

To: Members of the Cabinet

Date: 10 February 2021

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Dear Councillor

You are invited to attend a meeting of the **CABINET** to be held at **10.00 am** on **TUESDAY, 16 FEBRUARY 2021 BY VIDEO CONFERENCE.**

Yours sincerely

G. Williams
Head of Legal, HR and Democratic Services

AGENDA

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

1 APOLOGIES

2 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

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

3 URGENT MATTERS

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

4 MINUTES (Pages 7 - 16)

To receive the minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on 19 January 2021 (copy enclosed).

5 DENBIGHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL'S CLIMATE AND ECOLOGICAL CHANGE STRATEGY (2021 - 2029) (Pages 17 - 86)

To consider a joint report by Councillors Brian Jones, Lead Member for Waste, Transport and the Environment and Tony Thomas, Lead Member for Housing and Communities (copy enclosed) presenting the final strategy document to Cabinet for consideration and recommendation to Council for adoption.

6 STREET NAMING AND NUMBERING POLICY REVIEW (Pages 87 - 112)

To consider a report by Councillor Richard Mainon, Lead Member for Corporate Services and Strategic Direction (copy enclosed) seeking Cabinet approval of proposed changes to the Council's Street Naming and Numbering Policy.

7 WELSH GOVERNMENT TRANSFORMING TOWNS PROGRAMME (Pages 113 - 136)

To consider a report by Councillor Hugh Evans, Leader and Lead Member for the Economy and Corporate Governance (copy enclosed) seeking Cabinet approval to delegate authority for the purposes of securing regeneration investment in Denbighshire from the Welsh Government Transforming Towns Programme.

8 RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE STRATEGIC INVESTMENT GROUP (Pages 137 - 144)

To consider a report by Councillor Julian Thompson-Hill, Lead Member for Finance, Performance and Strategic Assets (copy enclosed) seeking Cabinet's support of projects identified for inclusion in the 2021/22 Capital Plan.

9 FINANCE REPORT (Pages 145 - 162)

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

10 CABINET FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME (Pages 163 - 166)

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

PART 2 - CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

No Items.

MEMBERSHIP

Councillor Hugh Evans
Councillor Bobby Feeley
Councillor Huw Hilditch-Roberts
Councillor Richard Mainon

Councillor Tony Thomas
Councillor Julian Thompson-Hill
Councillor Brian Jones
Councillor Mark Young

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LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2000

Code of Conduct for Members

DISCLOSURE AND REGISTRATION OF INTERESTS

I, *(name)*

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

Denbighshire County Council

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

*(*please delete as appropriate)*

Date of Disclosure:

Committee *(please specify)*:

Agenda Item No.

Subject Matter:

Nature of Interest:

*(See the note below)**

Signed

Date

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

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CABINET

Minutes of a meeting of the Cabinet held by video conference on Tuesday, 19 January 2021 at 10.00 am.

PRESENT

Councillors Hugh Evans, Leader and Lead Member for the Economy and Corporate Governance; Bobby Feeley, Lead Member for Well-being and Independence; Huw Hilditch-Roberts, Lead Member for Education, Children's Services and Public Engagement; Brian Jones, Lead Member for Waste, Transport and the Environment; Richard Mainon, Lead Member for Corporate Services and Strategic Direction; Tony Thomas, Lead Member for Housing and Communities; Julian Thompson-Hill, Lead Member for Finance, Performance and Strategic Assets, and Mark Young, Lead Member for Planning, Public Protection and Safer Communities

Observers: Councillors Jeanette Chamberlain-Jones, Meirick Davies, Hugh Irving, Alan James, Barry Mellor, Melvyn Mile, Paul Penlington, Peter Scott, Glenn Swingler, Graham Timms and Emrys Wynne

ALSO PRESENT

Chief Executive (JG); Corporate Directors: Communities (NS) and Economy and Public Realm (GB); Heads of Service: Legal, HR and Democratic Services (GW) and Finance and Property (SG); Passenger Transport Manager (PD); Lead Officer – Community Housing (GD); Democratic Services Manager (SP), and Committee Administrators (KEJ & RTJ)

POINT OF NOTICE - COVID-19 UPDATE

The Leader welcomed everyone to the meeting and hoped that 2021 would be more positive with the roll out of the vaccination programme and return to some normality.

At the Leader's request the Chief Executive gave an overview of the current situation with regard to Covid-19 in Denbighshire and Wales more widely. The latest figures indicated there was cautious optimism that the peak of infections had been reached in terms of the number of infections but there were still a significant number of residents extremely ill with Covid-19 in hospital. Denbighshire's case rate was 369.7 per 100,000 population compared to 406 the previous week, which was above the Welsh average of 306.1, but infections rates were falling across most of Wales. The vaccination rollout was continuing at pace with 27,000 people vaccinated in North Wales which were almost exclusively in the highest risk groups, with a further 35,000 vaccinations planned for the current week resulting in a higher level of protection in care homes. However Covid-19 still remained within communities and everyone was asked to reinforce important messages regarding social distancing, mask wearing, hygiene measures and limiting contacts.

1 APOLOGIES

There were no apologies.

2 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Councillors Bobby Feeley and Huw Hilditch-Roberts declared a personal interest in agenda item 6 – Establishment of Sport North Wales Partnership because they were directors of Denbighshire Leisure Limited.

3 URGENT MATTERS

No urgent matters had been raised.

4 MINUTES

The minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on 15 December 2020 were submitted.

***RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 15 December 2020 be received and confirmed as a correct record.*

5 BUS EMERGENCY SCHEME

Councillor Brian Jones, Lead Member for Waste, Transport and the Environment presented the report seeking Cabinet approval to sign up to the Bus Emergency Scheme (BES) 2 to secure financial support for the bus sector and establish a relationship with Flintshire County Council as the lead regional authority.

The report detailed the wider context and background to the Bus Emergency Scheme including Welsh Government proposals for the future reform of bus services together with details of the (conditional) financial assistance already provided to the bus sector, most recently administered by Flintshire County Council as regional lead authority for North Wales but distributed after regional agreement. BES 2 represented the next phase within that process with Welsh Government proposing an agreement with operators and local authorities to protect bus services for an initial term up to 31 July 2022 unless market conditions recovered sufficiently that support was no longer required. Benefits of the agreement would potentially be safeguarding services towards pre-Covid levels and providing a sound legal basis for the additional funding, and offered local authorities some influence over what were formerly commercial services. It also provided extra capacity for school transport. Risks included bus operators not signing up but most were close to doing so, and if Denbighshire did not sign up the authority was less likely to be in a position to influence bus service levels and would effectively be out of step with other local authorities in the region.

The following issues were raised during the ensuing debate –

- in response to questions from Councillor Mark Young the Passenger Transport Manager confirmed that work was currently ongoing with Transport for Wales to ensure democratic accountability going forward and the Lead Member would also be working to ensure Denbighshire's needs were met and scrutinised. It was agreed that members be kept informed of future governance arrangements once they had been established. In terms of the provision of bus services and

ensuring passengers felt safe whilst travelling some statistics were provided on passenger levels which demonstrated that travellers were now more confident using bus services, with approximately 10-12% passenger levels during the first lockdown period compared to 23% in the current lockdown. Reference was also made to the rigorous cleaning regimes to ensure public safety whilst travelling and the introduction of pre-booking seats on some services which gave an added level of confidence. However it was recognised that it would take time to return to some sort of normality and pre-Covid passenger levels

- the importance of bus services in rural areas was highlighted which were difficult to sustain and Councillor Brian Jones confirmed that high level discussions were currently ongoing specifically around rural needs and there was also support in that regard from other lead members at regional level. The Leader thanked Councillor Jones for those assurances and was pleased to note that the impact on rural areas was high on the agenda and that a regional approach may provide an opportunity for a more innovative solution to meet rural needs. He supported the regional approach given it would provide a more sustainable service and ensure better dialogue with operators on a sub-regional approach
- the reluctance of some operators to sign up to the agreement was explained given that there was a prescribed profit margin set at 2% which operators felt precluded future investment and concerns that local authorities and Transport for Wales would be able to influence the services operated. Discussions were ongoing that week with operators and Transport for Wales but given the significance of the scheme it was expected that matters would be concluded and all would be in a position to sign the agreement
- the possible reluctance of people to return to use public transport post-Covid was also acknowledged which would likely be influenced by how long the pandemic continued and changing patterns such as online shopping and less commuting which could become entrenched. However the scheme was flexible and recognised that passenger numbers could increase dramatically or be subject to steady growth. From July there had been growth to about 60% of pre-Covid capacity in some areas and it would take time to reach 100% but if pre-Covid levels were not reached there would inevitably be questions about the balance between public support and commercial revenue to be discussed
- there was some debate on the impact of future investment in buses in terms of environmental technologies such as hydrogen or electric vehicles, particularly given the 2% cap on profits in the agreement and the Welsh Government's aim that all buses had zero tail pipe emissions by 2028. It was considered that even if passenger numbers reverted to normal levels it would be difficult to replace the existing fleet in line with that aim and there was an ongoing debate in that regard – it was likely that additional funding would be required
- in terms of relevant legislation since the UK left the EU, the Head of Legal, HR and Democratic Services referred to draft State Aid Revocations Amendments EU Exit Regulations 2020 due to come into force the beginning of the year and confirmed that legal advice thereon could be provided outside of the meeting.

RESOLVED that Cabinet –

- (a) *agrees to the principles of the Bus Emergency Scheme 2 agreement (as detailed in Appendix 2 to the report) to secure (conditional) financial support for the bus sector and to establish a relationship with Flintshire County*

Council as the regional lead authority and signatory that ensures that the ongoing emergency funding meets the authority's priorities and is delivered on its behalf, and

- (b) *in due course, to call for a further report on bus reform proposals relating to the future management of bus services in Wales.*

6 ESTABLISHMENT OF SPORT NORTH WALES PARTNERSHIP

Councillor Bobby Feeley, Lead Member for Well-being and Independence presented the report seeking Cabinet's support in principle for the establishment of the Sport North Wales Partnership (SNW).

Some background was provided in terms of the role of Sport Wales who had historically provided funding to local authorities and other partners to undertake sporting programmes and interventions. The report focused on the proposed establishment of a new regional SNW partnership involving other North Wales local authorities and key partners working together with a shared vision for the benefit of the region. If approved the cumulative funding from Sport Wales (approximately £2.7m per annum) would be directed through SNW with indicative total 5 year funding from 2021/22 to 2025/26 being £13,529,494. Councillor Feeley referred to Denbighshire Leisure Limited's involvement in the partnership and took the opportunity to pay tribute to staff in their response to the challenges faced and their participation in other service areas in response to the coronavirus pandemic.

The Head of Legal, HR and Democratic Services guided members through the legalities of the report including the principle of the SNW and terms on which it would operate, drawing particular attention to the model to be adopted with Conwy County Borough Council proposed as host authority together with the basis of the funding and governance arrangements. It was recommended that Denbighshire Leisure Limited (DLL) represent the Council on the Governance Board given their expertise and functions carried out on the Council's behalf. Regular reports would be made by DLL through contract management meetings and the Strategic Governance Board. The timescales for approval of the Inter-Authority Agreement by 22 January 2021 had resulted in a proposed amendment to the report recommendation to grant delegated authority in that regard. A template report had been produced for authorities to seek approval of the proposal through their democratic processes and the reference to Wrexham in paragraph 4.1 had been included in error and should be disregarded.

The Leader referred to the importance of ensuring clear accountability as set out by the Head of Legal, HR and Democratic Services and noted that if Denbighshire did not participate they would be unable to exert any influence but there was a risk that local priorities may be diluted as a result of a regional approach. He stressed the importance of the Council's representative on the Governance Board highlighting local needs and aspirations going forward. The Head of Legal, HR and Democratic Services confirmed that the activities funded through the SNW were being delivered by DLL for the Council and governance structures were in place ensuring continual dialogue between DLL and the Council in that regard. In terms of the regional approach, North Wales was a pilot and Sport Wales intended to establish five

regional partnerships across Wales. The initial term of the agreement was five years and would automatically end after that time unless all partners agreed to extend it or if before the period of five years all partners agreed to terminate it. In response to further questions regarding funding members were advised that Sport Wales would provide funding to the SNW to distribute across the region; the Council was not contributing to any funding costs in that regard.

RESOLVED that Cabinet –

- (a) *supports in principle the establishment of the Sport North Wales Partnership and delegates authority to the Head of Legal, HR and Democratic Services in consultation with the Lead Member for Well-being and Independence and Section 151 Officer to approve the terms of the final Inter-Authority Agreement, and*
- (b) *that Denbighshire Leisure Limited be appointed to represent the Council on the Governance Board of the Sport North Wales Partnership acting as an agent of the Council.*

7 HOUSING RENT SETTING & HOUSING REVENUE AND CAPITAL BUDGETS 2021/22

Councillor Julian Thompson-Hill presented the report seeking Cabinet approval for the Denbighshire Housing annual rent increase, the Housing Revenue Account Capital and Revenue Budgets for 2021/22 and Housing Stock Business Plan.

Councillor Thompson-Hill guided members through the report elaborating upon the budget figures and income level assumptions calculated to enable delivery of revenue services, the capital investment programme to maintain housing quality standards and to develop the new build programme. In terms of the annual rent increase the Welsh Government announced a five year rent policy in December 2019 for social housing rents and the setting of rents had been calculated taking that policy into account and the mechanism for uplifting rents. The uplift for 2021/22 was 1.5% resulting in an average weekly rent of £93.89 (average weekly rent increase £1.38). There was no proposal to use the discretionary charge of up to £2 per week for properties. As part of the rent setting process consideration had been given to affordability for tenants, value for money and an assessment of cost efficiencies. The annual review of the Housing Stock Business Plan showed it remained robust and financially viable and there were sufficient resources to support the housing service and the investment needs of the stock.

The Lead Officer – Community Housing highlighted the need to balance the level of rent increase to meet future costs against affordability for tenants. Due to the level of inflation it was the lowest rent increase for some time and for tenants in receipt of housing benefit the benefit entitlement would rise to cover the rent increase. The overall service charges, whilst varying between properties, had decreased slightly.

During consideration of the report the following issues were further discussed with Councillor Julian Thompson-Hill and Lead Officer – Community Housing –

- Councillor Mark Young stated that it was honest report which clearly set out the reasoning behind the rent increase but he sought further assurances regarding the affordability element, particularly given the potential reduction in Universal Credit payments and financial hardship faced by tenants. He was advised that regardless of the level of Universal Credit if tenants were eligible for the benefit any increase in the rent and service charge would be covered. Assurances were provided that the service had been proactively supporting tenants and affordable repayment terms were offered if they fell into arrears with no threat of legal action. Tribute was also paid to Citizens Advice Denbighshire in providing value support and budgeting advice for tenants. All Registered Social Landlords in Denbighshire had the same responsibilities in terms of decarbonisation standards and housing stock investment but the Council's rents were lowest with no lesser service provided. Previous years' data showed the Council's rents to be on the lower end of the scale in terms of Welsh Government target rent and it was likely that more tenants would fall below the target rent this coming year demonstrating an excellent service at a low cost to tenants
- whilst appreciating the need for an annual review and the case made for the rent increase, Councillor Bobby Feeley questioned the timing of the increase in light of the financial hardship caused by the pandemic and whether it would be possible to shelve the increase until the following year. It was explained that the legislation did not permit retrospective claiming back of income and next year it would only be possible to consider CPI + 1%, and potentially the £2 discretionary charge, but that would place a bigger increase on tenants in one year rather than spreading it across two years. It would also result in less income in the next financial year which would potentially impact on the viability of the Housing Stock Business Plan going forward. The welfare of tenants was a key consideration and the increase had been discussed with Denbighshire Tenants and Residents Federation. It was noted that the increase would be covered by housing benefit in over two thirds of cases and the remaining tenants would be supported as much as possible. Previously the rent increase had been worth around £800k a year but the current proposal would result in around £240k and a stagnant rent with no increase would result in a loss of close to £1m in four years. This would impact on the investment in housing stock and service provision for tenants. Whilst appreciating the increase for tenants, the rent was still well below the Welsh Government target rent level
- in terms of the Welsh Government five year rent policy for social housing rents it was reiterated that the policy agreed an annual rent uplift annually of no more than CPI + 1% with an additional £2 per week charge on individual homes on condition that the total rent increased by no more than CPI + 1%. Other North Wales local authorities were also increasing rents with some intending to utilise the £2 weekly increase instead of CPI + 1%. Welsh Government target rents had risen by 11.5% over the last four years but the Council's rents had only increased by 9% over that period. Even taking into account the proposed rent increase Denbighshire's rent levels still remained well below the Welsh Government target rent. Reference was also made to the investment to be made in the housing stock including making properties more fuel efficient which would result in decreasing fuel bills for tenants
- Councillor Glenn Swingler raised concerns regarding the terminology used in the Well-being Impact Assessment (WBIA) referencing the fear that Denbighshire Housing would have a disproportionate amount of poorer

households due to its lower rent. The Lead Officer accepted the point and agreed to reword the document. He explained that the WBIA had been undertaken with tenants and there had been a previous concern regarding the approach taken by other housing associations in terms of the affordability assessment and eligibility for tenancies which was outdated.

Cabinet paid tribute to the work of housing services, in partnership with Citizens Advice Denbighshire, in supporting tenants to effectively manage their finances and maximise their income, and the sensitive approach to dealing with tenants in financial difficulty. Having considered the budget figures and proposed rent increase, and taking into account affordability for tenants and the future level of investment in housing stock, there was overall support for the recommendations.

RESOLVED that –

- (a) *the Housing Revenue Account Budget for 2021/22 (Appendix 1 to the report) and the Housing Stock Business Plan (Appendix 2 to the report) be adopted;*
- (b) *rents for Council dwellings be increased in accordance with the Welsh Government Policy for Social Housing Rents to an average weekly rent of £93.89 with effect from Monday 5 April 2021;*
- (c) *the additional report (Appendix 3 to the report) on Cost Efficiencies, Affordability and Value for Money be noted, and*
- (d) *Cabinet confirms that it has read, understood and taken account of the Well-being Impact Assessment (Appendix 4 to the report) as part of its consideration.*

At this juncture (11.25 hrs) the meeting adjourned for a refreshment break.

8 BUDGET 2021/22 - FINAL PROPOSALS

Councillor Julian Thompson-Hill presented the report setting out the implications of the draft Local Government Settlement 2021/22 and proposals to finalise the budget for 2021/22, including the level of Council Tax.

Councillor Thompson-Hill provided an overview of the budget process and latest budget position and elaborated upon the proposals for consideration and recommendation to full Council in order to set the budget for 2021/22. The draft settlement had resulted in a positive settlement of +3.6% (compared to the Welsh average of 3.8%) with the final settlement expected on 2 March 2021. Pressures amounting to £9.903m had been detailed and the impact of using £685k of cash in 2020/21 meant the total shortfall amounted to £10.588m. The +3.6% settlement generated £5.42m leaving a funding gap of £5.167m with proposals to bridge that gap identified in the report and further explained at the meeting. A Council Tax rise of 3.8% had been proposed to generate £2.132m additional revenue. Due to the lateness of the final settlement it was recommended that authority be delegated to enable cash adjustments included in the budget proposals of up to £500k.

The Head of Finance and Property added that the budget was very much business as usual with an assumption that a level of Welsh Government support would be forthcoming if Covid-19 related pressures continued. He also confirmed there would be early engagement with members on the budget process for next year.

Main areas of debate focused on the following –

- Councillor Mark Young referred to the funding shortfall and years of funding cuts to local authority budgets and he questioned the sustainability of future service delivery and sought an update on previous requests for a three year budget to aid future financial planning. The Leader responded that the positive settlements over the last two years had to be appreciated, particularly given the current financial situation faced by both UK and Welsh Governments. There had been regular and positive dialogue with Welsh Ministers throughout the pandemic and they understood the challenges and pressures faced by local government and Welsh Government had been supportive in the way they had responded and reacted to the Covid-19 situation. However the forthcoming Welsh Parliament election may result in a change Minister which could have a significant impact. The Chief Executive welcomed the funding settlement which enabled the authority to cover most service pressures for 2021/22 but there was no guarantee that emerging pressures from Covid-19 related income loss would be met. If future settlements were not sustained at such a level to meet increasing pressures, particularly in social care, difficult decisions would need to be made. In terms of a three year settlement the Head of Finance and Property explained that the original proposal for a comprehensive spending review had been delayed due to Covid-19 and a one year settlement had been announced by the Chancellor last November. Welsh Government would need a three year indication of their figures from the UK Treasury to realistically be in a position to provide a three year settlement for local government going forward
- Councillor Glenn Swingler referred to year on year savings made by schools and felt it was not appropriate to seek further savings in light of the difficulties faced in responding to Covid-19 and he queried the amount of investment made within schools. In terms of the overall savings package he asked whether it could be revisited to further consider the affordability element for residents. The Lead Member for Finance clarified that work had been ongoing with the School Budget Forum (SBF) for some time, as in previous years, to deliver the 1% saving (all other services were expected to find 4% saving). The 1% saving equated to £733k with an additional £3.27m proposed to be allocated so the overall schools delegated budget would increase by about £2.5m as an overall net figure. The schools increase was for revenue spend and investment in schools via the Modernising Education budget was completely separate. The Lead Member for Education confirmed the proposal had the support of the SBF and there was a net gain in the budget. However he highlighted pressures on schools in terms of financing blended learning and Covid-19 regulations etc. and work was ongoing to seek any funding which may be available from Welsh Government to offset the costs incurred by schools. In responding to the point made regarding the overall package of budget proposals the Lead Member for Finance explained the option of either reducing the amount in the budget to cover budget pressures (although most were unavoidable) or change the amount of Council Tax. He did not believe that residents should be charged

more than was needed to deliver services, even more so this financial year and additional hardships faced as a result of Covid-19. The recommendation to raise Council Tax by 3.8% had not been made lightly given the impact it would have on residents. If a lower level was recommended it would mean that some pressures would not be met or additional cuts to services. Consequently he believed the budget proposals represented the best way of addressing pressures with the least negative impact on residents

- in response to questions from Councillor Paul Penlington regarding the budget figures the Lead Member for Finance clarified that the shortfall figure in the report before addressing Council Tax was a funding gap of £5.167m. The items listed at paragraph 4.4 of the report had been proposed to help bridge the funding gap leaving the required £2.132m which equated to the 3.8% rise in Council Tax proposed. If Council Tax was set at a lower rate than 3.8% it would mean that either additional cuts would need to be made to services or not meeting all of the pressures identified in paragraph 4.3 of the report.

RESOLVED that Cabinet –

- (a) *notes the impact of the Draft Local Government Settlement 2021/22;*
- (b) *supports the proposals outlined in Appendix 1 to the report, and detailed in Section 4 of the report, and recommends them to the full Council in order to finalise the budget for 2021/22;*
- (c) *recommends to Council the average Council Tax rise of 3.8% proposed;*
- (d) *recommends to Council that authority is delegated to the Head of Finance and Property in consultation with the Lead Member for Finance to adjust the use of cash included in the budget proposals by up to £500k if there is movement between the draft and final settlement figures in order to allow the setting of Council Tax in a timely manner, and*
- (e) *confirms that it has read, understood and taken account of the Well-being Impact Assessment submitted as part of the report.*

9 FINANCE REPORT

Councillor Julian Thompson-Hill presented the report detailing the latest financial position and progress against the agreed budget strategy as outlined below –

- the net revenue budget for 2020/21 was £208.302m (£198.538m in 2019/20)
- an overspend of £2.242m was forecast for service and corporate budgets
- highlighted current risks and assumptions relating to individual service areas together with the financial impact of coronavirus and Leisure ADM budgets
- detailed required savings and efficiencies of £4.448m agreed including corporate savings relating to triennial actuarial review of Clwyd Pension Fund (£2m); 1% schools savings (£0.692m); service savings (£1.756m)
- provided a general update on the Capital Plan, Housing Revenue Account and Housing Capital Plan.

Councillor Thompson-Hill explained that there had been no significant movements since the previous month's finance report. The £2.242m forecasted overspend had assumed no additional funding from Welsh Government (WG) and the figures would be updated when that funding had been received in line with previous practice. In terms of Capital Projects most were progressing in line with expectations and with regard to Rhyl Queen's Market Redevelopment the WG had confirmed an additional £1.5m (over and above the £5m provisional allocation) which meant phase 1 of the project was fully funded. The planning application submitted was for the entire project. Finally reference was made to the various grant regimes administered by the Council on behalf of WG relating to Covid-19 over the last ten months with money paid out by local authorities exceeding £1bn and Denbighshire having paid out around £52m to businesses. This was testament to the Revenues and Benefits Team working above and beyond and tribute was paid to staff in that regard.

Councillor Mark Young highlighted the excellent support and prompt response provided by the Council to businesses but queried whether any additional financial support would be forthcoming from WG given the continued closure of businesses and hardship caused as a result. It was explained that the funding announced by WG covered the period of lockdown to 29 January and it was assumed that a further round of funding would be made available in the event lockdown continued after that date but WG had yet to make any announcements in that regard. As soon as any more information became available it would be shared with members.

RESOLVED that Cabinet note the budgets set for 2020/21 and progress against the agreed budget strategy.

10 CABINET FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

The Cabinet forward work programme was presented for consideration and it was noted that the 'Contract Procedure Rules' item would be rescheduled from February to a future meeting pending consideration by the Corporate Governance and Audit Committee. In response to a request from Councillor Meirick Davies the Leader agreed to arrange for previous reports on 'Changes to the Street Naming and Numbering Policy' scheduled for the next meeting to be sent to him directly.

RESOLVED that Cabinet's forward work programme be noted.

The meeting concluded at 12.30 hrs.

Report to	Cabinet
Date of meeting	16 th February
Lead Member / Officer	Cllr Brian Jones & Cllr Tony Thomas / Judith Greenhalgh
Report author	Helen Vaughan-Evans
Title	Denbighshire County Council's Climate and Ecological Change Strategy (2021-2029)

1. What is the report about?

- 1.1. This report is about the Denbighshire County Council's (DCC) Climate and Ecological Change Strategy (2021/22 – 2029/30).

2. What is the reason for making this report?

- 2.1. To present the final strategy document for Council to decide on whether to adopt it.

3. What are the Recommendations?

- 3.1 That Cabinet recommend adoption to Council of the Denbighshire County Council's Climate and Ecological Change Strategy (2021/22 – 2029/30).
- 3.2 That Council confirms that it has read, understood and taken account of the Well-being Impact Assessment (Appendix A) as part of its consideration.

4. Report details

- 4.1. The Council declared a Climate Change and Ecological Emergency on 9th July 2019 which contained a set of actions for DCC including the goal for the Council to become net carbon zero by 2030 at the latest, to enhance biodiversity in Denbighshire and to draw up a clear plan to achieve this.

