that are required to the Council Constitution in order to keep it up to date and relevant

2. What is the reason for making this report?

A decision is required by the Full Council that the Constitution be updated.

3. What are the Recommendations?

That the amendments as proposed by the Monitoring Officer are adopted and that the Monitoring Officer is authorised to amend the Constitution accordingly.

4. Report details

Some operational changes Officers have made necessitating an update to the Constitution' scheme of delegation. The Council's procurement service has been transferred from Finance, Assets and Housing to Legal, HR and Democratic Services.

Further, in order to improve service communication and work more efficiently, two officers from legal services (one highways and one property lawyer) have been relocated to the Caledfryn office. Certain documents such as traffic regulation orders are required to be physically sealed by an Authorised Signatory to become legal documents; and it makes sense to enable this to take place if necessary there, rather than the document being transferred to County Hall. This will be limited to the areas set out below. All other sealing continues to be dealt with by Legal Services.

There is an operational need (particularly during busy periods such as elections) to expand the range of authorised signatories yet still retaining the authority at a sufficiently senior level.

The proposed amendments are as follows:

4.1 That the Head of Highways; Head of Planning and Public Protection and any individuals within their service authorised in writing by them; have authority to seal and execute documents as an Authorised Signatory in relation to any Section 38

Road Agreements, Section 278 Agreements ; Permanent and Temporary Traffic Regulation Orders, Footpath Diversion Orders and Creation Agreements, Car Park Orders.

4.2 That the Head of Legal, HR and Democratic Services act on a day to day basis as the responsible officer for the strategic and operational delivery of the council procurement service.

4.3 That the S.151 Officer and the Deputy S.151 Officer in the absence of the Monitoring Officer or other authorised signatory within Legal Services, be authorised to seal and execute documents on behalf of the Council.

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

The decision contributes towards a modernised Council which looks to minimise processes and work more efficiently.

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

No services or cost implications emanate from this decision.

7. What are the main conclusions of the Well-being Impact Assessment? The completed Well-being Impact Assessment report can be downloaded from the [website](#) and should be attached as an appendix to the report

There are no well being implications.

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

No consultation is required; any departmental relocations or transfer of functions have already been made by Senior Officers in consultation with staff, resulting in the Constitution now requiring updating in order to finalise this work.

9. Chief Finance Officer Statement

There are no costs implications as a result of this decision.

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

There are no identified risks in taking the decision; however there are risks to the validity of decision making if the Constitution is not updated to reflect decisions that have been made.

11. Power to make the Decision

Local Government Act 2000 requires the Council to have an adopted Constitution.

Report To:	County Council
Date of Meeting:	23 May 2017
Lead Member / Officer:	Gary Williams, Head of Legal, HR & Democratic Services
Report Author:	Steve Price, Democratic Services Manager
Title:	Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales Annual Report 2017 /18

1 What is the report about?

The report is about the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales' (the 'Panel') annual report for 2017 /18.

2 What is the reason for making this report?

To advise of the Panel's determinations for 2017 / 18 in respect of payments to members and co-opted members and to adopt a schedule of remuneration.

3 What are the Recommendations?

- 3.1 That Council notes the determinations of the Panel for the 2017 /18 municipal year in respect of the payment of Basic Salaries, Senior and Civic Salaries and payments to co-opted members.
- 3.2 That Council adopts the schedule of remuneration as set out in appendix 1 (which remains unchanged from 2016 / 17 except as outlined in paragraph 4.4) for the 2017 / 18 municipal year.

4 Report details

- 4.1 The Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales was established in 2008. The Panel's remit and functions were extended in the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011. The Panel's remit includes councillors, other members of National Park Authorities, Welsh Fire and Rescue Authorities and Community and Town Councils in addition to County and County Borough Councils. The Panel is able to stipulate the actual amount of payment an authority may make to a member and the duties and responsibilities which may qualify councillors to receive payments.
- 4.2 The Panel is required to produce an annual report setting out the levels at which members are to be paid for various duties and responsibilities for the coming municipal year. The Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011 requires local authorities to implement the recommendations of the Panel. The 2017 / 18 annual report can be viewed on the following link: <http://gov.wales/irpwsb/home/publication-reports/58592459/?lang=en>
- 4.3 The Panel's report sets out three bands of Council, sets out the number of councillors in each and the maximum number of senior salaries that the relevant council may pay. These groupings are set out in Table 1 of the annual report. Table 2 sets out the basic salary and senior salaries that shall be payable to Members of Councils in 2017 / 18.

