

To: Members of the County Council

Date: 17 February 2021

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e-mail: democratic@denbighshire.gov.uk

Dear Councillor

You are invited to attend a meeting of the **COUNTY COUNCIL** to be held at **10.00 am** on **TUESDAY, 23 FEBRUARY 2021** in **VIA 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 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Pages 5 - 6)

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

3 URGENT MATTERS AS AGREED BY THE CHAIR

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

4 MINUTES (Pages 7 - 16)

To receive the minutes of the meeting of County Council held on 26 January 2021 (copy attached).

5 AVOIDANCE AND REDUCTION OF PLASTICS IN DENBIGHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL (Pages 17 - 32)

To consider a report by the Strategic Planning and Performance Officer (copy attached) for Council to disband the Task and Finish Group and recommend the way forward to reduce the use of plastics.

6 DCC'S CLIMATE AND ECOLOGICAL CHANGE STRATEGY (Pages 33 - 102)

To consider a report by the Climate Change Programme Manager (copy attached) to seek Council's approval to adopt the Denbighshire County Council's Climate and Ecological Change Strategy 2021/22 – 2029/30.

7 COUNCIL TAX 2021/22 AND ASSOCIATED MATTERS (Pages 103 - 116)

To consider a report by the Head of Finance and Property (copy attached) to set levels of Council Tax for 2021/22.

8 CAPITAL PLAN 2020/21 - 2023/24 AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE STRATEGIC INVESTMENT GROUP (Pages 117 - 208)

To consider a report by the Head of Finance and Property (copy attached) to provide Members with an updated Capital Plan including an update on major projects and the Corporate Plan.

9 TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY STATEMENT 2021/22 AND PRUDENTIAL INDICATORS 2020/21 TO 2022/23 (Pages 209 - 238)

To consider a report by the Head of Finance and Property (copy attached) to seek Council's approval of the Treasury Management Strategy Statement 2021/22 and Prudential Indicators 2021/22 – 2022/23.

10 COUNTY COUNCIL FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME (Pages 239 - 242)

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

MEMBERSHIP

Councillors

Councillor Meirick Lloyd Davies (Chair)

Councillor Alan James (Vice-Chair)

Mabon ap Gwynfor

Barry Mellor

Brian Blakeley

Melvyn Mile

Joan Butterfield

Bob Murray

Jeanette Chamberlain-Jones

Merfyn Parry

Ellie Chard

Paul Penlington

Ann Davies

Pete Prendergast

Gareth Davies

Arwel Roberts

Hugh Evans

Anton Sampson

Peter Evans

Peter Scott

Bobby Feeley

Glenn Swingler

Rachel Flynn

Andrew Thomas

Tony Flynn

Rhys Thomas

Huw Hilditch-Roberts

Tony Thomas

Martyn Holland
Hugh Irving
Brian Jones
Pat Jones
Tina Jones
Gwyneth Kensler
Geraint Lloyd-Williams
Richard Mainon
Christine Marston

Julian Thompson-Hill
Graham Timms
Joe Welch
Cheryl Williams
David Williams
Eryl Williams
Huw Williams
Emrys Wynne
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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COUNTY COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the County Council held in via Zoom on Tuesday, 26 January 2021 at 10.00 am.

PRESENT

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

ALSO PRESENT

Chief Executive (JG), Head of Legal, HR and Democratic Services (GW), Corporate Director: Communities (NS), Corporate Director: Economy and Public Realm (GB), Head of Finance and Property (SG), Head of Business Improvement & Modernisation (AS), Head of Highways & Environmental Services (TW), Head of Customers, Communications & Marketing (LG), Strategic HR Manager (CR), HR Specialist – Pay & Rewards (SV) Chief Digital Officer (BE), Service Manager – Looked After Children (RM) Democratic Services Manager (SP), Zoom Host (RT-J) and Committee Administrator (SLW)

1 APOLOGIES

Apologies received from Councillors Brian Blakeley, Joan Butterfield, Pat Jones, Gwyneth Kensler, Bob Murray and David Williams.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Meirick Lloyd Davies declared a personal interest in item 5, Budget 2021/22 - Final Proposals as he was on the Fire Authority Board.

3 URGENT MATTERS AS AGREED BY THE CHAIR

No urgent matters.

At this juncture, the Chair, on behalf of Full Council, offered congratulations to Ann Jones, Member of Senedd and a former Denbighshire Councillor on being awarded an OBE.

Question put forward by Ceri Mair Davies on behalf of Friends of the Earth Ruthin:

“Could Denbighshire County Council provide a full list of all properties, land, rooms, assets owned by Denbighshire Town and County Councils that are currently under-utilised or un-occupied?”

Could Denbighshire County Council outline exactly what is the process involved in a Community Asset Transfer and what is the remit for organisations who can apply? (we would be happy to be sent a copy of this document after the meeting if you would like to put us in touch with the department and persons in charge of this)”

The Lead Member for Finance, Performance and Strategic Assets, Councillor Julian Thompson-Hill, responded as follows:

“A schedule of vacant premises in our property portfolio and a current list of vacancies within the commercial portfolio can be provided.

Our Asset Strategy is not to hold any building or property that is not required for our operational or commercial reasons.

Town and Community Council buildings - we cannot provide those as we do not have that data. There is only data on Denbighshire County Council assets.

Underutilisation re: office portfolio - we are aware where we have vacancies and have been working with partners. NHS and the Coroner work from County Hall and we are in the process of moving other groups into County Hall also. All buildings are under-utilised at the moment due to Covid and change in working patterns during the last 12 months. This will be reassessed when get back to some sort of normality.

In terms of the Commercial portfolio which includes things such as farms and industrial units, these are run on a commercial basis for generating income. There is a high rate of occupancy.

Second question regarding policies – there is no formally adopted policy for this. They are dealt with on a case by case basis, working with Town and Community Councils and local groups. Normally it is a case of the Council being approached by organisations to buy a property. It would be based upon a business plan to clarify how buildings are utilised, maintenance and running costs and generally done on a long term transfer.

There is an entire process we go through to make sure people have applied with Local Government Act disposal consent and an internal process to make decisions.

The Lead Member for Waste, Transport and the Environment, Councillor Brian Jones gave a statement regarding the recent flooding as follows:

“Flooding last week by storm Christophe was devastating for everyone affected and we want to express our sympathies to those people who are now undertaking the long journey to recover.

I have been out to the various areas affected by flooding and next week going to see rural areas affected by flooding.

I want to pay tribute to the highways staff who put in a lot of hours and work in preparing before the flood and in some cases, councillors and all those who were involved.

We need to look at what we can do as a local authority and how best to protect communities going forward.

At a recent Scrutiny Committee meeting it was mentioned about a Task and Finish Group to look at flood areas. We have already had an agreement for NRW and Welsh Water to be part of the Group and also want involved land and farm owners, and relevant local county councillors. This Group will be a good tool and mechanism.

Thank you to all involved from all Full Council members.”

Question put forward by Councillor Emrys Wynne:

“At the weekend there were reports in the press saying that Denbighshire County Council staff had received Covid 19 vaccines even though not entitled to have one. Why weren't councillors told about this? When did this become apparent to you?

Leader, Councillor Hugh Evans – From my perspective on this occasion this information was not shared with any members of the council and only officers were familiar with the situation prior to it breaking out in the press. Due to the seriousness, we did hold a special Cabinet on Sunday evening to try and understand what was happening, and another on Monday morning with officers. It was unclear as to what had happened and we have called for an internal investigation. This was for three main considerations.

First point, while things are highlighted in the press, officers and members need to be familiar with all the facts before we take any action, and therefore, responding to the press is not ideal way to reach conclusion.

Second point - We have brilliant staff within the Local Authority and the work they have done during Covid has been unbelievable. We do not want all the staff painted with the same brush with the possible actions of a small minority.

Third point – it is important that we as a Local Authority, give assurance, that our relationship with BCU is open and transparent and it is important to them that everything the local authority does is open and transparent and we will not support anyone to jump the queue and will be in line with guidelines of Welsh Government.

Chief Executive, Judith Greenhalgh – Denbighshire County Council has submitted a list to Besti Cadwaladr of our staff who were eligible for a vaccine in line with guidelines. Those staff were sent an email by BCU inviting them to book an

appointment for a vaccination. What became apparent recently was the possibility that if eligible staff had forwarded that email, there was a glitch in the BCU system that may have allowed non eligible staff to book a vaccination appointment. When this became apparent to us we instructed all staff not to forward the e-mail and our IT team are currently investigating what action, if any, has occurred with those staff. We have completed the first phase of that investigation. There is certainly no evidence of mass sharing of the email. Once the investigation is complete if there is any evidence that any staff have acted improperly it will be followed up with disciplinary action. At this time, there is no evidence staff have used this loop hole. As the Ledaer said our staff have worked incredibly hard during the pandemic and I have the utmost confidence in their integrity and honesty. If anyone has taken this action, it will be a very small number of staff and we will update members when the investigation has concluded. The press statement was inaccurate and at this time, we are not aware of any member of staff who had the vaccine when they should not have done so.”

Cllr Emrys Wynne asked a supplementary question which was when did it become apparent to officers that this situation might exist and when it became apparent that this was likely to appear in the press?

The Chief Executive responded that on 14 January 2021 it became apparent to us that there may be a loophole in the booking system of BCU and we then sent an email to all staff that this was not allowed and the press picked up from that.

4 MINUTES

The minutes of Full Council held on 26 January 2021 were submitted.

PROPOSED by Councillor Alan James to accept the minutes, SECONDED by Ann Davies.

A vote took place and a majority of Members agreed to accept the minutes with one Member voting against.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Council meeting held on 26 January 2021 be confirmed as a correct record.

5 BUDGET 2021/2022 - FINAL PROPOSALS

At this juncture, Councillor Meirick Lloyd Davies declared a personal interest as he was a member of the Fire Authority Board.

The Lead Member for Finance, Performance and Strategic Assets, Councillor Julian Thompson-Hill, introduced the Budget 2021/22 – Final Proposals report (previously circulated).

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

The Draft Local Government Settlement for 2021/22 was received by the council on 21st December and had resulted in a positive settlement of +3.6%, compared to the Welsh average of 3.8%. The Final Settlement was expected on the 2nd March but Welsh Government (WG) had indicated that there should be very few changes.

As part of the settlement there were 'transfers in' of £1.280m which had been passported to the relevant service areas as in previous years:

- 2020/21 Teachers' Pay Grant - £0.135m
- Coastal Risk Management Programme £1.145m

The final proposals to balance the 2021/22 budget were shown in the Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) in Appendix 1. The main areas of growth and pressures were:

- Pay pressures of £0.870m
- Price and energy inflation of £250k
- Fire Service Charge of £162k
- Allowance for increase in Council Tax Reduction Scheme of £350k
- Schools inflationary pressures are recognised amounting to £1.205m
- Schools investment in Additional Learning Needs £1.192m
- Schools investment in small schools' sustainability £161k
- Schools demographic pressure of £718k
- £2.4m to recognise demand pressures and forecasts in Community Support Services as part of the council's long term strategy to manage care budgets
- £0.750m to recognise existing pressures in Education and Children's Services relating to Out of County Placements and Recoupmnt.
- £250k pressures in Waste Services had been recognised based on estimates of ongoing year pressures
- Impact of previous decisions by Council/Cabinet (eg Rhyl Flood Scheme, North Wales Economic Ambition Board): £0.276m
- £389k pressure for investment in Carbon Zero Target required in order to meet the 2030 target agreed by Council.
- Investment of £250k in the Ash Die-Back problem. This would make permanent the one-off funding identified in last year's budget.
- In light of the scale of the pressures and the Covid and Brexit impact still unresolved, a contingency of £683k had been included

The pressures identified above amounted to £9.903m. The impact of using £685k of cash in 20/21 (which had the effect of just delaying the need to identify savings) meant that the total shortfall amounted to £10.588m. A draft settlement of around 8% would have been required in order to fund all these pressures. The net +3.6% settlement generated £5.42m additional revenue leaving a funding gap of £5.167m.

The following items were included in the proposals in order to bridge that gap:

- Fees and Charges Income Budgets had been inflated in line with agreed Fees and Charges policy which increased external income by £0.462m.
- Operational efficiencies amounted to £690k mostly identified by services throughout the year and within Head Service delegated responsibility in consultation with Lead Members.

- Savings of £0.781m had also been identified which changed service provision in some way and which were shared in detail with Cabinet and Council in the December briefings.
- 1% (£0.733m) Schools efficiency target from Schools Delegated Budgets. As school budgets were devolved, it would be for each governing body to determine how the savings would be delivered.
- It was recommended that the Council Tax increased by 3.8% which would generate £2.132m additional revenue. This compared to last year's increase of 4.3% and 6.35% the year before that.
- Finally, the Council Tax Base had increased more than expected this year which meant that additional Council Tax of £369k was projected.

During discussions, the following points were raised:

- Councillor Mabon ap Gwynfor expressed his concerns as, in his opinion, there had been a lack of consultation and transparency with all councillors. A budget paper had been presented at a Budget Briefing on 21 December 2020 and also presented at Cabinet which, Councillor ap Gwynfor stated did not allow time to fully discuss details. Therefore, Councillor ap Gwynfor confirmed he would not support the Budget Report.
- Councillor Glenn Swingler expressed his agreement with Councillor Mabon ap Gwynfor. Councillor Swingler also expressed his concern regarding the amount of increase of Council Tax and did not agree with the proposal for schools to make 1% savings.
- Councillor Paul Penlington expressed his agreement with Councillor Mabon ap Gwynfor. Councillor Penlington then asked what the impact of Brexit would be. The Lead Member for Finance confirmed that the impact of Brexit, if any, was unknown at the current time.
- The Head of Finance and Property confirmed he had attended the School Budget Forum and provided full information regarding savings required.

Following discussion, Councillor Julian Thompson-Hill proposed the Budget recommendation, seconded by Councillor Richard Mainon.

At this juncture, Councillor Paul Penlington requested a recorded vote. More than one sixth of those present were required to enable a recorded vote to take place and eight members indicated their preference for a recorded vote.

Therefore, a recorded vote took place.

Those who voted in favour of the Budget Report were as follows:

Councillors – Jeanette Chamberlain-Jones, Ellie Chard, Ann Davies, Gareth Lloyd Davies, Hugh Evans, Peter Evans, Bobby Feeley, Tony Flynn, Rachel Flynn, Huw Hilditch-Roberts, Martyn Holland, Hugh Irving, Alan James, Brian Jones, Tina Jones, Geraint Lloyd Williams, Richard Mainon, Christine Marston, Barry Mellor, Melvyn Mile, Merfyn Parry, Anton Sampson, Peter Scott, Tony Thomas, Andrew Thomas, Julian Thompson-Hill, Joe Welch, Cheryl Williams, Huw Williams and Mark Young.

Those who voted against the Budget Report were as follows:

Councillors – Mabon ap Gwynfor, Paul Penlington, Arwel Roberts, Glenn Swingler, Rhys Thomas and Emrys Wynne

Those who abstained from the vote were as follows:

Councillors – Meirick Lloyd Davies and Eryl Williams

RESOLVED that Council:

- *note the impact of the Draft Local Government Settlement 2021/22.*
- *approves the proposals outlined in Appendix 1, and detailed in Section 4, in order to finalise the budget for 2021/22.*
- *approve the average Council Tax rise of 3.8% proposed.*
- *delegate authority 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.*
- *confirms that it has read, understood and taken account of the Well-being Impact Assessment.*

6 COUNCIL TAX REDUCTION SCHEME 2021/2022

The Lead Member for Finance, Performance and Strategic Assets, Councillor Julian Thompson-Hill introduced the Council Tax Reduction Scheme 2021/2022 report (previously circulated).

The Welfare Reform Act 2012 contained provisions to abolish council tax benefit in its current form across the UK. From 31 March 2013 council tax benefit ceased and the responsibility for providing support for council tax and the funding associated with it, had been passed to the Welsh Government. The Welsh Government, in partnership with local authorities in Wales, introduced a new scheme to provide council tax support which was adopted by the Council in January 2013. The Welsh Government had finalised both sets of regulations on 2nd December 2019 and the new Council Tax Reduction Schemes and Prescribed Requirements (Wales) Regulations 2013 and amendments Regulations 2020 were required to be adopted by 31st January 2021.

Councillor Julian Thompson-Hill proposed to accept the Council Tax Reduction Scheme 2021/2022 report, seconded by Councillor Martyn Holland.

A vote took place and it was unanimously agreed to accept the report.

RESOLVED that Members:

- adopt the Council Tax Reduction Schemes and Prescribed Requirements (Wales) Regulations 2013 and the Council Tax Reduction Schemes (Prescribed Requirements and Default Scheme) (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2021 in respect of the 2021/22 financial year.
- approve the discretionary elements of the scheme, shown in section 4.4, for 2021/22 financial year.

At this juncture (11.25 a.m.) there was a 20 minute break.

The meeting reconvened at 11.45 a.m.

7 REAL LIVING WAGE

The Lead Member for Finance, Performance and Strategic Assets, Councillor Julian Thompson-Hill introduced the Real Living Wage report (previously circulated).

County Council originally considered the implications of paying the Real Living Wage in December, 2018 and then in January 2020 following the national pay negotiations. It was then requested that the Council received a further report in January 2021 to consider the current situation and if there was a differential between the National Pay Award and the Real Living Wage whether or not to pay the Real Living Wage to its staff in the following financial year.

There are two levels of living wage. The National Living Wage which is set by Government and all employers are legally obliged to pay, and the real Living Wage which is assessed and set by the Real Living Wage Foundation in November each year.

Recent local government pay awards had sought to ensure that the lowest pay grades would be paid above the real living wage rate. Subsequent increases in the level of the real living wage have resulted in Grade 1 and the bottom point of Grade 2 falling below that rate. The Council currently has 725 staff who are paid below the current real living wage level.

Employers had six months following the November announcement to implement the increase in the real living wage level and given the wider financial situation the Council were in regarding Covid, if implemented in year it would add additional pressure. Therefore, it was stated it would be advantageous to utilise the six-month period and implement it in the next financial year having regard to the national pay award.

Following a brief discussion, Councillor Graham Timms proposed further recommendations as follows:

- (i) To backdate to April 2020 the Real Living Wage amount for those who would have lost out at the last pay deal at a cost of approximately £17,000 per annum
- (ii) For the financial year 2021/2022 DCC pay the Real Living Wage as set in November 2020 to all staff who would be below it and that would cost £37,500, and
- (iii) Propose the Lead Member for Finance bring back a report to Council with a costing and a route map of how the Council could become an accredited Real Living Wage Employer.

Councillor Graham Timms proposed the additional recommendations seconded by Councillor Barry Mellor.

The Strategic HR Manager explained the second recommendation could raise issues between Grades as it would affect pay relativities and have potential equal pay implications. Work would need to take place to assess the risk caused to the Council prior to agreement.

Members agreed that officers would need to do work of what the consequences would be financially in 2021/2022 which would be dependent on pay awards which may or may not be agreed during that time.

Therefore, it was agreed that the following two recommendations be put forward to vote:

- (i) All council employees receive the real living wage for the financial year 2020/2021 which would involve backdating the pay of those on spinal column point 1 who are on £9.25 per hour, up to £9.30 per hour which would cost £17,500, and
- (ii) The Lead Member bring back a report to Council with a costing and a route map as to how the Council could become an accredited real living wage employer.

Both Councillors, Graham Timms and Barry Mellor, the original proposer and seconder, agreed to this.

A vote took place on the amendment to the recommendation and it was unanimously agreed.

Therefore, following agreement to the amendment, a vote took place on the substantive recommendation and it was unanimously agreed.

RESOLVED that:

- (i) All Council employees receive the real living wage for financial year 2020/2021 which would involve backdating the pay of those on spinal column 1 who are on £9.25 per hour up to £9.30 per hour which would cost £17,500*
- (ii) The Lead Member bring back a report to Council with a costing and a route map as to how the Council would become an accredited real living wage employer.*

8 NOTICE OF MOTION

Councillor Glenn Swingler put forward the following Notice of Motion on behalf of the Plaid Group for consideration by Full Council:

That Denbighshire County Council:

Calls for the decision date on the intended restructuring of the Homelessness Service with the loss of 9 posts to be postponed from February 1st 2021 until the

reasoning behind this proposed major internal reorganisation has been examined by a council Scrutiny Committee.