- 4.2. In 2019, the Welsh Government (WG) published Wales' Low Carbon Delivery Plan "Prosperity for All: A Low Carbon Wales" which set the ambition for the public sector in Wales to be net carbon zero by 2030. The Council will be required to participate in WG new Greenhouse Gas Reporting Regime baselining, monitoring and reporting progress towards carbon neutrality (policy 20) annually.
- 4.3. The DCC Climate and Ecological Change Strategy (Appendix B) delivers upon the scope of the Council's Climate Change and Ecological Emergency Declaration and what is required of the Council under WG's new Greenhouse Gas Reporting Regime.
- 4.4. The Strategy is all about the Council achieving Net Carbon Zero and Ecologically Positive by 2030. The document explains what we mean by those two goals, how the Council is currently performing on both, what we hope 2030 will look like for the Council having achieved our goals and the changes and actions we hope to deliver over the next 9 years, subject to the securing of the necessary funds. Infographics summarising the two 2030 goals can be seen in Appendix C.
- 4.5. This work has been guided by the Climate Change and Ecological Emergency Working Group which was set up as part of the emergency declaration. This group has been made up of two representatives from each political party represented in the Council including the two Lead Members for climate and ecological change.
- 4.6. If approved, progress in achieving the goals set out in the Strategy will be monitored by the Corporate Plan Board. Compliance and progress will be scrutinised by Internal Audit and Scrutiny Committees at the discretion of the Chief Internal Auditor and Scrutiny Chairs and Vice Chairs. A paper will be taken to Council each year highlighting progress made referring back to the Council's Climate Emergency Declaration. The strategy will be reviewed and refreshed every 3 years (2024 and 2027).

5 How does the decision contribute to the Corporate Priorities?

- 5.1 The Strategy will make a direct contribution to the current Environment Priority within the Corporate Plan 2017-2022 (specifically 15% carbon reduction target and planting 18,000 more trees by 2022).
- 5.2 It represents the delivery document for the Council achieving its aim of becoming Net Carbon Zero and Ecologically Positive by 2030 in response to the Climate Change and Ecological Emergency declared by the Council in 2019.
- 5.3 The Strategy will make our contribution to the Welsh Government policy for the public sector to be carbon neutral by 2030, for Wales to meet its legally binding target of reducing emissions by at least 95% by 2050 and supports the Councils statutory duty under Section 6 of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 to “seek to maintain and enhance biodiversity”.

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

- 6.1 Some of changes and actions set out in the Strategy will require capital investment, others revenue funding, and some delivered at no additional cost. Many of the changes and actions will save the Council money over the long time. To deliver this strategy over the next 3 years we think it will cost in the region of £9 million pounds to deliver the projects needed to achieve all that we’d like. We suspect we will need to invest a similar figure in future years leading up to 2030. All interventions will be individually appraised- financially, via capital business cases and through revenue budget plans and processes, and for wellbeing and sustainability alignment, via the established wellbeing impact assessment process.
- 6.2 The council will not have to provide all of this money itself. We expect that grants from the Welsh Government, National Government and supporting bodies will be available to help fund the planned work over the 9 years.
- 6.3 Operating our Council in a low carbon and ecologically positive way will require us to design and deliver our services in a different way and will involve policy change. Alignment of service business plans, performance management, regulatory

mechanisms and decision making to the Climate and Ecological Change ambitions will support delivery. This is aided by the Council approval to amend Section 13.2 of the Council's Constitution- Principals of Decision Making in October 2020 so that all decisions of the Council will have regard to tackling climate and ecological change.

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

7.1 The DCC's Climate and Ecological Change Strategy and Action Plan in its very nature of combating climate and ecological change has protecting and improving the well-being of generations now and in the future at its heart. See Appendix A for full report.

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

8.1 DCC ran an engagement period in January and February 2020 asking for the public's feedback on the Council's proposed net carbon zero and ecologically positive goals and for any ideas on how the Council can achieve them by 2030. The public engagement response summary report is publically available [here](#).

8.2 Building on the public's ideas officers worked throughout 2020 with Councillors and Officers from across the Council to develop the Strategy, including holding workshops with all the service areas and key officers, presentations to Cabinet and Senior Leadership Team and presentations at all Member Area Groups.

8.3 In November and December 2020 the Council ran a public consultation on the draft document and the feedback received used to shape the Council's final Strategy. The consultation feedback summary report is publically available [here](#).

9. Chief Finance Officer Statement

9.1 The financial implications are clearly set out in Section 6. The approved Budget for 2021/22 includes investment of £0.389m base budget. The investment set out in this report will require an annual increase in the budget which will be taken through the annual budget process. It is important that external sources of funding are maximised in order to help lower the impact on the Council's finances. As stated in Section 6 it's

important that individual projects are taken through the usual approval processes (Strategic Investment Group etc.).

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

10.1 Notable risks are included in Appendix D.

11 Power to make the decision

11.1 Section 2, Local Government Act 2000 - the power to do anything which DCC consider is likely to achieve the promotion or improvement of the environmental well-being of their area.

11.2 Section 111, Local Government Act 1972- the power to do anything which is conducive to, or calculated to facilitate, the discharge of the Council's functions.

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Denbighshire County Council's Climate and Ecological Change Strategy (2021-2030)

Well-being Impact Assessment Report

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

Assessment Number:	802
Brief description:	The Strategy is all about the Council achieving Net Carbon Zero and Ecologically Positive by 2030. The document explains what we mean by those two goals, how the Council is currently performing on both, what we hope 2030 will look like for the Council having achieved our goals and the changes and actions we hope to deliver over the next 9 years, subject to the securing of the necessary funds. The strategy contains a set of existing and new policies across the range of Council services and operations that are supportive of low carbon, increased carbon sequestration and biodiversity improvement. The Strategy covers the years 2021/22 – 2029/30 and outline the projects/activities the Council intends to deliver, subject to the securing of the necessary funds, to work towards achieving our net carbon zero and ecologically positive Council goals. Note: The scope of the strategy is council owned emissions and council owned land-coverage isn't the whole of Denbighshire as a geographical county.
Date Completed:	01/02/2021 15:18:40 Version: 2
Completed by:	Helen Vaughan-Evans
Responsible Service:	Business Improvement & Modernisation
Localities affected by the proposal:	Whole County,
Who will be affected by the proposal?	- DCC Staff - DCC Councillors - DLL Staff - Schools - Those who use our buildings - Those who use our vehicles (fleet car, pool cars etc) - Our supply chain - Shared Services - Those who use or would like to use our open green spaces - Wildlife - DCC Volunteers - Residents, visitors, businesses, landlords who may use a more 'green' service from us in the future.
Was this impact assessment completed as a group?	Yes

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


 (3 out of 4 stars) Actual score : 33 / 36.

Summary for each Sustainable Development principle

Long term	Long term thinking and securing legacy has been a central pillar in development and collation of the final strategy document. The postcards from the future provide clarity on a 2030 net carbon zero and ecologically positive council. Designing out carbon use and natures decline is at the forefront of policy changes suggested to then maximise benefit for the long term. Legacy considered through rolling out carbon literacy training and embedding change in Council constitution.
Prevention	The strategy outlines where, what, how and when in terms of policy change, projects and activities needed for the Council to make its contribution to reducing carbon emissions and increasing carbon sequestration to prevent the problem of climate change getting any worse and to improve biodiversity to combat and prevent natures decline.
Integration	Integration with other goals, priorities and objectives have been considered in the development and collation of this strategy. The supporting strategies section provides the links to other agendas. Maximising cobenefits has been a central pillar in the proposed policy changes and actions within document. References to the local development plan and ambitions for the revised LDP to actively contribute to tackling climate and ecological change within the document.
Collaboration	The document is for Council own emissions and council owned land and collaboration has been mainly internal but broad- involving every service area, SLT, Cabinet and MAG. Ideas within the strategy originate in part to public engagement exercise conducted in January/February 2020 and final document shaped by public consultation in November/December 2020.
Involvement	Ideas within the strategy originate in part to public engagement exercise conducted in January/February 2020 and final document shaped by public consultation in November/December 2020. Online discussion forums on the Council's Consultation Portal are being used to continue involvement and dialogue with the public. Internally staff are and will continue to be brought into task and finish groups to shape thinking and actions as we deliver the strategy.

Summary of impact

Well-being Goals

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



Main conclusions

The net carbon zero and ecologically positive are 2030 goals and the DCC's Climate and Ecological Change Strategy is for a 9-year period 2021/22-2029/30 so it engenders long term thinking at its core. It outlines the action needed over next 9 years to ensure DCC contributes to mitigating climate and ecological change impacts now and for future generations.

Under the five delivery principles of the Well-being of Future Generations Act the Strategy scored 3 out of 4 stars (actual score 33/36). To maintain the score, it will be important to continue the collaborative and integrated approach in its delivery both internally across the Council and in consultation with the public.

Against the seven well-being goals of the Act, the potential impact of the Strategy is evaluated as 5 Positive and 2 Neutral. The strategy in its very nature of combating climate and ecological change has protecting and improving the well-being of generations now and in the future at its heart and the delivery of the programme will continue to maximise on the opportunities to do just that.

To ensure the realisation of this benefit, the programme should take a long term view on maintaining and managing anything that is put in/delivered/created and also to continue to involve residents and communities in delivering the Council's programme. This could include sharing learning so they themselves can deliver action to tackle climate and ecological change in their personal lives and within their communities. The Council will need to balance the ambitions of our local populous with the internal resource available.

Evidence to support the Well-being Impact Assessment

We have consulted published research or guides that inform us about the likely impact of the proposal

- We have involved an expert / consulted a group who represent those who may affected by the proposal
- We have engaged with people who will be affected by the proposal

THE LIKELY IMPACT ON DENBIGHSHIRE, WALES AND THE WORLD

A prosperous Denbighshire

Overall Impact	Positive
Justification for impact	Impact is a positive one due to the direct positive impact on generating a low carbon society, the improvement in infrastructure and transport and the knock on benefits around economic development, jobs and skills.
Further actions required	It will be important to minimise any negatives around any potential reduction in office accommodation.

Positive impacts identified:

A low carbon society	<p>This strategy is all about reducing carbon and increasing carbon sequestration (carbon absorbed by Council owned and operated land).</p> <p>We will aim to reduce our carbon from our supply chain, buildings, fleet, business travel, commuting, street lighting, waste.</p> <p>Our learning will be shared with the public and partners.</p> <p>Our staff and councillor behaviour will be encouraging for low carbon both professionally and personally.</p>
Quality communications, infrastructure and transport	<p>Investment in our buildings to reduce carbon will increase the quality of them.</p> <p>Investment in low carbon transport and travel to support staff and councillors to choose low carbon travel options.</p> <p>Protection, restoration and creation of green spaces to provide infrastructure for well being.</p>
Economic development	<p>Leveraging environmental benefit in local communities via procurement and engagement with our supply chain.</p> <p>Low carbon purchasing may increase spend in more local suppliers.</p>
Quality skills for the long term	<p>Investment in carbon literacy training for staff and councillors which will improve their skill and knowledge.</p> <p>Carbon sequestration and ecological improvement projects will provide volunteer opportunities for existing volunteers and new.</p>
Quality jobs for the long term	<p>The strategy will be delivered as a programme and is creating 4 permanent job roles and generate work for existing staff within project management.</p> <p>The programme will target the securing of external funding which will create jobs to deliver those particular projects/initiatives.</p>
Childcare	Encouragement and strengthening of flexible working for staff and councillors will enable positive choices for staff in making work work around other responsibilities.

Negative impacts identified:

A low carbon society	No negative impacts. This strategy is all about reducing carbon and increasing carbon sequestration.
Quality communications, infrastructure and transport	There may be a reduction in the number of buildings the Council own and operate in the County which potentially could impact on the footfall of people supporting rural towns.
Economic development	Reducing travel potentially impacting footfall in local town locations.
Quality skills for the long term	Potential automation or/and reduction of some tasks, loss of those skills.
Quality jobs for the long term	Additional new jobs could be temporary in nature if predominately externally funded.
Childcare	N/A

A resilient Denbighshire

Overall Impact	Positive
Justification for impact	<p>The Strategy will contain policies to reset the default in favour of low carbon, increasing carbon sequestration, protecting and restoring biodiversity and creating resilient ecosystems.</p> <p>It will contain projects to deliver specific improvement actions.</p> <p>A biodiversity enhancing approach is often a more hands off approach with associated revenue savings. Similarly the reduction of energy and fuel consumption will reduce cost.</p>

Further actions required	A holistic view around carbon reduction is required to ensure any unintended consequences are avoided in terms of deliberate action taken. Read across from the strategy to work being undertaken in the sphere of climate change adaptation will be required (e.g. Flooding). Taking a whole life cost approach to projects and procurement decisions will be important and ensuring maintenance/management costs of any new green spaces is properly explored and reduced as much as possible via appropriate land management choices.
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Positive impacts identified:

Biodiversity and the natural environment	<p>The Strategy will contain policies to reset the default in favour of protecting and restoring biodiversity and creation resilient ecosystems.</p> <p>It will contain projects to deliver specific improvement actions.</p> <p>A biodiversity enhancing approach is often a more hands off approach with associated revenue savings.</p>
Biodiversity in the built environment	<p>The Strategy will contain policies to reset the default in favour of protecting and restoring biodiversity and creation resilient ecosystems.</p> <p>It will contain projects to deliver specific improvement actions.</p>
Reducing waste, reusing and recycling	<p>The Strategy will contain policies to support the reduction of waste and the increase in reuse and recycling.</p> <p>It will contain projects to deliver specific improvement actions in these areas.</p> <p>Reducing carbon in our supply chain should also support reducing waste as whole life costing will discover products/services which have a longer operating life.</p>
Reduced energy/fuel consumption	<p>The Strategy will contain policies to reset the default in favour of low carbon .</p> <p>It will contain projects to deliver specific improvement actions to reduce energy use in our buildings and fuel consumption in our fleet. It will also target reduction of energy and fuel consumption in our business travel and staff commuting.</p> <p>Energy/fuel reduction project not only reduce carbon but also reduce cost through reduced consumption.</p>
People's awareness of the environment and biodiversity	<p>The strategy has been developed in consultation and engagement with the public.</p> <p>Opportunities to continue the discussion and debate with the public will be taken via online discussion forums on our county conversation portal, a 6 monthly newsletter and an annual public engagement event.</p> <p>Opportunities will be taken to include learning from our work into school eco committees, geography curriculum, youth forums.</p> <p>Biodiversity and carbon sequestration projects could involve volunteers and will create spaces for nature and focus for awareness and education.</p>
Flood risk management	<p>Contributing to the reduction of carbon and mitigate the impacts of climate change will contribute to not making the flooding situation worse from rain and weather events.</p> <p>Opportunities will be taken to link the carbon sequestration and ecological improvement agendas to reducing surface water, fluvial and coastal flooding e.g. upland management (tree planting), installation of urban rain gardens.</p>

Negative impacts identified:

Biodiversity and the natural environment	Need to ensure if we create any new woodlands, for example, that management plan is deliverable in terms of capability and capacity.
Biodiversity in the built environment	Need to ensure any Green Infrastructure installed is fit for purpose and properly maintained
Reducing waste, reusing and recycling	Products that have a longer life may cost more upfront but cost less over the lifetime of the product.
Reduced energy/fuel consumption	Ensure that reducing energy/fuel use in one area doesn't increase energy/fuel use in another e.g. reducing business travel and staff commuting by more home working which increases carbon generated in the home over and above what is saved.
People's awareness of the environment and biodiversity	<p>The scope of the strategy and action plan is council owned emissions and council owned land-coverage isn't the whole of Denbighshire as a geographical county.</p> <p>Use of the online Y Portal only could preclude those lacking in digital skills and connectivity the opportunity for further engagement on the development of future projects under this proposal.</p>
Flood risk management	<p>This strategy is about carbon reduction and climate mitigation rather than focused on climate adaptation.</p> <p>Collaborative working with Flood Risk Management to understand the environmental and broader climate change impacts of flood mitigation is required.</p>

Overall Impact	Positive
Justification for impact	The strategy aims to protect and restore existing nature spaces and create new ones. Access to local green space has been linked to better social outcomes around health and well-being. Spaces will aim to be restored and created via the use of volunteers.
Further actions required	Need to ensure any green spaces created are designed with all users in mind including biodiversity.

Positive impacts identified:

A social and physical environment that encourage and support health and well-being	The strategy will aim to protect and restore existing nature spaces and create new ones. Access to local green space has been linked to better social outcomes around health and well-being.
Access to good quality, healthy food	Action may fall out of this work to increase use of allotments in schools and the use of this food in school catering.
People's emotional and mental well-being	The strategy and action plan will aim to protect and restore existing nature spaces and create new ones. Access to local green space has been linked to better social outcomes around health and well-being. Carbon sequestration and biodiversity improvement work will involve volunteers. Volunteering and getting involved has been linked to increase sense of well being.
Access to healthcare	There may be a reduction in health related issues as people are outdoors (e.g. providing options for social prescribing)
Participation in leisure opportunities	Carbon sequestration and biodiversity improvement work will involve volunteers- an active leisure option. The strategy will aim to protect and restore existing nature spaces and create new ones. This will aim to improve and offer more options for local green spaces for leisure.

Negative impacts identified:

A social and physical environment that encourage and support health and well-being	Need to ensure any spaces for nature that are created are inclusive spaces and any anti social behaviour concerns designed out from the outset.
Access to good quality, healthy food	N/A
People's emotional and mental well-being	Need to endeavour to ensure spaces and views are protected that mean a lot to people. e.g. trees aren't planted which then block a cherished view. There could be a negative impact on those required to work from home as a result in reduction of office space/ location. Due to digitalisation of services there could be a negative impact on wellbeing due to less physical/ face to face contact, increasing social isolation.
Access to healthcare	N/A
Participation in leisure opportunities	Access for leisure needs to be balanced with requirements for land management of the space for biodiversity improvement.

A more equal Denbighshire

Overall Impact	Neutral
Justification for impact	Limited deliberative action on this wellbeing goal. However the strategy will have a positive influence in bringing about better outcomes for all people.
Further actions required	For the strategy to have more impact on this well-being goal we would need to increase its scope to include supporting the reduction of emissions from the county of Denbighshire as well as the County Council.

Positive impacts identified:

Improving the well-being of people with protected characteristics. The nine protected characteristics are: age; disability; gender reassignment; marriage or civil partnership; pregnancy and maternity; race; religion or belief; sex; and sexual orientation	Enshrined in the ethos of the strategy is for DCC to make its contribution to reduce further climate change which will be damaging to the wellbeing of all people but particularly those young people who will need to live with climate change impacts the longest. Enshrined in the strategy and action plan is taking a long term view.
People who suffer discrimination or disadvantage	N/A

People affected by socio-economic disadvantage and unequal outcomes	N/A
Areas affected by socio-economic disadvantage	The protection, restoration and creation of new green spaces in urban as well as rural locations will provide access to spaces for exercise and recreation. People in deprived areas will benefit from a reduction of travel and the conversion of miles into low carbon options will improve air quality and reduce congestion.

Negative impacts identified:

Improving the well-being of people with protected characteristics. The nine protected characteristics are: age; disability; gender reassignment; marriage or civil partnership; pregnancy and maternity; race; religion or belief; sex; and sexual orientation	If more services are digitalised, consideration would need to be given to accessibility to mitigate any possible negative impact for those with disabilities.
People who suffer discrimination or disadvantage	N/A
People affected by socio-economic disadvantage and unequal outcomes	The strategy does not target carbon reduction/fuel poverty of those in private rented/social housing/private owned homes.
Areas affected by socio-economic disadvantage	N/A

A Denbighshire of cohesive communities

Overall Impact	Positive
Justification for impact	The development of the strategy has involved the public from the outset via the emergency declaration to the public engagement period in early 2020 and strategy consultation in November/December 2020. There is an active group of c.93 members of the public who are engaged on this agenda with regular 2 way dialogue with DCC. Increasing low carbon travel options and the quality and quantity of green spaces will have a positive impact on the attractiveness of local areas, connected communities and rural resilience.
Further actions required	Need to ensure no one is left behind in the shift to digitalised services.

Positive impacts identified:

Safe communities and individuals	N/A
Community participation and resilience	<p>Development of the Climate and Ecological Change Strategy started in January with the public engagement period asking for the public's feedback on the Council's proposed net carbon zero and ecologically positive Council goals. Summary of the responses received can be accessed here:- https://countyconversation.denbighshire.gov.uk/uploadedfiles/Public%20Engagement-%20Summary%20Report.pdf.</p> <p>The DCC Staff Council have been asked for their ideas.</p> <p>Workshops with each service area took place in June, July and August to gather ideas and information for policies and projects within each service function to support the Council in becoming net carbon zero and ecologically positive by 2030.</p> <p>The final draft Climate and Ecological Change Strategy went out for public consultation during November/December. Summary of the responses received can be accessed here:- https://countyconversation.denbighshire.gov.uk/uploadedfiles/Public%20Consultation%20on%20Draft%20Strategy-%20Summary%20Report.pdf</p> <p>The Council will continue to engage with the public proactively, constructively and sensitively on this agenda being very clear on the scope and scale of the Council's targets. This will be via online discussion forums hosted by the Council on our County Conversation platform, email digests to the 'green mailing group' and an annual public event.</p>
The attractiveness of the area	<p>The strategy will target the protection, restoration and creation of 'green' spaces and the access to quality natural habitat across Denbighshire.</p> <p>The strategy is about reducing carbon from business travel, staff commuting and fleet- reducing miles travelled and converting as many miles to low carbon which will reducing pollution, improve air quality and reduce congestion.</p>
Connected communities	The strategy may lead to projects relating to low carbon travel, e.g. bus provision/cycle ways, car share schemes across the county to encourage people out of their cars.
Rural resilience	The strategy will target the protection, restoration and creation of 'green' spaces and the access to quality natural habitat across the whole of Denbighshire

Negative impacts identified:

Safe communities and individuals	N/A
Community participation and resilience	There is a risk of not meeting public expectation on this agenda. Some sectors of the public would like DCC to be targeting reduction of the carbon emissions across the whole of Denbighshire as a county.
The attractiveness of the area	Need to ensure we have the capability and capacity to manage and maintain whatever we put in/install/create to ensure attractiveness for the long term
Connected communities	Need to ensure the staff and councillors feel connected even if there is more home working.
Rural resilience	As the Council continues to channel shift delivery to more online and less physical, need to make sure that broadband infrastructure is sufficient in all areas of the county to support this. As well as addressing any other possible barriers e.g. access to services, digital skillset.

A Denbighshire of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language

Overall Impact	Neutral
Justification for impact	Whilst Denbighshire's natural environment is a big contributor to the culture and heritage of the county, the strategy will not deliver direct deliberative action to generate a vibrant culture or a thriving Welsh language.
Further actions required	Ensure a good amount of time is provided to support Welsh translation of any technical/specialist terminology documents.

Positive impacts identified:

People using Welsh	N/A
Promoting the Welsh language	All literature, signage, information boards will be provided in both Welsh and English. Any public meetings will have bilingual slides and translator. Consultation/ Online forums to be carried out bilingually
Culture and heritage	Reducing the running cost of culture and heritage sites by reducing energy and fuel use will contribute to the financial viability of these sites/services. Protecting and restoring nature's landmarks as part of this programme will support their availability for future generations.

Negative impacts identified:

People using Welsh	N/A
Promoting the Welsh language	Specialist terminology is sometimes difficult to translate.
Culture and heritage	Consideration needs to be given to what is and isn't permissible on buildings within conservation area.

A globally responsible Denbighshire

Overall Impact	Positive
Justification for impact	Our carbon footprint includes our supply chain and the strategy will target reduction of carbon emissions from our supply chain. This has the potential to stimulate local supply chains and provide local benefit. The programme will also look to leverage environmental benefit at the community level via Community Benefits process which will include the supported delivery of carbon sequestration and biodiversity enhancing projects. The delivery of the climate and ecological change programme will be done in collaboration with neighbouring authorities and partners where possible.
Further actions required	Need to ensure the climate and ecological change strategy is understood by our partners and neighbouring authorities so opportunities for collaboration are identified and progressed. Build in time for collaboration.

Positive impacts identified:

Local, national, international supply chains	The strategy will target reduction of carbon emissions from our supply chain. This will lead to the development of low carbon encouraging specification for goods and services which will include transportation from point of origin to us as the client. This has the potential to stimulate local supply chains and provide local benefit. The programme will also look to leverage environmental benefit at the community level via Community Benefits process which will include the supported delivery of carbon sequestration and biodiversity enhancing projects.
Human rights	N/A

<p>Broader service provision in the local area or the region</p>	<p>The strategy will help support the Public Service Board (PSB) in the delivery of their "Environmental Resilience" goal.</p> <p>The procurement service is a shared service with Flintshire County Council (FCC) and so work to decarbonise our supply chain can lead to more joint procurement and benefit in both counties.</p> <p>The strategy and action plan will provide the narrative on which to seek external funding which we can do collaboratively across the region.</p>
<p>Reducing climate change</p>	<p>The strategy outlines where, what, how and when in terms of policy change, projects and activities needed for the Council to make its contribution to reducing carbon emissions and increasing carbon sequestration to prevent the problem of climate change getting any worse and to improve biodiversity to combat and prevent nature's decline.</p> <p>The strategy will make our contribution to the Welsh Government policy for the public sector to be carbon neutral by 2030, for Wales to meet its legally binding target of reducing emissions by at least 95% by 2050 and supports the Council's statutory duty under Section 6 of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 to "seek to maintain and enhance biodiversity".</p>

Negative impacts identified:

<p>Local, national, international supply chains</p>	<p>The focus on local supply chain may mean spend on more national and international supply chains will reduce.</p>
<p>Human rights</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>Broader service provision in the local area or the region</p>	<p>Collaboration can sometimes slow progress initially but can lead to better outcomes. Need to programme in time for collaboration.</p>
<p>Reducing climate change</p>	<p>N/A</p>

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Denbighshire County Council's Climate and Ecological Change Strategy 2021/22 to 2029/30

What is this document?

Denbighshire County Council declared a [Climate Change and Ecological Emergency](#) in July 2019.

In response and by the 31st March 2030 the Council aims to become a:

- Net Carbon Zero Council
- Ecologically Positive Council

This document tells you more about those two aims and the tasks we are going to seek to deliver to achieve our 2030 goals.

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

For more information on anything in this booklet please contact the Climate Change Team:

Email: climatechange@denbighshire.gov.uk

Phone: 01824 706000 (Monday to Friday, 8:30am to 5pm).

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

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Welcome to Denbighshire County Council's Climate and Ecological Change Strategy

Climate and ecological change is the globally defining challenge of our time. It impacts all living things that call our planet home including you and me. This document outlines our net carbon zero and ecologically positive goals for the Council along with the changes and actions we have identified so far that we will endeavour to deliver between now and 2030.

By working to achieve these goals we hope that Denbighshire County Council can make its contribution to tackling the climate and ecological emergency we all face. By working to achieve these goals we hope to make our contribution to see emissions reduce by at least 95% in Wales by 2050 and deliver on our statutory duty as a local authority to maintain and enhance biodiversity and promote resilience of ecosystems as outlined in [Environment \(Wales\) Act 2016](#). By working to achieve these goals we hope to make our contribution to see the Public Sector in Wales become net carbon zero by 2030 as outlined in Welsh Government's [Prosperity for All: A Low Carbon Wales](#) delivery plan.

We are proud to be one of the first Council's in Wales to have tackling climate and ecological change as a

guiding principle in its decision making process, formally changing in October 2020 our Constitution- the set of rules and principals that the Council follows when delivering its work. We also look to build on our strong track record on reducing carbon and improving biodiversity, most recently delivered under our [Corporate Plan \(2017-2022\) priority for the Environment](#).