- 4.4 This year the Panel have decided to provide a very modest increment of £100 a year to the basic salary for each councillor. There is no change to the senior or civic salary levels from last year. For last year's report the Panel introduced the possibility for lower payment levels for most Cabinet members and the chairs of committees (see paragraphs 4.9 and 4.10 below) and these options are retained for this year.
- 4.5 The Panel remains firmly of the view that maintaining the democratic values of local government is not cost free. Publicly funded remuneration is made available to encourage a diversity of willing and able local people to undertake local government, through their elected, appointed or co-opted roles.
- 4.6 When the Panel made its initial determinations in its 2009 report it aligned payments to Members to the medium gross earnings of all full time employees resident in Wales and the basic salary was set at $\frac{3}{5}$ of the All Wales medium salary. The Panel concluded that Cabinet members should be considered as full-time posts. In setting these salaries the Panel recognised that there was an unpaid public service contribution.
- 4.7 Civic Salaries - The Panel introduced responsibility levels for each council to determine the level of payments for civic leaders and deputy civic leaders. For Denbighshire this means the Chair of Council and the Vice Chair of Council. The levels remain unchanged (except for the £100 increase in the basic salaries) and are shown below.

	Civic leaders	Deputy civic leaders
a	£24,100	£18,100
b	£21,600	£16,100
c	£19,100	£14,100

- 4.8 In April 2014, Council decided to set the level of payments for the Chair of Council at level b and for the Vice Chair at level c. **Both figures in the table above include the basic salary each councillor is entitled to be paid of £13,400.** The payment of Civic Salaries is not included in the cap on the number of Senior Salaries available to an authority. A Council may decide not to pay any Civic Salaries.
- 4.9 Senior Salary Band 1 and 2 – The Panel has determined five bands of Senior Salary. Band 1 includes Leader and Deputy Leader and Band 2 includes other Cabinet Members. In the Panel's discussions with elected Members across Wales in 2013 there was a consistent view expressed that leadership with executive roles carried the greatest accountability. The Panel also received representations that these accountabilities are often the same regardless of the size of population served by the Council. The Panel did however determine that the size of population remains a major factor in levels of responsibility and has decided to maintain the use of the population groups as set out in Tables 1 and 2 of the annual report for the purposes of Senior Salaries in Bands 1 and 2.

Continuing from last year the Panel have allowed for Band 2 Cabinet members (i.e. Cabinet members other than the Leader and Deputy Leader) to be paid (inclusive of the basic salary) either £26,100 as at present or £23,500. It is for individual authorities to decide on the appropriate level. Relevant considerations include Denbighshire's reduction of the size of its Cabinet from 10 members to 8 to save money which, as the panel notes in its report, results in a much greater range of portfolio responsibilities for each Cabinet member.

4.10 Band 3 – In the same manner the Panel has directed that for 2017 / 18 committee chairs may be paid either the present £22,100 (inclusive of the basic salary) or £20,100. Again, this is a matter for local determination and in Denbighshire's case there are fewer scrutiny committees than in most other authorities and the importance of the chairing roles for the other committees such as the Planning and Licensing Committees should be acknowledged.

Denbighshire has set the number of its senior salary payments (the number of Cabinet and committee chair allowances being paid) at 2 below the maximum allowed by the Panel for an authority of Denbighshire's size.

4.11 Band 4 and 5 – The Panel has taken the view that the payment of the leader of the largest opposition group is important for local democracy. The Panel have therefore continued their previous determination that this Senior Salary (band 4) must be paid. The payment corresponds to the higher level of payment for committee chairs. The Panel notes that very few leaders of other political groups have been allocated a salary in Welsh authorities. The Panel has determined that where such salaries are paid the level should be at £17,100 per annum as set out in Table 2.