Following discussion, Councillor Glenn Swingler confirmed that he would withdraw the Notice of Motion.

9 COUNTY COUNCIL FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

The Head of Legal, HR and Democratic Services introduced the Council's forward work programme (previously circulated).

Future meetings to be confirmed:

- (i) Real Living Wage Accredited Employer
- (ii) Flooding – Investigation Report

RESOLVED that subject to the above, that the Council's forward work programme be approved and noted.

The meeting concluded at 1.10 p.m.

Report to	County Council
Date of meeting	23rd February 2021
Lead Member/Officer	Councillor Brian Jones, Lead Member for Waste, Transport and the Environment
Presenting the report	Councillor Arwel Roberts, Chair of Performance Scrutiny Committee
Report author	Heidi Barton-Price – Strategic Planning & Performance Officer on behalf of the Members “Use of Plastics” Task & Finish Group (Chair, Councillor Emrys Wynne)
Title	Avoidance & Reduction of Plastics in Denbighshire County Council

1. What is the report about

To consider the proposed recommendations of the Use of Plastics Members’ Task & Finish Group (following group meeting held on 23rd November 2020). The meeting provided Members with updates in order for them to consider the way forward for the Members’ “Use of Plastics” Task & Finish Group, the viability of Phase 2 as outlined in the original associated action plan and any further actions. The recommendations were supported by the Performance Scrutiny Committee (Special) at their meeting on 22nd December 2020. The report considers how the Council can reduce its use of plastic. It does not consider how residents or communities within the County can reduce their use of plastic.

2. What is the reason for making this report?

- 2.1 To acknowledge the Task & Finish Group’s work in terms of the achievements during Phase 1 i.e. the reduction and avoidance of the use of single-use plastic in civic offices.

2.2 To enable Members to scrutinise the proposed recommendations as a way forward regarding Phase 2 and the future of the Group.

3. What are the recommendations?

That Council considers and comments on the Task and Finish Group's work thus far and endorses the recommendations by the Performance Scrutiny Committee:

- (i) given the current circumstances due to the global COVID-19 pandemic, that Phase 2 of the Group's work should not proceed and that the Task and Finish Group be disbanded;
- (ii) opportunities to reduce the use of plastics in school catering and procurement, along with any future work on the avoidance and reduction of plastics in Denbighshire County Council (including its Alternative Delivery Models (ADMs) such as Denbighshire Leisure Limited (DLL) be co-ordinated under the proposed Climate and Ecological Change Strategy;
- (iii) the Scrutiny Chairs and Vice-Chairs Group (SCVCG) be requested to determine the most effective forum for monitoring the implementation and delivery of reducing the use of plastics within Denbighshire County Council and the Council's wider Ecological and Climate Change Strategy.

4. Report Details

Full Council, at the end of January 2020, approved the recommendations included in the Task and Finish Group's initial action plan to reduce the use of plastics in civic offices (Phase 1). Full Council also agreed to the Group's request to continue its work for a further 12 months with a view to devising methods for reducing the use of plastics in two specific areas, namely school catering and procurement (Phase 2).

Within a matter of weeks of the above decision being taken the COVID-19 pandemic struck and the country went into lockdown.

This report outlines the proposed recommendations following the recent meeting of the Use of Plastics Members' Task & Finish Group where the group acknowledged the achievement of Phase 1 in reducing the use of plastics in civic offices and considered a

way forward in relation to the work it had been tasked to undertake, but were unable to progress Phase 2 (School Catering and Procurement) due to the pandemic. Please see Appendix A – Current Position & Further Considerations of the Task & Finish Group

Officers involved with the Climate and Ecological Change Strategy – suggest that the recommendation (ii) includes the following words highlighted in bold text ‘Opportunities to reduce the use of plastics in school catering and procurement **for the benefit of reducing carbon emissions**, along with any future work on the avoidance and reduction of plastics in Denbighshire County Council (including its Alternative Delivery Models (ADMs) e.g. Denbighshire Leisure Limited (DLL) be co-ordinated under the proposed Climate and Ecological Change Strategy.

Actions which support the avoidance and reduction of plastics would fall under the Waste and Supply Chain workstreams of the Net Carbon Zero Programme within the Council’s proposed Climate and Ecological Change Strategy. Actions which reduce carbon from waste and our supply chain will be developed and delivered over the coming 9 years and will be subject to securing funding. Certain actions that reduce carbon from waste and supply chain will have the co-benefit of avoidance and reduction of plastics.

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

The decision will contribute towards the Environment priority contained within the Corporate Plan 2017–2022.

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

There are no significant financial implications or implications on Services as a result of the recommendations.

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

The Well-being Impact Assessment is an integrated impact assessment. This means it has been designed to assess likely impact on the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of Denbighshire, Wales and the world. The proposal for the work to be co-ordinated under the proposed Climate and Ecological Change Strategy demonstrates a sustainable approach to the environment and contributes positively overall to the well-being goals.

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

The Use of Plastics Members' Task & Finish Group have made these recommendations to Performance Scrutiny having consulted with relevant Officers including Corporate Director for the Economy & Public Realm, Head of Highways, Facilities and Environment Services, School Catering Managers, the Climate Change Programme Manager as well as Cllr Brian Jones (Lead Member) and Cllr Graham Timms (Chair of Climate and Ecological Change Working Group as well as being a member of the Plastic Task & Finish Group).

9. Chief Finance Officer Statement

There are no financial proposals involved within this report.

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

There is a risk that some impetus is lost as the Climate and Ecological Change Strategy will not provide a specific focus on the avoidance and reduction of single use plastic. However, legislation which the Welsh Government (WG) proposes to bring forward during the autumn of 2021 aimed at reducing the use of single use plastics across Wales, may well help deliver the aims of the Group's Phase 2 work. Under the proposed legislation public bodies and others in Wales will be required to reduce their use of single-use plastics. This will require all Council services to re-evaluate their use of single-use plastics and source products made of alternative materials for all purposes but those provided exemptions under the legislation.

However, retaining the Use of Plastic Members' Task & Finish Group could subsequently risk duplication of work and the diversion of Member time on the broader and wider context of the Climate and Ecological Change Strategy which will result in the reduction of use of plastic.

11. Power to make the Decision

Scrutiny's powers in relation to Policy Development and Review are outlined in Section 7.4.1 of the Council's Constitution, whilst Section 7.2.2 of the Constitution stipulates that Scrutiny "can make reports or recommendations to the Council or the Cabinet in connection with the discharge of any functions.

Appendix A – Current Position & Further Considerations of the Task & Finish Group

Civic Offices (Phase 1): The objectives for Phase 1 have been achieved. All refreshment, vending machines and water coolers had been switched off since the end of March 2020. Some of the machines have already been collected by the supplier whilst others are awaiting collection. Their removal, similar to numerous other services and tasks had been delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

School Catering (Phase 2): The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the School Catering Service, has resulted in additional food safety measures being required in order to minimise the risk of infection when providing school meals to the county's pupils. Consequently, more plastic and polystyrene are currently being used by the School Catering Service than before the pandemic. Officers informed the Task & Finish Group that due to the current restrictions, requirements and expectations that the aim to reduce its use of these materials should be held in abeyance until the pandemic is over.

Denbighshire Leisure Limited (DLL): During the early stages of its work the Task & Finish Group had explored the Council's Leisure Service's use of single use and disposable plastics and decided to focus on attempting to reducing the Service's use of plastic materials at a later date. Since then the management of the leisure service provision in the county had transferred to Denbighshire Leisure Limited (DLL) and was therefore now outside the Council's direct control. Consequently, exploring DLL's use of plastics was now outside the Group's remit, as DLL had its own management arrangements and its own governance structure in the form of the Strategic Governance Board, on which Lead Members and a Scrutiny representative served.

Welsh Government's Consultation on Reducing Single Use Plastics: Denbighshire has responded as part of the Welsh Local Government Association's (WLGA) collective response to the Welsh Government which acknowledged the urgency of the need to address the problems entailed with using single use plastic. The response included concerns in relation to the impact of COVID-19 on the use of plastics, the continued need for health and safety and infection control purposes to use plastics for the delivery of certain services, as well as practical matters relating to enforcing any new regulations and the financial implications of enforcement work. Concerns have also been raised in respect

of the proposed timing for introducing the ban, autumn 2021. Feedback from the consultation is currently awaited, to be communicated via the Environment Directors group of the WLGA.

Climate and Ecological Change Strategy: Actions which support the avoidance and reduction of plastics could fall under the Waste and Supply Chain workstreams of the Net Carbon Zero Programme within the Council's proposed Climate and Ecological Change Strategy. Actions which reduce carbon from waste and our supply chain will be developed and delivered over the coming 9 years and subject to securing funding. Certain actions that reduce carbon from waste and supply chain would have the co-benefit of avoidance and reduction of plastics.

Develop options to reduce plastics usage within Denbighshire County Council

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:	658
Brief description:	Progression of the decision taken by the Council on 3rd July 2018 regarding a potential reduction in the Council's use of plastic.
Date Completed:	16/05/2019 16:53:01 Version: 1
Completed by:	Elaine Smith
Responsible Service:	Business Improvement & Modernisation
Localities affected by the proposal:	Whole County,
Who will be affected by the proposal?	Staff, elected members and customers of Denbighshire County Council
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 : 22 / 30.

Implications of the score

As the Action Plan is developed, we will consult with whoever is most appropriate and relevant. As we are only now starting to develop the Action Plan, we had not yet addressed longer term consequences in any depth. This will be addressed as the Action Plan develops, in order to secure the legacy of the proposal.

Summary of impact

Well-being Goals

A prosperous Denbighshire

A resilient Denbighshire

A healthier Denbighshire

A more equal Denbighshire

A Denbighshire of cohesive communities

A Denbighshire of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language

A globally responsible Denbighshire

Neutral

Positive

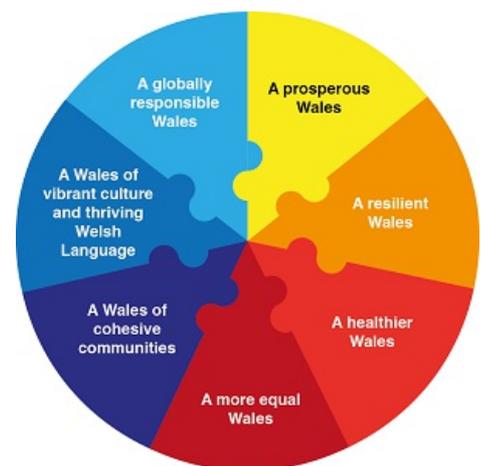
Neutral

Negative

Neutral

Neutral

Positive



Main conclusions

This project demonstrates a sustainable approach to the environment and contributes positively overall to the well-being goals. The long term consequences of the project need to be further understood, in order to secure a lasting legacy from the project.

Should we find that any changes in procurement are likely to have a negative impact on local businesses, this will be fully explored.

We will continue to involve staff and other interested parties in this project and will also explore any impact upon the shelf-life of foodstuffs produced by or for the Council, resulting from a decrease in plastic packaging.

The potential negative impact upon the well-being goal 'a more equal Denbighshire' is acknowledged, however this is unlikely to be significant. Any negative impact will be fully addressed as the project progresses.

Denbighshire wishes to take a lead in reducing the use of plastic within the Council. We intend to share our learning with other Local Authorities and Public Bodies and will also learn from others who have undertaken similar projects.

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	Neutral
Justification for impact	This project will have a neutral impact overall, but may have a positive impact in certain areas of the economy. It is hoped that this project will have a positive impact on a low carbon future. If Denbighshire leads the way with regards to economic development, a change in Council procurement may lead to the growth of alternative providers. However, should businesses not adapt, there is a risk that they will lose the Council's custom.
Further actions required	The Council would want to discuss any changes in procurement should we identify that it would have a significantly negative impact on a business.

Positive impacts identified:

A low carbon society	The use of plastics within Denbighshire County Council will be reduced. This may have a positive impact for a low carbon society.
Quality communications, infrastructure and transport	This will have a neutral impact for the project.
Economic development	The project may provide opportunities for procurement from alternative suppliers. The Council intends to take a lead in reduction of plastics in the County, this may impact upon procurement.
Quality skills for the long term	There is no anticipated impact
Quality jobs for the long term	There is no anticipated impact
Childcare	There is no anticipated impact

Negative impacts identified:

A low carbon society	At this stage we do not anticipate that there will be any negative impacts for a low carbon society.
Quality communications, infrastructure and transport	At the same time, we do not anticipate that this will have a negative impact.
Economic development	If businesses fail to adapt, then they may lose the Council's custom.
Quality skills for the long term	At the same time, we do not anticipate that this will have a negative impact.
Quality jobs for the long term	At the same time, we do not anticipate that this will have a negative impact.
Childcare	At the same time, we do not anticipate that this will have a negative impact.

A resilient Denbighshire

Overall Impact	Positive
Justification for impact	This project will have a positive impact overall because the project aims to reduce the use of plastics, which has a positive impact upon the environment overall.
Further actions required	To maximise the positives, robust research will inform our recommendations. We are encouraging the involvement of staff, to engage them in the recycling agenda.

Positive impacts identified:

Biodiversity and the natural environment	The Council's contribution to the wider picture is a small one, nevertheless, if recycling behaviours can be improved, this will have a positive impact on the environment.
Biodiversity in the built environment	Not applicable
Reducing waste, reusing and recycling	By its very nature, this project will have a positive impact on reducing waste, reusing and recycling.
Reduced energy/fuel consumption	The use of plastics within Denbighshire County Council will be reduced, this may have a positive impact upon reduced energy/fuel consumption.
People's awareness of the environment and biodiversity	This project increases people's awareness of the environment and biodiversity.
Flood risk management	This will have a neutral impact for the project.

Negative impacts identified:

Biodiversity and the natural environment	At the same time, we do not anticipate that this will have a negative impact.
Biodiversity in the built environment	At the same time, we do not anticipate that this will have a negative impact.
Reducing waste, reusing and recycling	At the same time, we do not anticipate that this will have a negative impact.
Reduced energy/fuel consumption	At the same time, we would want to ensure that this project will not have a negative impact.
People's awareness of the environment and biodiversity	We do not anticipate that the project will have a negative impact on awareness of the environment and biodiversity.
Flood risk management	At the same time, we do not anticipate that this will have a negative impact.

A healthier Denbighshire

Overall Impact	Neutral
Justification for impact	At this stage in the project's development we don't anticipate that there would be any positive or negative impact upon the health of Denbighshire.

Further actions required	We will manage or minimise negatives and maximise positives by exploring further the options for packaging of food, given that plastic packaging extends the shelf life of foodstuffs.
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Positive impacts identified:

A social and physical environment that encourage and support health and well-being	Whilst research indicates that disposal of plastics will ultimately impact upon our health, our contribution to this agenda is acknowledged to be very small.
Access to good quality, healthy food	We acknowledge that plastic prolongs the shelf life of food but anticipate that the impact would be neutral. This will be explored in more detail by the project.
People's emotional and mental well-being	This will have a neutral impact for the project.
Access to healthcare	This will have a neutral impact for the project.
Participation in leisure opportunities	This will have a neutral impact for the project.

Negative impacts identified:

A social and physical environment that encourage and support health and well-being	At the same time, we do not anticipate that this will have a negative impact..
Access to good quality, healthy food	At the same time, we do not anticipate that this will have a negative impact.
People's emotional and mental well-being	At the same time, we do not anticipate that this will have a negative impact.
Access to healthcare	At the same time, we do not anticipate that this will have a negative impact.
Participation in leisure opportunities	At the same time, we do not anticipate that this will have a negative impact.

A more equal Denbighshire

Overall Impact	Negative
Justification for impact	Based on our findings above, there is a potential negative impact; however should this transpire, we would anticipate that this would be minimal. We consider that any negative impact would be outweighed by the long term positives of the project.
Further actions required	The project aims to procure goods at similar prices to those already procured. In which case, there will be a minimal negative output.

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	This will have a neutral impact for the project.
People who suffer discrimination or disadvantage	This will have a neutral impact for the project.
Areas with poor economic, health or educational outcomes	This will have a neutral impact for the project.
People in poverty	This will have a neutral impact for the project.

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	We do have an awareness that some disabled people need to use plastic straws, and account is taken of this in our proposals.
People who suffer discrimination or disadvantage	There could be a potential increase in cost for goods that the Council sells
Areas with poor economic, health or educational outcomes	There could be a potential increase in cost for goods that the Council sells
People in poverty	There could be a potential increase in cost for goods that the Council sells

A Denbighshire of cohesive communities

Overall Impact	Neutral	Page 29
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Justification for impact	We have considered the above statements and do not consider that our project will have other than a neutral impact
Further actions required	It is hoped that staff and elected members can be encouraged to improve the amount and quality of their personal recycling, and to share their improved knowledge regarding recycling with others.

Positive impacts identified:

Safe communities and individuals	This will have a neutral impact for the project.
Community participation and resilience	This will have a neutral impact for the project.
The attractiveness of the area	If awareness of the importance of recycling is raised, there is a small potential for improvement in the attractiveness of the area resulting from decreased littering.
Connected communities	This will have a neutral impact for the project.
Rural resilience	This will have a neutral impact for the project.

Negative impacts identified:

Safe communities and individuals	At the same time, we do not anticipate that this will have a negative impact.
Community participation and resilience	At the same time, we do not anticipate that this will have a negative impact.
The attractiveness of the area	At the same time, we do not anticipate that this will have a negative impact.
Connected communities	At the same time, we do not anticipate that this will have a negative impact.
Rural resilience	At the same time, we do not anticipate that this will have a negative impact.

A Denbighshire of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language

Overall Impact	Neutral
Justification for impact	Dependent upon where products are purchased from, there is unlikely to be any impact upon culture and Welsh language. However, we will aim to ensure that any potential impact is positive.
Further actions required	Wherever possible, where actions are taken, opportunities to promote the Welsh language will be considered.

Positive impacts identified:

People using Welsh	This will have a neutral impact for the project.
Promoting the Welsh language	This will have a neutral impact for the project.
Culture and heritage	This will have a neutral impact for the project.

Negative impacts identified:

People using Welsh	At the same time, we do not anticipate that this will have a negative impact.
Promoting the Welsh language	At the same time, we do not anticipate that this will have a negative impact.
Culture and heritage	At the same time, we do not anticipate that this will have a negative impact.

A globally responsible Denbighshire

Overall Impact	Positive
Justification for impact	Denbighshire will make a positive contribution to global wellbeing overall
Further actions required	Denbighshire will make a positive contribution by sharing learning with other authorities, and will learn from initiatives undertaken by other public bodies.

Positive impacts identified:

Local, national, international supply chains	There is potential, if local suppliers are identified, to have a positive impact upon local supply chains
Human rights	This will have a neutral impact for the project.
Broader service provision in the local area or the region	This aligns with discussions being held sub-regionally and regionally at a Public Service Board level. Denbighshire will make a positive contribution to global wellbeing overall

Negative impacts identified:

Local, national, international supply chains	Again, this could be negative if alternative local suppliers cannot be found
Human rights	At the same time, we do not anticipate that this will have a negative impact.
Broader service provision in the local area or the region	At the same time, we do not anticipate that this will have a negative impact.

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Report to	Council
Date of meeting	23 rd 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 Council approve to adopt 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.

Appendix A- Wellbeing Impact Assessment

See separate PDF

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

See separate PDF

Appendix C- Infographics summarising Net Carbon Zero and Ecologically Positive Council by 2030 Goals

See separate PDF

Appendix D – Notable Risks

RISK	DESCRIPTION	MITIGATION ACTION
Affordability of the Council being able to achieve its net carbon zero and ecologically positive goals.	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.	<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,

RISK	DESCRIPTION	MITIGATION ACTION
		<p>building in sufficient provision within external funding bids.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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.
<p>Being responsive to new opportunities to reduce carbon.</p>	<p>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.</p>	<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).
<p>Meeting Public Expectation.</p>	<p>There is a risk of not meeting public expectation on this agenda and the democratic and reputational damage that could cause.</p>	<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

RISK	DESCRIPTION	MITIGATION ACTION
		aware of the range of work the Council are undertaking.