We've made a positive start and we look forward to working closely with our communities, staff, partners and funders to continue our collective efforts to secure the well-being of future generations.



Cllr Brian Jones

(Lead Member for
Waste, Transport
and the
Environment)



Cllr Tony Thomas

(Lead Member for
Housing and
Communities)



Judith Greenhalgh

(Chief Executive)

The changing climate and decline in nature

As the amount of carbon dioxide (CO₂e¹) human society has emitted into the earth's atmosphere has increased so to have global temperatures. Without reducing CO₂e emissions the earth will get warmer and warmer. This rise in global temperature is causing our climate and planet to change.

The changes to our climate include: hotter drier summers, warmer wetter winters, more extreme weather events and sea level rise. This causes: more drought and wildfire, stronger storms, more heat waves, flooding, damaged corals, less snow and ice, thawing of permafrost, changes in plant life cycles and changes to animal migration and life cycles.

At the same time, nature is in decline with a reported 68% decline in the world's wildlife population between 1970 and 2020². Human activity is reducing the quality and the amount of habitat available for wildlife and habitats are increasingly fragmented reducing the ability of species to migrate to stay in their required climate to sustain life. As temperatures continue to rise, and habitats extent and connectivity continue to decline, climate change will become an increasing driver for species losses.

The climate is changing everywhere on our planet including here in North Wales. The region has experienced in recent years wider and more frequent flooding, extreme heat and stronger and more frequent storms. 354 of species known to be present in Wales are at risk of extinction³. Dormouse populations across the UK, as an example, have declined 51% since 2000⁴ and in all former strongholds across Denbighshire.

We currently have a rise of around 1°C in global temperatures above pre-industrial levels. In October 2018, the [Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change](#) (IPCC) published a Special Report on the impacts of a 1.5 °C rise in global temperatures. The IPCC found that a 1.5°C world would have significantly lower climate-related impacts for the natural world and human society than a 2°C world. The IPCC estimated that global carbon emissions would need to reduce to net zero by 2050 at the latest to ensure global temperatures

¹ CO₂e is short for "carbon dioxide equivalent" which is used for describing different greenhouse gases in a common unit- carbon.

² According to the [World Wildlife Fund \(WWF\) Living Planet Report, 2020](#)

³ According to The [State of Nature \(Wales\) Report, 2016](#)

⁴ According to [The State of Britain's Dormice Report, 2019](#)

remained under 1.5 °C and that the majority of actions required to meet this target would need to be completed by 2030.

The realisation that time is fast running out has resulted in a climate emergency being declared by many organisations including Denbighshire County Council in July 2019 and over 300 other UK local authorities. The Welsh Government and UK Government have also declared a climate emergency.

How this Strategy has been developed

Denbighshire County Council declared a Climate and Ecological Emergency in July 2019 which committed the Council to become net carbon zero by 2030 and improve biodiversity.

Denbighshire County Council ran an engagement period in January and February 2020 asking for the public's feedback on the Council's proposed net carbon zero and ecologically positive goals and for any ideas on how the Council can achieve them by 2030.

Building on the public's ideas Denbighshire County Council worked throughout 2020 with Councillors and Officers from across the Council to develop the Council's Climate and Ecological Change Strategy (2021/22 – 2029/30). This included calculating the Council's carbon footprint and the biodiversity of Council land, exploring our pathway to 2030 via scenario planning and holding workshops with all the service areas that make up the Council to identify and develop further what changes we could make and what projects we could deliver to help the Council achieve its goals.

This work was guided by the Climate Change and Ecological Emergency task and finish group which was set up as part of the emergency declaration. This group was made up of two representatives from each political party represented in the Council including the lead members on Cabinet covering climate and ecological change.

The calculations for the Net Carbon Zero baseline and ambitions have followed the methodology for calculating carbon emissions and carbon absorption in Welsh Government's new Greenhouse Gas Reporting Regime for the Welsh Public Sector.

The calculations for the Ecological Positive baseline and ambitions have been guided by established methodologies for measuring biodiversity value from NERC- the Centre for Ecology and Hydrology. Biodiversity is vast, complex and interconnected and as such any measure for biodiversity value is a pointer only.

In November 2020 the Council asked its staff and the public for their feedback on the draft document. This feedback helped to shape the Council's final Climate and Ecological Change Strategy (2021/22 – 2029/30) which was then presented to the Elected Members of Denbighshire in February 2021 for adoption.

Other Council Strategies

There are a number of other strategies the Council has, and areas of work the Council is undertaking, that supports the Council in tackling climate and ecological change. These include:

- [Corporate Plan](#)
- Denbighshire County Council's Social Housing Asset Management Plan
- [Local Flood Risk Management Strategy](#)
- Air Quality Management Plan
- Woodland and Tree Strategy (currently in development)
- Biodiversity Duty Delivery Plan
- [Local Development Plan](#)
- [Economic and Community Ambition Strategy](#)
- Fleet Strategy
- Ash Die Back Strategy (currently in development with Conwy County Borough Council)
- County Allotment Strategy (currently in development)
- Clwydian Range and Dee Valley AONB Management Plan
- [Asset Management Strategy 2017-2021](#)
- [Denbighshire County Council's Active Travel Plan \(2017-2021\)](#)

Net Carbon Zero Council by 2030

What is our goal?

Net Carbon Zero

Our goal is for the total carbon emitted by the Council minus the total carbon absorbed from Council owned and operated land⁵ to equal zero by 31st March 2030. This is our net carbon zero ambition.

The following sources of emissions will count towards our net carbon zero goal and will be referred collectively as Denbighshire County Council's Net Carbon Zero Footprint:

Buildings	We will reduce emissions from the electricity, gas, LPG, oil, biomass and water we use at Council owned buildings ⁶ .
Waste	We will reduce emissions from the waste generated by the Council and collected by Council at the kerbside.
Fleet	We will reduce emissions from the petrol and diesel we use to power the vehicles owned by the Council.
Staff commuting	We will reduce the emissions from the travel undertaken by staff and councillors coming into work and returning home.
Street lighting	We will reduce emissions from the electricity used by Council owned lamp posts, traffic signs and signals.
Business travel	We will reduce the emissions from the travel undertaken by staff and councillors whilst carrying out their job.

⁵ Land that the Council owns but rents out to others is not included.

⁶ Council owned building refer to buildings such as offices, depots, schools and leisure centres that the Council own. However, Council Housing is not included.

The following sources of carbon absorption will count towards our carbon zero goal:

Grassland We will maintain the amount of grassland the Council owns and operates.

Forest / woodland We will increase the amount of forestland and woodland the Council owns and operates.

Supply Chain

In addition to this, we aim to reduce the total carbon emitted from the Council's supply chain by 35%⁷ by 31st March 2030.

Supply chain We will reduce emissions from all the goods and services the Council buys from others.

What is our starting point?

Net Carbon Zero

The total carbon emitted from Denbighshire County Council's Net Carbon Zero footprint in 2019/20 was 18,915 tCO₂e⁸.

The total carbon absorbed from Denbighshire County Council owned and operated land in 2019/20 was 2,147 tCO₂e.

Therefore, the Council's Net Carbon Zero position in 2019/20 was +16,498⁹ tCO₂e.

⁷ Compared to 2019/20 baseline

⁸ tCO₂e is short for "tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent" which is used for describing different greenhouse gases in a common unit- carbon.

⁹ This is calculated by subtracting carbon absorbed from carbon emitted, i.e. subtracting the 2,147 figure from the 18,915 figure

The Net Carbon Zero Council goal is to get that 16,498 tCO2e figure to zero by 31st March 2030.

The tables and graphs below describe how much the Council emitted from each source of emissions and how much is absorbed from each source of absorption in 2019/20.

Table 1: Carbon emissions per source

Source of carbon emissions	Amount of carbon emitted in 2019/20 in tCO2e	% of total
Buildings	10,151	54
Waste	2,886	15
Fleet	2,693	14
Staff Commuting	1,848	10
Street Lighting	788	4
Business Travel	550	3
Total	18,916	100

Chart 1: Denbighshire County Council Net Carbon Zero Footprint 2019/20

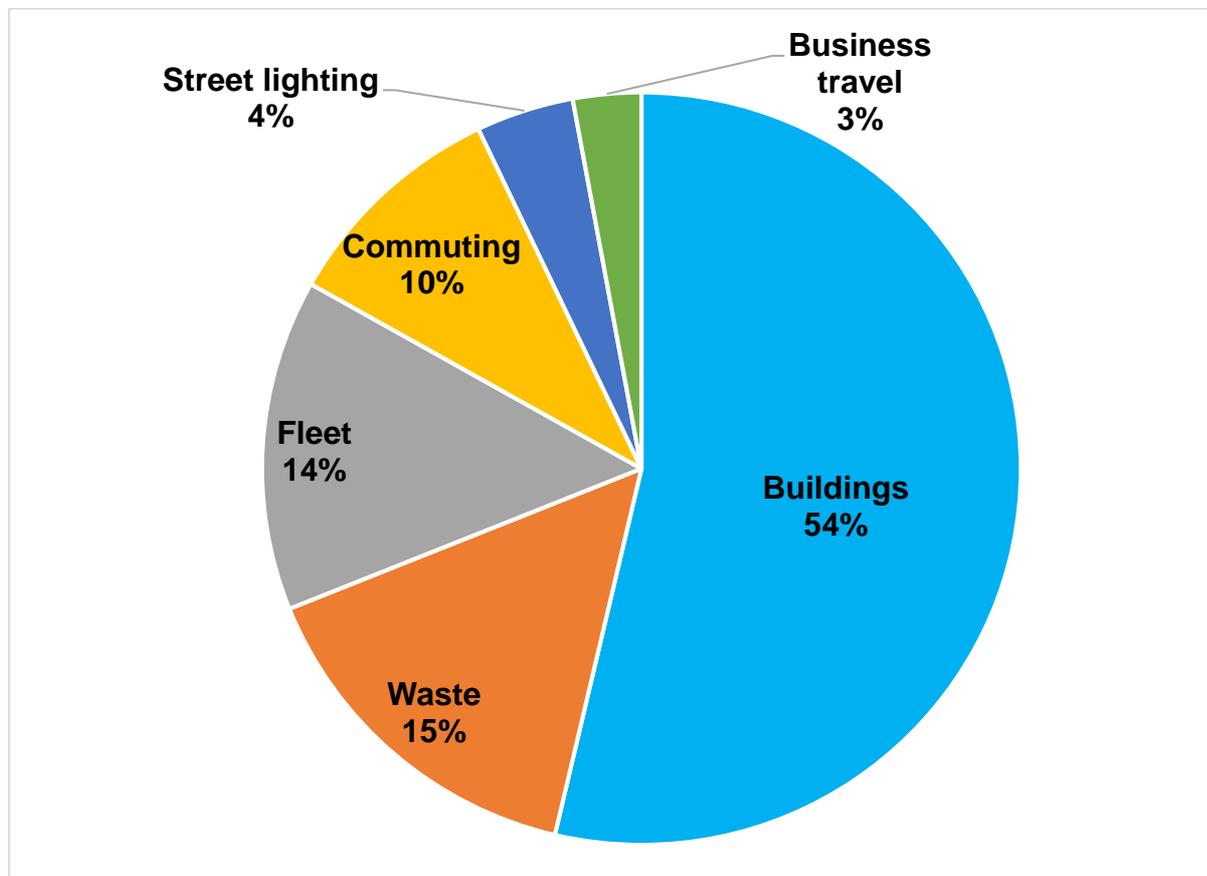
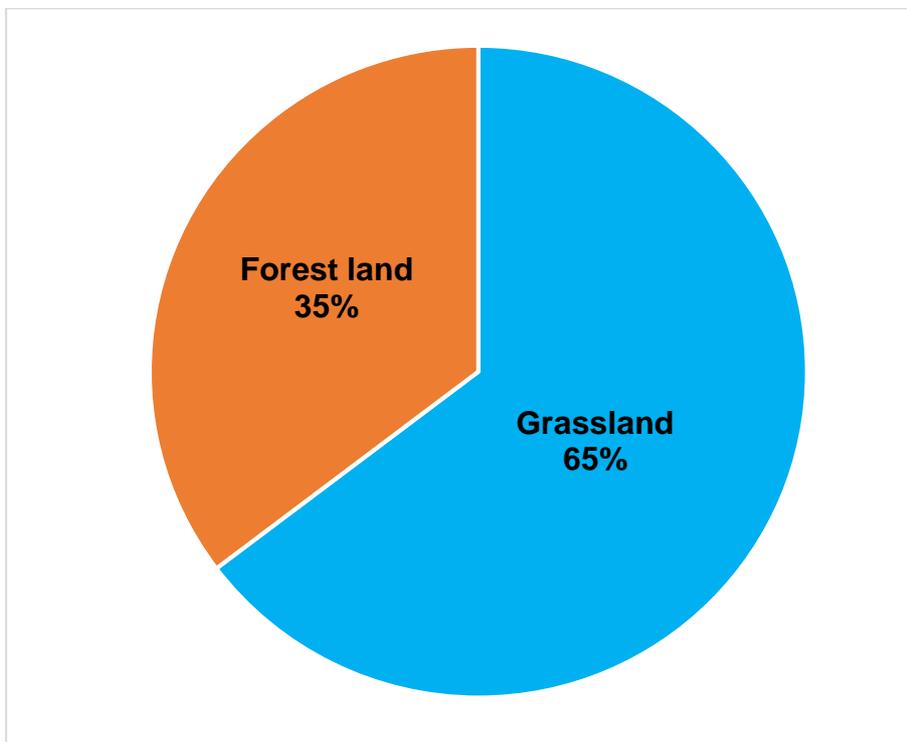


Table 2: Carbon absorption per source

Source of carbon absorption	Amount of carbon absorbed in 2019/20 in tCO2e	% of total
Grassland	1,564	65
Forest / woodland	854	35
Total	2,418	100

Chart 2: Denbighshire County Council's Carbon Absorption in 2019/20



Supply Chain

In addition, the Council emitted 22,710 tonnes of CO₂e from its supply chain in 2019/20.

Where do we want to get to?

Net Carbon Zero

To achieve our Net Carbon Zero goal, the Council needs to reduce the amount of carbon it emits and increase the amount of carbon it absorbs.

The table below describes how much carbon emissions we aim to reduce for each source of emission by 31st March 2030. Interim targets for what we expect by Year 3 (2023/24) and by Year 6 (2026/27) of the 9-year programme are provided. The Council's direct intervention will play a central role in order to deliver this carbon reduction. Our efforts will combine with efforts nationally to decarbonise fuel and energy networks. We will be responsive to new opportunities that may arise between now and 2030 that enable us to go further on reducing our carbon emissions¹⁰.

Table 3: Reduction target by 2030 per source of carbon emission

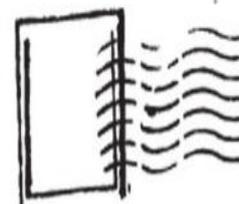
Source of carbon emissions	% reduction targets compared to 2019/20	Projected emissions in 2029/30 in tCO₂e if target met	<i>Projected emissions in Year 3 (2023/24) in tCO₂e</i>	<i>Projected emissions in Year 6 (2026/27) in tCO₂e</i>
Buildings	50	5,112	8,471	6,791
Waste	35	1,876	2,549	2,213
Fleet	60	1,077	2,154	1,616
Staff Commuting	55	832	1,509	1,170
Street Lighting	45	433	670	552
Business Travel	80	110	403	257
Total	N/A	9,440	15,757	12,598

A postcard from the future is included below as a way of bringing these figures to life through story telling- providing an example of how the Council might have gone about achieving its 2030 targets.

¹⁰ For example, the introduction of a readily accessible new technology or a major development in ways to generate energy.

Postcard 1: Reducing carbon emissions

Dear 2020 Council, Year 2030 here! What a challenging but rewarding Net Carbon Zero Council journey you have been on. Not wanting to give you spoilers but here's some of the headlines on how you've reduced your carbon...



In Council buildings the use of energy for heating, anything that uses electricity and the use of water has reduced through increasing the air tightness of the building and efficiency of the systems and equipment within them. All new Council buildings that are built are low carbon in operation. Onsite generation of renewable electricity has increased. More sites heating systems have been converted to low carbon and renewable options. Rainwater harvesting is utilised more widely for the water use in Council buildings.

Excess travel by Council Fleet vehicles has increasingly been avoided by service delivery being even more accessible and efficient. There has been a big increase in electric vehicles owned by the Council and electric vehicle charging points have been installed across the Council's buildings and car parks. Ultra low emission options for our larger fleet vehicles such as bin lorries and gritters have been piloted.

Our recycling rates have gone from strength to strength with less contamination now waste is source segregated. A focus in waste prevention in the County has reduced the overall tonnage of waste produced and collected by the Council as more items are used and reused which would previously just have been thrown away.

Working from home is readily available now for staff who can and the Council office estate has been made efficient. When staff do come into the office it's to an office closest to where they live which reduces mileage and increases the number of staff walking, cycling (active travel) or catching the bus to work. Business travel for meetings is very rare now as virtual meetings have become the norm. When officers do meet it is often closer to their respective homes and not necessarily in a Council main office. Officers who have to travel to carry out their work have access to an electric vehicle.

The table below describes how much we aim to increase the amount of carbon absorbed for each source of carbon absorption by 31st March 2030. Interim targets for what we expect by Year 3 (2023/24) and by Year 6 (2026/27) of the 9-year programme are provided. The Council’s direct intervention will play a central role in order to deliver this increase in carbon absorption as well as getting a better understanding of the carbon absorption capacity of some of our more established landscapes.

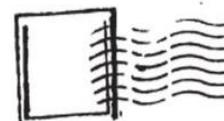
Table 4: Increase target by 2030 per source of carbon absorption

Source of carbon absorption	% increase targets compared to 2019/20	Projected absorption in 2029/30 in tCO₂e if target met	<i>Projected absorption in Year 3 (2023/24) in tCO₂e</i>	<i>Projected absorption in Year 6 (2026/27) in tCO₂e</i>
Grassland	0%	1,564	1,564	1,564
Forest / Woodland	922%	7,876	3,195	5,535
Total	N/A	9,440	4,759	7,099

A postcard from the future is included as a way of bringing these figures to life through story telling- providing an example of how the Council might have gone about achieving its 2030 targets.

Postcard 2: Increasing carbon absorption

Dear 2020 Council, Year 2030 here! What a challenging but rewarding Net Carbon Zero Council journey you have been on. Not wanting to give you spoilers but here's some of the headlines on how you've increased your carbon absorption...



The Council has maintained the amount of grassland in its ownership *wherever possible*, safeguarding the carbon absorption benefit and delivered projects to improve the species richness of its grassland habitats for the benefit of biodiversity.

The Council has made big efforts in increasing the amount of forestland and woodland it owns and operates. The Council over the 9 years has converted existing, and bought new land, turning it into carbon sinks and wildlife havens via carefully selected tree planting including elements of species rich grassland.

This activity achieved additional benefits wherever possible for the Council and its communities including the planting of trees upland from river catchments to reduce the risk of flooding and maximising on the opportunities to open these spaces up to the public for leisure, tourism and improved wellbeing.

If the Council is successful in achieving its targets as outlined in the above tables, in 2029/30 the Council's total carbon emissions minus the Council's total carbon absorption will equal zero. The Council will have achieved its ambition to become net carbon zero.

The graphs below show the change in each source of carbon emissions and in each source of carbon absorption comparing the total amounts in 2019/20 to the total amounts in 2029/30 if the Council is successful in achieving its targets.

Chart 3: Amount of carbon emitted by the Council in 2019/20 compared to projected emissions in 2029/30

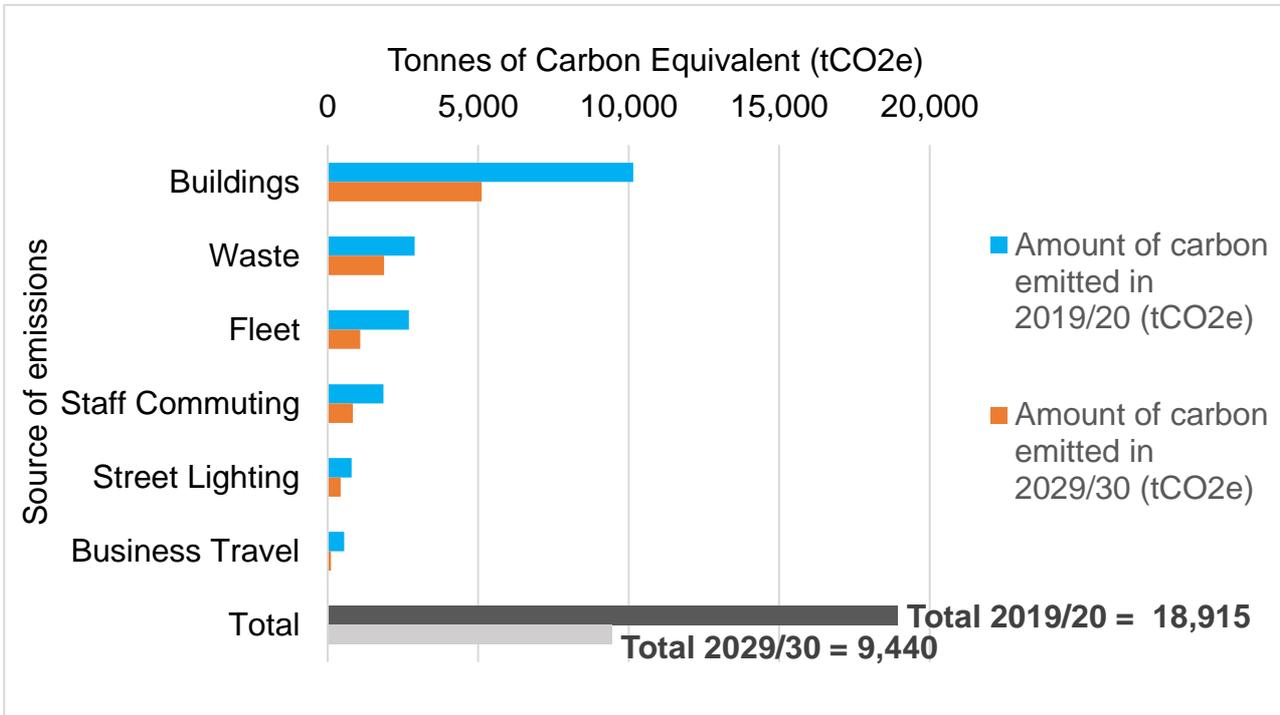
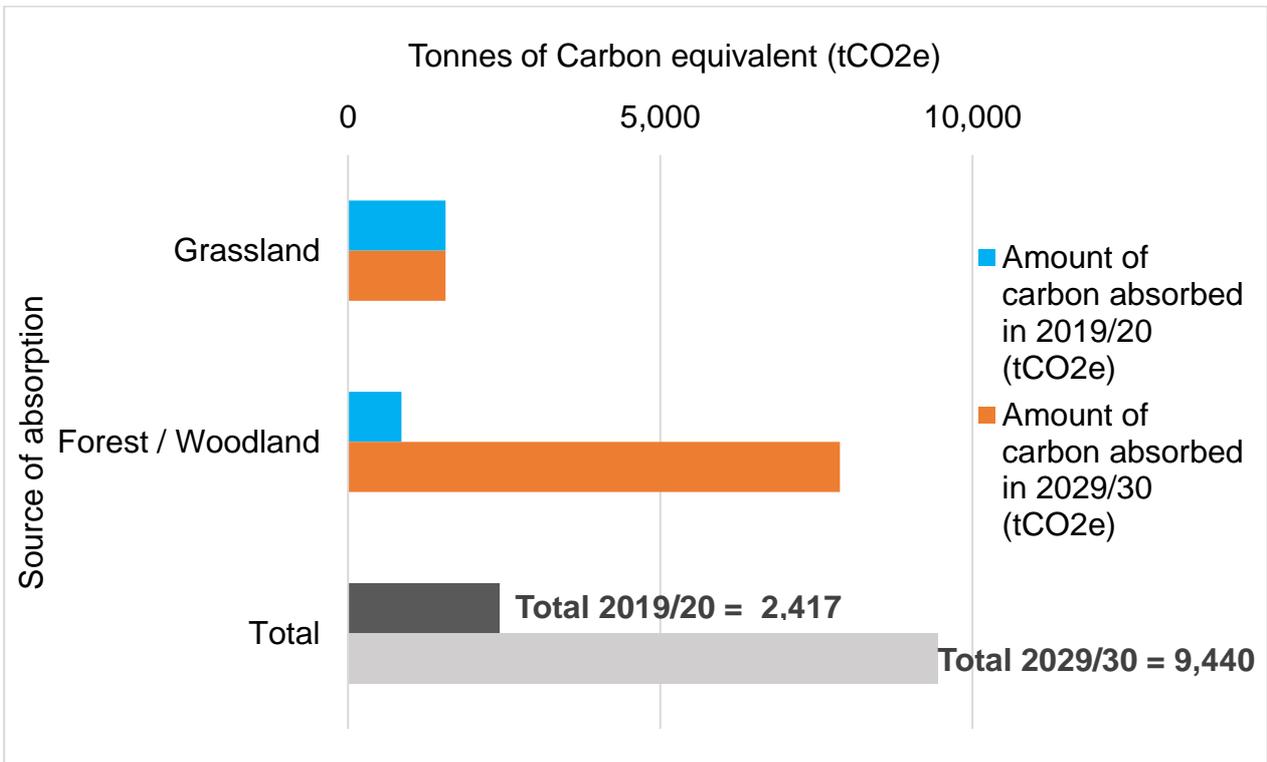


Chart 4: Amount of carbon absorbed by the Council in 2019/20 compared to forecasted absorption in 2029/30



Supply Chain

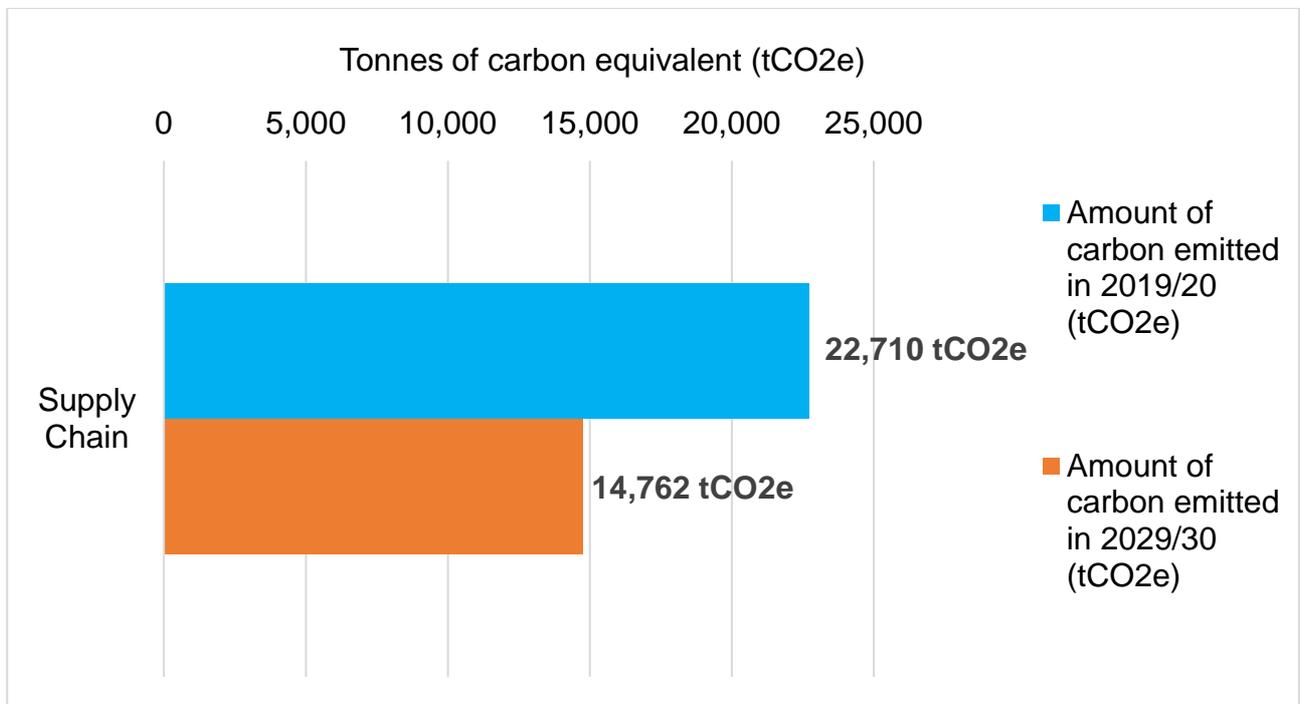
The Council also aims to reduce the carbon emitted from our supply chain by 35%. We will work with companies and businesses who we buy our goods and services from to reduce the carbon intensity of what we buy and how we deliver services and also to maximise on the local community benefit we can generate from those contracts.