4.12 Co-opted Members with Voting Rights – Table 6 of the Panel's report has the fees for co-opted members with voting rights which remain unchanged from last year and are based on an attendance allowance and time commitment of up to 4 hours (a half day fee) or over 4 hours (a daily fee). The Panel allows co-opted voting members to include travelling time and reasonable time for pre-meeting preparation, the extent of which can be determined by the appropriate officer in advance of the meeting.

4.13 Co-opted members are also eligible to receive payments of fees for attending working group meetings, meetings with officers, training and attendance at conferences or any other formal meetings to which they have been invited to attend.

4.14 Mileage Rates – Authorities can only reimburse travel costs for their members undertaking official business. There is to no change to the mileage rates. The Panel has determined that a member who has been a passenger in a vehicle driven by someone else should be paid the prescribed rate provided that the authority is satisfied that the cost has been incurred by the member.

4.15 Presiding Member - The Local Government Democracy Act 2013 allows local authorities to appoint a presiding member who would chair the business meetings of the Council in addition to a civic leader. A Council may also appoint a deputy presiding member. Where appointed, a presiding member would be paid at the higher level committee chair salary and the post would contribute towards the cap on the number of senior salaries that can be paid. The post of deputy presiding members would not receive a payment.

4.16 Joint Scrutiny Committees – Two or more authorities can establish joint scrutiny committees and decide whether or not the chairs of those committees (or a sub-committee of a joint scrutiny committee) will be paid. If they decide to make payments the following determinations apply:

- The Chair of a Joint Scrutiny Committee is eligible for a salary equivalent to that part of a lower level band 3 Senior Salary that remunerates a Committee Chair; namely £6,700
- In cases where the chair is already in receipt of a senior salary for a band 3, 4 or 5 role the payment will be £3,350

- The chair of a sub-committee of a joint scrutiny committee is eligible for a salary of £1,675.
- In cases where the chair of the sub-committee is already in receipt of a senior salary payment for a band 3, 4 or 5 role the payment will be £837.
- A vice chair of a joint scrutiny committee or sub-committee will not receive a payment
- Payments to a chair of a joint scrutiny committee or sub-committee are not counted as part of Denbighshire's maximum number of councillors (17) who may receive a senior salary payment although there is a statutory limit of no more than 50% of a council's membership being allowed to receive a senior salary payment.

5 How does the decision contribute to the Corporate Priorities?

This report outlines the decisions taken by the Panel and does not in itself contribute to the corporate Priorities.

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

The Panel's annual report largely continues the payment levels of 2016 /2017 which are contained within existing budgets.

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

This report is made in accordance with statutory obligations and the determinations of the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales. An impact assessment is not required for this report.

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

The Panel consults nationally on the draft contents of each annual report.

9 Chief Finance Officer Statement

The proposals as listed are allowed for within existing resources and therefore do not create an additional budget pressure.

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

The majority of the payments (basic salaries, leader of the largest opposition group, co-opted members with voting rights) set out in the annual report have to be made available and a budget has been allocated to cover the payments.

11 Power to make the Decision

Section 111 Local Government Act 1972

Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011

SENIOR SALARIES	ANNUAL AMOUNT (includes basic salary)
ROLE	
Leader of the Council	£43,100
Deputy Leader of the Council	£30,100
Executive Member (Cabinet member)	£26,100
Committee Chairs	£22,100
Leader Of The Largest Opposition Group	£22,100
CIVIC SALARIES	ANNUAL AMOUNT (includes basic salary)
ROLE	
Civic Head (Chair)	£21,600
Deputy Civic Head (Deputy Mayor / Chair)	£14,100

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COUNCIL FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

Meeting	Item (Description / Title)		Purpose of Report	Council Decision Required (yes/no)	Lead member and Contact Officer
COUNCIL BRIEFING 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)
4 July 2017	1	The 2018 Committee Timetable	To confirm the 2018 committee timetable	Yes	Steve Price / Kath Jones
	2	Annual Report of the Council's Scrutiny Committees 2016/17			Rhian Evans
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	1.	North Wales Police's vision and priorities for the region and for Denbighshire	To discuss with the Chief Constable his vision and priorities for the region and for the county.	No	Steve Price/Alan Smith

COUNCIL FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

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>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 1505/2017 SLW

Council Work Programme.doc