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.

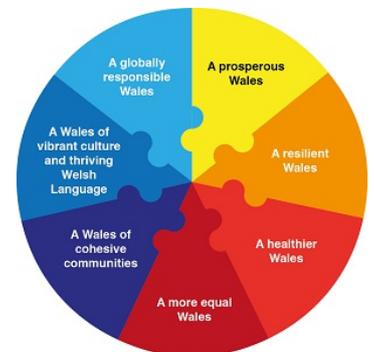
Summary for each Sustainable Development principle

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

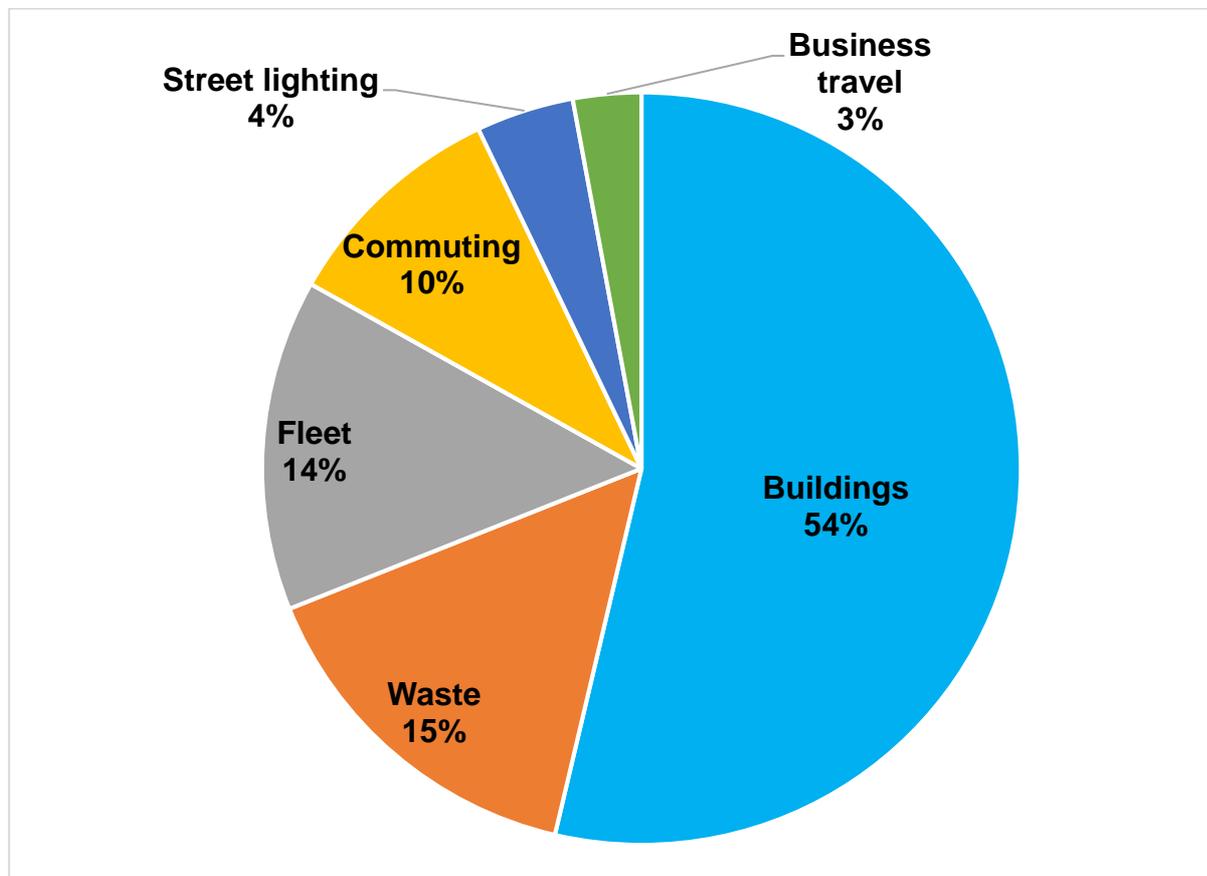
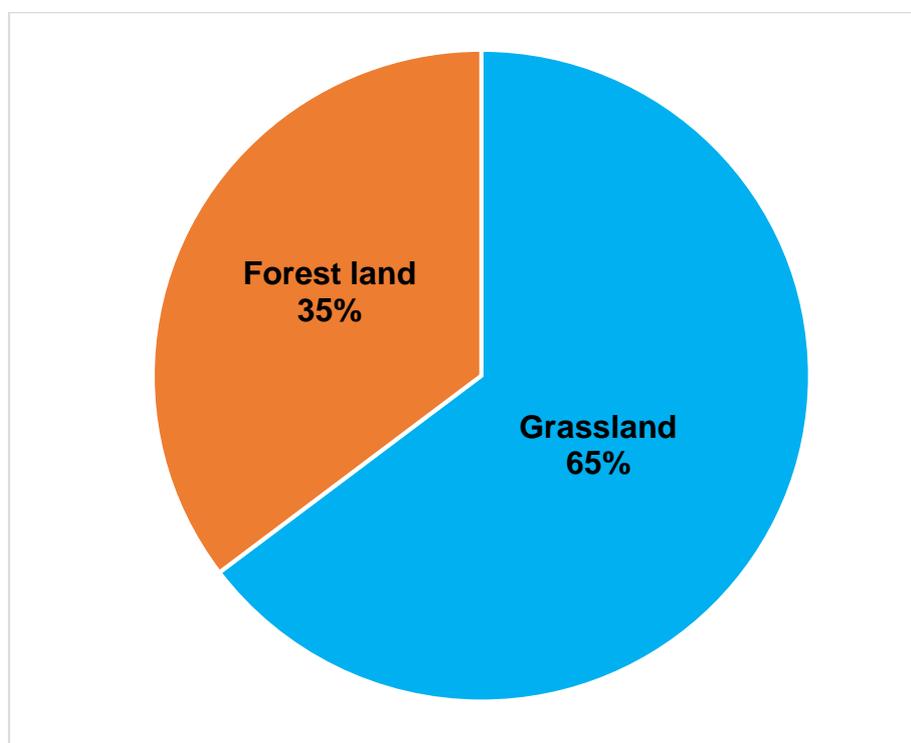


Table 2: Carbon absorption per source

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

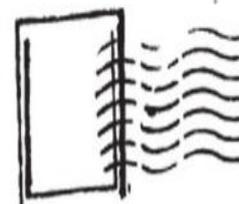
Source of carbon emissions	% reduction targets compared to 2019/20	Projected emissions in 2029/30 in tCO₂e if target met	Projected emissions in Year 3 (2023/24) in tCO₂e	Projected emissions in Year 6 (2026/27) in tCO₂e
Buildings	50	5,112	8,471	6,791
Waste	35	1,876	2,549	2,213
Fleet	60	1,077	2,154	1,616
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.

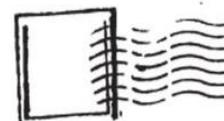
Table 4: Increase target by 2030 per source of carbon absorption

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

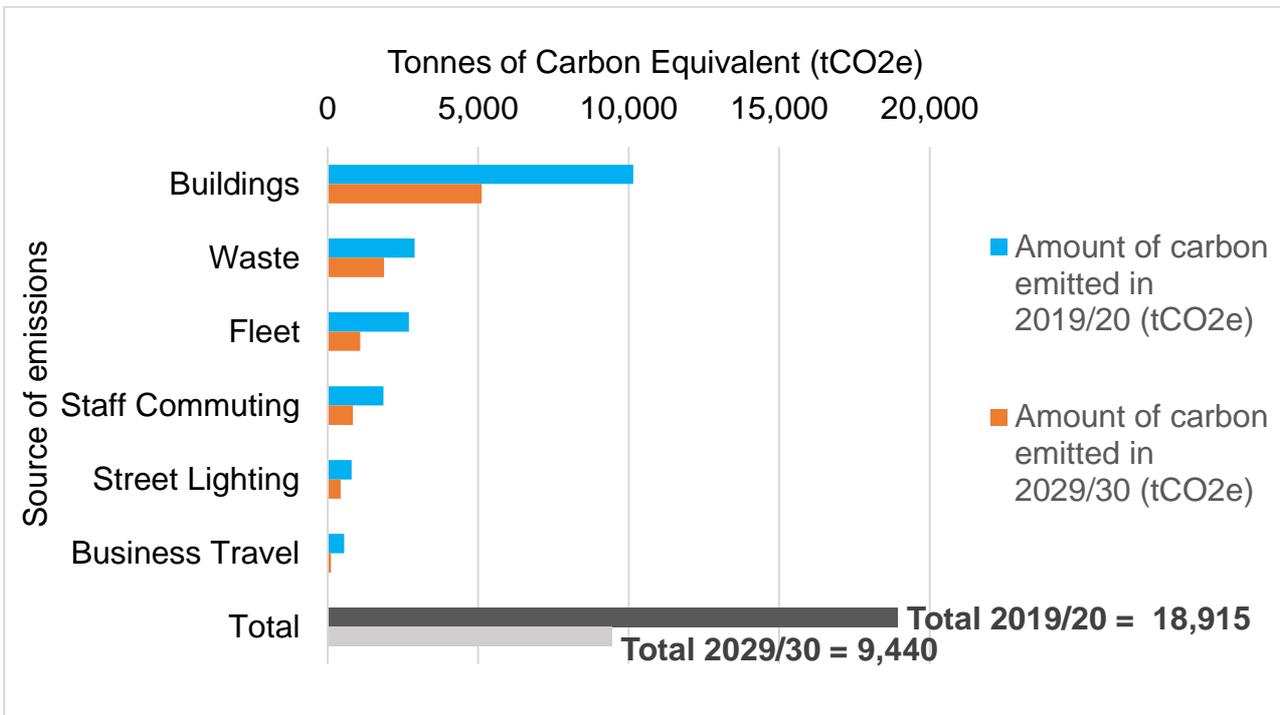
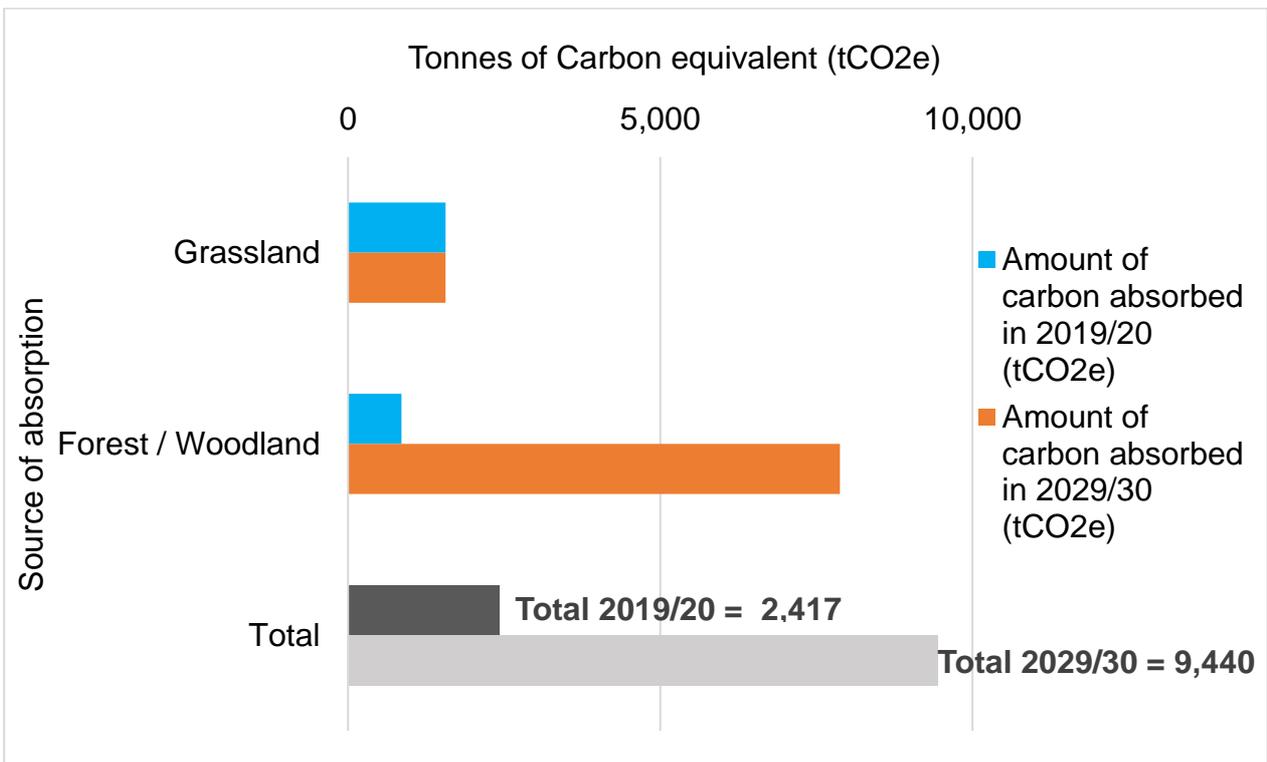


Chart 4: Amount of carbon absorbed by the Council in 2019/20 compared to forecasted absorption in 2029/30



Supply Chain

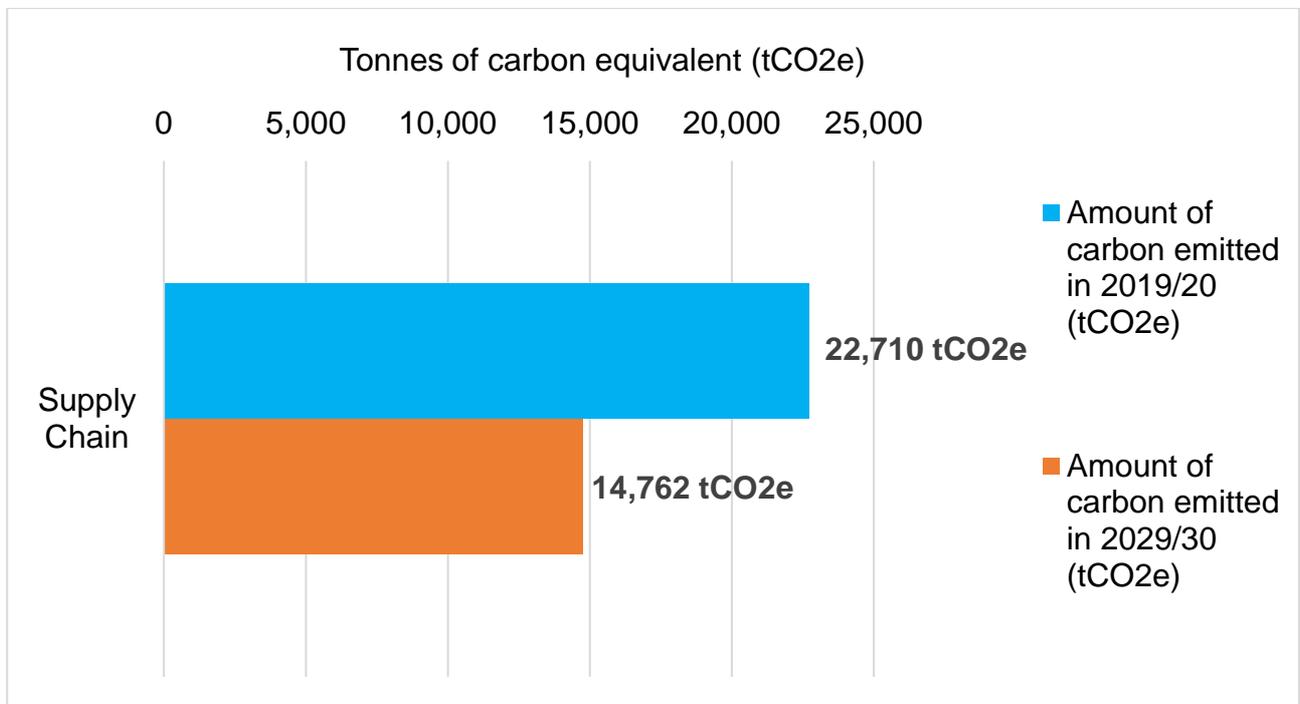
The Council also aims to reduce the carbon emitted from our supply chain by 35%. We will work with companies and businesses who we buy our goods and services from to reduce the carbon intensity of what we buy and how we deliver services and also to maximise on the local community benefit we can generate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

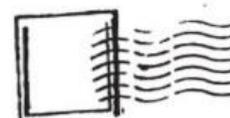
Chart 5: Amount of supply chain carbon emissions 2019/20 compared to what is forecasted for 2029/30



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	

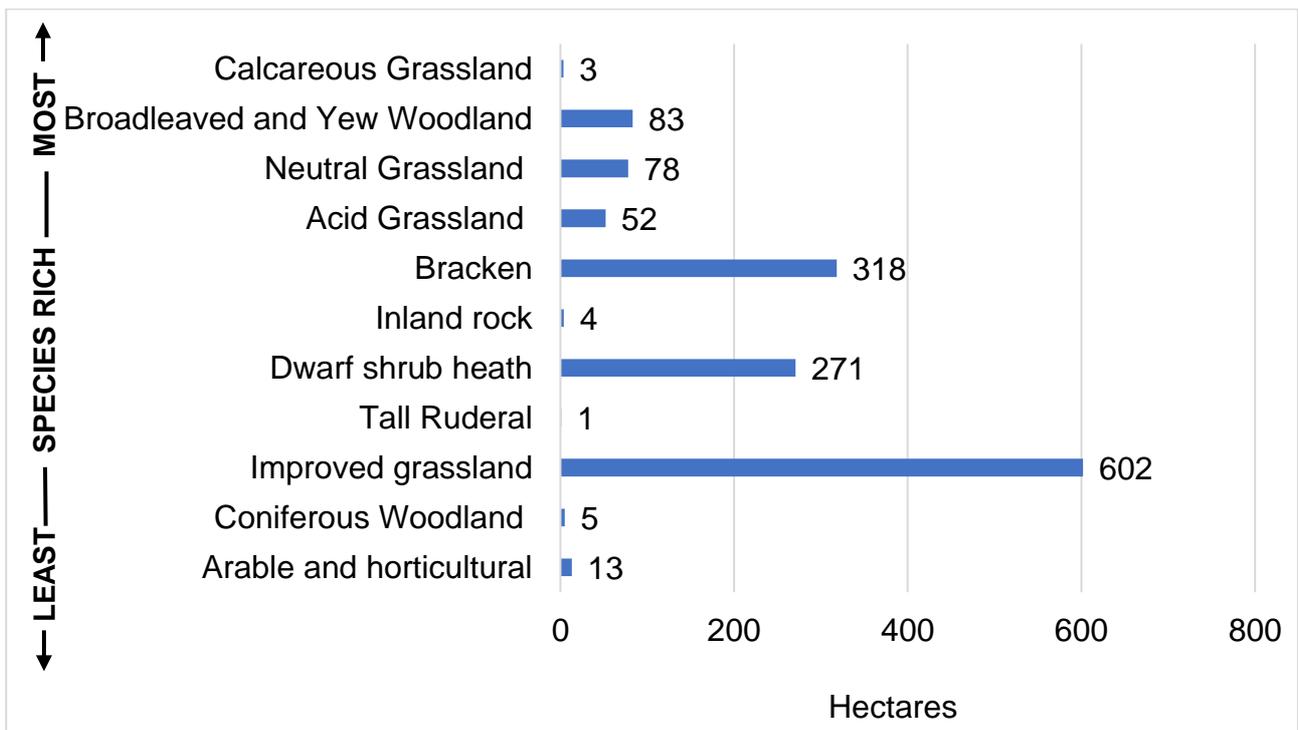
Habitat name	Species richness score ¹²	Photo example
Arable and horticultural	10.25	

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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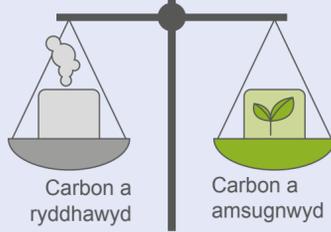
STRATEGAETH NEWID HINSAWDD
AC ECOLEGOL CYNGOR SIR DDINBYCH

Ein Nod Di-Garbon Net

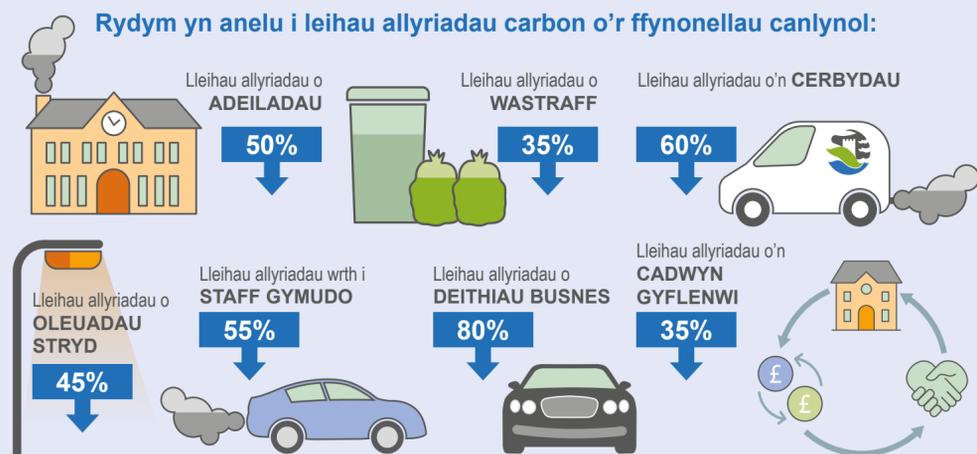
EIN CYNLLUN CYFLAWNI AR GYFER 2030

EIN NOD AR GYFER 2030

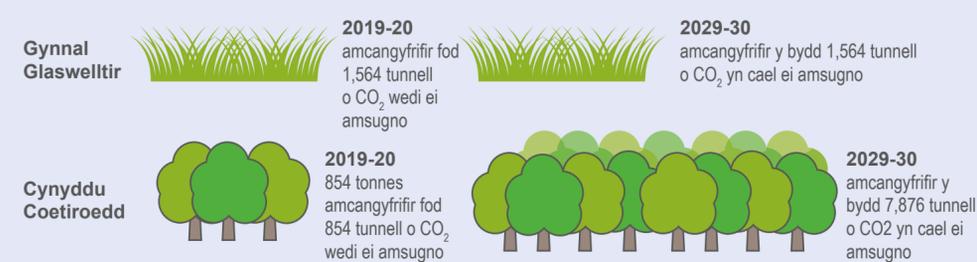
Ein nod yw bod cyfanswm y carbon sy'n cael ei allyrru gan y Cyngor yn cyfateb i gyfanswm y carbon sy'n cael ei amsugno gan diroedd y mae'r Cyngor yn berchen arnynt ac yn eu gweithredu erbyn 31ain Mawrth 2030. Hefyd rydym yn anelu i leihau allyriadau ein cadwyn gyflenwi o 35%.