The table below describes how much we aim to reduce the amount of carbon emitted from the Council's supply chain by 31st March 2030. Interim targets for what we expect by Year 3 (2023/24) and by Year 6 (2026/27) of the 9-year programme are provided. The graph below shows the change in the total carbon emissions from our supply chain by comparing 2019/20 total emissions to 2029/30 total emissions if the Council achieves its reduction target.

Table 5: Reduction target for carbon emission from our supply chain

Source of carbon emissions	% reduction targets compared to 2019/20	Projected emissions in 2029/30 in tCO2e if target met	Projected emissions in Year 3 (2023/24) in tCO2e	Projected emissions in Year 6 (2026/27) in tCO2e
Supply Chain	35%	14,762	20,061	17,411

Chart 5: Amount of supply chain carbon emissions 2019/20 compared to what is forecasted for 2029/30



A postcard from the future is included as a way of bringing these figures to life through story telling- providing an example of how the Council might have gone about achieving its 2030 target.

Postcard 3: Reducing supply chain carbon emissions

Dear 2020 Council, Year 2030 here! Not wanting to give you spoilers but here's some of the headlines on how you've reduced your supply chain carbon emissions...



The Council has reduced spend wherever possible most notably in paper as the Council in 2030 is now practicably paperless. Having introduced a whole life costing approach to procurement early in the programme, the Council has seen an uptake in buying higher quality items less often.

We have seen construction become much less carbon intensive leading up to 2030 helped by the Public Sector in Wales being clear to suppliers that low carbon delivery of new build project was very important.

It goes without saying now that additional value is sought from every Council contract over £25,000. Working with our communities, together we have identified the environmental benefit valued most with community benefit projects delivered by/ with suppliers for the benefit of carbon reduction, carbon absorption and biodiversity improvement.

What changes and actions will help us get there?

Changes to Council processes and policies

To achieve our net carbon zero goal by 2030 will require the Council to adjust how it goes about delivering the wide range of work and tasks required of us by Welsh Government, by our partners and by our communities.

In Summer 2020 virtual workshops were held with the management teams of every service area that make up the Council to start the task of identifying the ways we could change how we do things to contribute to reducing carbon emissions and increasing carbon absorption. This built on ideas generated by the public during the public engagement event held in early 2020.

Over 100 suggestions for processes and policies changes were identified and our aim is to implement as many of these as we can over the 9 years.

The list below highlights some of the priority changes to Council processes and policies that we hope to make in Year 1 to 3 (2021/22 - 2023/24) of delivering this strategy to support the Council to successfully achieve its net carbon zero goal by 2030.

This is a dynamic and flexible list; other things may be implemented that do not feature in the graphic below responding to new opportunities.

1. Through engagement and communication ensure service based objectives align with the corporate ambition to become Net Carbon Zero and reduce supply chain emissions.
2. Implement the Council's change in constitution to have regard to tackling climate and ecological change, including changes to business case templates and introduction of whole life costing.
3. In consultation with staff and the unions, work to include in every member of staff Job Description their responsibility around climate and ecological change.
4. Supporting new ways of working for the Council staff learning from experience of operating under COVID-19 restrictions, including working from home and virtual business meetings.
5. Continue to implement the EV first vehicle replacement policy.
6. Move as far forward and as fast as possible in going paperless e.g. electronic case bundling, electronic signing and sealing of contracts, electronic paper packs for democratic meetings.
7. Ensure the carbon reduction is being appropriately considered in Council Procurement - Policy and Strategy documents, Commissioning templates, tender evaluations.
8. Identify community benefits in Council contracts that reduce carbon and increase carbon absorption.

9. Work to standardise the Recycling and Waste approach across all schools and Council owned sites include provision of wide range of recycling.
10. Consider introducing policy to design and build to high carbon reduction/low carbon in use standards as standard on Council owned buildings (e.g. Passivhaus).
11. Ensure an enhanced eco build option is always presented in business cases when deciding on major capital projects.
12. Ensure the new Asset Management Strategy 2021 onwards aligns with the corporate ambition to become Net Carbon Zero and introduce a new asset disposal and acquisition policy which is supportive in retaining or/and buying land for carbon absorption and ecological improvement purposes.
13. Review 21st Century Schools Redundant Site Policy to build in the option of Denbighshire County Council retaining the site for conversion to community woodland/orchards.
14. Investigate the potential for better land use across the county to achieve multiple objectives e.g. natural flood risk management via tree planting etc.
15. Ensure Ash Die Back Policies around replacement are supportive of increasing tree stock of native provenance.
16. Ensure the new Active Travel Plan 2021 onwards, which maps current routes and plans for the future delivery of active travel routes in the county, aligns with the Council's ambitions to tackle climate and ecological change.
17. Promotion of existing planning policies within the Local Development Plan 2006-2021 and Council's existing Supplementary Planning Guidance which contribute to environmentally responsible development.
18. Delivery of the replacement LDP which takes forward local priorities for land use planning within the national policy framework. The replacement LDP will ensure emerging local priorities around climate change and biodiversity are reflected in local planning policy and decision making.

- 19.** LDP Annual Monitoring Report to be an important source of information on how local land use planning supports the Council's priorities with regard to climate change and biodiversity.

Actions and projects

Achieving net carbon zero will require the Council to build on existing programmes of activity started under the Environment Priority of our Corporate Plan, in addition to delivering new projects and activity.

Over 90 ideas for projects to reduce carbon and increase carbon absorption were identified in the Summer 2020 virtual workshops in developing this strategy and our aim is to implement as much as we can of those over the 9 years. In addition to other actions we might take responding to new opportunities.

The list below provides an overview of the priority actions and projects that have been identified so far that the Council hopes to deliver which will reduce carbon emissions and increase carbon absorption. Whilst the Council can be more specific for Years 1 to 3, it is more difficult to do this for years 4 onwards due to the uncertain and complex context Local Authorities must operate within.

The delivery of all projects and actions identified is subject to securing the necessary funding.

Actions to reduce Council's carbon from buildings and street lighting

Years 1 to 3 (2021/22 - 2023/24)

- Complete our 7 year LED Street lighting project
- Review and rationalise how many buildings the Council owns and operates

Years 1 to 9 (2021/22 - 2029/30)

- Deliver works to improve energy efficiency of existing building including measures to improve air tightness (e.g. loft insulation, cavity wall insulation), reducing

electricity use (e.g. LED lighting, power management) and increase efficiency of heating (e.g. upgrade heating control and building management systems).

- Design and build new Council buildings to be low carbon in operation including the integration of renewable energy and heat technologies as well as rainwater harvesting (e.g. 21st Century Schools Band B).
- Deploy renewable energy schemes for electricity including working with schools to submit funding applications to Wind-farm funds to install renewable energy (e.g. wind turbines and PV panels) and installing solar car ports at Council office car parks.
- Convert heating systems in existing Council buildings to renewable heat (e.g. air source heat pumps, ground source heat pumps).
- Undertake major refurbishments of existing Council buildings to be low carbon in operation (e.g. Greening County Hall Project).
- Deploy rainwater harvesting technologies across the Council estate and particularly within depots with high water usage.

Actions to reduce the Council's carbon from fleet, staff commuting and business travel

Years 1 to 3 (2021/22 - 2023/24)

- Install EV charging infrastructure into 9 Council owned car parks.
- Introduce Electric Vehicle bookable pool cars at Council offices.
- Convert 3 of our waste vehicles to Electric vehicles.
- Introduce an electric vehicle home charging solution for staff who start and end their day at home but utilise Denbighshire County Council owned fleet vehicle.

Years 1 to 6 (2021/22 - 2026/27)

- Convert all of Denbighshire County Council owned light commercials (up to 3.5 tonnes) vehicles to Electric Vehicles.
- Install EV charging infrastructure into Council buildings, including offices, depots, libraries, and tourist attractions.

Years 1 to 9 (2021/22 - 2029/30)

- Extend public charging across Denbighshire which can also service Denbighshire County Council Electric Fleet vehicles.
- Facilitate a car sharing platform for staff.

Years 4 to 9 (2024/25 - 2029/30)

- Convert the majority of Denbighshire County Council owned larger sized vehicles to Ultra Low Emission options.
- Trial large vehicles which are powered by hydrogen (e.g. Bin Lorries).

Actions to reduce the Council's carbon from waste

Years 1 to 3 (2021/22 - 2023/24)

- Re-launch recycling in civic buildings and replace bins at Council sites so it is a source segregated recycled waste collection.
- Working with the third sector introduce accommodation at Rhyl and Ruthin Household Recycling Centres to support reuse and repair activity to divert items from becoming waste.
- Deliver the New Waste Transfer Station to enable greater source segregation of recyclates.
- Work to reduce plastics in Schools and Council offices.

Years 1 to 6 (2021/22 - 2026/27)

- Support Welsh Government in the delivery of a new facility to recycle nappies based in Denbighshire, diverting Absorbent Hygiene products away from residual waste and into the recycling facility from across North West Wales.

Years 1 to 9 (2021/22 - 2029/30)

- Deliver improvement project for increasing tonnage of waste re-use or recycled that is generated from delivering the various Highways and Street Scene frontline service functions.

Actions to reduce the Council's carbon from the goods and services we buy

Years 1 to 3 (2021/22 - 2023/24)

- Create a bank of specific carbon related questions which could be used as part of the tender evaluation process. These should be scored and weighted appropriately as part of the quality assessment of tenders.
- Create an online portal to capture and report on the Community Benefit of contracts including measures around this agenda.

Years 1 to 9 (2021/22 - 2029/30)

- Identify the Council officers who procure on a regular basis to target communication and training as to the Climate and Ecological Change agenda and the contribution that environmentally responsible procurement can make.
- Re-visit regional contracts as they expire with the aim to reduce carbon, where possible, in the future.
- Pursue Personalised Grants for care and stimulating Microenterprise work – enabling personalised purchasing of care from providers ultra-local to the citizen to reduce carbon footprint.
- Work with businesses and suppliers in Denbighshire to encourage lower carbon practice.

Actions to increasing the Council's carbon absorption

Years 1 to 3 (2021/22 - 2023/24)

- Complete the PLANT Project – planting 18,000 urban trees.
- Establish a County Tree Nursery, growing 5,000 trees a year for planting projects across the County.

- Work with schools to identify planting opportunities on school grounds.

Years 1 to 9 (2021/22 - 2029/30)

- Conversion of new Council land purchased for the purpose of carbon sequestration and biodiversity through the process of natural regeneration and targeted tree planting, enabling public access wherever possible.

Using our influence across Denbighshire

Years 1 to 3 (2021/22 - 2023/24)

- Completion of Carbon Literacy training by all councillors and managers and creation of e-learn module on carbon literacy themes for all staff.
- Progression of replacement LDP to ensure emerging local priorities around climate change and biodiversity are reflected in local planning policy and decision making.
- Supporting the North Wales Corporate Joint Committee in developing and publishing a new regional Transport Plan and encouraging alignment with Denbighshire's climate and ecological change agenda.
- Continue to support households living in Denbighshire who are most likely to experience fuel poverty and those vulnerable to the effects of a cold home through promoting Welsh Government's fuel poverty scheme and administering Denbighshire's own criteria to access Energy Company Obligation (ECO) funding.

Years 1 to 6 (2021/22 - 2026/27)

- Delivery of Supplementary Planning Guidance resulting from the new Local Development Plan will support the climate change agenda.
- Support the development of the Smart Local Energy project and the Decarbonisation of Transport project within NWEAB Low Carbon Energy Programme.
- Via our role as Clwyd Pension Fund Board Members, encourage the Fund to identify climate change as a financial risk, to measure and understand its carbon

exposure within its investment portfolio and to set agreed Carbon reduction targets which are measurable and time bound.

Years 1 to 9 (2021/22 - 2029/30)

- Implement a programme of initiatives to raise awareness of staff of the role they need to play in reducing our carbon emissions, and ensure measures are put in place to drive the necessary behaviour change.
- Implement a programme of initiatives and engagement with schools across the County to share learning and resources on this agenda and encourage positive behaviour change.
- Implement a programme of initiatives, working with Welsh Government and the Public Service Board, to raise awareness amongst residents and businesses in Denbighshire of the role they can play in reducing carbon emissions.
- Engage with City, Town and Community Councils on reducing carbon and increasing carbon absorption via the review and update of the City, Town and Community Council Charter.
- Work with landowners in Denbighshire, including the Council agricultural tenants, to encourage the management and use of land for the benefit of carbon absorption (e.g. guidance for the protection and restoration of peat lands).
- Where applicable and legally allowed, review standards within the Council's licensing and consenting regimes to reflect the Council's local priorities to tackle climate change and improve biodiversity.

Ecologically Positive Council by 2030

What is our goal?

Our goal is to protect, manage and restore our land as well as create new spaces for nature so that the ecosystems¹¹ in Denbighshire are diverse, connected, big in scale and extent, in a healthy condition and adaptable and thus not only maintains biodiversity but enhances it. This is our Ecologically Positive Council goal.

Opportunities for Ecologically Positive work contributing to our carbon absorption requirements in our Net Carbon Zero Council goal and vice versa will be both taken and maximised upon.

What is our starting point?

Available data for species richness across Denbighshire has been mapped onto Council owned and operated land to give us an idea about our starting point for the Council's biodiversity value.

Biodiversity is vast, complex and interconnected and as such any measure for biodiversity value is a pointer only.

The table below provides you with information on the different habitats types that are included in this species richness measure. The most species rich habitat is listed first, and the least species rich habitat is listed last.

¹¹ An ecosystem is all the plants and animals that live in a particular area together with the complex relationship that exists between them and their environment.

Table 6: Different habitats types

Habitat name	Species richness score ¹²	Photo example
Calcareous Grassland – unimproved and semi-improved	43.02	
Broadleaved and Yew Woodland - Mixed, Part and Part Montane habitats	20.91	
Neutral grassland – unimproved and semi-improved	20.44	

¹² This score is the average total number of plant species per 200m² plot normally present within that habitat type. Scientific analysis has shown that the diversity of animal species increases in areas of land with greater plant species diversity.

Habitat name	Species richness score ¹²	Photo example
Acid Grassland – unimproved and semi-improved	19.58	
Bracken	19.29	
Inland rock	16.74	

Habitat name	Species richness score ¹²	Photo example
Dwarf Shrub Heath	15.87	
Tall Ruderal	15.87	
Improved Grassland	14.28	
Coniferous Woodland	14.05	

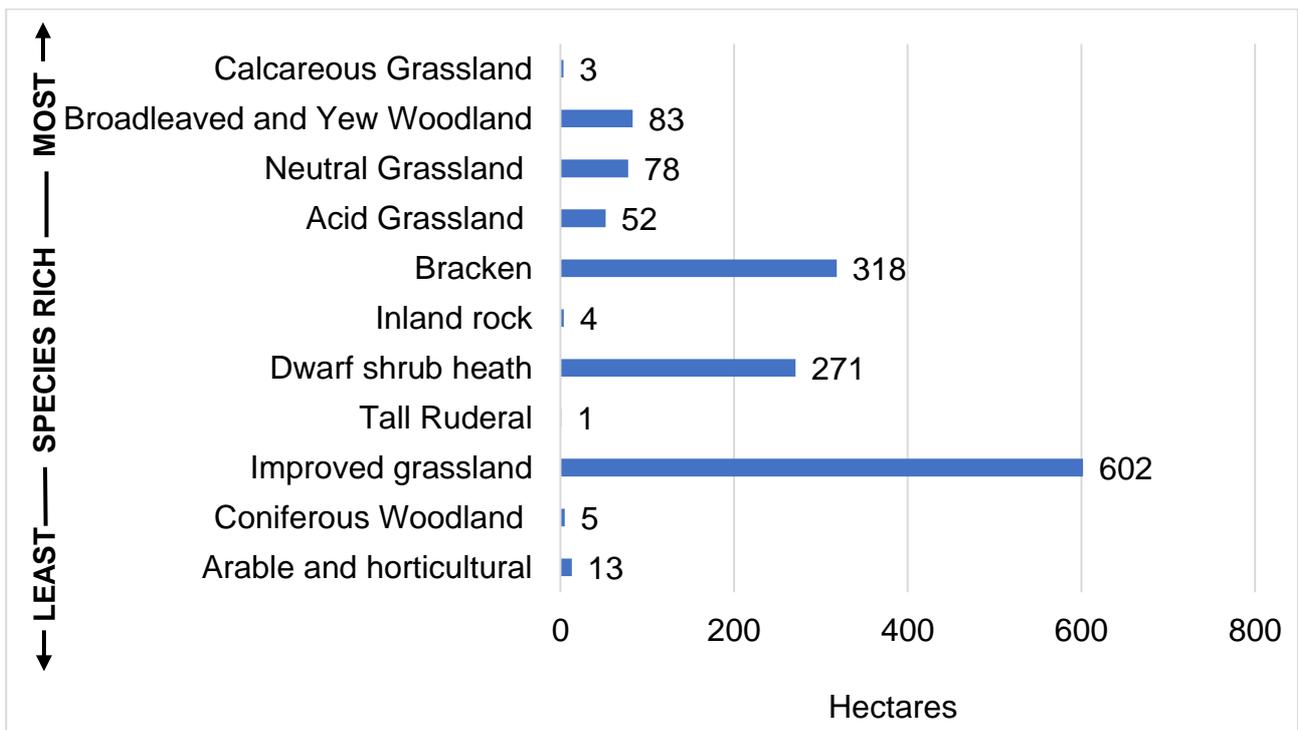
Habitat name	Species richness score ¹²	Photo example
Arable and horticultural	10.25	

The graph below describes the amount of land the Council owns and operates in each habitat type of varying species richness.

62% of Council owned and operated land is in the lowest categories of species richness.

38% of Council owned and operated land is in the highest categories of species richness.

Chart 6: Amount of land Denbighshire County Council own and operate in each habitat type of varying species richness



In addition, there are a number of important habitats which support a wide range of species which the Council is fortunate to have in its ownership, but are not included in our species richness baseline due to limitations in the habitat categories available in the measurement methodology. These include rivers, streams, and the important dune systems and shingle habitats on Denbighshire's coastline which are home to a variety of rare and specialised plants and animals. These include the last colony of Little Tern (species of bird) in Wales, along with Sand Lizard and Natterjack Toad which were reintroduced here after becoming extinct in Wales.

The Council produce a report every three years on what we have done to comply with the Environment (Wales) Action 2016 statutory duty to maintain and enhance biodiversity and promote the resilience of ecosystems¹³. The [latest report](#) was produced in 2019 for the period 2016-19 and provides additional detail with regard to the Council's Ecologically Positive starting point¹⁴.

Where do we want to get to?

To achieve our Ecologically Positive goal, the Council needs to increase the percentage of our owned and operated land that has a higher species richness.

This can be achieved by restoring and changing how we manage land that we currently own and operate to increase species diversity, and by increasing the land ownership therefore creating new spaces (ecological niches) for nature.

The Council's percentage of owned and operated land in the lowest categories of species richness should be lower than the percentage of Council owned and operated land is in the highest categories of species richness for the Council to achieve its Ecologically Positive goal. The table below describes the percentage change expected by 2030.

¹³ The full title of this duty is "The Biodiversity and Resilience of Ecosystems Duty" but is often referred to as the Environment (Wales) Action 2016 Section 6 duty.

¹⁴ You can read Denbighshire County Council's report here: <https://www.biodiversitywales.org.uk/File/763/en-GB>

Interim targets for what we expect by Year 3 (2023/24) and by Year 6 (2026/27) of the 9-year programme are provided

Table 7: Percentage change in habitats of lowest and highest species richness

Species richness categories	Starting Point	2030 end goal	<i>Projected % in Year 3 (2023/24)</i>	<i>Projected % in Year 6 (2026/27)</i>
Lowest categories of species richness	62%	Reduce to below 49% or lower	<i>Reduce to 57.7% or lower</i>	<i>Reduce to 53.3% or lower</i>
Highest categories of species richness	38%	Increase to above 51% or higher	<i>Increase to 42.3% or higher</i>	<i>Increase to 46.7% or higher</i>

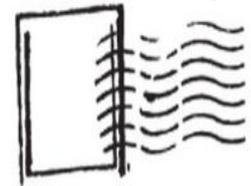
There are a number of important habitats not included in our baseline, due to limitation of the measurement methodology, which support a wide range of species which the Council is fortunate to have in its ownership. Over the 9 years the council will continue to protect, restore and increase the extent of these habitats for the protection and enhancement of biodiversity.

The Council own and manage specific habitats which are of cultural historical importance and/or managed to support and conserve rare species which we may choose to continue to manage in a focused way. These habitats may support a lower species diversity than other more common habitats, but the plant and animal communities which it does support are often rare and specialised, and can be found nowhere else in Denbighshire. An example of this is Heather Moorland, which is an important feature of the Clwydian Range and Dee Valley Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

A postcard from the future is included below as a way of bringing these figures to life through story telling- providing an example of how the Council might have gone about achieving its 2030 target.

Postcard 4: Ecological Positivity

Dear 2020 Council, Year 2030 here! Not wanting to give you spoilers but here's some of the headlines on how you've achieved ecological positivity...



It's now second nature for officers to review the biodiversity value and impact of every project, intervention or activity the Council undertakes and to deliver the activity in a way that provides a positive impact for ecology. Every opportunity is taken to do no harm to biodiversity in Council operations but where harm is unavoidable plans are made and delivered which leaves biodiversity in a better state than when we started.

Through collaborative efforts across departments improved grassland habitats (which support a lower species richness) have been converted into neutral grassland (which support a higher species richness) increasing biodiversity in the county. This has been achieved by expansive changes in cutting regimes to allow for natural regeneration as well as deliberative sowing of meadow / wildflower seeds.

For the greatest combined benefit, the hectares of broadleaf and mixed woodland owned by the Council has increased. The Council over the 9 years has converted existing land of low species richness, and bought new land, turning it into carbon sinks and wildlife havens via carefully selected tree planting including elements of species rich grassland.

The Council has actively made space for nature, adopting a natural regeneration approach free from mechanical intervention developing sites into ecological exemplars. Core aims in this work to reconnect people with nature have been achieved through opportunities for recreational access and the work has inspired a new generation of naturalists who understand the importance of our natural environment, and how to protect it. University students visit to learn about the abundant biodiversity that surrounds.

What changes and actions will help us get there?

Changes to Council processes and policies

To achieve our ecologically positive goal by 2030 will require the Council to adjust how it goes about delivering the wide range of work and tasks required of us by Welsh Government, by our partners and by our communities.

In Summer 2020 virtual workshops were held with the management teams of every service area that make up the Council to start the task of identifying the ways we could change how we do things to contribute to protecting and improving biodiversity. This built on ideas generated by the public during the public engagement event held in early 2020.

Over 25 suggestions for processes and policies changes were identified and our aim is to implement as much as we can of these working over the 9 years.

The list below highlights some of the priority changes to Council processes and policies that we hope to make in Year 1 to 3 (2021/22 - 2023/24) of delivering this strategy to support the Council to successfully achieve its ecologically goal by 2030.

This is a dynamic and flexible list; other things may be implemented that do not feature in the list below responding to new opportunities.

- 1.** Through engagement and communication ensure service based objectives align with the corporate ambition to become Ecologically Positive.
- 2.** Implement the Council's change in constitution to have regard to tackling climate and ecological change, including changes to business case templates.
- 3.** In consultation with staff and the unions, work to include in every member of staff Job Description their responsibility around climate and ecological change.
- 4.** Review our Volunteering policy to ensure opportunities for environmental improvement placements are promoted.

5. Continue and expand to more roads the Denbighshire County Council Highway Rural Verge/Grass Cutting Policy (A, B and Unclassified Roads).
6. Develop a Pollinator policy.
7. Introduce a new outdoor light replacement policy to protect bats and insects - a warm white spectrum (<2700Kelvin) and luminaires feature peak wavelengths higher than 550nm.
8. Review Environmental Standards for grounds maintenance conducted throughout the Council to focus on increased Tree planting, less grounds maintenance to support biodiversity. Avoid removal of green space.
9. Develop a Tree & Woodland Strategy.
10. Ensure the new Asset Management Strategy 2021 onwards aligns with the corporate ambition to become Net Carbon Zero and introduce a new asset disposal and acquisition policy which is supportive in retaining or/and buying land for carbon absorption and ecological improvement purposes.
11. Investigate the potential for better land use across the county to achieve multiple objectives e.g. natural flood risk management providing space for nature.
12. Ensure biodiversity protection and improvement is being appropriately considered in Council Procurement - Policy and Strategy documents, Commissioning templates, tender evaluations.
13. Identify community benefits in Council contracts that improve the environment, delivering ecological improvement.
14. Give clear guidance to developers on our expectations on them to retain important ecological features on sites building their designs around them.
15. Start using an ecological compliance audit for planning applications to ensure mitigation, compensation and enhancement is actually installed.

16. Promotion of existing planning policies within the Local Development Plan 2006-2021 and Council's existing Supplementary Planning Guidance which contribute to ecological responsible development.
17. Delivery of the replacement LDP which takes forward local priorities for land use planning within the national policy framework. The replacement LDP will ensure emerging local priorities around climate change and biodiversity are reflected in local planning policy and decision making (e.g. policy on external lighting to protect bats, requirement for integrated nest boxes in buildings)
18. LDP Annual Monitoring Report to be an important source of information on how local land use planning supports the Council's priorities with regard to climate change and biodiversity.

Actions and projects

Becoming ecologically positive will require the Council to build on existing programmes of activity started under the Environment Priority of our Corporate Plan, in addition to delivering new projects and activity.

Over 40 ideas for projects to protect and improve biodiversity were identified in the Summer 2020 virtual workshops in developing this strategy and our aim is to implement as much as we can of those over the 9 years. In addition to other actions we might take responding to new opportunities.

The list below provides an overview of the priority actions and projects that have been identified so far that the Council hopes to deliver which will protect and improve biodiversity. Whilst the Council can be more specific for Years 1 to 3, it is more difficult to do this for years 4 onwards due to the uncertain and complex context Local Authorities must operate within.

The delivery of all projects and actions identified is subject to securing the necessary funding.

Direct Action

Years 1 to 3 (2021/22 - 2023/24)

- Complete the PLANT Project – planting 18,000 urban trees.
- Complete the Living Assets project – To maintain, enhance, protect and preserve Denbighshire's 'living assets' for future generations.
- Establish a County Tree Nursery, growing 5,000 trees a year for planting projects across the County.
- Complete the Moorland Management and Wildfire Prevention Project.
- Complete the Improving Biodiversity Project – funded from 'Well Connected Communities and Opportunities for All' grant.
- Deliver improvement and expansion projects for Denbighshire County Council allotments.
- Tender grounds maintenance contract for Housing Estates using a specification which improves biodiversity e.g. leaving areas of long grass for species diversity.
- Create an online portal to capture and report on the Community Benefit of contracts including measures around this agenda.
- Identify the Council officers who procure on a regular basis to target communication and training as to the Climate and Ecological Change agenda and the contribution that environmentally responsible procurement can make.
- Create a bank of specific carbon and ecologically related questions which could be used as part of the tender evaluation process. These should be scored and weighted appropriately as part of the quality assessment of tenders.

Years 1 to 9 (2021/22 - 2029/30)

- Identify land to plant trees and introduce wildflowers within school grounds.
- Deliver the Ash Dieback Project to limit the impact of the disease.
- Conversion of new Council land via the process of natural regeneration and targeted tree planting, enabling public access wherever possible.
- Deliver Coastal zone management and in particular our natural sea defences at Gronant Special Protection Area.

- Expand year on year the wildflower (deliberate non cut) pilot conducted in 2020 to more areas the Council owns or manages e.g. more public realm sites, Community Housing sites, Care Homes sites etc.
- Take the opportunity to embed this agenda and goals when updating the Flood Risk Management Strategy (2014) e.g. consider more greatly natural flood risk management methods which also improve biodiversity.
- Develop a series of Environment Away Days to provide team building opportunities for service areas whilst delivering biodiversity improvement work.

Years 4 to 6 (2024/25 - 2026/27)

- Deliver the Picturesque Landscape project to fence off areas and promote the return of woodland.
- Install green roofs on Council owned garages.
- Introduce wildflower planting around car park sites.

Using our influence across Denbighshire

Years 1 to 3 (2021/22 - 2023/24)

- Engage with City, Town and Community Councils on improving biodiversity via the review and update of the City, Town and Community Council Charter.
- Progression of replacement LDP to ensure emerging local priorities around climate change and biodiversity are reflected in local planning policy and decision making.

Years 1 to 6 (2021/22 - 2026/27)

- Delivery of Supplementary Planning Guidance resulting from the new Local Development Plan will support the climate change and biodiversity agenda.

Years 1 to 9 (2021/22 - 2029/30)

- Implement a programme of initiatives, working with Welsh Government and the Public Service Board, to raise awareness amongst residents and businesses in Denbighshire of the role they can play in improving biodiversity.
- Work with landowners in Denbighshire, including the Council agricultural tenants, to encourage the management and use of land for the benefit of ecological improvement and biodiversity.
- Carry out two Volunteer Programmes per year within Countryside Services for the public to contribute to this agenda.
- Implement a programme of initiatives and engagement with schools across the County to share learning and resources on this agenda and encourage positive behaviour change.
- Promoting the 'Green Spaces for Health' programme delivered by Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board for NHS sites and initiatives based in Denbighshire.

Financial strategy to support strategy and action plan

The financial position faced by local authorities remains very tough. Funding cuts over a sustained period mean that we have a lot less money to invest in services now than we have in the past. Financial pressures are likely to continue in areas such as social care and on top of this the Council is committed to supporting our communities and businesses to recover from the impact of the Coronavirus pandemic.

Despite the difficult situation we are faced with, this council has a clear ambition to make our contribution to tackle the climate change and ecological emergency.

This document sets out the ambitions to become net carbon zero and ecologically positive and the range of changes and actions the Council could do to achieve those goals. Some of changes and actions will require capital investment, others revenue funding, and some may be delivered at no additional cost.

To deliver this strategy over the next 3 years we think it will cost in the region of £9 million pounds to deliver the projects needed to achieve all that we'd like. We suspect we will need to invest a similar figure in future years leading up to 2030.

Although the investment figure to achieve net carbon zero and ecologically positive is a large sum, the council will not have to provide all of this money itself. We expect that grants from the Welsh Government, National Government and supporting bodies will be available to help fund the planned work over the 9 years and it is expected that opportunities for securing external grant funding over the 9 years will be maximised upon.

To pay for the capital investment identified, we will need to commit revenue budget and cash to this priority. In the current financial climate, this will mean there is less money available for other things the Council may wish to deliver. It is likely that a proportion of the investment required would be generated through prudential borrowing.

We have measures in place to ensure all individual capital investment decisions we take are based on robust business cases and that the overall debt financing position is carefully monitored and remains affordable and sustainable. Our revenue budget plans and processes are well established and will enable us to manage affordability.

Affordability is the greatest risk in the Council being able to achieve its net carbon zero and ecologically positive goals. However, this Council remains committed to implementing the changes and actions needed to make our contribution to tackling climate and ecological change wherever and whenever we are able.

How progress will be monitored

This strategy will be delivered as a programme of activity, coordinated centrally with input and effort by officers from across the Council's service areas working with our partners where applicable.

The person accountable for achieving these goals is the Council's Chief Executive as operational Sponsor for the Programme of work. Political steer is provided by the Lead Member/s in Cabinet with the areas of responsibility (known as 'Portfolios') covering Climate and Ecological Change.

The Council will calculate its carbon emissions, its carbon absorption and the species richness on its land in April- June each year to see how the Council performed on these Net Carbon Zero and Ecologically Positive metrics in the previous financial year (April – March). The Council will submit its carbon emissions and carbon adsorption data to Welsh Government each year, starting in 2021, as part of the new Welsh Public Sector Greenhouse Gas Reporting Regime.

Progress in achieving the goals set out in this Climate and Ecological Change Strategy will be monitored by a committee called the Corporate Plan Board. The Corporate Plan Board is made up of all the Councillors who are members of Cabinet and all Heads of Service, Directors and the Chief Executive.

Key performance measures and programme highlights will be integrated into the Corporate Plan performance report which is scrutinised quarterly through SLT, Cabinet and Scrutiny, and annually by Council.

A 12-month review paper will be taken to Full Council each year highlighting progress made and next steps referring back to the Council's Climate Emergency Declaration.

The Council's progress on achieving the Net Carbon Zero and Ecologically Positive 2030 goals can also be scrutinised by Internal Audit and Scrutiny Committees at appropriate points over the 9 years and at the discretion of the Chief Internal Auditor and Scrutiny Chairs and Vice Chairs.

The strategy document will be formally reviewed and refreshed every 3 years up until 2030 (2023/24 and 2026/27).

How we will share our learning

Climate and ecological change is the globally defining challenge of our time. It will require everyone to contribute to its solution- pooling effort, knowledge and resources.

The Council's approach to achieving Net Carbon Zero and Ecologically Positive Council is open and collaborative. The Council looks forward to learning from others, maximising on opportunities together as well as sharing our experience over the 9 years to 2030.

Denbighshire County Council will continue to work with our Public Sector Partners via the Public Service Board¹⁵, including Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board, on our collective 'Environmental Resilience' priority, sharing learning from our efforts in achieving Net Carbon Zero and Ecologically Positive Council goals and seeking advice from others.

The Council will share its learning with City, Town and Community Council's within Denbighshire. Working with Local Government partners via the Local Government Decarbonisation Strategy Panel, and other opportunities, the Council will look to influence Welsh Government to simplify and make consistent the existing policy and legislative landscape, facilitate the increased impact by working at scale, support the increased engagement and behaviour change work with communities and provide resourcing which reflects the magnitude of the climate emergency we are all facing.

Latest news, advice and opportunities to get involved will be posted on the Council's [corporate website](#) and the Council Consultation portal. We will issue an e-newsletter every 6 months updating on the Council's work on this agenda and we aim to host a public engagement event once a year. We will share our learning with businesses across Denbighshire via our business communication channels managed by the Council's Economic and Business Development Team.

¹⁵ The Public Service Board (PSB) is a partnership of public service agencies who work together to improve local services. A list of current Conwy and Denbighshire PSB partners can be found here: <https://conwyanddenbighshirelsb.org.uk/members/>

Members of the public can register for the climate and ecological change sub group of the Council's [Y Panel](#) and take part in online discussion forum on climate and ecological change themes.

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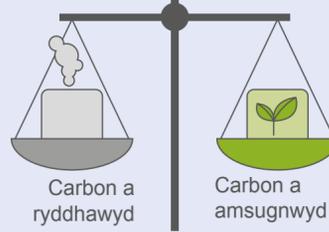
STRATEGAETH NEWID HINSAWDD
AC ECOLEGOL CYNGOR SIR DDINBYCH

Ein Nod Di-Garbon Net

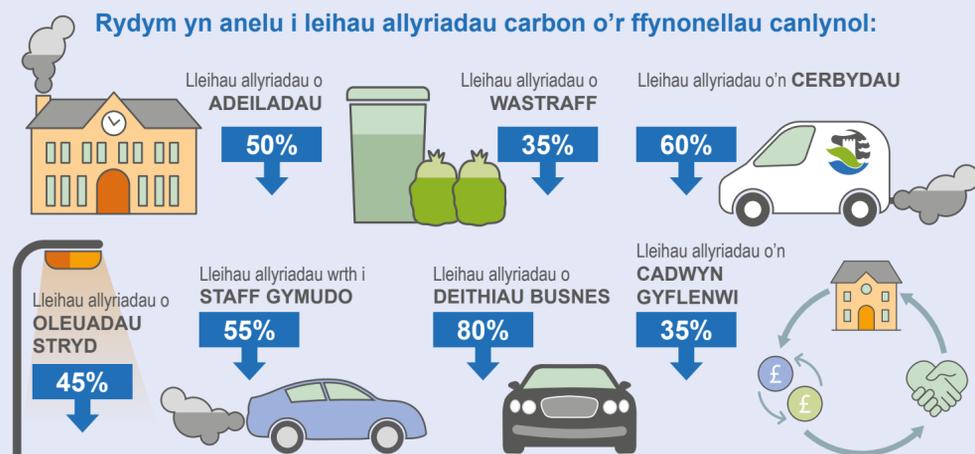
EIN CYNLLUN CYFLAWNI AR GYFER 2030

EIN NOD AR GYFER 2030

Ein nod yw bod cyfanswm y carbon sy'n cael ei allyrru gan y Cyngor yn cyfateb i gyfanswm y carbon sy'n cael ei amsugno gan diroedd y mae'r Cyngor yn berchen arnynt ac yn eu gweithredu erbyn 31ain Mawrth 2030. Hefyd rydym yn anelu i leihau allyriadau ein cadwyn gyflenwi o 35%.



Rydym yn anelu i leihau allyriadau carbon o'r ffynonellau canlynol:



Fe fyddwn yn cynyddu cyfanswm y carbon a gaiff ei amsugno gan y tir yr ydym yn berchen arno ac yn ei reoli drwy...



Beth sydd angen i ni ei wneud i gyrraedd ein nod?

MAE'R CAMAU A GAIFF EU BLAENORIAETHU YN CYNWYS:

Canlyniadau ymgynghoriad

DROS 100 o awgrymiadau ar broses a newidiadau polisi

- Adeiladau sy'n effeithlon o ran ynni
- Creu coetir newydd
- Goleuadau stryd LED
- Menter gyfathrebu a newid ymddygiad
- Cerbydau trydan a phwyntiau gwefru
- Cynlluniau yn ymwneud â lleihau gwastraff ac aildefnyddio
- Lleihau papur
- Cynlluniau ynni adnewyddadwy

Cymrwch ran

- Cofrestrwch am ddiweddariadau drwy [Y Panel](#)
- Ymunwch â'n fforwm sgwrsio [fforwm sgwrsio](#)
- Mae'r newyddion, cyngor a chyflleoedd diweddaraf ar ein gwefan www.sirddinbych.gov.uk/newid-hinsawdd

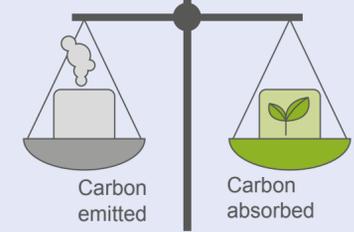
DENBIGHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL'S
CLIMATE AND ECOLOGICAL CHANGE STRATEGY

Our Net Carbon Zero Goal

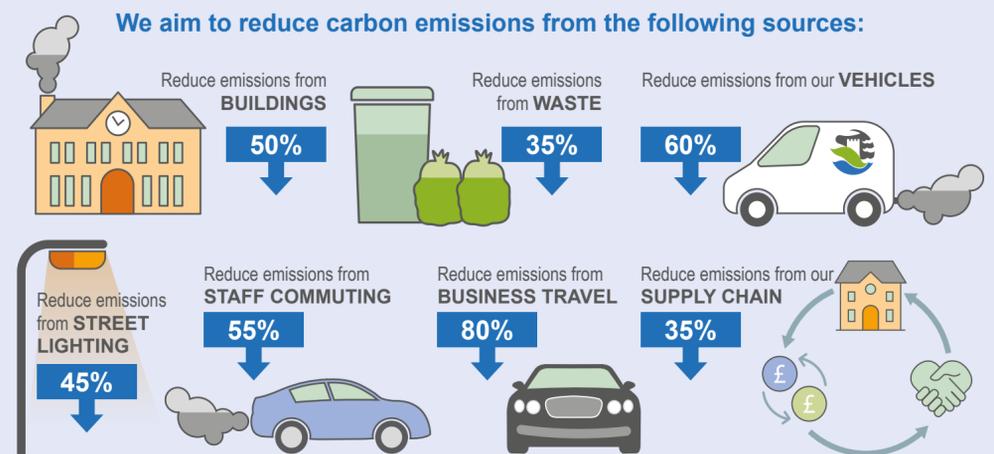
OUR DELIVERY PLAN FOR 2030

OUR 2030 GOAL

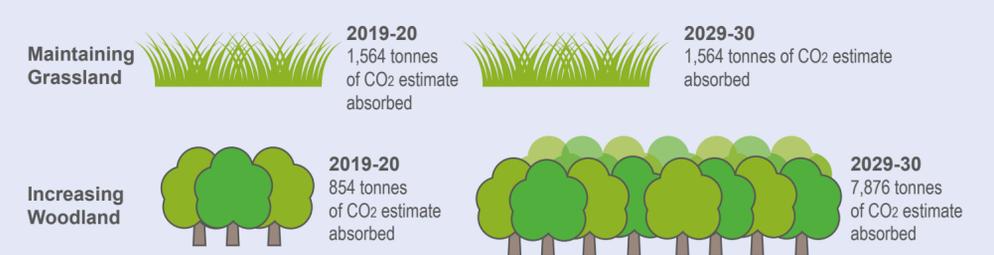
Our goal is for the total carbon emitted by the Council minus the total carbon absorbed from Council owned and operated land to equal zero by 31st March 2030. Plus we aim to reduce our supply chain emissions by 35%.



We aim to reduce carbon emissions from the following sources:



We will increase the carbon absorbed by the land we own and manage by...



What do we need to do to reach our goals?

Consultation outcomes

MORE THAN 100 suggestions on process and policy changes

PRIORITY ACTIONS INCLUDE:

- Energy efficient buildings
- LED street lighting
- Waste reduction and reuse schemes
- Electric vehicles and charging points
- Create new woodland
- Communication and behaviour change initiative
- Reduce paper
- Renewable energy schemes

Get involved

- Sign up for updates at [Y Panel](#)
- Join our [chat forum](#)
- Get the latest news, advice and opportunities on our web site www.denbighshire.gov.uk/climate-change

Ein Nod Ecolegol Gadarnhaol

EIN CYNLLUN CYFLAWNI AR GYFER 2030

EIN NOD AR GYFER 2030

Ein nod yw gwarchod, rheoli ac adfer ein tir yn ogystal â chreu ardaloedd newydd ar gyfer natur fel bod ecosystemau yn Sir Ddinbych yn amrywiol, wedi'u cysylltu, yn fawr o ran eu maint a'u graddfa, yn iach ac yn gallu addasu; felly, mae hyn nid yn unig yn cynnal bioamrywiaeth ond mae'n ei wella.



Rydym yn anelu i greu effaith gadarnhaol ar yr ecoleg o'n holl weithgareddau:



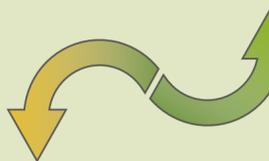
Diogelu a gwella bioamrywiaeth

Rheoli ac adfer tir

Creu ardaloedd newydd i fyd natur

Fe fyddwn yn cynyddu amrywiaeth rhywogaethau ar draws y tiroedd mae'r Cyngor yn berchen arnynt ac yn eu gweithredu

Trawsnewid y mathau o gynefinoedd sydd lleiaf cyfoethog o ran rhywogaethau...



...i'r mathau o gynefinoedd sydd fwyaf cyfoethog a ran rhywogaethau

Beth sydd angen i ni ei wneud i gyrraedd ein nod?

MAE'R CAMAU A GAIFF EU BLAENORIAETHU YN CYNWYS:



Gwneud y defnydd gorau o'r tiroedd y mae'r Cyngor yn berchen arnynt ar draws y Sir

Plannu coed a blodau gwyllt ar dir ysgolion ac o amgylch meysydd parcio

Ystyriaethau ecolegol wedi eu cynnwys mewn strategaethau a pholisïau yn ymwneud â thir

Cyfleoedd gwirfoddoli ar gyfer lleoliadau yn ymwneud â gwelliannau amgylcheddol

Gadael i laswellt dyfu yn ystod yr haf ar gyfer bywyd gwyllt amgylcheddol

Gosod goleuadau newydd yn yr awyr agored yn lle'r rhai presennol i ddiogelu ystumod, adar a phryfed

Cymrwch ran

- Cofrestrwch am ddiweddariadau drwy [Y Panel](#)
- Ymunwch â'n fforwm sgwrsio [fforwm sgwrsio](#)
- Mae'r newyddion, cyngor a chyfleoedd diweddaraf ar ein gwefan www.sirddinbych.gov.uk/newid-hinsawdd

Our Ecologically Positive Goal

OUR DELIVERY PLAN FOR 2030

OUR 2030 GOAL

Our goal is to protect, manage and restore our land as well as create new spaces for nature so that the ecosystems in Denbighshire are diverse, connected, big in scale and extent, in a healthy condition and adaptable and thus not only maintains biodiversity but enhances it.



We aim to deliver a positive impact for ecology from all of our activities:



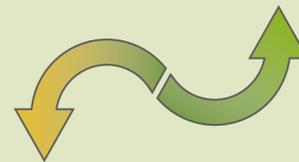
Protect and improve biodiversity

Manage and restore land

Create new spaces for nature

We will increase species diversity across our Council owned and operated land

Convert the types of habitat that are least species-rich...



...into the types of habitats that are most species-rich

What do we need to do to reach our goals?

PRIORITY ACTIONS INCLUDE:



Make the best use of land the Council owns across the County

Plant trees and wild flowers within school grounds and around car parks

Ecological considerations built into land strategies and policies

Volunteer opportunities for environmental improvement placements

Leave grass to grow during the summer for wildlife

Replace outdoor lights to protect bats, birds and insects

Get involved

- Sign up for updates at [Y Panel](#)
- Join our [chat forum](#)
- Get the latest news, advice and opportunities on our web site www.denbighshire.gov.uk/climate-change

Appendix D – Notable Risks

RISK	DESCRIPTION	MITIGATION ACTION
<p>Affordability of the Council being able to achieve its net carbon zero and ecologically positive goals.</p>	<p>There is a risk that the Council is unable to commit or attract sufficient resource (revenue and capital) to coordinate the programme, deliver net carbon zero and ecologically positive projects and deliver other projects in an enhanced eco way meaning funding bids are not submitted, opportunities not maximised, actions are not delivered and benefits are not realised.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proactively seeking external finance with Welsh Government and Whitehall Departments using the strategy and action plan as our narrative. • Submitting strong and coordinated external funding bids, working collaboratively across the region as well as across internal DCC departments. • Early input into the Budget Board on calls on revenue and capital for the following financial year. • Ongoing dialogue with Section 151 officer in relation to longer financial plans via the Medium Term Financial Plan. • Carbon Literacy Training and ongoing support to officers to factor in eco enhancement from inception stage of projects, building in sufficient provision within external funding bids. • Implementing whole life costing into business case process to capture fully the long term costs and benefits of schemes. • Maximising on the delivery of the many projects which save both money and carbon annually for the Council. • Maximising on the delivery of projects which deliver upon COVID-19 recovery requirements and carbon saving for the Council.

RISK	DESCRIPTION	MITIGATION ACTION
Changes in the carbon calculation methodology.	There is a risk that how carbon emissions and carbon absorption is calculated may alter between now and 2030 either through changes to the Welsh Government Greenhouse Gas Reporting Regime or other Reporting Guidance that will mean we will need to update our targets and trajectory to 2030.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual review paper to Full Council stating any major changes impacting the strategy. • Formally review and refresh the strategy document every 3 years up until 2030 (2023/24 and 2026/27).
Being responsive to new opportunities to reduce carbon.	There is a risk that new opportunities may arise between now and 2030 that we need to respond to that will enable us to go further on reducing our carbon emissions, for example the introduction of a readily accessible new technology or a major development in ways to generate energy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Horizon scan and keep abreast of developments within the climate and energy sectors. • Annual review paper to Full Council stating any major changes impacting the strategy. • Formally review and refresh the strategy document every 3 years up until 2030 (2023/24 and 2026/27).
Meeting Public Expectation.	There is a risk of not meeting public expectation on this agenda and the democratic and reputational damage that could cause.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to engage with the public proactively, constructively and sensitively on this agenda being very clear on the scope and scale of the Council's targets. • Through working with the Public Service Board (PSB) and community development partners, support the public in contributing personally to this agenda at a community level. • Celebrating the Council's existing and continued success in this agenda via press releases/social media and ensuring the public are aware of the range of work the Council are undertaking.

Report to	Cabinet
Date of meeting	16 February 2020
Lead Member / Officer	Cllr Richard Mainon Alan Smith, Head of Business Improvement & Modernisation
Report author	Emma Jones – Performance and Programme Systems Administrator
Title	Street Naming and Numbering Policy Review

1. What is the report about?

1.1. Changes to Denbighshire's Street Naming and Numbering Policy.

2. What is the reason for making this report?

2.1. Scrutiny requested a review of the current policy, in the light of concerns that it might not properly reflect the Council's Welsh Language Policy. These were taken into consideration and changes have been made to the policy.

3. What are the Recommendations?

- 3.1. That all new streets are named in Welsh only;
- 3.2. That the option to name streets after individuals is removed from the policy.
- 3.3. That Cabinet approve these changes.

4. Report details

The Council's current Street Naming and Numbering policy was presented at Performance Scrutiny Committee in March 2019. The feedback from the committee was that the policy needed a thorough review, especially in relation to the Welsh language. It was recommended that the policy went to the Council's Welsh Language Steering Committee.

The policy went to the Welsh Language Steering Committee in July 2019. Their feedback was similar to that of Scrutiny's: that the policy needed to be looked at thoroughly and that removing "Y/Yr" from the naming of a street in Welsh could be detrimental to the Welsh name of a street.

The Council's Welsh Language Officer, Manon Celyn was consulted. She agreed to read through the policy in English and Welsh and highlight anything that wasn't in line with the Welsh language or the Council's Welsh language standards. She responded that apart from the example that had already been found, there didn't appear to be anything else in relation to the Welsh language.

To gain further input in the review the Welsh Language Commissioners Office were asked to consider the Council's policy. Eleri James responded to say that the Commission primarily focuses on settlement names and is responsible for advising on the standard forms of town and village names in Wales.

However, I had raised the question of renaming English streets into Welsh/English streets. She relayed some of the principles that they follow and said that the "*seventh principle advises against the literal or whimsical translation of place-names unless there is real evidence that the form has been adopted widely by the community and become well-established. There are certainly risks attached to a pure translation exercise as the original meaning and historical significance of the names may be lost or misinterpreted. We would also not encourage the translation of street names that are currently Welsh only*". She included a copy of the letter that the Commissioner had sent to Cardiff City Council upon their publication of a new Street Naming and Numbering policy. The Commissioner congratulated them on their intention to give Welsh names only to streets in new developments and encouraged them in their pursuit of strengthening historical and cultural links to the Welsh language through this. These seem important principles that it is recommended are incorporated into the Council's policy.

The ability to name streets after people within the current Street Naming and Numbering Policy if there is a strong case made for it was also raised at Scrutiny. Particular reference was made to a recent development in Rhyl. This example again raises concerns about the general principle of naming streets after people, particularly in the current climate where street names have had to be changed due to people's histories coming to light. Whilst the above example is clearly not of this nature, it would be good to guard against this

possibility in the future. This is the second recommendation from the review: that we no longer allow streets to be named after people.

Upon full review of the policy, these changes are recommended.

1. That all new streets are named in Welsh only;
2. That the option to name streets after individuals is removed from the policy.

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

5.1. N/A

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

6.1. There are no additional costs

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

7.1. The policy review has highlighted some changes that need to be made. Doing the WIA has shown that there will be a positive impact on the Welsh language and culture as street names will need to be locally relevant and, if the policy is changed, in Welsh only. No further impact assessment is needed.

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

8.1. Scrutiny Committee, Welsh Language Steering Committee, the Council's Welsh Language Officer and the Welsh Language Commissioner.

9. Chief Finance Officer Statement

9.1. N/A

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

10.1. If the Council's Street Naming and Numbering policy does not properly reflect our Welsh Language policy, or its provisions do not reflect community concerns, then it may fall into disrepute.

11. Power to make the decision

11.1. Local Government Act 1972

Street Naming and Numbering Policy

January 2021

Document Version

Version	Publication Date	Author	Comments
1.0	27 th May 2014	David Morgan & Karen Hawkes	
2.0	6 th June 2018	Emma Jones	Cae added as an approved Welsh prefix for a street name
3.0	January 2021	Emma Jones	Revision in regards to Welsh named streets only and not naming after individuals

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Section A: Introduction

The purpose of this document is to set down the policy for the allocation, management and use of all addresses within Denbighshire including the allocation of street names, changes to property names and the addition of new names.

1. What is street naming and numbering?

1.1. Street naming and numbering allows a unique identity to be assigned to a street and subsequently any associated property which may be accessed via the street.