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

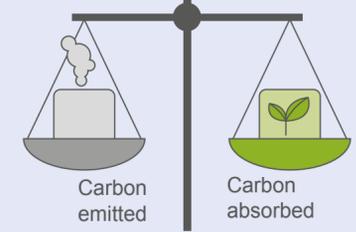
DENBIGHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL'S
CLIMATE AND ECOLOGICAL CHANGE STRATEGY

Our Net Carbon Zero Goal

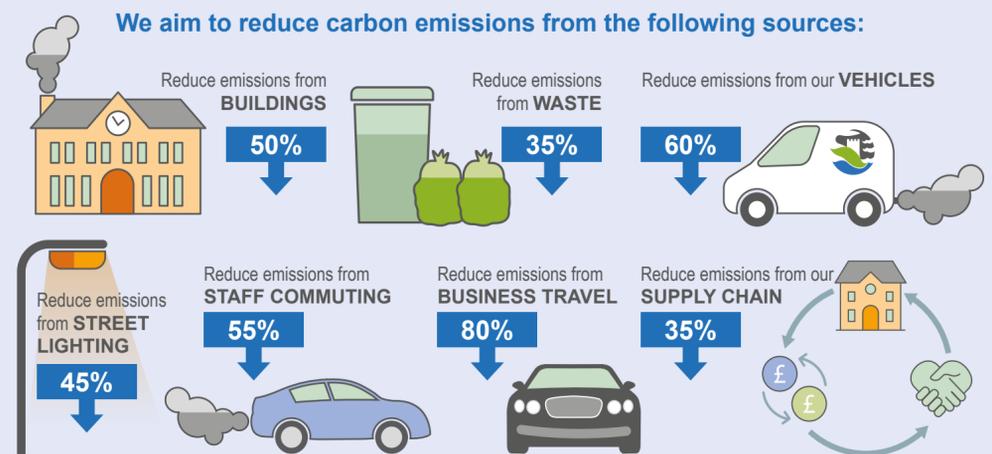
OUR DELIVERY PLAN FOR 2030

OUR 2030 GOAL

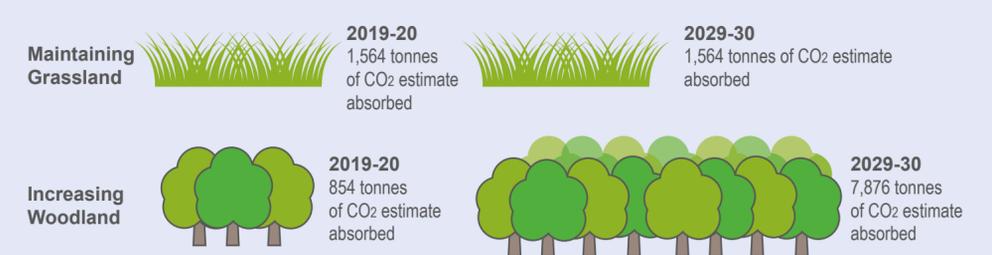
Our goal is for the total carbon emitted by the Council minus the total carbon absorbed from Council owned and operated land to equal zero by 31st March 2030. Plus we aim to reduce our supply chain emissions by 35%.



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
- Create new woodland
- LED street lighting
- Communication and behaviour change initiative
- Waste reduction and reuse schemes
- Reduce paper
- Electric vehicles and charging points
- 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:



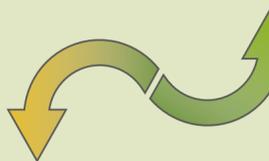
Diogelu a gwella bioamrywiaeth

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

Cyfluoedd gwirfoddoli ar gyfer lleoliadau yn ymwneud â gwelliannau amgylcheddol

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



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 chyfluoedd 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:



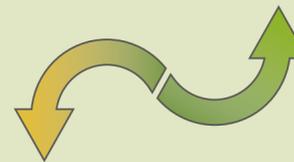
Protect and improve biodiversity

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	County Council
Date of meeting	23 February 2021
Lead Member / Officer	Councillor Julian Thompson-Hill / Steve Gadd, Head of Finance and Property
Report author	Steve Gadd, Head of Finance and Property
Title	Council Tax 21/22 and Associated Matters

1. What is the report about?

In adopting the resolutions of the Council budget meeting of the 26 January 2021 it is necessary for the Council to pass further resolutions in a particular form to ensure that the Council Tax and its associated matters are legally valid.

2. What is the reason for making this report?

A decision is required to set the levels of Council Tax for 2021/22.

3. What are the Recommendations?

- 3.1. It is necessary for the County Council, as the Billing Authority, to consider the precepts received from the Police & Crime Commissioner for North Wales and the Town/Community Councils and declare the Council Tax levels for the 2021/22 financial year.
- 3.2. It is recommended that the amounts calculated by the Council for the 2021/22 financial year, in accordance with Sections 32 to 34 (1) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 (the Act) and Alteration of Requisite Calculations (Wales) Regulations 2008 be as Appendix A section 3.
- 3.3. It is recommended that the amounts calculated by the Council for the 2021/22 financial year, in accordance with Sections 34 (2) to 36 (1) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 (the Act) be as Appendix A section 4.

- 3.4. That the amounts of Council Tax for the 2021/22 financial year for each of the categories of dwellings be as shown in Appendix C.
- 3.5. That the level of discount for Class A, B, and C as prescribed under the Council Tax (Prescribed Class of Dwellings) (Wales) Regulations 2004 be set at zero for the financial year 2021/22 with the caveat that this is dependent on no changes to legislation or local conditions.

4. Report details

Due to the requirement to approve the resolution and recommendations in the prescribed manner Appendix A contains the report details.

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

If the recommendations are not approved the Authority will be unable to raise Council Tax demands, therefore income required to fund Corporate Priorities will not be available.

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

The cost of raising and distributing Council Tax demands is met from within existing resources.

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

A wellbeing assessment for the Council Tax rise has been undertaken as part of the budget process and formed part of the budget papers presented to Full Council on 26 January 2021.

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

The level of Council Tax forms part of the budget set by the Council. In addition to regular reports to the Corporate Governance Committee, the budget process has been considered by SLT, Cabinet Briefing, Group Leaders and Council Briefing meetings. The School Budget Forum have been included in the proposals throughout the year. Trade Unions have been consulted through Local Joint Consultative Committee. The Covid pandemic has impacted on the level of consultation and engagement with the public, however plans are in place to engage early with all stakeholders during the budget process for 2022/23.

9. Chief Finance Officer Statement

The Council has a legal obligation to set a Council Tax. The regulations are prescriptive as to how this is to be done and this report meets those requirements.

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

The financial risk of being unable to collect Council Tax income. Collection rates are high and are monitored closely throughout the year.

11. Power to make the decision

The Local Government Finance Act 1992 and Alteration of Requisite Calculations (Wales) Regulations 2008.

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Appendix A

1.0 SETTING THE COUNCIL TAX FOR 2021/22

1.1 Background.

At the Council meeting on the 26 January 2021 members considered and approved Cabinet's budget proposals and resulting impact on Council Tax for next financial year.

The main features of the proposal included:

- A positive settlement of +3.6% in the Council's Local Government revenue from Welsh Government.
- An increase in Welsh Government general capital funding of 1%.
- The provision of additional resources for the impact of some inflationary pressures.
- An increase in funding to schools of £2.543m.
- The provision of £3m in recognition of the continuing financial pressures facing adult and child social care provision.
- Further pressures of £250k within Waste Services have been recognised.
- Inflationary pressures met by operational efficiencies of £690k and savings of £781k; £462k increased income from Fees and Charges in line with the agreed Fees and Charges policy; and increased Council Tax funding.
- Investment of £276k to support previous Council/Cabinet decisions (eg Rhyl Flood Scheme, North Wales Economic Ambition Board).
- £389k investment towards achieving the 2030 Carbon Zero Target agreed by Council.
- Council also delegated authority 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.

1.2 Section 151 Officer's statement

In accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act 2003 the observations of the Section 151 Officer on the budget for 2021/22 are required to be presented to members.

a) Robustness of Budget Estimates

The budget proposals for 2021/22 contain a level of financial estimates. This is due to the uncertainty around the future impact upon the Council of current economic events. A considered view has been taken on the level of

funding that services require and on the amount and timing of efficiency savings.

I consider the budget proposals for 2021/22 to be sensible and robust.

b) Adequacy of Reserves

The level of general balances is stable and I consider they are broadly appropriate given the financial risks that the council faces. Adequate general balances are vital to protect the Council from unforeseen problems or in-year emergencies.

In adopting the resolutions of the Council meeting of the 26 January 2021 it will be necessary for the Council to pass certain further resolutions in a particular form so as to ensure that the Council Tax and its associated matters are legally valid. I attach a copy of the required resolutions and request that these be approved.

1.3 The average increase for Council Tax bills (based on Band D) payable is:

	2020/21 £	2021/22 £	Increase %
Denbighshire County Council	1,384.16	1,436.76	3.80
Police & Crime Commissioner for North Wales	290.61	305.55	5.14
Town/Community Councils (Average)	54.13	55.21	1.99
Total	1,728.90	1,797.52	3.97

2.0 COUNCIL TAX RESOLUTION

It is necessary for the County Council, as the Billing Authority, to consider the precepts received from the Police & Crime Commissioner for North Wales and the Town/Community Councils and declare the Council Tax levels for the 2021/22 financial year.

2.1 TOWN/COMMUNITY COUNCILS – PRECEPTS

The following precepts have been received:-

	2020/21 £	2021/22 £
Aberwheeler	3,400	3,600
Betws Gwerfil Goch	3,233	3,117
Bodelwyddan	33,650	30,000
Bodfari	3,840	3,840
Bryneglwys	6,255	6,255
Cefn Meiriadog	5,100	6,180
Clocaenog	5,850	5,996
Corwen	48,633	68,700

Cyffylliog	7,755	7,722
Cynwyd	4,986	4,986
Denbigh	225,522	229,944
Derwen	6,000	6,000
Dyserth	45,500	46,000
Efenechtyd	7,625	7,625
Gwyddelwern	3,568	3,600
Henllan	16,212	16,044
Llanarmon yn Ial	22,440	22,440
Llanbedr D C	15,000	15,000
Llandegla	10,005	9,984
Llandrillo	5,952	4,338
Llandyrnog	10,688	10,688
Llanelidan	5,433	6,049
Llanfair D C	31,227	29,169
Llanferres	15,165	15,150
Llangollen Town	143,600	144,795
Llangynhafal	4,000	4,000
Llanrhaeadr Y C	12,120	12,576
Llantysilio	10,506	10,664
Llanynys	9,000	8,976
Nantglyn	5,500	5,500
Prestatyn	492,800	495,960
Rhuddlan	147,430	166,000
Rhyl	553,611	553,611
Ruthin	149,250	151,260
St. Asaph	92,758	101,869
Trefnant	4,887	5,255
Tremeirchion/Cwm/Waen	11,631	15,201
Total	2,180,132	2,238,094

3.0 DENBIGHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL/TOWN AND COMMUNITY COUNCILS - INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

It is recommended that the amounts calculated by the Council for the 2021/22 financial year, in accordance with Sections 32 to 34 (1) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 (the Act) and Alteration of Requisite Calculations (Wales) Regulations 2008 be as follows:-

	£
(a) The aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 32 (2) (a) to (e) of the Act.	319,369,877
(b) The aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 32 (3) (a) to (c) of the Act.	100,313,783

(c)	The amount by which the aggregate of Section 32 (2) above, exceeds the aggregate of Section 32 (3) above, calculated in accordance with Section 32 (4) of the Act, as its budget requirement for the year.	219,056,094
(d)	The aggregate amount which the Council estimates will be payable for the year into its general fund in respect of redistributed non-domestic rates and revenue support grant less cost of discretionary non-domestic rate reliefs.	158,571,440
(e)	The amount at (c) above less the amount at (d) above, divided by council tax base for the year, 40,540.34, calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 33 (1) of the Act, (i.e. basic amount Council Tax).	1,491.96
(f)	The aggregate amount of all special items referred to in Section 34 (1) of the Act (Town/Community Council Precepts).	2,238,094
(g)	The amount at (e) above less the result given by dividing the amount at (f) above by the council tax base, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 34 (2) of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which no special items relate.	1,436.76

4.0 DENBIGHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL/TOWN AND COMMUNITY COUNCILS - COUNCIL TAX

It is recommended that the amounts calculated by the Council for the 2021/22 financial year, in accordance with Sections 34 (2) to 36 (1) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 (the Act) be as follows:-

(a) the amounts calculated in accordance with Sections 34 (2) and (3) of the Act as the basic amounts of its Council Tax for the year for dwellings in part of the Council's area :-

COUNCIL TAX 2021/22 BAND 'D'

<u>Community</u>	<u>County Council</u>	<u>Community Precept</u>	<u>Total</u>
	£	£	£
Aberwheeler	1,436.76	20.22	1,456.98
Betws G G	1,436.76	19.48	1,456.24
Bodelwyddan	1,436.76	35.38	1,472.14
Bodfari	1,436.76	18.20	1,454.96
Bryneglwys	1,436.76	35.34	1,472.10

Cefn Meiriadog	1,436.76	30.00	1,466.76
Clocaenog	1,436.76	47.21	1,483.97
Corwen	1,436.76	67.55	1,504.31
Cyffylliog	1,436.76	33.00	1,469.76
Cynwyd	1,436.76	17.37	1,454.13
Denbigh	1,436.76	66.00	1,502.76
Derwen	1,436.76	24.49	1,461.25
Dyserth	1,436.76	41.29	1,478.05
Efenechtyd	1,436.76	25.76	1,462.52
Gwyddelwern	1,436.76	16.00	1,452.76
Henllan	1,436.76	42.00	1,478.76
Llanarmon yn Ial	1,436.76	37.46	1,474.22
Llanbedr D C	1,436.76	30.00	1,466.76
Llandegla	1,436.76	32.00	1,468.76
Llandrillo	1,436.76	13.15	1,449.91
Llandyrnog	1,436.76	21.04	1,457.80
Llanelidan	1,436.76	36.01	1,472.77
Llanfair D C	1,436.76	47.05	1,483.81
Llanferres	1,436.76	36.24	1,473.00
Llangollen Town	1,436.76	78.69	1,515.45
Llangynhafal	1,436.76	11.63	1,448.39
Llanrhaeadr Y C	1,436.76	24.00	1,460.76
Llantysilio	1,436.76	41.49	1,478.25
Llanynys	1,436.76	24.00	1,460.76
Nantglyn	1,436.76	32.35	1,469.11
Prestatyn	1,436.76	63.74	1,500.50
Rhuddlan	1,436.76	98.87	1,535.63
Rhyl	1,436.76	57.66	1,494.42
Ruthin	1,436.76	61.97	1,498.73
St. Asaph	1,436.76	66.49	1,503.25
Trefnant	1,436.76	7.77	1,444.53
Tremeirchion/ Cwm/Waen	1,436.76	22.55	1,459.31

- (b) The amounts calculated in accordance with Section 36 (1) of the Act as the amounts to be taken into account for the year in respect of dwellings listed in different valuation bands. (Appendix B)

5.0 Police & Crime Commissioner for North Wales - PRECEPT

The precept for the Police & Crime Commissioner for North Wales for 2021/22 is £12,387,101

In accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, it is noted that the amounts applicable for the year in respect of dwellings listed in different valuation bands are as follows :-

Valuation Bands

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
203.70	237.65	271.60	305.55	373.45	441.35	509.25	611.10	712.95

6.0 AGGREGATE COUNCIL TAX – 2021/22 (including Police & Crime Commissioner for North Wales)

Having calculated the aggregates in each case of the amounts at 4.0 and 5.0 above in accordance with Section 30 (2) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, it is

RECOMMENDED

That the amounts of Council Tax for the 2021/22 financial year for each of the categories of dwellings be as shown in Appendix C.

7.0 PRESCRIBED CLASS OF DWELLINGS - THE COUNCIL TAX (PRESCRIBED CLASS OF DWELLINGS) (WALES) REGULATIONS 1998 - SI 1998/105 AS AMENDED BY PRESCRIBED CLASS OF DWELLINGS - THE COUNCIL TAX (PRESCRIBED CLASS OF DWELLINGS) (WALES) (AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS 2004

7.1 In Wales, Section 12 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 creates a special class of property (prescribed class of dwellings) which allows a local billing authority to use its discretion in determining the level of discount to be awarded. If a dwelling meets certain criteria, then a billing authority can set the level of discount at either 25% or zero (i.e. no discount) for classes A & B, 50% or zero for class C.

7.2 The Council Tax (Prescribed Class of Dwellings)(Wales) Regulations 1998 as amended 2004, has with effect from 1st April, 2004 designated three classes of prescribed dwellings.

The classes are:-

Class A.

- a. A dwelling which is not the sole or main residence of an individual.
- b. Dwelling which is furnished.
- c. Occupation of the dwelling is prohibited by law for a continuous period of at least 28 days in the relevant year.
- d. Dwelling is not a mooring occupied by a boat or pitch occupied by a caravan.
- e. Dwelling is unoccupied and is managed by a personal representative in relation to the administration of a deceased person.

Class B

- a. A dwelling which is not the sole or main residence of an individual.