2. Why is street naming and numbering important?

2.1. The address of a property is a very important issue. All public and private sector organisations, the emergency services and the general public need an efficient and accurate means of locating and referencing properties.

2.2. Maintaining a comprehensive, consistent and high standard for the naming of streets and numbering or naming properties is essential as it allows:

- Emergency Services to find a property quickly – delays can cost lives and money
- Mail, services and products to be delivered reliably and efficiently
- Records of service providers to be kept in an effective manner
- Companies to accept an address for official purposes in providing telecom services, insurance, banking, credit rating and the like
- Visitors to locate their destination

3. Who is responsible for street naming and numbering?

3.1. Denbighshire County Council has statutory responsibilities and powers, within the context of adoptive legislation, for the naming of streets, alteration of street names and indication of street names. The Council also has additional discretionary powers to provide a number or name to a property.

3.2. It should be noted that Royal Mail has no statutory responsibilities or powers to either name a street or to name, number, rename or renumber a property. Royal Mail has sole responsibility for assigning a postcode following notification of new or amended address details by Denbighshire County Council.

4. Policy statement

4.1. This policy provides a framework for Denbighshire County Council to operate its street naming and numbering function effectively and efficiently for the benefit of residents, businesses and visitors. It will also act as a guide for developers when considering new names for streets.

4.2. The Policy defines:

- Legal framework for operation of the street naming and numbering service.
- Protocols for determining official street names and numbers.

4.3. The Legislation under which naming and numbering can be carried out is: Public Health Act 1925 (for naming streets) and the 1847 Town Improvement Clauses Act (for numbering properties).

4.4. The delivery of the street naming and numbering function is provided under the Council's Scheme of Delegation. The delegated officer is the Head of Service for Business Improvement and Modernisation. Hereafter 'the officer with delegated powers'.

5. Welsh language considerations

5.1. Denbighshire County Council is subject to the provisions contained within the Welsh Language Act 1993, the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011, Welsh Government language strategy, Living language: a language for living – Welsh language strategy 2012 to 2017 and Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2016.

5.2. The Welsh Language Commissioner and Welsh Government are responsible for developing all aspects of the Welsh Language.

5.3. The Authority's Welsh language scheme ensures that Welsh and English languages are treated equally.

5.4. The policy in relation to new street names will be to adopt a Welsh language name that is consistent with the local heritage and history of the area.

5.5. Existing street names that are in only one language will not be translated except where a request is made to re-name the street as per the re-naming process in Section B. paragraph 4 (below).

5.6. Where a query arises over a place name, the council will consult the Welsh Language Commissioner's place name advisory service.

5.7. It is recognised that many databases can only hold one version of an address. With bilingual addresses it is Royal Mail's policy to only publish the English version of addresses whilst holding the Welsh version in the background or as an alias. The Local Authority has no jurisdiction over how private companies publish address data.

6. When to apply – guidance for applicants

6.1. Applications for Street Naming and Numbering services should be made by:

- Property or land owners / developers wishing to add a name to an existing numbered only property
- Property or land owners / developers wishing to rename an existing named property
- Property or land owners / developers building new properties including new residential properties, commercial premises, industrial units and the like
- Property or land owners / developers wishing to amend layouts for new developments that have already gone through the formal naming and numbering process.
- Property or land owners / developers undertaking conversions of existing properties which will result in the creation of new residential properties or business premises. This will include existing buildings which are subdivided into flats or offices, barns converted into residences and the splitting of commercial units
- Residents wishing to rename a street
- Emergency services wishing to rename a street
- Individuals and businesses seeking confirmation of an address

6.2. As the process of street naming and numbering involves consultation and the preparation of approved schedules, applicants should consult with the council at the earliest opportunity to avoid potential delays. Applications should be submitted as soon as possible after formal planning consent and/or building regulation approval for the proposal has been granted and before work on site has commenced.

7. How to apply – guidance for applicants

7.1. A Street Naming and Numbering application can be made online at <https://www.denbighshire.gov.uk/en/resident/planning-and-building->

[regulations/street-naming-and-numbering/street-naming-and-numbering-application-form.aspx](#)

7.2. Alternatively, an application form can be obtained by:

- Telephone: 01824 706000
- Email: llprequests@denbighshire.gov.uk

Section B: Naming Streets

1. General principle

- 1.1. The naming of new streets in Denbighshire is undertaken within the provision of the Public Health Act 1925.
- 1.2. When suggesting a name, developers are to preserve any historic link to the land or the locality.
- 1.3. It is important that developers contact the Council about street naming and numbering before building work commences. Failure to do so may result in a delay as approval must be given for street naming and numbering prior to any signs being erected or postal addresses provided.
- 1.4. All costs for the supply and erection of nameplates for new streets will be borne by the developer. A detailed plan clearly showing the proposed street(s) and plot numbers should be forwarded to the Street Naming & Numbering officer. Consultation may be carried out with the Traffic Management team with regards to the suitability of the proposed street name plate locations. A signage specification and contact details of a supplier can be provided to the developer. For any adopted street the maintenance of the nameplate(s) will become the responsibility of the Local Authority.
- 1.5. New street names should not duplicate any similar name already in use in the post town. A variation in the suffix, i.e. 'street', 'road', 'avenue' etc., will not be accepted as sufficient reasons to duplicate a name.
- 1.6. Any proposal to name a street after specific individuals (living or deceased) will not be approved.
- 1.7. Any street name that promotes an active company, service or product will not be allowed as this could be seen as advertising.
- 1.8. The authority reserves the right to object to any suggested name deemed to be inappropriate.

2. New Street Names:

Effort should be made to start/end with one of the following prefixes	
Stryd/Street	for any road
Ffordd/Road	for major roads
Rhodfa/Avenue	for residential roads
Dreif/Drive	for residential roads
Llwyn/Grove	for residential roads
Lôn /Lane	for residential roads
Gerddi/Gardens	for residential roads (subject to there being no confusion with any local open space)
Maes/Place	
Trem/View	
Llys/Court	for a cul-de-sac
Clôs/Close	for a cul-de-sac
Cilgant/Crescent	for a crescent shaped road
Sgwâr/Square	for a square only
Bryn/Hill	for a hillside road only
Cylchfan/Circus	for a large roundabout
Teras or Rhes/Terrace	for a terrace of houses (provided it is not a subsidiary name)
Dyffryn/Vale	for residential roads only in exceptional circumstances
Dôl/Meadow	for residential roads only in exceptional circumstances
Gallt/Rise	for residential roads only in exceptional circumstances

The following will not be acceptable as suffixes	
Pen/End	All these words can, of course, be incorporated in a street name provided it terminates with an appropriate suffix (e.g. Mile End Road)
Croes/Cross	
Ochr/Side	
Glanfa/Wharf	
Parc/Park	

2.1. All new pedestrian ways will end with one of the following suffixes:

- Rhodfa/Walk
- Llwybr/Path
- Ffordd or Lôn/Way

2.2. Aesthetically unsuitable names such as, Tip House, Pit Lane will be avoided, or names capable of deliberate misinterpretation like Hoare Road, Typple Avenue, Swag House, etc.

2.3. The use of North, East, South or West (as in Alfred Road North, and Alfred Road South) is only acceptable where the road is continuous and passes over a major junction. It is not acceptable when the road is in two separate parts with no vehicular access between the two. In such case one half should be completely renamed.

2.4. Two phonetically similar names within a postal area will not be allowed e.g. Alfred Road and Alfred Close or Churchill Road and Birch Hill Road or Ffordd Talargoch and Rhodfa Talargoch.

2.5. Denbighshire County Council as street naming and numbering authority has responsibility for final approval of a street name.

2.6. In the event of unresolved disagreement, a final decision will be taken by the officer with delegated powers to approve street names within the council's constitution. If the person proposing to name the street continues to disagree with the council's decision they may, within twenty-one days, appeal against the objection to a Magistrates court.

2.7. The Welsh Language Commissioners office will be responsible for determining place names in regard to approved Welsh language translations.

3. Use of unofficial marketing names

3.1. Developers must clearly state in any marketing literature distributed to prospective purchasers that marketing names are subject to formal approval and consequently liable to change.

4. Street renaming / alteration of a street name

4.1. Renaming of a street and renumbering of buildings is very time consuming process and may cause costs or disruption to individual occupiers and owners and wherever possible will be avoided. Renaming of a street is normally only considered if consistent problems occur for the Emergency Services and the renumbering of properties is only considered when infill development etc. is so great, that numbers for the new properties cannot be allocated. The existing street may then be subject to a renumbering scheme.

4.2. The renaming of a street, including renaming from a monolingual street name to a bilingual street name, may be proposed by:

- An individual rate payer resident in the affected street provided they can present a change proposal letter with the signatures of 5 or 25% (whichever is fewer) of the rate payer residents of the street.
- By the Emergency Services.

4.3. The cost of renaming and re-signing streets at the request of the Emergency Services will be borne by the council.

4.4. Where renaming of the street is at the request of a rate payer (or group of rate payers) in the street the residents will need to bear the cost of re-signing the street. Ongoing signage maintenance costs thereafter will be met by Denbighshire County Council.

4.5. Prior to any street renaming / name alteration the Street Naming & Numbering officer will conduct a full consultation with the rate-payers on the affected street and those on the consultation list outlined in Section D paragraph 4.1. A letter and form will be sent to all rate-payers in the street and those on the consultation list outlining the reasons for and consequences of the proposed change. The consultation period will be 28 days. There must be a majority of support from the consultees for an application to proceed.

4.6. A report detailing the results of the consultation will be submitted to the officer with delegated powers who will determine whether or not to proceed with the change. Reasons for not proceeding with the proposed change may include, but are not restricted to:

- Insufficient support from rate-payers
- Prohibitive costs
- A genuine and serious objection from a stakeholder that cannot be easily remedied.

The report will include the cost of installing any new street name plates and whether the proposed change would involve a change of the Royal Mail postcode.

4.7. If the officer with delegated powers decides to proceed with a name change the Local Authority will issue a notice of intention to make an order for renaming of an existing street. This notice will be displayed at each end of the street or in some conspicuous position in the street or part of the street affected under Section 18 of The Public Health Act 1925 and they must remain in place for one month before an order changing the name can be made. Any person aggrieved by the intended order may, within 21 days after the posting of the notice, appeal to the Magistrates Court. If an appeal is made to the Magistrates Court the Local Authority must wait until that appeal is heard before approving any street name.

5. Naming of existing unnamed streets

5.1. The naming of unnamed streets will only be done when a rate-payer on the street requests that their street be named (and suggest a name) due to the lack of a name causing a delay in Emergency Services locating the street. The procedure will be in accordance with Section 2.3 for renaming a street and the new name must adhere to the principles set out within this policy.

6. Display of street names (street name plates)

6.1. It is the responsibility of the Local Authority to display street nameplates on roads which are maintainable by the Local Authority (adopted highways).

6.2. It is the responsibility of the owner, developer or the occupiers of private roads to have street nameplates erected and maintained. If it is brought to the attention of the Local Authority that a street nameplate in a private road is not displayed the Authority shall give 21 days' notice to the owners/occupiers of the road to display the correct name.

6.3. Where the Notice is not complied with this Authority shall give 14 days' notice that it will cause the nameplates to be displayed on the private road, in default, and recover the expenses from the owners or occupiers of the road, in accordance with section 18 of the 1925 Act. This Authority may also issue proceedings for the recovery of a fine.

Section C: Naming and Numbering Properties

1. Property numbering sequence

- 1.1. The numbering of new streets in Denbighshire is undertaken within the provision of the 1847 Town Improvement Clauses Act.
- 1.2. New streets will be numbered so that, travelling away from the town centre, even numbers are on the right of the street running from start to end and odd numbers allocated to the left.
- 1.3. Short cul-de-sac and small scale development will be numbered consecutively in a clockwise direction. Longer cul-de-sac development will again be numbered with even property numbers allocated to the right and odd property numbers allocated to the left.
- 1.4. Numbers (including the number 13) will remain in sequence and there shall be no exclusion of any number due to superstition or personal preference. Applications to omit any number from a numbering sequence, for whatever reason, will be refused.
- 1.5. Properties (including those on corner sites) will be numbered according to the street in which the main entrance is located.
- 1.6. Where a street numbering sequence may not exist, predominantly in rural areas, it will be appropriate to allocate agreed property names. It is recommended that the property name has historical or cultural links to the area.
- 1.7. Infill development (new properties built between existing properties or in the grounds of an existing property) on a numbered street will be given the same house number as the property preceding the infill followed by a suffix of 'A', 'B'. For example, 10A, 10B etc.
- 1.8. A business name shall not take the place of a number or a building name.
- 1.9. Annexes to buildings e.g. granny flats or ancillary accommodation, will be given the prefix "Annexe". The rest of the address will be the same as the parent property e.g. Annexe, 1 High Street.
- 1.10. For any dwelling accessed internally through a commercial premise, the accommodation will be given a prefix to match the accommodation type e.g. flat. The rest of the address will be the same as the parent property, e.g.

where a flat above a public house and is only accessed internally, its address will be Flat, Name of Public House, Property Number and Street Name.

- 1.11. Blocks of flats and apartments may be given a name but each individual flat or apartment will be numbered consecutively
- 1.12. All newly proposed development block names should preferably end with one of the following suffixes (or prefixes in the case of Welsh language translations):
 - Court
 - House
 - Point
 - Tower
 - Lodge
 - Apartments
 - Mansions
 - Heights
- 1.13. Use of the word “flat” will apply to those properties where accommodation is on one floor only of a building. Where residential accommodation covers two or more floors and has its own internal stairs the term “apartment” will be used.
- 1.14. All flats will be given a number rather than a letter or description e.g. Flat 1 rather than Flat A or First Floor Flat.

2. Shopping centres, retail parks and industrial estates

2.1. Names for Shopping Centres, Retail Parks and Industrial Estates etc. are subject to the same principles as those outlined for street or building names

3. Activation of new addresses

3.1. When a new development has been approved, addresses are created by the Council as ‘provisional’ entities. The details of the proposed development are shared with Royal Mail who subsequently ‘hold and record’ the addresses on their ‘Not Yet Built’ address database. To avoid any issues of post being sent to non-existent properties the addresses are not activated until occupation or the properties completed and therefore are able to receive postal services.

4. Adding a name or renaming to an existing numbered property.

4.1. Where a property has a number, it must be used and displayed. Where a name is given to a property together with its official number, the number must always be included. The name cannot be regarded as an alternative to the number.

4.2. The owner (not tenant) of a property may request the addition, amendment or removal of a name for their property. Where a property is numbered, any name will be in addition to the number.

4.3. If a request is received to add a property name to an existing numbered property, then the authority will issue the following guidance:

- There should be no conflict with existing property or street names in the postal locality.
- Properties should not be named after specific individuals (living or deceased).
- The proposed name should not include offensive or inappropriate language.

4.4. Where a house is numbered by the local authority and has also been given a name by the occupant, Royal Mail will include only the number in the postal address.

5. Converting an existing building

5.1. The conversion or sub-division of a residential property resulting in a single point of entry from which all the flats are accessed will be numbered rather than described or lettered. For example, Flat 1 as opposed to First Floor Flat or Flat A

5.2. Conversion or sub-division of a residential property resulting in multiple points of entry with each flat having its own separate front door from the designated street, will include a suffix to the primary parent or shell address. For example, 'A', 'B', 'C' will become 10A, 10B, 10C

5.3. A merged property will utilise the numbers of the original properties where premise numbers are used. For example, the merging of two properties at 4 High Street and 6 High Street or Unit 1 Trading Estate and Unit 2 Trading Estate will result in new addresses of 4-6 High Street and Unit 1-2 Trading Estate respectively

6. Re-numbering existing properties

6.1. The re-numbering of existing property(s) will be considered when changes occur which give rise (or are likely to give rise) to problems for the delivery of services or issues identified by the emergency services. This may apply where a new development cannot be accommodated within the existing numbering sequence. As the process can be time consuming and can result in additional cost, disruption or inconvenience to individual occupiers, it should be avoided wherever possible.

6.2. For new developments within an existing street the use of suffixes or re-numbering where just a few properties are affected is preferable to wholesale re-numbering of a street. However, this is not always possible and the re-naming of streets and renumbering of properties will be at the discretion of Denbighshire County Council.

7. Display of property names and numbers

7.1. All property numbers must be visible from the highway. This may mean numbers being displayed on posts, gates or fences (and not necessarily the door of the property) to aid easy identification of the property, particularly in the event of an emergency.

Section D: Postal addresses

1. Allocation of postal addresses

1.1. The allocation of postal addresses does not serve as confirmation that any building or structure has been authorised under Planning, Building Regulations or any other Legislation. Owners/occupiers may be at risk of enforcement action if any necessary approvals have not been obtained.

1.2. The Local Authority is not liable or responsible for third parties, including Royal Mail, updating their databases with address information.

1.3. A piece of land or unoccupied ancillary building e.g. a farmer's field, cannot be given a postal address. Only occupied property on that piece of land that can receive mail can have a postal address for the purposes of delivering mail and services

2. Postcodes

- 2.1. All elements of an address, with the exception of postcode, are defined by Denbighshire County Council. The numbers and names assigned to property and the official names assigned to streets are the Intellectual Property of the authority. Allocation of postcodes is managed by the Royal Mail and must be provided by them on receipt of the official naming and numbering scheme from the Local Authority but the postcode will be held in “reserve” by Royal Mail until they are notified that the property is occupied.
- 2.2. Royal Mail does not publish on its website addresses that are not completed and/or occupied. This means that in certain cases addresses that have been officially allocated and issued by the Local Authority may not, for a while, be visible to anyone using the Royal Mail website to validate an address. This may also mean that other organisations using the Royal Mail address database (Postcode Address File) will also not be able to validate addresses.
- 2.3. Developers, owners and tenants should be aware that their property/ies may not have the same postcode as the surrounding or existing properties.
- 2.4. The maintenance of postcode information, and any future change to individual postcodes or postcode sectors, is the responsibility of the Royal Mail.

3. County name

- 3.1. The county does not form part of any postal address and changes to it are not therefore covered by Royal Mail’s Postcode Address File Code of Practice.
- 3.2. The postal counties of the United Kingdom, now known officially as the former postal counties, were postal subdivisions in routine use by Royal Mail until 1996. The raison d’être of the postal county – as opposed to any other kind of county – was to aid the sorting of mail by enabling differentiation between like-sounding post towns. Since 1996 this has been done by using the outward code (first half) of the postcode instead. The postal county was removed from the Postcode Address File database in 2000 and does not form part of Royal Mail’s code of practice for changing addresses.
- 3.3. Despite this, county data is routinely sold to companies, ostensibly in order for them to cleanse their own address data. As the former postal county data was the last to be in routine use, some organisations have continued to use this obsolete data as part of postal addresses. It is for this reason that the county of Clwyd appears on some mail.

4. Notification of address change intelligence to internal and external partners

4.1. On completion of an application for Street Naming and Numbering, the Council will include the following partners as part of the formal notification process:

- The relevant local County Councillor
- The relevant City, Town or Community Council
- Internal Council Services,
- Welsh Ambulance Service,
- North Wales Fire Service,
- North Wales Police,
- Royal Mail,
- The Land Registry.

5. Denbighshire County Council Corporate Address Gazetteer

5.1. There are two primary sources of address information in use across the UK- the National Address and Street Gazetteer and Royal Mail's Postal Address File.

5.2. As a local authority, the Council are required, under the Public Sector Geospatial Agreement, to manage and maintain a Corporate Address and Street Gazetteer with regular change updates being provided to the respective National Address and Street Gazetteer central hub.

5.3. The Corporate Address and Street Gazetteers, which are managed and maintained by all local and unitary authorities across Wales, England and Scotland, are the keystone for the on-going development and delivery of the national address infrastructure programme for Great Britain.

5.4. The National Address and Street Gazetteer are managed by GeoPlace (a public sector limited liability partnership between the Local Government Association and Ordnance Survey) providing definitive and up-to-date sources of publicly-owned spatial address and street data.

5.5. The National Gazetteers are recognised as critical components for the development of a comprehensive register of accurate address and street information for both the public and private sectors.

5.6. The Corporate Gazetteers comply with the British Standard BS7666 – Spatial Datasets for Geographical Referencing Part 1 and 2 and the National Data Entry Convention Guidelines as agreed by the designated maintaining authorities.

- 5.7. The Royal Mail postcode address file (PAF) is specifically designed to support the delivery of postal delivery services and Royal Mail do not accept any responsibility or liability for the use of PAF for any other purpose or intended use outside of the delivery of these services.
- 5.8. The Corporate Address Gazetteer is intended to facilitate the accurate delivery of all services and is based on the actual geographic location of the property but also includes post town as used by Royal Mail.
- 5.9. In addition, the Corporate Address Gazetteer includes additional non-postal objects such as development and agricultural land, woodlands, parks, churches, halls, public conveniences etc. which are not encompassed within PAF.
- 5.10. Council's Corporate Address Gazetteer is the primary address register used in the delivery of Council services.
- 5.11. It is important to recognise that there is one definitive address that is used by all services when contacting residents and businesses, and for customer use via the web site. A definitive and single address system will enable all information about a property or piece of land to be retrieved from all the Council's back office systems and enable a joined up response to customer enquiries.
- 5.12. Integrating the master address database with other internal systems avoids duplication of data and maintenance and facilitates easier and more accurate exchange of information between departments, authorities and agencies.
- 5.13. The provision of correct address information is of critical importance to local emergency services.
- 5.14. All new database systems procured or developed by the authority that use address data must be BS7666 compliant and be able to receive LLPG updates successfully.

Section E: Installation of street name plates

1. Street nameplates should be fixed as near as possible to street corners, so as to be easily readable by drivers as well as pedestrians. The nameplate should normally be within 3m of the intersection of the kerb lines, but where this is not practicable the distance may be varied up to a maximum of 6m.
2. Street nameplates should be mounted so that the lower edge of the plate is approximately 1m above the ground at sites where they are unlikely to be obscured by pedestrians or vehicles and at approximately 2.5m where obstruction is a problem. They should never be lower than 600mm or higher than 3.6m.
3. Nameplates should normally be fixed at each street corner. At minor cross-roads, particularly in residential areas, one plate on each side of the street positioned on the offside of traffic emerging from the road may be sufficient, except where the road name changes or where it is thought that paragraph 8 would apply.
4. At T-junctions a main street nameplate should be placed directly opposite the traffic approaching from the side road.
5. Where the street name changes at a point other than a crossroad, both names should be displayed at the point of change and many Local Authorities have found it useful to include arrows to indicate clearly to which parts of the street the name refers.
6. On straight lengths of road without intersections, nameplates should be repeated at reasonable intervals with priority given to such places as bus and railway stations, and opposite entrances to well frequented sites such as car parks.
7. Where two streets branch off obliquely from a common junction with a third street, plates on fingerpost mountings can be useful, provided they do not obscure any traffic sign.
8. Where it might reasonably be expected, for example at intervals only on straight lengths of road or at intersections or T-junctions, many Local Authorities have found it useful to incorporate, on the nameplate, information indicating street numbers on either side of the intersection.
9. Whenever practical, street nameplates should be mounted on walls, buildings or other boundary structures at the back edge of the footpath. Post mounting or finger mounting should only be used where normal mounting does not make the plate conspicuous (e.g. where an important side road has a narrow entrance or in the exception circumstances mentioned in paragraph 7 above, or where it will

frequently be obscured by pedestrian movement and cannot be mounted at the 2.5m height).

10. The nameplates should be fixed so that there is a clear space of at least 300mm in every direction between them and any notices, advertisements or other printed or written matter. Where possible greater clearance should be provided. Care should be taken to keep the view of nameplates free from obstruction by trees or other growth.
11. Where possible, nameplates should be fixed so that they will be illuminated by light from street lamps, especially at important junctions, provided they remain visible to vehicles on the main carriageway.
12. Street names may be displayed in panels in bollards facing footways, as an addition to, but not as a replacement for, other nameplates.

Section F: Policy review

This policy will be reviewed every three years or sooner if a major change in the process is required through the introduction of new legislation for example.

Section G: Useful contacts

You can contact the Street Naming and Numbering officer in the following ways

Webpage <https://www.denbighshire.gov.uk/en/resident/planning-and-building-regulations/street-naming-and-numbering/register-a-street-name-or-property-name-or-number.aspx>

E-mail llpgrequests@denbighshire.gov.uk

Phone 01824706000 and ask to speak to the Street Naming and Numbering Officer.

Report to	Cabinet
Date of meeting	16 th February, 2021
Lead Member / Officer	Cllr Hugh Evans, Lead Member Economy & Corporate Governance / Graham Boase, Corporate Director, Economy & Public Realm
Report author	James Evans, Lead Officer Inward Investment & High Growth
Title	Welsh Government Transforming Towns Programme

1. What is the report about?

- 1.1 The report is about continuing to secure regeneration investment in Denbighshire from the Welsh Government (WG) Transforming Towns (TT) programme, previously known as the Targeted Regeneration Investment (TRI) programme.

2. What is the reason for making this report?

- 2.1 To ensure that Members are provided with relevant background information and to seek approval of the recommendations, below that will enable the Council to continue accessing resources from WG, for the regeneration of targeted areas of the county.

3. What are the Recommendations?

- 3.1 Following original Cabinet approval on 22nd May, 2018, that members approve, continued delegated authority for the Corporate Director, Economy & Public Realm in consultation with the Lead Member for the Economy & Corporate Governance, Head of Legal, HR & Democratic Services and Head of Finance (Section 151 Officer), for funding years, 2021-22 (Year 4) and 2022-23 (Year 5), to:

1. make any project funding applications necessary to secure resources from the Transforming Towns programme for the period of its operation
2. accept and undertake expenditure on projects accessing Transforming Towns programme support, including award of grants to third parties
3. renegotiate and enter into any new agreements with other North Wales councils as necessary to bid for or receive Transforming Towns programme funds

4. agree any changes/updates made to the North Wales Regional Regeneration Plan (RRP)

4. Report details

4.1 Background

- 4.1.1 WG launched the TRI programme to provide funding for targeted regeneration projects across Wales from April 2018. WG invited each of the four regional economic development partnerships to develop long term plans to steer the TRI programme in their region.
- 4.1.2 On a regional level, the Regional Regeneration Officers Group (RROG) was set up to meet on a monthly basis, to oversee pipeline projects, endorse strategic projects (above £250,000 in value.) to be taken to the WG panel for approval and monitor regional project spend. In relation to the two 'thematic' schemes: Housing Renewal and Important Buildings (projects capped at £250,000.), they were administered and monitored by Wrexham CBC and projects were approved on a regional basis.
- 4.1.3 A North Wales RRP was developed and agreed by the region, setting out a vision and objectives for regeneration until 2035, providing a high level summary of priorities to steer development of future programmes of work. This aligned the regeneration process with that for economic growth operating to the same timescale.
- 4.1.4 Twelve towns were set as priority areas for urban regeneration interventions in North Wales. These towns were identified using the Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation (WIMD) rankings for overall levels of deprivation based on the presence of Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs) which are among the ten percent most deprived in Wales. The two towns prioritised for Denbighshire were, Denbigh and Rhyl. These were ranked based on the population living in the most deprived LSOA's.
- 4.1.5 In total, around **£16,630,000** has been committed from TRI funding for projects in North Wales over the three year period. Of that amount, **£4,150,660** has been committed to DCC projects (see appendix 1 for details.).
- 4.1.6 This initial TRI programme was intended to operate for three years, until 31st March, 2021, but it has now been confirmed that it will continue for at least two more funding

years, from 1st April, 2021, until 31st March, 2023. There are some small changes, however (set out under 4.2), including a name change to the TT programme.

4.2 The Transforming Towns programme for North Wales, 2021-2023

4.2.1 The WG have confirmed two more years of funding, but there is a possibility for this to be extended beyond this period. £7.92m WG TT funding has been set aside for North Wales for 2021-22.

4.2.2 The region has agreed that 'up to' half of that amount will be used for the new 'Transforming Towns Placemaking Thematic' (TTPT) scheme during 2021-22, with the balance of that funding being set aside for Strategic projects. It is not yet known what the amount set aside for 2022-23 will be, but expected to be broadly similar.

4.2.3 There are already approved strategic DCC projects, continuing to be delivered in these two funding years, as well as the recently approved project, the first phase of Queen's Market development, with funding committed over 2021-22 and 2022-23.

4.2.4 In relation to the TTPT scheme, this is being administered by Wrexham CBC, who previously administered the Housing Renewal and Important Buildings Thematic Schemes. The thematic scheme is a change from the previous thematic schemes, offering a more holistic range of activities (See appendix 2 for latest WG draft.) and can be used for other town centres, as well as Denbigh and Rhyl.

4.2.5 As previously the case, strategic and thematic funding will continue to be made for housing and regeneration capital investment, with a clear emphasis on creating employment, urban renewal and housing.

4.3 Updated North Wales Regional Regeneration Strategy

4.3.1 An update of the North Wales RRP is to be undertaken during 2021, with each North Wales Local Authority having been awarded £5,000 WG TT revenue funding to pay for this. Flintshire County Council are leading on commissioning the work, with a contract to be in place to undertake the work before the end of March, 2021.

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

5.1 As well as supporting priorities relating to the regeneration of Rhyl, the TT programme will continue to make contributions to the 2017-2022 corporate priorities by:

- Developing new town centre housing targeted at younger people
- Bringing redundant space back into commercial and residential use
- Creating an attractive town centre which supports economic prosperity
- Improving the connection between residents and their town centre, shops, services and employment opportunities
- Developing town centres as places where young people want to live and work
- Enabling local people to plan and shape the future of their town centre

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

6.1 The TT programme still requires match funding for projects of 30%. Each council is responsible for securing match funding for its own projects and to enable it to secure resources from the regional thematic projects.

6.2 Required match funding for pipeline and new emerging projects may come from a range of public / private sources and will be considered via the usual Council procedures, including CET, SIG and Cabinet. It is important to state here, the match funding has been agreed for the first phase of the Queen's Market development, as DCC's most important regeneration project for Rhyl Town Centre, as well as the other projects currently being delivered.

6.3 Project proposals have and will continue to be developed with engagement of officers from across a number of service areas. In particular the proposals contribute positively to delivery of Service Plans for Facilities Assets & Housing and Planning & Public Protection. There may be a workload impact on the Legal, HR and Democratic Service in relation to legal and procurement work on property redevelopment schemes.

6.4 The long term regeneration of deprived communities in Denbighshire aims to improve community wellbeing and will reduce demand on a number of public services.

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

7.1 A Well-being Impact Assessment was originally undertaken, and this still remains relevant to the funding programme being extended. The Assessment was undertaken with input from officers across a number of disciplines during and scored 3 out of 4 stars. Overall, securing regeneration investment into an area suffering from multiple deprivation was recognised as positive.

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

8.1 Discussions with various Officers of the Council and collaborative development work on the RRP with WG / officers across the region.

9. Chief Finance Officer Statement

9.1 The opportunity to secure external funding to support priority areas is welcome. Careful consideration will have to be given to how the council's match-funding elements can be secured and whether there are revenue implications of any projects emerging. Projects will be subject to the usual internal scrutiny and approval processes, including submission of capital schemes to the Strategic Investment Group.

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

10.1 That insufficient staff time / expertise / money is available to develop and deliver proposed projects. Early identification of the gap in resources and re-allocation of staff time / financial resources to aid development / delivery will help.

10.2 That one of the Councils in North Wales does not approve the TT proposals for submission to WG. If this happens it is likely that the 2021-22 TT grant allocation will be lost from the region as there will be insufficient time to bid and deliver within this financial year. This has been mitigated to date, through close collaborative working but there remains some risk that political difficulties could arise in some councils.

11. Power to make the Decision

11.1 Section 2, Local Government Act 2000. The power to undertake activity for the promotion of the social, economic or environmental well-being of the area.

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DCC TRI (TT) Projects	TRI Year 1 2018/19	TRI Year 2 2019/20	TRI Year 3 2020/21	TRI (TT) Year 4 2021/22	TRI (TT) Year 5 2022/23
Strategic Projects					
COMMITTED:					
3-23 Edward Henry Street (West Rhyl Phase 2)		119,000	932,400		
Contemporary Living and Independent Retail (64 High St, 2 & 4 Wellington Rd, 1-3 St Helens Place, 56 High Street)	488,000	76,160	534,000	228,238.00	
Queens Buildings				409,000.00	400,000.00
Housing Renewals Thematic Project		58,000	86,600		
Important Buildings - Buttermarket, Denbigh			250,000		
Important Buildings - The Forum, Denbigh			175,000		
COMPLETED:					
West Rhyl Phase 1	809,500	104,000			
Development Fund Projects					
COMMITTED:					
131 High Street (Gateway1) & 123-129 High Street (Gateway 2) - Round 2		5,000	45,000		
COMPLETED:					
131 High Street (Gateway1) & 123-129 High Street (Gateway 2) - Round 1	20,000				
27 - 37 West Parade (MrBs), Feasibility Study		20,000			
Other Schemes					
Town Centre Covid-19 Grant			108,000		
Green Infrastructure			270,000		
Regional Plan			5,000		
Rhyl Public Realm Strategy			9,500		
Eyesore, enforcement work support			500		
Town Centre Shop Fronts Guide and Historic Building Colour palette guide			10,000		
In Development					
Important Buildings Dev Fund - Goldilocks and the George, Queen Street, Rhyl			25,000		

£1,317,500	£382,160	£2,451,000	£637,238	£400,000
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Transforming Towns

Thematic Programme

The Transforming Towns Thematic programme affords Local Authority partners in Wales the broadest and most flexible package of support aimed at revitalising town centres throughout Wales. It is the responsibility of regional partners to decide upon the most appropriate mix of interventions and how they are deployed effectively. This support is available in any town centre prioritised by Local Authority partners.

Given the broad nature of this new support it is not anticipated that there will be any additional interventions to those detailed in this document. However, should you require support to be allocated to different elements these would need to be approved by Welsh Government.

Intervention	Scheme Detail	Eligible Applicant	Maximum Allocation of grant
Residential Units in Town Centres	<p>To convert vacant floor-space on upper floors into new residential accommodation. The minimum requirement from each scheme is 1 x 1 bedroom self-contained flat. Schemes are expected to be a mix of one and two bedroom units with ratio determined by layout of building and planning consent.</p> <p>Schemes should comply to the minimum floor space as recommended in the most up to date Welsh Housing Quality Standards, currently this is:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 46m² per one bedroom flat 2. 59m² per two bedroom flat <p>Student accommodation, bedsits and studios are not eligible for grant funding</p> <p>Where acceptable to Local Planning Authorities potential conversion of ground floor, as well as upper floors may be considered for areas not considered to be core retail, where no alternative commercial use can be found.</p>	<p>Occupiers or property owners of properties within town centres who either:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Own the freehold, or • Hold a lease with a seven year minimum period remaining at the planned grant payment date and who have secured their landlord's written consent to the proposed works. 	Up to £250,000 per property
Commercial Property Improvement Grants	<p>The Property Improvement Grant is available to commercial building occupiers and owners within town centres. Its purpose is to enhance building frontages together with the upgrade of vacant commercial floor space to bring it back into beneficial business use.</p>	<p>Occupiers or property owners of commercial properties within the designated area who either:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Own the freehold, or 	Up to £250,000 per property

	<p>New/ upgraded floor space must be for business use, with each scheme determined on its individual merits at the discretion of local officers, and then approved by local and regional project boards. In particular offices, independent leisure, retail, food and drink uses will be considered. Mixed-use schemes will also be considered, but private student lets, will not be considered.</p> <p>Offices or commercial premises above retail units will also be considered for support.</p> <p>WORKS</p> <p>External</p> <p>External works to the building can include work deemed necessary for the structural integrity of the property. Items might include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Shopfronts;• Signage;• Windows & doors;• External lighting;• Roofs and chimneys;• Rainwater goods (guttering and down pipes);• Rendering, stone cleaning and repairs, re-pointing; and• Structural works.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hold a lease with a seven year minimum period remaining at the planned grant payment date and who have secured their landlord's written consent to the proposed works.	
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	<p>Internal Internal works to the building can include all work, visible or structural, necessary to complete the project to Building Regulations. This might include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Windows & doors; • Improved accessibility; • Walls, ceilings, lighting; • Energy Efficiency measures when included as part of the overall scheme; • Utilities and services, including heating; • Welfare facilities (e.g. essential washroom and cleansing facilities only); and • Structural work <p>New Build New build commercial floor-space could be eligible, where a local need for this has been identified.</p>		
<p>Green Infrastructure</p>	<p>The provision of Green Infrastructure and Biodiversity projects in town centres. Specifically but not exclusively:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green Walls • Green Roofs • Rain Gardens • Greening. • Pocket Parks <p>Other GI or general greening measures are eligible subject to approval of Welsh Government. Any intervention needs to be strategic and underpinned by a Town Centre Green Infrastructure Audit.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Authorities • Business Improvement Districts BIDs • Town and Community Councils • Occupiers or property owners of commercial properties within the designated area who either: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Own the freehold, or ○ Hold a lease with a seven year minimum period remaining at the planned grant payment date and who have secured their 	<p>Up to £250,000 per project</p>

	This support will not contribute to ongoing maintenance costs in future financial years.	landlord's written consent to the proposed works.	
Public Realm	<p>The provision of small scale public realm enhancements where they are aligned with a natural clustering of regeneration activity in town centres. Where there is demonstrable social and economic impact. Specifically:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The removal or dropping of curbs for access and egress. • The widening of pavement areas so as to provide outdoor seating and amenity areas. • Permanent planters and screening provision. <p>Other measures may be eligible for support subject to approval of Welsh Government.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Authorities. • Business Improvement Districts BIDs • Town and Community Councils 	Up to £250,000 per scheme.
Strategic Acquisition	<p>Small Scale acquisitions within town centres. This support should not be used to acquire properties that are subject to, or could benefit from planning enforcement measures. Specifically, this support could be utilised to:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acquire properties in order to complete land assembly for larger strategic proposals. • Acquire properties for demolition in order to deliver improved connectivity and permeability in town centres. • The acquisition of properties in order to provide greenspace, play facilities or enhanced public realm. • Demolition costs are eligible. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Authorities • Business Improvement Districts BIDs • Town and Community Councils • Social Businesses and B – Corps 	Up to £250,000 per acquisition.

Town Centre Markets	<p>The delivery of the ‘Every Town a Market Town’ philosophy. The development and enabling of local markets for the provision of produce, craft, food and value added products. This capital only funding will deliver:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The provision of permanent electricity supplies to enable market trading. • The acquisition of trading stalls, stands and platforms. <p>Works must conform and be aligned with the Welsh Government best practice guide for the establishment of local markets. This work should be aligned with any post Covid – 19 Town Centre works and planning.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Authorities • Business Improvement Districts (BIDs) • Town and Community Councils • Social Businesses and B – Corps 	Up to £250,000 per location.
Town Centre Meanwhile Uses	<p>The establishment of temporary meanwhile or pop – up uses in currently vacant premises in town centres. The support should be wholly aligned with the Welsh Government Meanwhile Uses Best Practice Guide.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Authorities • Business Improvement Districts BIDs • Town and Community Councils • Social Businesses and B – Corps 	Up to £250,000 per location.
Town Centre External Trading support.	<p>The provision of outdoor seating, planters, coverings, servery areas and building canopies. This support is in line with the Covid – 19 response grant 2020/21.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Authorities • Business Improvement Districts • Town Centre Businesses • BIDs • Town and Community Councils 	
Shop Frontage Enveloping Schemes	<p>External shop frontage enhancements whereby no internal modification or redevelopment is undertaken. Adjacent or closely situated properties need to be targeted in a given town so as to achieve a critical mass and greater impact. It is suggested that a minimum of 6 properties should sign up to this support.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Occupiers or property owners of commercial properties within the designated area who either: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Own the freehold, or ○ Hold a lease with a seven year minimum period remaining at the planned 	Up to £250,000 per location.

		grant payment date and who have secured their landlord's written consent to the proposed works. For projects that request less than £50k in grant a legal charge is not required so a lease with five years remaining at the final grant payment date is acceptable.	
Digital Towns	The furthering of the 'digital towns' agenda through the provision of capital items to support Wi-Fi analytics and Lora Wan networks.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Authorities • Business Improvement Districts BIDs • Town and Community Councils. 	Up to £250,000 per town centre.
Active Travel	Provisions supporting or facilitating active travel routes in town centres where this cannot be funded through other means. Specifically the provision of bicycle storage, lockers and retrofit of show and hygiene facilities in commercial premises	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Authorities • Business Improvement Districts BIDs • Town and Community Councils • Social Businesses and B – Corps • Private sector partners 	Up to £250,000 per application.

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WG Target Regeneration Investment Programme bid

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:	338
Brief description:	Submission for grant funding under the WG Target Regeneration Investment Programme bid for priority projects emerging from the Rhyl Town Centre Masterplan group.
Date Completed:	30/11/2017 12:55:38 Version: 1
Completed by:	Kim Waller
Responsible Service:	Planning & Public Protection
Localities affected by the proposal:	Rhyl,

IMPACT ASSESSMENT SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

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

Score for the sustainability of the approach

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

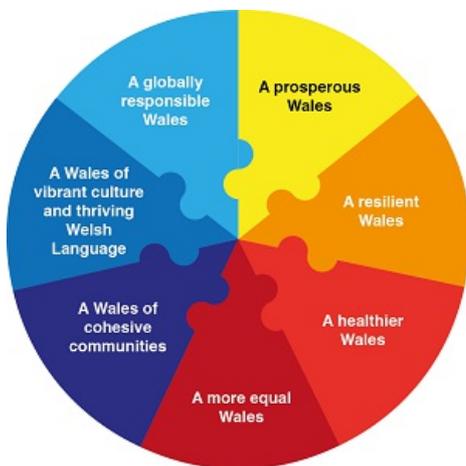


(3 out of 4 stars)

Actual score : 17 / 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	Neutral
A globally responsible Denbighshire	Neutral

Main conclusions

Overall securing regeneration investment into a area suffering from multiple deprivation will be a positive thing. However, to maximise the benefits it is important that there are strong links between projects to create physical changes and those projects supporting local people as otherwise the benefits will be felt by people from outside the most deprived communities. It will also be important to consider the scheduling of a range of projects to minimise disruption to local businesses and existing town centre users as well as ensuring that the LA services and market have the capacity to manage the demand.

THE LIKELY IMPACT ON DENBIGHSHIRE, WALES AND THE WORLD

A prosperous Denbighshire

Overall Impact	Positive
Justification for impact	This project seeks to secure investment to improve the Town Centre in Rhyl.

Positive consequences identified:

Regeneration investment will enable existing poor quality buildings to be improved or replaced to meet modern, more energy efficient standards.

The regeneration of Rhyl town centre is intended to support the creation of a vibrant and viable town centre improving the economic prosperity of the area for businesses and local residents.

The projects that we will be seeking funding for will need to demonstrate their outputs relating to jobs and apprenticeships.

Projects seeking funding are part of the Rhyl Regeneration programme and should be linking in with the skills development programmes in the area. Construction skills will be of benefit across the region if other planned developments take place.

Projects to be submitted for funding should identify needs around these and will be co-ordinated through the Rhyl Town Centre Masterplan project team.

This is a capital investment grant programme which would not support childcare. However this is a consideration within the wider Rhyl Regeneration Programme.

Unintended negative consequences identified:

Physical regeneration works may require goods to be delivered and use carbon in the demolition and refurb/ rebuild process.

There may be businesses that lose their existing accommodation through any works or business may be disrupted during physical improvement works.

Some jobs will be short-term during construction periods

Construction opportunities will be short-term. The grant will need to be spent over the next 3 years with a short lead in time - this may not provide enough time for local people to be ready to take up opportunities.

The funding (if secured) is a relatively small amount and will not be able to deliver all the local requirements to deliver the vibrant, connected town centre vision.

Unless the Rhyl Regeneration programme considers the needs of local people, the benefits of projects delivered through this grant will be purely physical.

Mitigating actions:

Work closely with the Rhyl Town centre Masterplan team to ensure that they have the information that they need to bring forward projects that will achieve the most impact with the funding available.

A resilient Denbighshire

Overall Impact	Positive
Justification for impact	Securing a regeneration grant will provide the financial means to improve the infrastructure so that it is modern and energy efficient.

Positive consequences identified:

The Rhyl Town Centre Masterplan seeks to increase/improve the natural environment in the town centre.

The Rhyl Town Centre Masterplan seeks to increase/improve the natural environment in the town centre.

Projects will consider these within their individual business cases.

Refurbished building, improved housing etc will be more energy efficient.

Projects will consider this issue within their individual business cases. The Masterplan project will look at the overall spatial planning of the town to ensure that layout supports flood risk management.

Unintended negative consequences identified:

Construction if successful in securing the grant may be destructive in the short-term to the local biodiversity and the natural environment.

Construction if successful in securing the grant may be destructive in the short-term to the local biodiversity and the natural environment.

Increased town centre housing if a product of the grant funding may increase the energy consumption within the town centre both in terms of new accommodation and possible extended business opening times.

Mitigating actions:

Although environmental improvements in their own right are not eligible, some consideration can be made to how these can be included within a scheme.

A healthier Denbighshire

Overall Impact	Positive
Justification for impact	The grant seeks to support the delivery of transformational change within the most deprived communities. An improved town centre, increased job opportunities and an increase in household income will positively impact on health outcomes.

Positive consequences identified:

The intention through securing grant funding is to create a vibrant town centre with better access around encouraging more interaction and activity.

This may be an indirect benefit of improved business premises and town centre living but is not the core focus of the capital grant.

Links between the projects funded through this grant scheme to other local initiatives will encourage mobility and participation in the new leisure opportunities in Rhyl.

This grant scheme wants to make an impact on the lives of those living in the most disadvantaged communities. Health outcomes will be important and links to other projects will need to be demonstrated.

This grant funding seeks to improve the facilities within and access to and around the town centre.

Unintended negative consequences identified:

People may not move from the town to the leisure facilities.

The town centre refurbishments may only attract fast food offers to the area.

Access around the town may be disrupted during refurbishment work making access to facilities and the beach difficult.

People living in the most deprived communities may be so far removed from the workplace that they will not be able to take advantage of the opportunities available.

If the grant is used to increase town centre living this may put a strain on local health services.

Mitigating actions:

Need to ensure that the physical regeneration projects link with the 'people' projects so that local people can benefit from these regeneration projects.

A more equal Denbighshire

Overall Impact	Positive
Justification for impact	The TRI programme aims to support transformational change in areas with high socio-economic need.

Positive consequences identified:

The Rhyl Town centre Masterplan aims to create a vibrant town centre for everyone. In order to achieve this all projects will consider this through the development stage.

This grant scheme wants to make an impact on the lives of those living in the most disadvantaged communities. Health outcomes will be important and links to other projects will need to be demonstrated.

This grant scheme wants to make an impact on the lives of those living in the most disadvantaged communities. Health outcomes will be important and links to other projects will need to be demonstrated.

Unintended negative consequences identified:

Increasing visitor numbers to the town centre and changing layout and familiarity of shops etc may be an issue for some people which will affect their use of the town centre.

It is difficult to predict the future business offer of the town centre which may attract businesses which will negatively impact on health i.e fast food, convenience stores etc.

If Rhyl becomes a more desirable area to live this may impact on the rent levels in the area.

Mitigating actions:

Ensuring that all projects undertake the well-being impact assessment will help to minimise risks.

A Denbighshire of cohesive communities

Overall Impact	Positive
Justification for impact	Securing additional grant funding for the town would help to continue the regeneration of the town. This would feed into the optimism that Rhyl is improving encouraging people to get involved within their community.

Positive consequences identified:

. The master plan project is considering a whole approach to the spatial design of the town and will consider community safety within this planning process.

Engagement activities are planned around the masterplan projects which will also identify stakeholders who may be able to actively participate in this local regeneration programme.

This is a physical regeneration grant programme which aims to bring about improvements to the attractiveness of an area.

Unintended negative consequences identified:

Refurbishment work may reduce the number of visitors to the town increasing the feelings of isolation.

The timescales of the grant scheme mean that project concepts will need to be submitted before meaningful engagement will have been completed. There is a risk that project proposals will not receive local support.

There will be insufficient funding available to make an impact.

Mitigating actions:

Ensure that projects are engaging with all stakeholders at an early stage.

A Denbighshire of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language

Overall Impact	Neutral
Justification for impact	This is not the aim of the grant but should be considered within individual projects.

Positive consequences identified:

Projects will consider these within their individual business cases.

Projects will consider these within their individual business cases.

This is not key criteria for this grant funding scheme, however, projects will consider these within their individual business cases.

Unintended negative consequences identified:

Significant changes to the town centre may remove local culture and heritage elements which are important to local residents.

Mitigating actions:

A globally responsible Denbighshire

Overall Impact	Neutral
Justification for impact	Securing additional investment is generally a positive outcome for the LA and local companies and supply chain.

Positive consequences identified:

Funding secured through this scheme will need to meet WG and LA criteria but will be looked at in more detail by each project.

Funding secured through this scheme will need to meet WG and LA criteria

The grant will cover some costs incurred by the local authority and is therefore a source of income for services.

Unintended negative consequences identified:

Too many projects coming on line at the same time may stretch the supply chain and cause issues in deliverability or mean that labour and products are required from further afield.

Too many projects coming on line at the same time may provide an opening for less scrupulous companies to provide labour via 'slave trade' routes
Too many projects at one time may put a strain on stretched services.

Mitigating actions:

Capacity to deliver needs to be considered when looking at the timescales for projects submitted to be delivered. Services need to see the whole picture.

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Report to	Cabinet
Date of meeting	16 th February 2021
Lead Member / Officer	Councillor Julian Thompson-Hill
Report author	Steve Gadd, Head of Finance and Property
Title	Recommendations of the Strategic Investment Group

1. What is the report about?

Block Allocation capital bids received for inclusion in the 2021/22 Capital Plan.

2. What is the reason for making this report?

The Strategic Investment Group, which includes representatives from the three scrutiny committees, has met to consider bids prepared by each service.

3. What are the Recommendations?

That Cabinet supports the projects shown in Appendix 1 for inclusion in the 2021/22 Capital Plan, and recommends accordingly to full Council.

4. Report details

4.1 The available funding for 2021/22 is shown below:

Source	Amount £000
General Capital Grant	3,022
Un-hypothecated Supported Borrowing	3,014
Prudential Borrowing – Highways	1,935
Contribution from capital financing budget	2,033
Unused contingency b/f	500
Total Funds Available 2021/22	10,504

- 4.2 The Capital Plan spends money on two types of project. Firstly there are one-off projects such as a new school; the second type is a 'block allocation'. These are on-going programmes of work that stretch over several years (and may never be complete) e.g. schools maintenance. Elements of this work may be paid for from repair and maintenance budgets but a significant part is funded through the Capital Plan.
- 4.3 Appendix 1 shows the projects listed with the recommended funding source for each highlighted in the appropriate column. For additional clarity, the following points should be noted:
- PB Highways Column - £1.750m. This is supported from the revenue budget as a corporate priority, as approved by Full Council on 26 January 2021. In addition, a proposed £185k application for Salix funding is included.
 - Council Funds column – these are funds such as general grants and contributions from the capital financing budget.
- 4.4 A narrative to support the recommendations of the Strategic Investment Group is included as Appendix 2.
- 4.5 The membership of the Strategic Investment Group is as follows:
- Cabinet Member – Deputy Leader and Lead Member for Finance, Performance and Strategic Assets (Chair)
 - Cabinet Member – Leader of the Council and Lead Member for the Economy and Corporate Governance
 - Cabinet Member – Lead Member for Developing Community Infrastructure
 - Representative from each Scrutiny Committee
 - Corporate Director – Economy and Public Realm
 - Head of Finance (S.151) and Property

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

Projects have been reviewed to ensure that they satisfy the Council's corporate objectives.

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

6.1 Cost Implications

The costs of the schemes are shown in Appendix 1. The Prudential Borrowing costs will be met through the 2021/22 revenue budget.

6.2 Staffing/ICT/Accommodation Implications

Each new project is required to complete a Project Business Case form and any specific implications are discussed at that stage.

6.3 Assessment of impact on Climate Change – Mitigation and Adaptation

New capital projects are subject to scrutiny by the Strategic Investment Group. Each business case will show, where relevant carbon tonne emission pre and post project, thus identifying whether the project is carbon emission positive, negative or neutral. In addition, it is necessary to ensure new capital projects are future proof and able to adapt to climate change.

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

A full Impact Assessment has been completed for each capital bid reviewed by the Strategic Investment Group. A copy of each individual Wellbeing Assessment is available in the members' library on the Modern.gov system.

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

Heads of Service approved the submission of the bids. Representatives of Cabinet and Scrutiny committees have been involved in the process.

This report has been shared with scrutiny committee chairs for comment.

9. Chief Finance Officer Statement

The Council must continue to invest appropriately in its assets. Not to do so can incur more significant costs in the long term. With the continuing reduction in the real value of Welsh Government supported borrowing, the Council must rely on its own resources more and more.

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

- 10.1 Possible risks would include schemes not progressing, loss of grant and disruptions to services. The condition of assets would continue to deteriorate if investment is not made, and this may lead to the loss of important services.
- 10.2 No capital project is without risk. However all schemes are reviewed by the Strategic Investment Group and also subject to on-going monthly monitoring and reporting.

11. Power to make the decision

Local Authorities are required under section 151 of the Local Government Act (1972) to make arrangements for the proper administration of their financial affairs.

2021/22 Capital Bids - Proposed Block Allocations

APPENDIX 1

Ref	Project Name	Head of Service	Capital Plan Requirement 2021/22 £000	P B Highways £000	Council Funds £000	TOTAL 2021/22 £000	Brief Description
F01	Minor Adaptations; Community Equipment, Telecare	Phil Gilroy	240		240	240	Minor Adaptations and Equipment
F02	Private Sector Housing Assistance	Emlyn Jones	1,200		1,200	1,200	Housing Improvement Works to Private Sector Dwellings
F03	Schools Capital Maintenance Works	Steve Gadd	3,651		3,651	3,651	Works to a range of work streams in schools.
F04	Non School Public Buildings Capital Maintenance Works	Steve Gadd	1,541		1,541	1,541	Works to a range of work streams for Public Buildings
F05/F06/F07	Highways works	Tony Ward	2,863	1,750	1,113	2,863	Improvements to roads and bridges. Coastal Protection
F08	Traffic Works	Emlyn Jones	324		324	324	Road Safety Improvement Schemes.
F09	Sustainable LED Lighting (Salix)	Tony Ward	185	185		185	Application for loan to Salix to replace street lighting lanterns - see Note 1
	Capital Contingency		500		500	500	
	TOTALS		10,504	1,935	8,569	10,504	

For Information Only:

Note 1 Sustainable LED Lighting (Salix) - Application for loan from Government funded Salix initiative

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The Strategic Investment Group decided to invite bids in line with previously agreed block allocations for services. The process for 2021-22 was more streamlined than for previous years. Whilst services were asked to provide a business case to support their bids, the requirement for Heads of Service to present bids to the Strategic Investment Group was waived.