- b. Dwelling which is furnished.
- c. Occupation of the dwelling is not prohibited by law for a continuous period of at least 28 days in the relevant year.
- d. Dwelling is not a mooring occupied by a boat or pitch occupied by a caravan.
- e. Dwelling is unoccupied and is managed by a personal representative in relation to the administration of a deceased person.

Class C

- a. A dwelling which is unoccupied.
- b. A dwelling which is substantially unfurnished.

7.3 The difference between the classes A and B is the fact Class B has unrestricted occupation throughout 365 days a year whereas Class A is restricted to a maximum of 11 months occupation in a year. E.g. planning restriction as commonly applied to holiday chalets.

7.4 The main type of property covered by these regulations relate to furnished dwellings and not someone's sole or main residence e.g. second homes.

7.5 Class C was introduced to end the Council Tax discount for chargeable dwellings which are unoccupied and substantially unfurnished for periods greater than 6 months.

This allows the Authority to levy a full charge once the initial 6 month exemption period expires; this benefits Denbighshire residents in that

- a. The property owner would be contributing a full charge
- b. There is a financial incentive to the owner to occupy the property leading to.
 - The potential of increasing accommodation availability
 - The reduction in the number of empty properties in communities

7.6 In the year 2009/2010 the Council resolved not to award a discount to Class A, B or C for the remaining term of the Council with the caveat that this was dependant on, no changes to Legislation or local conditions. The purpose of this resolution enabled consistency in the calculation of the Tax Base, a shorter report and the reduction in the volumes of paper produced.

7.7 **IT IS RECOMMENDED**

That the level of discount for Class A, B, and C as prescribed under the Council Tax (Prescribed Class of Dwellings) (Wales) Regulations 2004 be set at zero for the financial year 2021/22 being the term of this Council with the caveat that this is dependent on, no changes to Legislation or local conditions.

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DENBIGHSHIRE COUNCIL COUNCIL

Appendix B

	<u>COUNTY</u>	<u>COMMUNITY</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>BAND A</u>	<u>BAND B</u>	<u>BAND C</u>	<u>BAND D</u>	<u>BAND E</u>	<u>BAND F</u>	<u>BAND G</u>	<u>BAND H</u>	<u>BAND I</u>
	<u>PRECEPT</u>	<u>PRECEPT</u>										
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
ABERWHEELER	1,436.76	20.22	1,456.98	971.32	1,133.21	1,295.09	1,456.98	1,780.75	2,104.53	2,428.30	2,913.96	3,399.62
BETWS G G	1,436.76	19.48	1,456.24	970.83	1,132.63	1,294.44	1,456.24	1,779.85	2,103.46	2,427.07	2,912.48	3,397.89
BODELWYDDAN	1,436.76	35.38	1,472.14	981.43	1,145.00	1,308.57	1,472.14	1,799.28	2,126.42	2,453.57	2,944.28	3,434.99
BODFARI	1,436.76	18.20	1,454.96	969.97	1,131.64	1,293.30	1,454.96	1,778.28	2,101.61	2,424.93	2,909.92	3,394.91
BRYNEGLWYS	1,436.76	35.34	1,472.10	981.40	1,144.97	1,308.53	1,472.10	1,799.23	2,126.37	2,453.50	2,944.20	3,434.90
CEFN MEIRIADOG	1,436.76	30.00	1,466.76	977.84	1,140.81	1,303.79	1,466.76	1,792.71	2,118.65	2,444.60	2,933.52	3,422.44
CLOCAENOG	1,436.76	47.21	1,483.97	989.31	1,154.20	1,319.08	1,483.97	1,813.74	2,143.51	2,473.28	2,967.94	3,462.60
CORWEN	1,436.76	67.55	1,504.31	1,002.87	1,170.02	1,337.16	1,504.31	1,838.60	2,172.89	2,507.18	3,008.62	3,510.06
CYFYLLIOG	1,436.76	33.00	1,469.76	979.84	1,143.15	1,306.45	1,469.76	1,796.37	2,122.99	2,449.60	2,939.52	3,429.44
CYNWYD	1,436.76	17.37	1,454.13	969.42	1,130.99	1,292.56	1,454.13	1,777.27	2,100.41	2,423.55	2,908.26	3,392.97
DENBIGH	1,436.76	66.00	1,502.76	1,001.84	1,168.81	1,335.79	1,502.76	1,836.71	2,170.65	2,504.60	3,005.52	3,506.44
DERWEN	1,436.76	24.49	1,461.25	974.17	1,136.53	1,298.89	1,461.25	1,785.97	2,110.69	2,435.42	2,922.50	3,409.58
DYSERTH	1,436.76	41.29	1,478.05	985.37	1,149.59	1,313.82	1,478.05	1,806.51	2,134.96	2,463.42	2,956.10	3,448.78
EFENECHTYD	1,436.76	25.76	1,462.52	975.01	1,137.52	1,300.02	1,462.52	1,787.52	2,112.53	2,437.53	2,925.04	3,412.55
GWYDDELWERN	1,436.76	16.00	1,452.76	968.51	1,129.92	1,291.34	1,452.76	1,775.60	2,098.43	2,421.27	2,905.52	3,389.77
HENLLAN	1,436.76	42.00	1,478.76	985.84	1,150.15	1,314.45	1,478.76	1,807.37	2,135.99	2,464.60	2,957.52	3,450.44
LLANARMON YN IAL	1,436.76	37.46	1,474.22	982.81	1,146.62	1,310.42	1,474.22	1,801.82	2,129.43	2,457.03	2,948.44	3,439.85
LLANBEDR D C	1,436.76	30.00	1,466.76	977.84	1,140.81	1,303.79	1,466.76	1,792.71	2,118.65	2,444.60	2,933.52	3,422.44
LLANDEGLA	1,436.76	32.00	1,468.76	979.17	1,142.37	1,305.56	1,468.76	1,795.15	2,121.54	2,447.93	2,937.52	3,427.11
LLANDRILLO	1,436.76	13.15	1,449.91	966.61	1,127.71	1,288.81	1,449.91	1,772.11	2,094.31	2,416.52	2,899.82	3,383.12
LLANDYRNOG	1,436.76	21.04	1,457.80	971.87	1,133.84	1,295.82	1,457.80	1,781.76	2,105.71	2,429.67	2,915.60	3,401.53
LLANELIDAN	1,436.76	36.01	1,472.77	981.85	1,145.49	1,309.13	1,472.77	1,800.05	2,127.33	2,454.62	2,945.54	3,436.46
LLANFAIR DC	1,436.76	47.05	1,483.81	989.21	1,154.07	1,318.94	1,483.81	1,813.55	2,143.28	2,473.02	2,967.62	3,462.22
LLANFERRES	1,436.76	36.24	1,473.00	982.00	1,145.67	1,309.33	1,473.00	1,800.33	2,127.67	2,455.00	2,946.00	3,437.00
LLANGOLLEN TOWN	1,436.76	78.69	1,515.45	1,010.30	1,178.68	1,347.07	1,515.45	1,852.22	2,188.98	2,525.75	3,030.90	3,536.05
LLANGYNHAFAL	1,436.76	11.63	1,448.39	965.59	1,126.53	1,287.46	1,448.39	1,770.25	2,092.12	2,413.98	2,896.78	3,379.58
LLANRHAADR Y C	1,436.76	24.00	1,460.76	973.84	1,136.15	1,298.45	1,460.76	1,785.37	2,109.99	2,434.60	2,921.52	3,408.44
LLANTYSILIO	1,436.76	41.49	1,478.25	985.50	1,149.75	1,314.00	1,478.25	1,806.75	2,135.25	2,463.75	2,956.50	3,449.25
LLANYNYS	1,436.76	24.00	1,460.76	973.84	1,136.15	1,298.45	1,460.76	1,785.37	2,109.99	2,434.60	2,921.52	3,408.44
NANTGLYN	1,436.76	32.35	1,469.11	979.41	1,142.64	1,305.88	1,469.11	1,795.58	2,122.05	2,448.52	2,938.22	3,427.92
PRESTATYN	1,436.76	63.74	1,500.50	1,000.33	1,167.06	1,333.78	1,500.50	1,833.94	2,167.39	2,500.83	3,001.00	3,501.17
RHUDDLAN	1,436.76	98.87	1,535.63	1,023.75	1,194.38	1,365.00	1,535.63	1,876.88	2,218.13	2,559.38	3,071.26	3,583.14
RHYL	1,436.76	57.66	1,494.42	996.28	1,162.33	1,328.37	1,494.42	1,826.51	2,158.61	2,490.70	2,988.84	3,486.98
RUTHIN	1,436.76	61.97	1,498.73	999.15	1,165.68	1,332.20	1,498.73	1,831.78	2,164.83	2,497.88	2,997.46	3,497.04
ST ASAPH	1,436.76	66.49	1,503.25	1,002.17	1,169.19	1,336.22	1,503.25	1,837.31	2,171.36	2,505.42	3,006.50	3,507.58
TREFNANT	1,436.76	7.77	1,444.53	963.02	1,123.52	1,284.03	1,444.53	1,765.54	2,086.54	2,407.55	2,889.06	3,370.57
TREMEIRCHION	1,436.76	22.55	1,459.31	972.87	1,135.02	1,297.16	1,459.31	1,783.60	2,107.89	2,432.18	2,918.62	3,405.06

DENBIGHSHIRE COUNCIL COUNCIL

Appendix C

	<u>COUNTY</u> <u>PRECEPT</u>	<u>COMMUNITY</u> <u>PRECEPT</u>	<u>POLICE</u> <u>PRECEPT</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>BAND A</u>	<u>BAND B</u>	<u>BAND C</u>	<u>BAND D</u>	<u>BAND E</u>	<u>BAND F</u>	<u>BAND G</u>	<u>BAND H</u>	<u>BAND I</u>
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
ABERWHEELER	1,436.76	20.22	305.55	1,762.53	1,175.02	1,370.86	1,566.69	1,762.53	2,154.20	2,545.88	2,937.55	3,525.06	4,112.57
BETWS G G	1,436.76	19.48	305.55	1,761.79	1,174.53	1,370.28	1,566.04	1,761.79	2,153.30	2,544.81	2,936.32	3,523.58	4,110.84
BODELWYDDAN	1,436.76	35.38	305.55	1,777.69	1,185.13	1,382.65	1,580.17	1,777.69	2,172.73	2,567.77	2,962.82	3,555.38	4,147.94
BODFARI	1,436.76	18.20	305.55	1,760.51	1,173.67	1,369.29	1,564.90	1,760.51	2,151.73	2,542.96	2,934.18	3,521.02	4,107.86
BRYNEGLWYS	1,436.76	35.34	305.55	1,777.65	1,185.10	1,382.62	1,580.13	1,777.65	2,172.68	2,567.72	2,962.75	3,555.30	4,147.85
CEFN MEIRIADOG	1,436.76	30.00	305.55	1,772.31	1,181.54	1,378.46	1,575.39	1,772.31	2,166.16	2,560.00	2,953.85	3,544.62	4,135.39
CLOCAENOG	1,436.76	47.21	305.55	1,789.52	1,193.01	1,391.85	1,590.68	1,789.52	2,187.19	2,584.86	2,982.53	3,579.04	4,175.55
CORWEN	1,436.76	67.55	305.55	1,809.86	1,206.57	1,407.67	1,608.76	1,809.86	2,212.05	2,614.24	3,016.43	3,619.72	4,223.01
CYFYLLIOG	1,436.76	33.00	305.55	1,775.31	1,183.54	1,380.80	1,578.05	1,775.31	2,169.82	2,564.34	2,958.85	3,550.62	4,142.39
CYNWYD	1,436.76	17.37	305.55	1,759.68	1,173.12	1,368.64	1,564.16	1,759.68	2,150.72	2,541.76	2,932.80	3,519.36	4,105.92
DENBIGH	1,436.76	66.00	305.55	1,808.31	1,205.54	1,406.46	1,607.39	1,808.31	2,210.16	2,612.00	3,013.85	3,616.62	4,219.39
DERWEN	1,436.76	24.49	305.55	1,766.80	1,177.87	1,374.18	1,570.49	1,766.80	2,159.42	2,552.04	2,944.67	3,533.60	4,122.53
DYSERTH	1,436.76	41.29	305.55	1,783.60	1,189.07	1,387.24	1,585.42	1,783.60	2,179.96	2,576.31	2,972.67	3,567.20	4,161.73
EFENECHTYD	1,436.76	25.76	305.55	1,768.07	1,178.71	1,375.17	1,571.62	1,768.07	2,160.97	2,553.88	2,946.78	3,536.14	4,125.50
GWYDDELWERN	1,436.76	16.00	305.55	1,758.31	1,172.21	1,367.57	1,562.94	1,758.31	2,149.05	2,539.78	2,930.52	3,516.62	4,102.72
HENLLAN	1,436.76	42.00	305.55	1,784.31	1,189.54	1,387.80	1,586.05	1,784.31	2,180.82	2,577.34	2,973.85	3,568.62	4,163.39
LLANARMON YN IAL	1,436.76	37.46	305.55	1,779.77	1,186.51	1,384.27	1,582.02	1,779.77	2,175.27	2,570.78	2,966.28	3,559.54	4,152.80
LLANBEDR D C	1,436.76	30.00	305.55	1,772.31	1,181.54	1,378.46	1,575.39	1,772.31	2,166.16	2,560.00	2,953.85	3,544.62	4,135.39
LLANDEGLA	1,436.76	32.00	305.55	1,774.31	1,182.87	1,380.02	1,577.16	1,774.31	2,168.60	2,562.89	2,957.18	3,548.62	4,140.06
LLANDRILLO	1,436.76	13.15	305.55	1,755.46	1,170.31	1,365.36	1,560.41	1,755.46	2,145.56	2,535.66	2,925.77	3,510.92	4,096.07
LLANDYRNOG	1,436.76	21.04	305.55	1,763.35	1,175.57	1,371.49	1,567.42	1,763.35	2,155.21	2,547.06	2,938.92	3,526.70	4,114.48
LLANELIDAN	1,436.76	36.01	305.55	1,778.32	1,185.55	1,383.14	1,580.73	1,778.32	2,173.50	2,568.68	2,963.87	3,556.64	4,149.41
LLANFAIR DC	1,436.76	47.05	305.55	1,789.36	1,192.91	1,391.72	1,590.54	1,789.36	2,187.00	2,584.63	2,982.27	3,578.72	4,175.17
LLANFERRES	1,436.76	36.24	305.55	1,778.55	1,185.70	1,383.32	1,580.93	1,778.55	2,173.78	2,569.02	2,964.25	3,557.10	4,149.95
LLANGOLLEN TOWN	1,436.76	78.69	305.55	1,821.00	1,214.00	1,416.33	1,618.67	1,821.00	2,225.67	2,630.33	3,035.00	3,642.00	4,249.00
LLANGYNHAFAL	1,436.76	11.63	305.55	1,753.94	1,169.29	1,364.18	1,559.06	1,753.94	2,143.70	2,533.47	2,923.23	3,507.88	4,092.53
LLANRHAADR Y C	1,436.76	24.00	305.55	1,766.31	1,177.54	1,373.80	1,570.05	1,766.31	2,158.82	2,551.34	2,943.85	3,532.62	4,121.39
LLANTYSILIO	1,436.76	41.49	305.55	1,783.80	1,189.20	1,387.40	1,585.60	1,783.80	2,180.20	2,576.60	2,973.00	3,567.60	4,162.20
LLANYNYS	1,436.76	24.00	305.55	1,766.31	1,177.54	1,373.80	1,570.05	1,766.31	2,158.82	2,551.34	2,943.85	3,532.62	4,121.39
NANTGLYN	1,436.76	32.35	305.55	1,774.66	1,183.11	1,380.29	1,577.48	1,774.66	2,169.03	2,563.40	2,957.77	3,549.32	4,140.87
PRESTATYN	1,436.76	63.74	305.55	1,806.05	1,204.03	1,404.71	1,605.38	1,806.05	2,207.39	2,608.74	3,010.08	3,612.10	4,214.12
RHUDDLAN	1,436.76	98.87	305.55	1,841.18	1,227.45	1,432.03	1,636.60	1,841.18	2,250.33	2,659.48	3,068.63	3,682.36	4,296.09
RHYL	1,436.76	57.66	305.55	1,799.97	1,199.98	1,399.98	1,599.97	1,799.97	2,199.96	2,599.96	2,999.95	3,599.94	4,199.93
RUTHIN	1,436.76	61.97	305.55	1,804.28	1,202.85	1,403.33	1,603.80	1,804.28	2,205.23	2,606.18	3,007.13	3,608.56	4,209.99
ST ASAPH	1,436.76	66.49	305.55	1,808.80	1,205.87	1,406.84	1,607.82	1,808.80	2,210.76	2,612.71	3,014.67	3,617.60	4,220.53
TREFNANT	1,436.76	7.77	305.55	1,750.08	1,166.72	1,361.17	1,555.63	1,750.08	2,138.99	2,527.89	2,916.80	3,500.16	4,083.52
TREMEIRCHION	1,436.76	22.55	305.55	1,764.86	1,176.57	1,372.67	1,568.76	1,764.86	2,157.05	2,549.24	2,941.43	3,529.72	4,118.01

Report to	Council
Date of meeting	23 February 2021
Lead Member / Officer	Julian Thompson-Hill
Report author	Steve Gadd, Head of Finance and Property
Title	Capital Plan 2020/21 – 2023/24 and Recommendations of the Strategic Investment Group

1. What is the report about?

The report updates members on the 2020/21 element of the Capital Plan. Also attached are the recommendations of the Strategic Investment Group of Capital bids recommended for inclusion in the Capital Plan.

2. What is the reason for making this report?

To provide members with an updated Capital Plan including an update on major projects and the corporate plan. This report also includes the Capital Strategy Report for 2021-22. This provides a high level, concise and comprehensive overview to members of how capital expenditure, capital financing and treasury management activity contribute to the provision of the Council's services. The following Appendices are included:

- Appendix 1: Summary capital plan funding
- Appendix 2: Summary capital plan by service
- Appendix 3: Details of scheme estimates
- Appendix 4: Major capital project updates
- Appendix 5: Details of recommendations by Strategic Investment Group
- Appendix 6: Capital Bids recommended for approval
- Appendix 7: Capital Strategy Report

- Appendix 8 – 15: Wellbeing Impact Assessment Report for each project considered by the Strategic Investment Group.

3. What are the Recommendations?

- 3.1 That Members note the latest position on the 2020/21 element of the Capital Plan and the update on major projects.
- 3.2 Members support the recommendation of the Strategic Investment Group as detailed in Appendix 5 and summarised in Appendix 6.
- 3.3 Members approve the 2021/22 Capital Plan.
- 3.4 Members approve the Capital Strategy Report for 2021/22 as detailed in Appendix 7.

4. Report details

4.1 Capital Expenditure 2020/21

The full Capital Plan was last reported to Council in February 2020. Monthly updates are presented to Cabinet. The Estimated Capital Plan is now £42.36m. The plan has been updated since being reported to Cabinet on 16 February 2021.

4.2 Major Projects

Appendix 4 provides an update on the following major projects:

- 21st Century Schools Programme – Ysgol Llanfair
- 21st Century Schools Programme – Rhos Street and Ysgol Pen Barras
- 21st Century Schools Programme – Christ the Word, Rhyl
- Rhyl Queens Market Redevelopment
- New Waste Services Remodelling
- East Rhyl Coastal Defence

4.3 Corporate Plan

Council approved the latest Corporate Plan 2017-2022 on 17th October 2017. This sets out the Council's vision for the current term. The total cost of the plan was initially estimated at £135m, and this has changed as proposals have developed.

Cabinet on 23rd January 2018 confirmed its financial commitment to delivering Band B. However in November 2018, the Welsh Government announced changes to the grant intervention rates. For Band A, the intervention rate was 50% Welsh Government Grant. For Band B it will now be 65% Welsh Government contribution, for special schools including Pupil Referral Units a 75% contribution and for Voluntary Aided Schools the Welsh Government contribution will be 85% with 15% to be provided by the Diocesan Authority or the Governing Body. Following this announcement detailed consideration has been given to the likely direction for Band B and a number of feasibility studies have been undertaken. Based on the findings from these feasibility studies, a revised programme has emerged. However this highlighted an increased estimate above the programme envelope of £80m and the Welsh Government contribution of £45m. Cabinet on 17th December 2019 approved the submission of a revised Strategic Outline Programme to Welsh Government seeking additional funding.