Each bid was submitted with approval of the relevant Head of Service. The proposed allocations are detailed in Appendix 1 and in summary are as follows:

- An allocation of £240k is recommended for Minor Adaptations, Community Equipment and Telecare. This funding is targeted at enabling the elderly and disabled to remain in their own homes.
- It is proposed to allocate £1.2m in support of Private Sector Housing Assistance. The funding will be used in the main on the provision of Disabled Facilities Grants.
- Both the school and non-school capital maintenance bids include provision for essential maintenance such as Asbestos Removal, Fire Risk Assessment Work, Equalities etc. It is recommended that £3.651m be allocated to Schools Capital Maintenance Works. It is also proposed to allocate £1.541m to non-schools capital maintenance work. It is further recommended that the appropriate Heads of Service determine the precise allocations to works required, in order of priority. The full allocations proposed meet the highest priority works identified across the schools and non-schools estate.
- Council on 26 January 2021 approved £100k for Highways as part of the 2021/22 Corporate Plan allocation. This will allow £1.750m of capital expenditure.
- In addition to this, it is proposed to allocate £710k block allocation for structural and other repairs including highway maintenance, street lighting and bridges. Also included within this recommendation is a further £403k for repairs to bridge structures. This is the fifth year of a proposed ten year Highways Structure Backlog Project.
- An allocation of £324k is recommended to carry out road safety improvements.
- The Strategic Investment Group considered a proposal for the continuation of a seven year programme of replacement of all the street lighting lanterns within Denbighshire with new LED lanterns. The programme commenced in 2015/16 and will cost £1.5m in total, providing significant savings on energy costs and on-going maintenance costs. The scheme is funded through the Government Salix funding initiative which provides interest free loans for energy efficient projects and will be repaid using the savings generated. Applications for Salix funding are required on

an annual basis, and the strategic Investment Group recommends the submission of an application to take out a Salix loan for year six costs of up to £185k repayable over 6 years.

- The Strategic Investment Group recommends maintaining the allocation set aside for any contingencies at £0.5m, in line with 2020/21.

Report to	Cabinet
Date of meeting	16 th February 2021
Lead Member / Officer	Julian Thompson Hill
Report author	Steve Gadd, Head of Finance and Property
Title	Finance Report (January 2020/21)

1. What is the report about?

The report gives details of the council's revenue budget and savings as agreed for 2020/21. The report also provides a summary update of the Capital Plan as well as the Housing Revenue Account and Housing Capital Plan.

2. What is the reason for making this report?

The purpose of the report is to provide an update on the council's current financial position and confirm the agreed service budgets for 2020/21.

3. What are the Recommendations?

3.1 Members note the budgets set for 2020/21 and progress against the agreed strategy.

3.2 Members approve setting up a reserve to allow Working Denbighshire to manage their finances more effectively. (see Section 6)

4. Report details

The report provides a summary of the council's revenue budget for 2020/21 detailed in Appendix 1. The council's net revenue budget is £208.302m (£198.538m in 19/20). The position on service and corporate budgets is a forecast overspend of £1.759m (£2.242m last month). Narrative around the current risks and assumptions underlying this

assessment are outlined in Section 6 and Appendix 2 which also highlights the gross overspend.

The 2020/21 budget required service savings and efficiencies of £4.448m to be identified and agreed as detailed below:

- Corporate savings identified relating to the triennial actuarial review of the Clwyd Pension Fund (£2m)
- Schools savings of 1% (£0.692m)
- Service efficiencies and savings (£1.756m)

The corporate savings have already been achieved and the schools' savings are delegated to the governing bodies to monitor and deliver. On top of this £1.086m of the service savings had originally been designated as savings that have already been implemented.

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

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

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

Significant service narratives explaining variances and risks are detailed in Appendix 2, however the following should also be noted:

Impact of Corona Virus - The current short term strategy of working with Welsh Government has helped secure significant funding that has been detailed in previous reports. A system of monthly expenditure claims and quarterly income loss claims has been established. Due to the recent lockdown the £264m announced in August may not be sufficient but we are working with WLGA and WG to ensure the position is monitored closely.

The table below summarises the position of the expenditure claims for DCC. The 'Holding' column indicates items that WG are requesting further information on:

Month	Original total claim	Disallowed	FSM adjustment	Holding	Net Claim paid to date
March 2020	£61,701	£0	£0		£61,701
April 2020	£666,927	(£8,865)	£0		£658,062
May 2020	£1,200,170	(£21,076)	(£190,316)		£988,778
June 2020	£1,027,489	(£29,226)	(£158,614)		£839,649
July 2020	£608,569	0	(£248,013)		£360,556
August 2020	£449,370		£433,376		£882,746
September 2020	£753,407	(£33,248)			£720,159
October 2020	£616,750	(£51,638)			£565,112
November 2020	£820,502	(£6,300)		(£51,911)	£762,291
December 2020	£522,421				
Submitted to date	£6,727,306	(£150,353)	(£163,567)	(£51,911)	£5,839,054

The table below summarises the position relating to the quarterly income loss claims:

Quarter	Original total claim	Disallowed	Holding	Paid by WG
Loss of income Qtr 1	£4,007,786	(£567,923)	(£122,240)	(£3,317,623)
Loss of income Qtr 2	£3,232,679	(£74,999)	(£453,378)	(£2,704,302)
Loss of income Qtr 3	£2,114,938			
Grand Total	£9,355,403	(£642,922)	(£575,618)	(£6,021,925)

The tables above illustrate that so far Welsh Government have paid a total of £11.861m. If the Quarter 3 claim is paid in full this would rise to £13.976m.

Communities and Customers – are requesting that a reserve is set up for the Working Denbighshire service area. A number of schemes involve the receipt of income for placements which the service would like to use for additional costs throughout the length of the placement. These costs might involve training, support and exit costs. The reserve will help mitigate the risks in this area. In the first year this might only amount to £10-20k, but is likely to rise in future years as the service expands. (see Recommendation 3.2)

Corporate Budgets –Although currently showing a nil variance it is likely that all discretionary spend and contingencies will be released in order to help fund the position. As reported last month £410k of contingency budget has been allocated to services to pay for the recent pay settlement. A further allocation will be required to fund services for the impact of backdating the Real Living Wage commitment agreed at Council in January. Recent WG announcements indicate that funding will be forthcoming to offset the full year impact of Covid on the Council Tax Yield and the Council Tax Reduction Scheme which would allow for the release of the remaining contingency to help offset service overspends,

however the detailed allocations are yet to be announced. Un-earmarked General Balances of £7.135m were carried forward into 2020/21, with prudent minimum level of £5m or 2% of Net Revenue Budget (£4.2m) whichever is the highest. This may need to be reviewed as the impact of the pandemic continues to be felt.

Schools - The budget agreed by Council for 2020/21 included a total net additional investment (excluding increases in Welsh Government grants) in schools delegated budgets of just over £2.9m. The latest projection for school balances to be carried forward into 2021/22 is a net deficit balance of £0.838m, which represents a decrease of £0.550m on the deficit balances brought forward into 2020/21 of £1.388m. The improvement from the projected position last month largely relates to the ongoing impact of Covid, especially around costs of supply staff, an increase in vacancies and a reduction in energy costs. There is a small overspend of £27k on non-delegated budgets.

The Housing Revenue Account (HRA). The latest revenue position assumes a decrease in balances at year end of £1,008k which is £795k more than the budgeted decrease of £213k due to the revised plan to increase the revenue contribution to capital. HRA balances are therefore forecast to be £1.659m at the end of the year. The Capital budget of £19.2m is largely allocated between planned improvements to existing housings stock (£5.3m) and new build developments and acquisitions (£13.8m). The pandemic has had an impact on delivering a number of these schemes and it is expected that £5.1m will be carried forward into next financial year in order to complete the programme of work next financial year.

Treasury Management – At the end of January, the council's borrowing totalled £242.171m at an average rate of 3.89%. Investment balances were £17.1m at an average rate of 0.01%.

A summary of the council's **Capital Plan** is enclosed as Appendix 3. The approved capital plan is £45.91m with expenditure to date of £27.11m. Appendix 4 provides an update on the major projects included in the overall Capital Plan.

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

A Well-being Impact Assessments for the Council Tax rise was presented to Council on 21 January.

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

In addition to regular reports to the Corporate Governance Committee, the budget process has been considered by CET, SLT, Cabinet Briefing and Council Briefing meetings. The School Budget Forum have been included in the proposals through-out the year. Trade Unions have been consulted through Local Joint Consultative Committee. This year also saw an engagement exercise with the public using social media, the experience of which will be built on in future years.

9. Chief Finance Officer Statement

Obviously the core focus at the moment is the financial response and recovery in recovery in relation to the Covid 19 pandemic. The regular Finance Cabinet Report will continue to keep members up to date and regular updates will continue to be provided to informal Cabinet.

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

This is obviously the most challenging financial period DCC has faced. The Financial Strategy agreed by Cabinet in May aims to mitigate the following key risks:

- Failure to have a robust funding strategy could impact on the financial stability and sustainability of the Council.
- Impact on ability for the Council to deliver core services.
- Impact on capacity of the Council to achieve its priorities.

11. Power to make the decision

Local authorities are required under Section 151 of the Local Government Act 1972 to make arrangements for the proper administration of their financial affairs.

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Appendix 1

DENBIGHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL REVENUE BUDGET 2020/21

Jan-21	Net Budget	Budget 2020/21			Projected Outturn							Variance
	2019/20	Expenditure	Income	Net	Expenditure	Income	Net	Expenditure	Income	Net	Net	Previous Report
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	%	£'000
Communities and Customers	3,339	3,944	-620	3,324	4,201	-940	3,261	257	-320	-63	-1.90%	-30
Education and Children's Service	16,027	18,267	-1,141	17,126	20,181	-2,363	17,818	1,914	-1,222	692	4.04%	538
Business Improvement and Modernisation	4,501	5,188	-879	4,309	5,325	-1,049	4,276	137	-170	-33	-0.77%	-47
Legal, HR and Democratic Services	2,597	3,038	-654	2,384	2,980	-687	2,293	-58	-33	-91	-3.82%	-97
Finance and Property	4,836	6,068	-1,405	4,663	6,072	-1,409	4,663	4	-4	0	0.00%	0
Highways, Facilities and Environmental Services	15,768	25,028	-7,967	17,061	25,082	-7,434	17,648	54	533	587	3.44%	1,019
Planning and Public Protection	9,246	10,272	-498	9,774	10,396	-552	9,844	124	-54	70	0.72%	68
Community Support Services	35,775	38,188	-69	38,119	38,867	-372	38,495	679	-303	376	0.99%	570
Leisure - ADM	2,109	3,272	0	3,272	3,493	0	3,493	221	0	221	6.75%	221
Total Services	94,198	113,265	-13,233	100,032	116,597	-14,806	101,791	3,332	-1,573	1,759	1.76%	2,242
Corporate	16,888	45,544	-29,233	16,311	45,544	-29,233	16,311	0	0	0	0.00%	0
Precepts & Levies	4,806	4,899	0	4,899	4,899	0	4,899	0	0	0	0.00%	0
Capital Financing	13,652	13,724	0	13,724	13,724	0	13,724	0	0	0	0.00%	0
Total Corporate	35,346	64,167	-29,233	34,934	64,167	-29,233	34,934	0	0	0	0.00%	0
Council Services & Corporate Budget	129,544	177,432	-42,466	134,966	180,764	-44,039	136,725	3,332	-1,573	1,759	1.30%	2,242
Schools & Non-delegated School Budgets	68,994	76,579	-3,243	73,336	75,705	-2,892	72,813	-874	351	-523	-0.71%	221
Total Council Budget	198,538	254,011	-45,709	208,302	256,469	-46,931	209,538	2,458	-1,222	1,236	0.59%	2,463
Housing Revenue Account	157	16,833	-16,620	213	17,377	-16,369	1,008	544	251	795		794

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Appendix 2 - Service Variance Narrative

Service	Variance Last Month £000	Variance This Month £000	Change £000	Description
Communities and Customers	-30	-63	-33	The increase in the underspend relates to a confirmed secondment role and a delay to planned works in libraries.
Education and Children's Service	538	692	154	This is despite new monies of £1.5M being allocated to Children's Services this financial year. The majority of the increase from last month is the financial impact of 1 new high cost residential placement. No costs have been included for any new placements commencing throughout the year that we don't currently know about. The budget will obviously be monitored carefully over the coming months, however it is welcome that the overspend in this area has remained close to the early projections.
Business Improvement and Modernisation	-47	-33	14	Underspend due to a vacancy saving and one-off external income for a specific project. The underspend will be placed in the new reserve set up to help fund future improvements to Ruthin Gaol.
Legal, HR and Democratic Services	-97	-91	6	Underspends due to vacancy savings following delay due to Covid 19 - minor changes across a range of areas accounts for the movement from last month. Small variations in a number of projections following conversation with managers has increased the underspend slightly this month.
Finance and Property	0	0	0	The overspend previously reported earlier in the year related to a shortfall in income due to the decision to forego rents for industrial units for April to July in response to the Covid pandemic alongside a reduction in income generally on the coastal portfolio. Most of this loss of income has now been approved and paid as part of Q1 Tranche 2, however doubts persist on how much will be received for Q2 and Q3 rental losses which may result in an overall overspend. The remaining costs are offset by vacancy savings (Chief Accountant post) due to the lockdown and an overall cost reduction exercise.
Highways, Facilities and Environmental Services	1,019	587	-432	The reduction in the overspend this month relates to Waste services where the overspend has reduced due to receiving £283k from WG towards extra costs as a result of covid following a review of eligible expenditure. Projections have now also been reduced for a number of vacant posts which are unlikely to be filled this financial year.
Planning and Public Protection	68	70	2	School Transport is currently projected to overspend by £309k, however it is assumed that the net overspend of £309k will be claimable from WG Covid Grant. If this is not the case then the overspend in PPP will increase by this amount.
Community Support Services	570	376	-194	The projection is due to additional costs over and above the £2.6m estimated and included in the budget for 2020/21. The main areas of concern are Homelessness and Community Care packages. The projection has been very difficult this year to the changing WG grants available and obviously the rapidly changing situation in Care Homes.
Leisure - ADM	221	221	0	This budget line holds the residual budgets associated with Leisure including the management fee that pays for the services that would be provided in a normal year. Denbighshire Leisure Limited (DLL) is reporting monthly to the Contract Management Board on the rapidly changing financial position in this area. The Council is claiming loss of income funding from Welsh Government on behalf of DLL. It is assumed losses over Q3 and Q4 will be refunded from WG as they have accepted the claims for Q1 & Q2
Corporate & Miscellaneous	0	0	0	See body of report for details
Precepts & Levies	0	0	0	There are no risks in this area
Capital Financing	0	0	0	The position on capital financing is very much related to progress on capital projects and variances do not crystallise until later in the financial year.
Council Services & Corporate Budget	2,242	1,759	-483	

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Denbighshire County Council - Capital Plan 2020/21 - 2023/24

APPENDIX 3

Position to end January 2021

Capital Expenditure

Total Estimated Payments - Other

Total Estimated Payments - Major Projects:

Housing Improvement Grants

Rhyl, New 3-16 Catholic School

Ysgol Llanfair, New School

Ysgol Carreg Emlyn, New School

Highways Maintenance

East Rhyl Coastal Defence Scheme

Rhyl Waterfront and Waterpark

Rhyl Queens Market Redevelopment

Waste Service Remodelling

Contingency

Total

Capital Financing

External Funding

Receipts and Reserves

Prudential Borrowing

Unallocated Funding

Total Capital Financing

	2020/21 ORIGINAL ESTIMATE £000s	2020/21 LATEST ESTIMATE £000s	2021/22 LATEST ESTIMATE £000s	2022/23 LATEST ESTIMATE £000s	2023/24 LATEST ESTIMATE £000s
Total Estimated Payments - Other	13,293	22,032	11,190	3,339	350
Total Estimated Payments - Major Projects:					
Housing Improvement Grants	1,200	1,200			
Rhyl, New 3-16 Catholic School	1,010	939	366		
Ysgol Llanfair, New School	399	148			
Ysgol Carreg Emlyn, New School	822	119	750		
Highways Maintenance	3,253	5,294			
East Rhyl Coastal Defence Scheme	11,660	13,803	8,150	5,575	
Rhyl Waterfront and Waterpark	36	73			
Rhyl Queens Market Redevelopment		1,107	2,963	2,961	
Waste Service Remodelling	9,475	700	13,472		
Contingency	500	500	500	500	500
Total	41,648	45,915	37,391	12,375	850
External Funding	18,163	22,553	19,807	7,509	4,809
Receipts and Reserves	3,874	7,647	4,915	3,250	
Prudential Borrowing	19,611	15,715	16,978	5,925	350
Unallocated Funding	0	0	(4,309)	(4,309)	(4,309)
Total Capital Financing	41,648	45,915	37,391	12,375	850

Note: 2020-21 Original Estimate is the position as approved by Council on 25th February 2020

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Appendix 4 - Major Capital Projects Update – January 2021

21st Century Schools Programme – Ysgol Llanfair	
Total Budget	£4.964m
Expenditure to date	£4.873m
Estimated remaining spend in 20/21	£0.091m
Future Years estimated spend	£0.000m
Funding	WG £0.180m; DCC £4.784m
Narrative:	
<p>This scheme is within the Band A proposals for 21st Century Schools Programme. The project has provided a new school building on a new site in Llanfair DC.</p> <p>The defect period for the site finishes February Half term, the construction contractor has been very responsive to address any defects and continue to provide the school with support as and when needed.</p> <p>The swap in land whereby the Church in Wales St. Asaph Diocese will receive the footprint of the land at the new school site and the Council will receive ownership of the land in Diocese ownership at the former school site is currently progressing. Agreement of the exchange have now been agreed, it is hoped that a completion and exchange of sites can be reached shortly. Once the former site is in the Council's possession, it will be declared surplus by Education and discussions on the future use for the former school site will commence.</p>	
Forecast In Year Expenditure 20/21	£0.148m

21st Century Schools Programme – Glasdir

Total Budget	£11.714m
Expenditure to date	£11.577m
Estimated remaining spend in 20/21	£0.000m
Future Years estimated spend	£0.137m
Funding	DCC £3.066m; WG £8.648m
<p>Narrative</p> <p>This project has delivered a new shared school building site for Rhos Street School and Ysgol Penbarras at Glasdir, Ruthin which has been used by the schools since April 2018.</p> <p>The final account has now been settled.</p> <p>The procurement process for the additional school yard at Rhos Street School has been completed and the succesful and unsuccessful contractors have been notified of the outcome.</p> <p>The costs of the works, will be less than the pre tender estimate of £200k, and will be absorbed from the overall allocation to the Ruthin projects in 2016 as part of Denbighshire's contribution to the 21st Century Schools Programme.</p>	
Forecast In Year Expenditure 20/21	£0.052m

21st Century Schools Programme – Rhyl, Christ the Word School	
Total Budget	£23.440m
Expenditure to date	£22.948m
Estimated remaining spend in 20/21	£ 0.127m
Future Years estimated spend	£ 0.365m
Funding	WG £5.541m; DCC £17.899m
Narrative:	
<p>This scheme is within the Band A proposals for 21st Century Schools Programme.</p> <p>Snagging works continue to be completed both internally and externally and these works are being closely monitored. There are a number of variations which will be completed over the next few weeks at the school, for example bleacher seating is being installed into the main hall over the February half term break.</p> <p>The budget continues to be closely monitored as the project comes to an end.</p>	
Forecast In Year Expenditure 20/21	£0.939m

Rhyl Queens Market Redevelopment	
Total Budget	£10.922m
Expenditure to date	£4.734m
Estimated remaining spend in 20/21	£0.541m
Future Years estimated spend	£5.647m
Funding	WG £7.270m DCC Asbestos £0.252m. DCC £3.400m
Narrative:	
<p>The remaining funding required to deliver Phase 1 were secured from the Council at the September 2020 Cabinet meeting and from the January 2021 Welsh Government Capital Panel. The demolition contractor started on site Monday 25th January and is due to finish July 26th.</p> <p>The Planning Application has been submitted and validated, and we now await the determination which is expected towards the summer.</p>	
Forecast In Year Expenditure 20/21	£1.107m

Waste Service Remodelling	
Total Budget	£16.430m
Expenditure to date	£2.889m
Estimated remaining spend in 20/21	£0.069m
Future Years estimated spend	£13.472m
Funding	WG £9.345m , DCC £7.085m
Narrative:	
<p>Work is ongoing in preparation for a change to the household waste collection model. The new service model will see a move to weekly collection of kerbside sorted recyclable material with a 4 weekly collection of residual/non-recyclable waste. Weekly food waste collection will continue as at present and additional services around collection of absorbent hygiene products (AHP), textiles, small electricals and batteries will also be available and will be introduced in the run up to or during the main roll out of the new kerbside sort service.</p> <p>A number of work streams are being taken forward to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of a new single central waste transfer station depot on land adjacent to the Colomendy Industrial Estate in Denbigh. Work is ongoing on detailed design with aim to issue a Tender for the initial Phase 1 / Enabling Works early 2021 with a site start in late spring 2021. • Specification of the new fleet required to support the new model is now completed following a number of trials/tests with the aim to undertake a procurement exercise for the new waste collection vehicles at the appropriate time in late 2021 /early 2022 with delivery of the new fleet anticipated in the three months leading up to the planned new service roll out. <p>An Options Appraisal exercise on the detail of the new recycling container design has commenced, the outcome of which will be taken forward for formal approval of a preferred option, followed by a subsequent tender and delivery schedule in time for roll out associated with proposed service change. A number of mobilisation and communication activities are ongoing to prepare for the service change and include developing the new collection routes; planning for any staffing changes/requirements and ongoing engagement and communication with stakeholders and residents.</p>	
Forecast In Year Expenditure 20/21	£0.700m

East Rhyl Coastal Defence Scheme	
Total Budget	£27.528m
Expenditure to date	£12.091m
Estimated remaining spend in 20/21	£1.712m
Future Years estimated spend	£13.725m
Funding	WG £23.400m; DCC £4.128m
Narrative:	
<p>The ongoing coastal defence scheme at East Rhyl will provide an improved standard of flood protection for around 1650 properties.</p> <p>Work on site continues to progress well and is on time and within budget. Rock armour continues to be delivered to site and almost half of the rock revetment work is complete. One of 3 the new beach accesses is now complete, with a second half complete. Construction of the third access has commenced.</p> <p>Work to make improvements to the Rhyl Golf Course flood storage area is substantially complete with just landscaping to finish as soon as weather permits.</p> <p>Fortunately, Storm Christoph on 20th January had no negative impact on progress.</p>	
Forecast In Year Expenditure 20/21	£13.803m

Cabinet Forward Work Plan

Meeting	Item (description / title)		Purpose of report	Cabinet Decision required (yes/no)	Author – Lead member and contact officer
23 March	1	Awel Y Dyffryn Extra Care Housing – Appointment of Care Providers	To seek approval to appoint 2 care providers for ECH older persons and Learning Disability	Yes	Councillor Bobby Feeley / Phil Gilroy / Emily Jones-Davies
	2	Volunteering Policy	To discuss the new Volunteering Policy and supporting process of recruiting and managing volunteers within Denbighshire County Council, to ensure meaningful volunteering experiences for all.	Yes	Councillor Richard Mainon / Felicity Chandler / Nicola Kneale
	3	Corporate Plan (Oct to Dec)	To consider a performance update on the Corporate Plan	Tbc	Councillor Julian Thompson-Hill / Iola McGregor
	4	Graphic Design and Print Framework	To approve the tender refresh of the design and print framework and to move it to a dynamic purchasing system	Yes	Councillor Huw Hilditch-Roberts / Liz Grieve / Sian Owen
	5	Finance Report	To update Cabinet on the current financial position of the Council	Tbc	Councillor Julian Thompson-Hill / Steve Gadd

Cabinet Forward Work Plan

Meeting	Item (description / title)		Purpose of report	Cabinet Decision required (yes/no)	Author – Lead member and contact officer
	6	Items from Scrutiny Committees	To consider any issues raised by Scrutiny for Cabinet's attention	Tbc	Scrutiny Coordinator
27 April	1	Contract Procedure Rules	To consider the reviewed contract procedures rules which will require adoption and form part of the council constitution	Tbc	Councillor Julian Thompson-Hill / Lisa Jones
	2	Replacement LDP revised Delivery Agreement and Covid Impact Assessment	To seek Cabinet approval for revisions to the Replacement LDP Delivery Agreement and accompanying Covid19 impact assessment for submission to Welsh Government	Yes	Councillor Mark Young / Angela Loftus
	3	Finance Report	To update Cabinet on the current financial position of the Council	Tbc	Councillor Julian Thompson-Hill / Steve Gadd
	4	Items from Scrutiny Committees	To consider any issues raised by Scrutiny for Cabinet's attention	Tbc	Scrutiny Coordinator
25 May	1	Finance Report	To update Cabinet on the	Tbc	Councillor Julian Thompson-

Cabinet Forward Work Plan

Meeting	Item (description / title)		Purpose of report	Cabinet Decision required (yes/no)	Author – Lead member and contact officer
			current financial position of the Council		Hill / Steve Gadd
	2	Items from Scrutiny Committees	To consider any issues raised by Scrutiny for Cabinet's attention	Tbc	Scrutiny Coordinator
29 June	1	Annual Performance Review	To consider the Annual Performance Review	Tbc	Councillor Julian Thompson-Hill / Iolo McGregor
	2	Replacement LDP - Report back on Preferred Strategy consultation	To report back on the responses to the Replacement LDP Preferred Strategy consultation and seek approval for subsequent proposed amendments to the Preferred Strategy	Yes	Councillor Mark Young / Angela Loftus
	3	Finance Report	To update Cabinet on the current financial position of the Council		Councillor Julian Thompson-Hill / Steve Gadd
	4	Items from Scrutiny Committees	To consider any issues raised by Scrutiny for Cabinet's attention	Tbc	Scrutiny Coordinator

Cabinet Forward Work Plan

Note for officers – Cabinet Report Deadlines

<i>Meeting</i>	<i>Deadline</i>	<i>Meeting</i>	<i>Deadline</i>	<i>Meeting</i>	<i>Deadline</i>
<i>February</i>	<i>2 February</i>	<i>March</i>	<i>9 March</i>	<i>April</i>	<i>13 April</i>

Updated 02/02/2021 - KEJ

Cabinet Forward Work Programme.doc