Discussions between the Welsh Government and the Council have subsequently led to the delivery of the programme being considered as two phases. Cabinet on 22 September 2020 approved the commencement of Phase one projects at Ysgol Plas Brondyffryn/Denbigh High School; Ysgol Bryn Collen/Ysgol Gwernant and Ysgol Pendref. Cabinet also agreed that the Council continue to discuss with the Welsh Government the case for additional funding required for Phase two projects and to review the position in 18 months.

4.4 Capital Receipts

The Capital Plan is dependent for part of its funding on capital receipts generated by the sale of Council assets. The table below shows those gross receipts achieved in 2020/21. In addition, a number of potential disposals are also currently in development.

	2020/21 £000
Bodelwyddan Castle	700
Former Donkey Field, Rhyl	90
Four Crosses Farm, Glanrafon	515
Lletty Farm, Llandyrnog	480

Land at Meliden (Deposit)	57
Barn, Ty'n Celyn, Glanrafon	15
Total	1,857

4.5 Prudential Indicators 2020/21

Each year the Council sets Prudential Indicators that determine prudent limits on its borrowing. The Council's outstanding debt is currently £241.8m. This is within the Operational Boundary (£265m) and Authorised Limit (£270m) and is less than the forecast Capital Financing Requirement (£296m). This means the Council is adhering to the Prudential Code of Capital Finance and is not borrowing in excess of its capital needs.

The ratio of financing costs to the net revenue stream for 2020/21 is 6.64%. This ratio is an indicator of affordability and highlights the revenue implications of existing and proposed capital expenditure by identifying the proportion of the revenue budget required to meet borrowing costs.

4.6 Recommendations of the Strategic Investment Group (SIG)

The Strategic Investment Group has reviewed capital bids and has made recommendations for inclusion in the Capital Plan from 2021/22 onwards. These are detailed in Appendix 5 and summarised in Appendix 6.

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

It is necessary to ensure that the Capital Plan is fully funded as any cost overruns above the total available funding have to be funded from revenue budgets.

6.2 Staffing/ICT/Accommodation Implications

Each new project is required to complete a 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. These are included within Appendices 8 to 15.

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

Projects are prepared and subsequently monitored in consultation with Heads of Service. The figures used in the reports are based upon the latest estimates available.

All members have been informed of the bids, with all bids also available to view on Mod.Gov.

9. Chief Finance Officer Statement

No project should commence without being fully funded against a robust project plan and the project being discussed with the Strategic Investment Group.

Project Sponsors need to exercise tight control over their capital expenditure to ensure that the projects remain within budgets.

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.

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

APPENDIX 1

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	19,938	24,699	3,339	350
Total Estimated Payments - Major Projects:					
Housing Improvement Grants	1,200	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			
Highways Maintenance	3,253	4,292	2,960		
East Rhyl Coastal Defence Scheme	11,660	13,803	8,150	5,575	
Rhyl Waterfront and Waterpark	36	73			
Rhyl Queens Market Redevelopment		1,152	3,128	2,630	121
Waste Service Remodelling	9,475	700	13,472		
Contingency	500	0	500	500	500
Total	41,648	42,364	54,475	12,044	971
External Funding	18,163	19,304	28,332	7,776	6,036
Receipts and Reserves	3,874	7,171	6,610	3,879	121
Prudential Borrowing	19,611	15,889	19,533	5,925	350
Unallocated Funding	0	0	0	(5,536)	(5,536)
Total Capital Financing	41,648	42,364	54,475	12,044	971

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

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HEAD OF SERVICE CAPITAL PROGRAMME SUMMARY	2020/21 Estimated Programme £000	2021/22 Estimated Programme £000	2022/23 Estimated Programme £000	2023/24 Estimated Programme £000
Head of Legal, HR and Democratic Services	128	151		
Head of Finance and Property	4,855	6,284	2,630	121
Head of Planning, Public Protection and Countryside Services	3,560	2,049		
Head of Business Improvement and Modernisation	324	250	350	350
Head of Community Support Services	857	3,668	2,500	
Head of Communities and Customers				
Head of Highways, Facilities and Environmental Services	24,760	32,665	5,575	
Head of Education and Childrens Services	7,880	8,908	489	
Contingency	0	500	500	500
TOTAL HEAD OF SERVICE SUMMARY	42,364	54,475	12,044	971

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Position to January 2021

CAPITAL PROGRAMME DETAILS OF SCHEMES	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
	Estimated Programme	Estimated Programme	Estimated Programme	Estimated Programme
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Legal, HR and Democratic Services				
Relocation of Coroners Accommodation, County Hall, Ruthin	67	97		
Relocation of Registration Service to County Hall, Ruthin	61	54		
Total Legal, HR and Democratic Services	128	151	0	0
Finance and Property				
Agricultural Estates	40	228		
Asbestos	243	220		
Equalities	46	70		
Property, Capital Maintenance Works - Block Allocation	359	1,741		
Fire Risk Assessment Works - Public Buildings	59	190		
Reduction in Carbon Emmissions from Council Assets	90	65		
Demolition of building on former Rhos Street/Ysgol Penbarras school site	28	40		
County Hall Improved Utilisation - Upgraded Building Management System	26			
County Hall Improved Utilisation - Relocation of Y Bont	70	112		
Corwen Pavilion Development	11	10		
Gypsy and Traveller Site Accommodation	2	20		
Rhyl Waterfront Development	73			
Rhyl, Queen's Building Redevelopment	1,152	3,128	2,630	121
West Rhyl Housing Improvement Programme	22	150		
Former Costigans Building , Rhyl - Tech Hub	270	10		
West Rhyl Regenration Area Ph 2 (3-23 Edward Henry Street)	932			
The Buttermarket, Denbigh - Welsh Government Grant for Acquisition (Vale of Clwyd Mind)	250			
Town Centre Loan - Braga Hotel, Rhyl	326	300		
Ruthin Leisure Centre - Changing Room Refurbishment	19			
Rhyl Leisure Centre - All Weather Pitch Replacement	24			
Rhyl Pavilion Theatre - Refurbishment	305			
Kinmel Park Depot, Bodelwyddan - Toilet refurbishment	19			
Corwen Leisure Centre - Pool Hall & Changing Rooms Refurbishment	489			
Total Finance and Property	4,855	6,284	2,630	121
Planning, Public Protection and Countryside Services				
Housing Improvement Grants	1,200	1,200		
Renewals - Town Centre Development Fund	46	100		
Housing Renewal Theme Project	42			
Enable - 2020-21	134			
Empty Homes - Corporate Plan	30			
27 - 29 High Street, Denbigh - Targeted Regeneration Investment grant to third party	175	75		
Town Centres Covid Response - Grant Assistance	108			
Town and County Planning - Section 106	11			
Traffic and Car Parks	125	674		
Local Transport Fund	65			
Active Travel Fund	258			
Local Sustainable Transport - Covid Response	981			
Local Road Safety	255			
Acquisition of land at Castell Dinas Bran	70			
Greengates - Tree Nursery	60			
Total Planning, Public Protection and Countryside Services	3,560	2,049	0	0
Business Improvement and Modernisation				
ICT Strategy Phase 2	321	250	350	350
Business Development Grants (Final Payment)	3			
Total Business Improvement and Modernisation	324	250	350	350
Community Support Services				
Minor Adaptations, Community Equipment and Telecare	240	240		
Integrated Care Fund - Various Initiatives	407			
Adaptation of 17 Middle Land, Denbigh	165			
Acquisition of Accommodation - Llys Awelon, Ruthin		430		
Llys Awelon Extra Care Ph 2		2,500	2,500	
Replace Care.Com (PARIS)		45		
Cysgod y Gaer - Biomass	10	73		
Corwen Health, Social Care and Housing	10	133		
Denbigh Health and Social Care	10	47		
Acquisition of Extra Care Unit at Awel y Dyffryn, Middle Lane, Denbigh	15	200		
Total Community Support Services	857	3,668	2,500	0

Highways, Facilities and Environmental Services				
Highways Maintenance	1,874	2,960		
Highways Maintenance - Capital Displacement	597			
Public Highways Refurbishment Grant 18-19 to 20-21	1,821			
Bridges	703	648		
Rights of Way	32	67		
Recovery from February 2020 Flooding	1,020			
Street Lighting	84			
Street Lighting - Sustainable LED Lighting (Salix)	200	185		
Coastal Defence - Inspections and Essential Maintenance	80	210		
Prestatyn Coastal Defence - Outline Business Case	638	1,000		
Prestatyn Coastal Defence - Repairs to Open Stone Asphalt Revetment 2	15			
Rhyl Central Coastal Defence - Outline Business Case	848	2,000		
East Rhyl Coastal Defence Scheme	13,803	8,150	5,575	
Harbour Empowerment	7			
Acquisition of Boat Crane, Rhyl Harbour	170			
Flood Prevention Scheme - General	72	263		
Natural Flood Management in Denbighshire	70	930		
Urban Catchment Management in Prestatyn		130		
Urban Catchment Management in Rhyl		110		
Vehicles, Plant & Equipment	1,000	1,000		
Botanical Gardens,Rhyl - New Accommodation	109	600		
New Central Waste Depot, Denbigh	139	940		
Remodelling Waste Service	700	13,472		
Rhyl Green Infrastructure	300			
HRC Re-Use Shop, Rhyl	169			
Pilot CharityShop Refurbishment Scheme	190			
Denbighshire's Circular Economy 'Social Supermarket'	44			
Denbighshire Textile Repair and Reuse Partnership	74			
Public Conveniences - Refurbishment Programme	1			
Total Highways, Facilities and Environmental Services	24,760	32,665	5,575	0
Education and Children's Services				
Schools Capital Maintenance Block Allocation	4,068	4,651		
Schools Maintenance Grant - WG 2019-20	1,487			
School Workplace Transport	50	737		
Equalities	64			
Ysgol Tir Morfa - Outdoor Play Area Improvements	120			
Welsh Language Centre at Ysgol Glan Clwyd, St Asaph	451			
Ysgol Bro Cinmeirch - Extension (Final Retention)	4			
Childcare Grants	95			
Childcare - Small Grant Scheme Covid 19	80			
Oaktree Centre - Expansion of 'Little Acorns'	90	1,093	55	
Ysgol Twm o'r Nant - Relocate Cylch Bodawen to Ysgol Twm o'r Nant	59	757	33	
Ysgol Dewi Sant - Relocation of 2 cylch groups	17	737	401	
Ysgol Penmorfa, Extension to Flying Start Accommodation		337		
Ysgol Bro Dyfrdwy - New Area School (Final Retention)	33			
Rhos Street and Ysgol Penbarras - Additional school yard	52	148		
Ysgol Llanfair - New School (Final Retention)	148			
Ysgol Carreg Emlyn - New School (Final Retention)	119			
Rhyl, Christ the Word - New School	939	366		
21c Schools Band B - Denbigh and Rhyl Area Reviews	4			
Adaptations to Foster Carer Homes		82		
Total Education and Children's Services	7,880	8,908	489	0
Contingency		500	500	500
Total Capital Plan Services	42,364	54,475	12,044	971

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	£0.309m
Future Years estimated spend	£5.879m
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	£1.152m

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

Appendix 5

Summary of Strategic Investment Group Recommendations (Capital Plan 2021/22)

1.1 Report Details

1.1 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

1.2 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.

Recommendations of the Strategic Investment Group

1.3 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.

1.4 Each bid was submitted with approval of the relevant Head of Service. The proposed allocations are detailed in Appendix 6 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.

1.5 Appendix 6 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 capital receipts.

1.6 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

2021/22 Capital Bids - Proposed Block Allocations

APPENDIX 6

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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Denbighshire County Council
Capital Strategy Report 2021/22 to 2023/24

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Capital Strategy Report 2021/22 to 2023/24

1 Introduction

- 1.1 This capital strategy is a new report introduced in 2019/20, giving a high-level overview of how capital expenditure, capital financing and treasury management activity contribute to the provision of local public services along with an overview of how associated risk is managed and the implications for future financial sustainability. It has been written in an accessible style to enhance members' understanding of these sometimes technical areas.

2 Capital Expenditure and Financing

- 2.1 Capital expenditure is where the Council spends money on assets, such as property or vehicles that will be used for more than one year. In local government this includes spending on assets owned by other bodies, and loans and grants to other bodies enabling them to buy assets.

In 2021/22, the Council is planning capital expenditure of £76.7m as summarised below:

Table 1: Prudential Indicator: Estimates of Capital Expenditure

Capital Expenditure	2020/21 Approved £000	2020/21 Revised £000	2021/22 Estimate £000	2022/23 Estimate £000	2023/24 Estimate £000
Council Fund	41,648	42,364	54,475	18,580	7,507
Band B – 21 C Schools	2,020	27	1,556	9,752	29,745
HRA	19,172	14,876	20,663	18,245	15,468
Total	62,840	57,267	76,694	46,577	52,720

- 2.2 For details of the capital projects please refer to Appendix 2-4 in the Capital Plan report. These give details of the capital plan by service, scheme estimates and major capital project updates.
- 2.3 The Housing Revenue Account (HRA) is a ring-fenced account which ensures that council housing does not subsidise, or is itself subsidised, by other local services. HRA capital expenditure is therefore recorded separately. Details of the Housing Capital Budgets can be found in the Housing Rent Setting and Housing Revenue and Capital Budgets Report to Cabinet on 19 January 2021.
- 2.4 **Governance:**

The Strategic Investment Group (SIG) provides an independent review of all business case proposals for capital investment regardless of value and has delegated authority to approve bids to the value of £1 million. It will also recommend schemes to either Cabinet or the full Council if the value of the Application is above £1m or if for other reasons, it is more appropriate for Cabinet or the full Council to approve.

Capital Strategy Report 2021/22 to 2023/24

Annually SIG invite bids from the Heads of Service and meet to review the bids and recommend the proposed allocation of the funding to Cabinet and Council. The recommendations for 2021/22 are included in Appendix 5 of the Capital Plan Report.

A Summary of the Council's Capital Plan is included in the monthly Finance Report to Cabinet. It shows the approved Capital Plan against spend to date. Also an update on the major projects is included in the overall Capital Plan.

- 2.5 All capital expenditure must be financed, either from external sources (government grants and other contributions), the Council's own resources (revenue, reserves and capital receipts) or debt (borrowing, leasing). The planned financing of the above expenditure is as follows:

Table 2: Capital Financing

Capital Financing	2020/21 Approved £000	2020/21 Revised £000	2021/22 Estimate £000	2022/23 Estimate £000	2023/24 Estimate £000
Council Fund					
Capital Receipts	2,565	5,967	0	1,379	121
Grants & Contributions	10,572	15,091	20,269	4,762	3,022
Revenue Contributions & Reserves	1,309	1,204	6,610	2,500	0
Supported Borrowing	7,591	4,213	8,063	3,014	3,014
Prudential Borrowing	19,611	15,889	19,533	6,925	1,350
	41,648	42,364	54,475	18,580	7,507
Band B – 21 C Schools					
Grants & Contributions	1,477	0	1,148	7,236	22,304
Prudential Borrowing	543	27	408	2,516	7,441
	2,020	27	1,556	9,752	29,745
Total	43,668	42,391	56,031	28,332	37,252
HRA					
Capital Receipts	2,800	422	2,020	1,200	920
Grants & Contributions	2,888	4,541	3,613	3,456	2,401
Revenue Contributions & Reserves	2,411	2,581	2,485	1,846	1,354
Prudential Borrowing	11,073	7,332	12,545	11,743	10,793
Total	19,172	14,876	20,663	18,245	15,468

Capital Strategy Report 2021/22 to 2023/24

- 2.6 Debt is only a temporary source of finance, since loans and leases must be repaid, and this is therefore replaced over time by other financing, usually from revenue which is known as Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP). Alternatively, proceeds from selling capital assets (known as capital receipts) may be used to replace debt finance. The Council's full MRP statement is included within the Treasury Management Strategy Statement (TMSS) 2021/22.
- 2.7 The Council's cumulative outstanding amount of debt finance is measured by the capital financing requirement (CFR). This increases with new debt-financed capital expenditure and reduces with MRP and capital receipts used to replace debt. The CFR is expected to increase by £28m during 2021/22. Based on the above figures for expenditure and financing, the Council's estimated CFR is as follows:

Table 3: Prudential Indicator: Estimates of Capital Financing Requirement

Capital Financing Requirement	2020/21 Approved £000	2020/21 Revised £000	2021/22 Estimate £000	2022/23 Estimate £000	2023/24 Estimate £000
Council Fund	229,422	221,751	240,511	240,521	234,561
HRA	80,173	75,147	84,394	92,528	99,387
Total CFR	309,595	296,898	324,905	333,049	333,948

- 2.8 **Asset management:** To ensure that capital assets continue to be of long-term use, the Council has an asset management strategy in place. The Asset Management Group (AMG) meets quarterly and its purpose is to provide strategic direction for all matters relating to the effective use of Council owned land and building assets within the County, including (but not exclusively):

Land and Property disposal

Land and property acquisition

Strategic property planning (including consideration of Asset Management Plans)

Innovative land and property usage / utilisation.

- 2.9 **Asset disposals:** When a capital asset is no longer needed, it may be sold so that the proceeds, known as capital receipts, can be spent on new assets or to repay debt. The Council has received £1.857m of capital receipts to date in 2020/21 and has a programme of potential disposals which is reported to the Asset Management Group.

Capital Strategy Report 2021/22 to 2023/24

3 Treasury Management

- 3.1 Treasury management is concerned with keeping sufficient but not excessive cash available to meet the Council's spending needs, while managing the risks. Surplus cash is invested until required, while a shortage of cash will be met by borrowing, to avoid excessive credit balances or overdrafts in the bank current account. The Council is typically cash rich in the short-term as revenue income is received before it is spent, but cash poor in the long-term as capital expenditure is incurred before being financed. The revenue cash surpluses are offset against capital cash shortfalls to reduce overall borrowing.
- 3.2 Due to decisions taken in the past, the Council currently has £241.8m borrowing at an average interest rate of 3.9% and £23.8m treasury investments at an average rate of 0.005%.
- 3.3 **Borrowing strategy:** The Council's main objectives when borrowing are to achieve a low but certain cost of finance while retaining flexibility should plans change in future. These objectives are often conflicting, and the Council therefore seeks to strike a balance between cheap short-term loans (currently available at around 0.5%) and long-term fixed rate loans where the future cost is known but higher (currently 1.0 to 1.5%).

Projected levels of the Council's total outstanding debt are shown below, compared with the capital financing requirement (see above).

Table 4: Prudential Indicator: Gross Debt and the Capital Financing Requirement

Capital Financing Requirement	31/03/21 Approved £000	31/03/21 Revised £000	31/03/22 Estimate £000	31/03/23 Estimate £000	31/03/24 Estimate £000
CFR	309,595	296,898	324,905	333,049	333,948
Debt	266,506	250,006	279,705	292,142	306,639

- 3.4 Statutory guidance is that debt should remain below the capital financing requirement, except in the short-term. As can be seen from table 4, the Council expects to comply with this in the medium term.
- 3.5 **Affordable borrowing limit:** The Council is legally obliged to set an affordable borrowing limit (also termed the authorised limit for external debt) each year and to keep it under review. In line with statutory guidance, a lower "operational boundary" is also set as a warning level should debt approach the limit.

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Table 5: Prudential Indicators: Authorised Limit and Operational Boundary for External Debt

	2020/21 Approved £000	2020/21 Revised £000	2021/22 Estimate £000	2022/23 Estimate £000	2023/24 Estimate £000
Authorised Limit	300,000	270,000	300,000	310,000	320,000
Operational Boundary	295,000	265,000	295,000	305,000	315,000

Further details on borrowing are included in the treasury management strategy.

- 3.6 **Investment strategy:** Treasury investments arise from receiving cash before it is paid out again. Investments made for service reasons or for pure financial gain are not generally considered to be part of treasury management.
- 3.7 The Council's policy on treasury investments is to prioritise security and liquidity over yield that is to focus on minimising risk rather than maximising returns. Cash that is likely to be spent in the near term is invested securely, for example with the government, other local authorities or selected high-quality banks, to minimise the risk of loss.

Table 6: Treasury Management Investments

	31/03/20 Actual £000	31/03/21 Estimate £000	31/03/22 Estimate £000	31/03/23 Estimate £000	31/03/24 Estimate £000
Investments	28,900	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000

Further details on treasury investments are included in the treasury management strategy.

- 3.8 **Governance:** Decisions on treasury management investment and borrowing are made daily and are therefore delegated to the Director of Finance and staff, who must act in line with the treasury management strategy approved by Council. Semi-annual reports on treasury management activity are presented to the Corporate Governance Committee. The Corporate Governance Committee is responsible for scrutinising treasury management decisions.

4 Revenue Budget Implications

- 4.1 Although capital expenditure is not charged directly to the revenue budget, interest payable on loans and MRP are charged to revenue, offset by any investment income receivable. The net annual charge is known as financing costs; this is compared to the net revenue stream i.e. the amount funded from Council Tax, business rates and general government grants.

Capital Strategy Report 2021/22 to 2023/24

Table 7: Prudential Indicator: Proportion of Financing Costs to Net Revenue Stream

Ratio of Financing Costs to Net Revenue Stream	2020/21 Approved £000	2020/21 Revised £000	2021/22 Estimate £000	2022/23 Estimate £000	2023/24 Estimate £000
Financing Costs	13,681	13,824	15,246	15,246	15,246
Net Revenue Stream	208,301	208,301	216,818	219,579	222,339
Council Fund Ratio	6.57%	6.64%	7.03%	6.94%	6.86%
Financing Costs	6,352	6,432	6,498	6,848	7,798
Net Revenue Stream	16,527	16,258	16,743	17,351	18,135
HRA Ratio	38.43%	39.56%	38.81%	39.47%	43.00%

4.2 **Sustainability:** Due to the very long-term nature of capital expenditure and financing, the revenue budget implications of expenditure incurred in the next few years will extend for up to 50 years into the future. The Head of Finance is satisfied that the proposed capital programme is prudent, affordable and sustainable.

5 Knowledge and Skills

5.1 The Council's approach to ensuring that the requisite knowledge and skills are held and demonstrated when making capital, borrowing and investment decisions is three fold.

- Employment of professionally qualified and experienced staff with responsibility for making decisions.
- Continuous and extensive training for Council members to aid informed decision making and effective scrutiny.
- Employment of Treasury Management advisors, Arlingclose to provide specialist advice in requisite areas.

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Capital Bid for Minor Adaptations and
Equipment 2021 - 2022
7th January 2021

Equality Impact Assessment

Capital Bid for Minor Adaptations and Equipment

Contact: Jane Moore

Updated: 07.01.2021

1. What type of proposal / decision is being assessed?

A strategic or service plan

2. What is the purpose of this proposal / decision, and what change (to staff or the community) will occur as a result of its implementation?

To bid for Capital allocation for 2021/22:
To enable the continuation of the provision of minor adaptations up to the value of £1,000 (Forecast requirement = £70,000)
To enable the continued purchase of expensive mechanical community equipment such as easy-track hoists, used by disabled children and adults in Denbighshire following assessment by Occupational Therapists.(forecast requirement = £75,000)
To fund the continued purchase of Telecare Equipment (forecast requirement = £95,000)

3. Does this proposal / decision require an equality impact assessment? If no, please explain why.

*Please note: if the proposal will have an impact on people (staff or the community) then an equality impact assessment **must** be undertaken*

No

These services all provide assistance to disabled people of all ages and an EQIA would only be necessary if the funding was withdrawn and the service fully reviewed with the possibility of the introduction of means testing.

4. Please provide a summary of the steps taken, and the information used, to carry out this assessment, including any engagement undertaken

(Please refer to section 1 in the toolkit for guidance)

There has been a discussion between Councillors and the Older People's Commissioner for Wales regarding minor adaptations and the importance of them in promoting independence. There is regular discussion with the 3rd Sector and we

intend to work closely with Care and Repair in the provision of the Minor Adaptation Service should the current pilot scheme prove successful once fully evaluated. There are also evaluative mechanisms in place for service users.

- 5. Will this proposal / decision have a positive impact on any of the protected characteristics (age; disability; gender-reassignment; marriage and civil partnership; pregnancy and maternity; race; religion or belief; sex; and sexual orientation)?**
(Please refer to section 1 in the toolkit for a description of the protected characteristics)

Age and disability in particular but all assessments are person centred and would take into account needs arising from other protected characteristics.

- 6. Will this proposal / decision have a disproportionate negative impact on any of the protected characteristics (age; disability; gender-reassignment; marriage and civil partnership; pregnancy and maternity; race; religion or belief; sex; and sexual orientation)?**

No

- 7. Has the proposal / decision been amended to eliminate or reduce any potential disproportionate negative impact? If no, please explain why.**

No	Not applicable
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- 8. Have you identified any further actions to address and / or monitor any potential negative impact(s)?**

No	Not applicable
----	----------------

Action(s)	Owner	By when?
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9. Declaration

Every reasonable effort has been made to eliminate or reduce any potential disproportionate impact on people sharing protected characteristics. The actual impact of the proposal / decision will be reviewed at the appropriate stage.

Review Date:	07.01.2021
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Name of Lead Officer for Equality Impact Assessment	Date
Jane Moore	07/01/2021

Please note you will be required to publish the outcome of the equality impact assessment if you identify a substantial likely impact.

Block capital bid for Housing Renewal

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:	179
Brief description:	Block capital bid for Housing Renewal
Date Completed:	Version: 0
Completed By:	
Responsible Service:	Planning & Public Protection
Localities affected by the proposal:	Whole County,

IMPACT ASSESSMENT SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

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

Score for the sustainability of the approach

Could you do more to make your approach more sustainable?

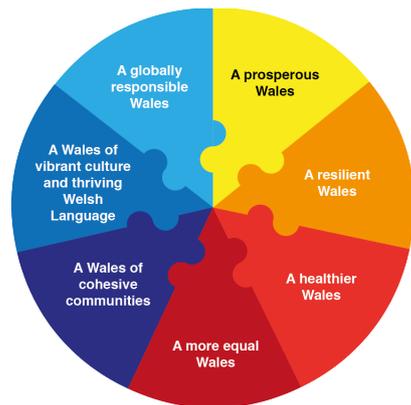
(2 out of 4 stars)



Actual score: 15/ 24.

Summary of impact

Wellbeing Goals



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

Main conclusions

THE LIKELY IMPACT ON DENBIGHSHIRE, WALES AND THE WORLD

A prosperous Denbighshire

Overall Impact:	Positive
Justification for Impact:	Projects are awarded to local contractors who in turn use locals sub-contractors and local builders merchants. Resources are spent within the local community and local employment. Opportunities for new local employment and training.

Positive consequences identified:

All work carried out in accordance with Building Regulations and where possible energy efficiency of existing dwellings will be improved.

Local contractors are used to carry out the work. Local employment

Unintended negative consequences identified:

Mitigating actions:

A resilient Denbighshire

Overall Impact:	Positive
Justification for Impact:	Some funding is provided to improve energy efficiency in dwellings and energy conservation advice is provided to residents. Officers are able to provide Energy Performance Reports to help residents better understand how to be more energy efficient in and around the home and help to reduce fuel consumption and reduce fuel costs.

Positive consequences identified:

Properties that receive energy conservation financial assistance will be more energy efficient and therefore lower energy consumption and reduced energy usage
Energy conservation advice offered to householders together with signposting to potential financial support for energy conservation measures

Unintended negative consequences identified:

Mitigating actions:

A healthier Denbighshire

Overall Impact:	Positive
Justification for Impact:	Residents indoor environments are improved through being adapted to meet the needs of the residents, The work promotes independent living and therefore contributes to a healthier mental and physical life style

Positive consequences identified:

Adaptation of dwellings for the benefit of the disabled occupants will provide an environment to promote independence. Provision of improved access to and from the dwelling and to and from the garden encourages a healthier more active lifestyle.

Steps, paths and walls – trips hazards within homes are removed

Adaptation of dwellings for the benefit of the disabled occupants promotes independence in and around the home which will have a positive impact on the emotional and mental well-being of the occupants

Unintended negative consequences identified:

Mitigating actions:

A more equal Denbighshire

Overall Impact:	Positive
Justification for Impact:	Housing Renewal assistance helps to provide better quality of housing and living conditions for people in greatest need. Projects enable vulnerable people to live as independently as possible.

Positive consequences identified:

Financial assistance is prioritised to applicants with disabilities to adapt dwellings to assist the disabled occupants to access facilities in and around the home

All applications for financial assistance are means tested and awards are based on applicants ability to pay.

Applicants are referred to 3rd sector for benefits checks where appropriate in order to maximise income.

Unintended negative consequences identified:

Mitigating actions:

A Denbighshire of cohesive communities

Overall Impact:	Positive
Justification for Impact:	Improvements to the visual amenity of an area

Positive consequences identified:

Assistance is offered to make dwellings safe and secure to benefit the occupants. Assistance is also available to elderly residents to help them maintain their dwellings and therefore to remain living independently in their own homes for longer.

Assistance is provided to bring empty homes back into use. This can improve the visual amenity of an area and can prevent further potential deterioration of the visual impact in the community

Unintended negative consequences identified:

Mitigating actions:

A Denbighshire of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language

Overall Impact:	Neutral
Justification for Impact:	Impact on Welsh language is neutral however improvements in promoting the Welsh language could be made through encouraging contractors to use bi-lingual signage, company stationary and their websites etc

Positive consequences identified:

A number of officers within the team are Welsh speaking.

Unintended negative consequences identified:

Mitigating actions:

A globally responsible Denbighshire

Overall Impact:	Neutral
Justification for Impact:	Advice and physical environmental improvements to properties and behaviours of residents and a key element in delivering housing renewal projects

Positive consequences identified:

Local contractors and supply chains are used to deliver projects

Unintended negative consequences identified:

Mitigating actions:

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Capital Bids for Building Maintenance Works

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:	754
Brief description:	Capital bid to secure funding for maintenance works to the Council's building portfolio
Date Completed:	11/12/2019 13:11:57 Version: 2
Completed by:	Mark Cassidy
Responsible Service:	Facilities, Assets & Housing
Localities affected by the proposal:	Whole County,
Who will be affected by the proposal?	All DCC building managers and users
Was this impact assessment completed as a group?	No

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 : 25 / 30.

Implications of the score

Long Term: By improving building fabric and increasing thermal efficiency, we will embed sustainable and long term building improvements.

Integration: Maintenance of corporate buildings supports corporate aims and objectives.

Involvement: Use of local contractors to develop the local workforce. Works will also be carried out to improve access to Council buildings.

Collaboration: Encouraging the use of educational and community buildings promoting local and national culture.

Prevention: By improving building fabric, we will extend the useful life of the building, plus protect building users.

Summary of impact

Well-being Goals

A prosperous Denbighshire

A resilient Denbighshire

A healthier Denbighshire

A more equal Denbighshire

A Denbighshire of cohesive communities

A Denbighshire of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language

A globally responsible Denbighshire

Positive

Positive

Positive

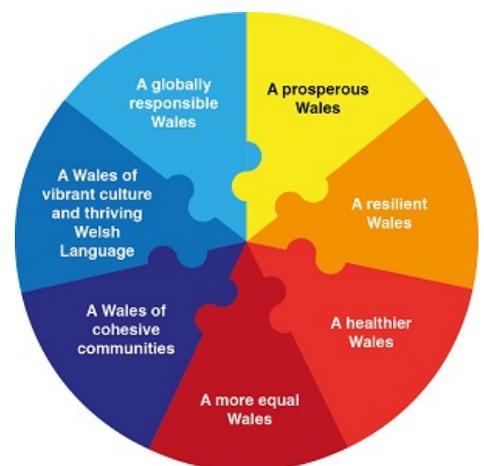
Positive

Positive

Positive

Positive

Positive



Main conclusions

Promotes the delivery of a range of services via the Council's building stock and provides employment, energy efficiency and biodiversity improvements.

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 be 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	Ensuring the Council is able to deliver services through well maintained buildings and giving local construction companies opportunities to undertake the work.
Further actions required	No negative comments noted.

Positive impacts identified:

A low carbon society	maintenance works will improve thermal efficiency and replace existing M&E services with more efficient systems.
Quality communications, infrastructure and transport	N/A
Economic development	Maintaining the Council's commercial and leisure facilities will assist in attracting employment and associated wellbeing opportunities.
Quality skills for the long term	Utilisation of local construction companies will encourage employers to develop the local workforce
Quality jobs for the long term	Utilisation of local construction companies will encourage employers to develop the local workforce
Childcare	Maintaining school and nursery buildings provides a quality environment for childcare and development.

Negative impacts identified:

A low carbon society	
Quality communications, infrastructure and transport	
Economic development	
Quality skills for the long term	
Quality jobs for the long term	
Childcare	

A resilient Denbighshire

Overall Impact	Positive
Justification for impact	Replacement of old fabric and systems with more modern materials and fitting etc. Consideration of renewable energy where appropriate.

Further actions required	No negative comments noted.
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Positive impacts identified:

Biodiversity and the natural environment	No impact
Biodiversity in the built environment	Use of modern materials and construction methods (e.g. sedum roofs, SUDs etc.)
Reducing waste, reusing and recycling	All contractors used will be required to minimise waste and recycle where appropriate in line with the Council's procurement requirements.
Reduced energy/fuel consumption	Improvements to building fabric and systems will increase thermal efficiency and maximise efficiency systems, fixtures and fittings.
People's awareness of the environment and biodiversity	Raising awareness of waste management and use of energy efficient methods etc.
Flood risk management	N/A - maintenance of existing buildings only

Negative impacts identified:

Biodiversity and the natural environment	
Biodiversity in the built environment	
Reducing waste, reusing and recycling	
Reduced energy/fuel consumption	
People's awareness of the environment and biodiversity	
Flood risk management	

A healthier Denbighshire

Overall Impact	Positive
Justification for impact	Improved quality of educational, leisure and workplace premises to encourage use and enhance the experience of building users.
Further actions required	No negative comments noted.

Positive impacts identified:

A social and physical environment that encourage and support health and well-being	Improved quality of educational, leisure and workplace premises to encourage use and enhance the experience of the building user.
Access to good quality, healthy food	N/A
People's emotional and mental well-being	Physical improvements to buildings will increase the quality of experience and encourage use of educational and leisure buildings.
Access to healthcare	N/A
Participation in leisure opportunities	Improved buildings will retain current users and attract new customers to facilities providing leisure / wellbeing facilities.

Negative impacts identified:

A social and physical environment that encourage and support health and well-being	
Access to good quality, healthy food	
People's emotional and mental well-being	
Access to healthcare	
Participation in leisure opportunities	

A more equal Denbighshire

Overall Impact	Positive
Justification for impact	The bids include works which will improve physical access to Council owned buildings and provide a better quality environment to encourage use of community buildings e.g. libraries.
Further actions required	No negative comments noted.

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	The bids include works which will improve physical access to Council owned buildings and provide a better quality environment to encourage use of community buildings - e.g. libraries
People who suffer discrimination or disadvantage	The bids include works which will improve physical access to Council owned buildings and provide a better quality environment to encourage use of community buildings - eg libraries
Areas with poor economic, health or educational outcomes	
People in poverty	

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	
People who suffer discrimination or disadvantage	
Areas with poor economic, health or educational outcomes	
People in poverty	

A Denbighshire of cohesive communities

Overall Impact

Positive

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Justification for impact	Maintaining corporate buildings to a good standard improves the experience of building users and ensures that buildings used for employees, service users and members of the public are safe for use.
Further actions required	No negative comments noted.

Positive impacts identified:

Safe communities and individuals	Improved access to well maintained and safe / secure buildings.
Community participation and resilience	maintaining corporate buildings improves the quality for building users - encouraging use and supporting a range of activities.
The attractiveness of the area	Improvements to the fabric of the buildings improves the public realm
Connected communities	Maintenance of corporate buildings supports corporate aims and objectives.
Rural resilience	

Negative impacts identified:

Safe communities and individuals	
Community participation and resilience	
The attractiveness of the area	
Connected communities	
Rural resilience	

A Denbighshire of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language

Overall Impact	Positive
Justification for impact	Improved buildings have the potential to attract new visitors.
Further actions required	No negative comments noted.

Positive impacts identified:

People using Welsh	N/A
Promoting the Welsh language	Improved school and child care facilities promote bi-lingual learning.
Culture and heritage	maintaining historic buildings and encouraging use of educational and community buildings promoting local and national culture e.g. libraries.

Negative impacts identified:

People using Welsh	
Promoting the Welsh language	
Culture and heritage	

A globally responsible Denbighshire

Overall Impact	Positive
Justification for impact	The programme will promote increased opportunities for quality employers and suppliers in addition to maintaining buildings providing a range of services.
Further actions required	No negative comments noted.

Positive impacts identified:

Local, national, international supply chains	The maintenance program will rely on labour and materials from local and regional suppliers.
Human rights	Contractors are required to demonstrate employment policies via the procurement process.
Broader service provision in the local area or the region	Well maintained buildings will support a range of corporate services and provide flexibility for changing needs.

Negative impacts identified:

Local, national, international supply chains	
Human rights	
Broader service provision in the local area or the region	

Highways Block Allocation Bid

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:	94
Brief description:	Funding to maintain / enhance bridges, flood defences, footways and other public rights of way
Date Completed:	02/11/2016 16:57:02 Version: 1
Completed by:	Tim Towers
Responsible Service:	Highways & Environmental Services
Localities affected by the proposal:	Whole County,
Who will be affected by the proposal?	All residents and road users in the County
Was this impact assessment completed as a group?	No

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 : 22 / 30.

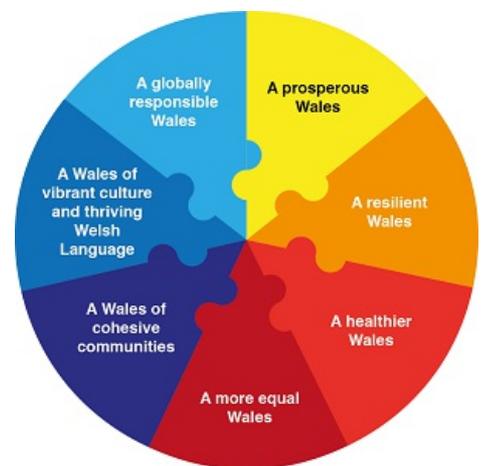
Implications of the score

Summary of impact

Well-being Goals

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

- Positive
- Positive
- Positive
- Positive
- Neutral
- Neutral
- Neutral



Main conclusions

Overall this outcome shows that targeted funding that both helps with general maintenance whilst at the same time improving access for users will prove beneficial when measured against the desires of the Act

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	This funding will be used to boost access opportunities for many
Further actions required	

Positive impacts identified:

A low carbon society	This proposal includes the opportunity to improve disabled access in urban areas and enhance access to the countryside for others
Quality communications, infrastructure and transport	This proposal is specifically designed to improve the highway / PROW infrastructure
Economic development	Easier access to the countryside has been shown to boost tourism. Well maintained bridges will stop roads from having restrictions on them
Quality skills for the long term	
Quality jobs for the long term	
Childcare	

Negative impacts identified:

A low carbon society	This proposal also includes a bid to fund bridge maintenance which could make driving more desirable
Quality communications, infrastructure and transport	
Economic development	
Quality skills for the long term	
Quality jobs for the long term	
Childcare	

A resilient Denbighshire

Overall Impact	Positive
Justification for impact	On the whole this project is likely to have a slight positive impact

Further actions required	
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Positive impacts identified:

Biodiversity and the natural environment	
Biodiversity in the built environment	
Reducing waste, reusing and recycling	
Reduced energy/fuel consumption	
People's awareness of the environment and biodiversity	Greater access to the countryside will enhance visitor's experience of the environment
Flood risk management	

Negative impacts identified:

Biodiversity and the natural environment	
Biodiversity in the built environment	
Reducing waste, reusing and recycling	Work to bridges will result in some minimal production of potentially hazardous waste material
Reduced energy/fuel consumption	
People's awareness of the environment and biodiversity	
Flood risk management	

A healthier Denbighshire

Overall Impact	Positive
Justification for impact	As far as possible this bid will enhance health
Further actions required	

Positive impacts identified:

A social and physical environment that encourage and support health and well-being	The proposal will improve access for the disabled, walkers, cyclists and horse riders by giving improved access via dropped kerb crossing, better bridleways and along the coast
Access to good quality, healthy food	
People's emotional and mental well-being	The proposal will improve access for the disabled, walkers, cyclists and horse riders by giving improved access via dropped kerb crossing, better bridleways and along the coast
Access to healthcare	The decision to target dropped kerb accesses at chemist shops, surgeries etc., will aid access for all
Participation in leisure opportunities	The proposal will improve access for the disabled, walkers, cyclists and horse riders by giving improved access via dropped kerb crossing, better bridleways and along the coast

Negative impacts identified:

A social and physical environment that encourage and support health and well-being	
Access to good quality, healthy food	
People's emotional and mental well-being	
Access to healthcare	
Participation in leisure opportunities	

A more equal Denbighshire

Overall Impact	Positive
Justification for impact	as far as possible this proposal supports the desire to provide a more equal Denbighshire
Further actions required	

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	Dropped kerbs and improved access to coastal facilities as well as the countryside will prove beneficial to all
People who suffer discrimination or disadvantage	
Areas with poor economic, health or educational outcomes	Dropped kerbs and improved access to coastal facilities as well as the countryside will prove beneficial to all
People in poverty	

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	
People who suffer discrimination or disadvantage	
Areas with poor economic, health or educational outcomes	
People in poverty	

A Denbighshire of cohesive communities

Overall Impact

Neutral

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Justification for impact	
Further actions required	

Positive impacts identified:

Safe communities and individuals	
Community participation and resilience	
The attractiveness of the area	
Connected communities	

Negative impacts identified:

Safe communities and individuals	
Community participation and resilience	
The attractiveness of the area	
Connected communities	

A Denbighshire of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language

Overall Impact	Neutral
Justification for impact	
Further actions required	

Positive impacts identified:

People using Welsh	
Promoting the Welsh language	
Culture and heritage	

Negative impacts identified:

People using Welsh	
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Promoting the Welsh language	
Culture and heritage	

A globally responsible Denbighshire

Overall Impact	Neutral
Justification for impact	
Further actions required	

Positive impacts identified:

Local, national, international supply chains	
Human rights	
Broader service provision in the local area or the region	

Negative impacts identified:

Local, national, international supply chains	
Human rights	
Broader service provision in the local area or the region	

Highway Capital programme

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:	90
Brief description:	Provision of highway maintenance and surfacing works
Date Completed:	27/10/2016 14:40:04 Version: 1
Completed by:	Tim Towers
Responsible Service:	Highways & Environmental Services
Localities affected by the proposal:	Whole County,
Who will be affected by the proposal?	
Was this impact assessment completed as a group?	No

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 : 22 / 30.

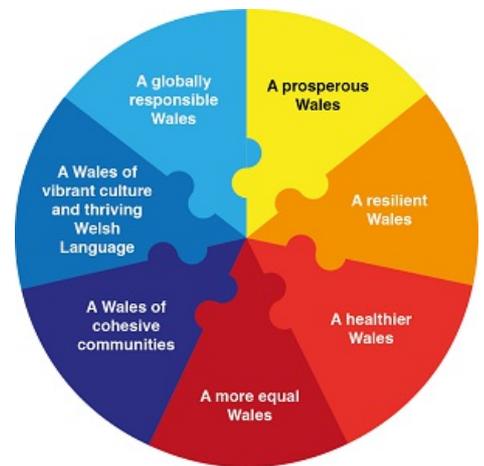
Implications of the score

Summary of impact

Well-being Goals

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

- Positive
- Negative
- Positive
- Positive
- Neutral
- Neutral
- Positive



Main conclusions

This proposal is basically offering a like for like outcome and therefore wouldn't be expected to add significantly to the aims of the Wellbeing and Future Generations Act however it will also have very little negative effect too

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	A good road network is vital to so many areas of everyday life
Further actions required	Other initiatives can be used to assist with walking / cycling

Positive impacts identified:

A low carbon society	
Quality communications, infrastructure and transport	The whole purpose of the project is to boost this
Economic development	A good quality road network has been proven to boost economic benefit
Quality skills for the long term	A good local economy can create quality long term jobs
Quality jobs for the long term	A good local economy can create quality long term jobs
Childcare	

Negative impacts identified:

A low carbon society	Better roads could make driving more desirable
Quality communications, infrastructure and transport	
Economic development	
Quality skills for the long term	
Quality jobs for the long term	
Childcare	

A resilient Denbighshire

Overall Impact	Negative
Justification for impact	By it's very nature the processes and end result of this work tend to be detrimental to the environment
Further actions required	Where possible we will overlay existing roads or recycle material to reduce waste

Positive impacts identified:

Biodiversity and the natural environment	
Biodiversity in the built environment	
Reducing waste, reusing and recycling	
Reduced energy/fuel consumption	
People's awareness of the environment and biodiversity	
Flood risk management	As part of the normal maintenance we tend to clean and upgrade drainage systems thus reducing risk

Negative impacts identified:

Biodiversity and the natural environment	
Biodiversity in the built environment	
Reducing waste, reusing and recycling	Highway maintenance produces often hazardous waste
Reduced energy/fuel consumption	The proposal is likely to sustain energy levels and may even increase them
People's awareness of the environment and biodiversity	
Flood risk management	

A healthier Denbighshire

Overall Impact	Positive
Justification for impact	A good quality network encourages people to get out more and provides for a safer environment
Further actions required	

Positive impacts identified:

A social and physical environment that encourage and support health and well-being	This proposal would certainly provide a safer environment
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Access to good quality, healthy food	
People's emotional and mental well-being	
Access to healthcare	A good network aids movement
Participation in leisure opportunities	A good quality network encourages cycling and walking due to a reduction in hazards such as potholes

Negative impacts identified:

A social and physical environment that encourage and support health and well-being	
Access to good quality, healthy food	
People's emotional and mental well-being	
Access to healthcare	
Participation in leisure opportunities	

A more equal Denbighshire

Overall Impact	Positive
Justification for impact	A good quality road and footway network with adequate dropped kerbs creates a better environment for all
Further actions required	

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	A good quality road and footway network with adequate dropped kerbs creates a better environment for all
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People who suffer discrimination or disadvantage	
Areas with poor economic, health or educational outcomes	A good quality road and footway network with adequate dropped kerbs creates a better environment for all
People in poverty	

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	
People who suffer discrimination or disadvantage	
Areas with poor economic, health or educational outcomes	
People in poverty	

A Denbighshire of cohesive communities

Overall Impact	Neutral
Justification for impact	Users and residents tend to take a good quality road for granted but don't like poor ones
Further actions required	

Positive impacts identified:

Safe communities and individuals	
Community participation and resilience	

The attractiveness of the area	Good quality roads and footways are easier to clean and are aesthetically pleasing
Connected communities	

Negative impacts identified:

Safe communities and individuals	
Community participation and resilience	
The attractiveness of the area	
Connected communities	

A Denbighshire of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language

Overall Impact	Neutral
Justification for impact	
Further actions required	

Positive impacts identified:

People using Welsh	
Promoting the Welsh language	
Culture and heritage	

Negative impacts identified:

People using Welsh	
Promoting the Welsh language	
Culture and heritage	

A globally responsible Denbighshire

Overall Impact	Positive
Justification for impact	
Further actions required	

Positive impacts identified:

Local, national, international supply chains	
Human rights	
Broader service provision in the local area or the region	The road network contributes to many service provision aims

Negative impacts identified:

Local, national, international supply chains	
Human rights	
Broader service provision in the local area or the region	

Investment in Highway Bridges and Retaining Walls

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:	100
Brief description:	The desire to fund a backlog in bridge maintenance
Date Completed:	04/11/2016 13:40:31 Version: 1
Completed by:	Tim Towers
Responsible Service:	Highways & Environmental Services
Localities affected by the proposal:	Whole County,
Who will be affected by the proposal?	All road users in the County
Was this impact assessment completed as a group?	No

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 : 24 / 30.

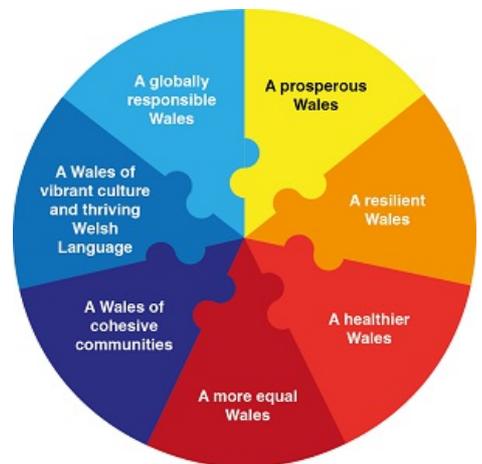
Implications of the score

Summary of impact

Well-being Goals

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

- Positive
- Neutral
- Positive
- Positive
- Positive
- Neutral
- Positive



Main conclusions

Although this work is intended to fulfil our Statutory Duty to provide a safe network it can also be used to underpin the aims of the Wellbeing Act

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	For the reasons outlined above there is an overall benefit
Further actions required	Other initiatives can be used to assist with walking and cycling to combat the potential negative effect on a low carbon society

Positive impacts identified:

A low carbon society	
Quality communications, infrastructure and transport	The whole project is designed to boost this
Economic development	A good quality road network has been proven to boost economic benefit
Quality skills for the long term	A good local economy can create quality long term skills
Quality jobs for the long term	A good local economy can create quality, long term jobs
Childcare	

Negative impacts identified:

A low carbon society	A better road network could make driving more desirable
Quality communications, infrastructure and transport	
Economic development	
Quality skills for the long term	
Quality jobs for the long term	
Childcare	

A resilient Denbighshire

Overall Impact	Neutral
Justification for impact	
Further actions required	

Positive impacts identified:

Biodiversity and the natural environment	
Biodiversity in the built environment	
Reducing waste, reusing and recycling	
Reduced energy/fuel consumption	
People's awareness of the environment and biodiversity	
Flood risk management	As part of the normal maintenance we tend to clean out watercourses and upgrade adjacent drainage systems thus reducing risk

Negative impacts identified:

Biodiversity and the natural environment	
Biodiversity in the built environment	
Reducing waste, reusing and recycling	
Reduced energy/fuel consumption	The proposal is likely to sustain energy levels and may even increase them
People's awareness of the environment and biodiversity	
Flood risk management	

A healthier Denbighshire

Overall Impact	Positive
Justification for impact	A good quality network encourages people to get out more and provides for a safer environment
Further actions required	

Positive impacts identified:

A social and physical environment that encourage and support health and well-being	Open bridges allow greater access for walkers, cyclists etc.
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Access to good quality, healthy food	
People's emotional and mental well-being	
Access to healthcare	Open bridges allow greater access to all our facilities
Participation in leisure opportunities	Open bridges allow greater access for walkers, cyclists etc.

Negative impacts identified:

A social and physical environment that encourage and support health and well-being	
Access to good quality, healthy food	
People's emotional and mental well-being	
Access to healthcare	
Participation in leisure opportunities	

A more equal Denbighshire

Overall Impact	Positive
Justification for impact	Where possible the maintenance work will incorporate improvements to enable greater access
Further actions required	

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	Where possible the maintenance work will incorporate improvements to enable greater access
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People who suffer discrimination or disadvantage	
Areas with poor economic, health or educational outcomes	Where possible the maintenance work will incorporate improvements to enable greater access
People in poverty	

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	
People who suffer discrimination or disadvantage	
Areas with poor economic, health or educational outcomes	
People in poverty	

A Denbighshire of cohesive communities

Overall Impact	Positive
Justification for impact	Overall, even minor improvements can make a good positive difference
Further actions required	

Positive impacts identified:

Safe communities and individuals	These works are designed to provide a safer environment for users
Community participation and resilience	

The attractiveness of the area	Many of these bridges are Listed Structures and so to enhance them will add to the attractiveness of the environment
Connected communities	

Negative impacts identified:

Safe communities and individuals	
Community participation and resilience	
The attractiveness of the area	
Connected communities	

A Denbighshire of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language

Overall Impact	Neutral
Justification for impact	
Further actions required	

Positive impacts identified:

People using Welsh	
Promoting the Welsh language	
Culture and heritage	

Negative impacts identified:

People using Welsh	
Promoting the Welsh language	
Culture and heritage	

A globally responsible Denbighshire

Overall Impact	Positive
Justification for impact	The road network contributes to many service provision aims
Further actions required	

Positive impacts identified:

Local, national, international supply chains	The road network contributes to many service provision aims
Human rights	
Broader service provision in the local area or the region	

Negative impacts identified:

Local, national, international supply chains	
Human rights	
Broader service provision in the local area or the region	

Traffic Block Capital Bid 2020-21

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:	752
Brief description:	The Traffic Block Capital Bid contains a number of smaller scale projects including road safety, active travel, tourist signing and town centre traffic, parking and public realm improvements.
Date Completed:	11/12/2019 19:38:57 Version: 1
Completed by:	Mike Jones
Responsible Service:	Planning & Public Protection
Localities affected by the proposal:	Whole County,
Who will be affected by the proposal?	Residents, Businesses, all road users, bus operators
Was this impact assessment completed as a group?	No

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

 (2 out of 4 stars) Actual score : 17 / 30.

Implications of the score

The individual proposals will be developed to maximise the serviceable life of the asset (i.e. sign, road/cycle path etc).

Some of the projects are active travel routes so will help to provide alternative transport choice to the private car

Summary of impact

Well-being Goals

A prosperous Denbighshire

A resilient Denbighshire

A healthier Denbighshire

A more equal Denbighshire

A Denbighshire of cohesive communities

A Denbighshire of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language

A globally responsible Denbighshire

Positive

Positive

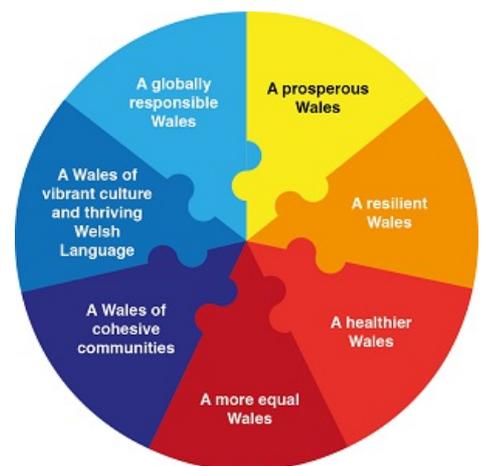
Positive

Positive

Positive

Positive

Positive



Main conclusions

There are many positives from the schemes included in the bid. This includes schemes with health benefits (active travel schemes), schemes with safety benefits (road safety), economic benefits (brown signs and Rhyl and Llangollen town centre schemes), plus schemes that promote local culture heritage (Vale of Clwyd signing scheme).

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 be 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	The benefits for transport infrastructure, potential for carbon reduction and benefits for the local retail and tourist economies.
Further actions required	Ensure opportunities to maximise the whole life costs of assets are taken into account.

Positive impacts identified:

A low carbon society	Active travel projects are intended to offer an alternative to the car
Quality communications, infrastructure and transport	They are all transport projects aimed at improving the quality of the transport network
Economic development	The Rhyl Town Centre and Llangollen projects are intended to boost the local town centre economies. The two brown signing projects will benefit the tourism economy.
Quality skills for the long term	N/A
Quality jobs for the long term	N/A
Childcare	N/A

Negative impacts identified:

A low carbon society	
Quality communications, infrastructure and transport	
Economic development	
Quality skills for the long term	
Quality jobs for the long term	
Childcare	

A resilient Denbighshire

Overall Impact	Positive
Justification for impact	Active travel projects offer the opportunity for reducing car journeys

Further actions required	Good design and promotion of projects
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Positive impacts identified:

Biodiversity and the natural environment	N/A
Biodiversity in the built environment	N/A
Reducing waste, reusing and recycling	N/A
Reduced energy/fuel consumption	Active travel projects offer opportunities for reduced journeys by motor vehicle
People's awareness of the environment and biodiversity	N/A
Flood risk management	N/A

Negative impacts identified:

Biodiversity and the natural environment	
Biodiversity in the built environment	
Reducing waste, reusing and recycling	
Reduced energy/fuel consumption	
People's awareness of the environment and biodiversity	
Flood risk management	

A healthier Denbighshire

Overall Impact	Positive
Justification for impact	Physical and mental health and well-being benefits of active travel routes, and public realm town centre improvements. More awareness of tourist attractions signed by the two brown sign projects
Further actions required	Ensure good design of active travel routes, and sympathetic design of public realm improvements.

Positive impacts identified:

A social and physical environment that encourage and support health and well-being	Active travel projects encourage a more active lifestyle. The Rhyl Town Centre, and Llangollen 2020 projects are intended to better manage traffic and parking, whilst also improving the physical environment
Access to good quality, healthy food	N/A
People's emotional and mental well-being	More active lifestyle, reduced traffic congestion and improvements to public realm can all have a positive impact for people's emotional and mental well-being.
Access to healthcare	N/A
Participation in leisure opportunities	Although primarily aimed at providing an alternative travel mode for commuting, active travel routes do, of course, also provide a route for leisure cycling. The brown sign schemes will help raise awareness of the various tourist attractions they promote.

Negative impacts identified:

A social and physical environment that encourage and support health and well-being	
Access to good quality, healthy food	
People's emotional and mental well-being	
Access to healthcare	
Participation in leisure opportunities	

A more equal Denbighshire

Overall Impact	Positive
Justification for impact	Projects which improve active travel choices can benefit areas with lower than average car-ownership. Benefits to local retail and tourist economy may produce more job opportunities and improve the viability of some existing jobs.
Further actions required	Ensure good community engagement and quality design - making reference to WG active travel guidance.

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	N/A
People who suffer discrimination or disadvantage	N/A
Areas with poor economic, health or educational outcomes	Improvements to active travel routes can especially benefit areas where car ownership is lower than the UK average, such as West Rhyl. Economic benefits of town centre projects plus brown signing schemes.
People in poverty	See above box.

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	
People who suffer discrimination or disadvantage	
Areas with poor economic, health or educational outcomes	
People in poverty	

A Denbighshire of cohesive communities

Overall Impact

Positive

Page 200

Justification for impact	Road safety benefits. Strong community involvement already for some of the projects. Public realm improvements. More travel choice.
Further actions required	Continue to ensure good community engagement takes place.

Positive impacts identified:

Safe communities and individuals	Road safety projects will improve safety in locations where statistics have identified that there are higher than normal numbers of collisions occurring involving casualties
Community participation and resilience	Llangollen 2020 is a community-led project. Strong engagement with Rhyl Town Centre project so far - including development of a second traffic system option based on feedback received from first consultation.
The attractiveness of the area	Public realm improvements to Rhyl Town Centre and Llangollen Castle Street (and side roads).
Connected communities	Active travel routes will provide more travel choices.
Rural resilience	N/A

Negative impacts identified:

Safe communities and individuals	
Community participation and resilience	
The attractiveness of the area	
Connected communities	
Rural resilience	

A Denbighshire of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language

Overall Impact	Positive
Justification for impact	Brown signs will be Welsh above English. Vale of Clwyd brown signs will sign Denbigh and Rhuddlan castles plus St Asaph cathedral.
Further actions required	No scope to further enhance the signage.

Positive impacts identified:

People using Welsh	N/A
Promoting the Welsh language	Brown signs will be bilingual Welsh above English
Culture and heritage	Vale of Clwyd brown sign scheme will sign Rhuddlan Castle, Denbigh Castle and St Asaph Cathedral. It will also include the title of Vale of Clwyd and will therefore raise awareness of the Vale.

Negative impacts identified:

People using Welsh	
Promoting the Welsh language	
Culture and heritage	

A globally responsible Denbighshire

Overall Impact	Positive
Justification for impact	Use of local contractors is quite prevalent for smaller construction projects such as the ones listed in this bid.
Further actions required	Consider local suppliers for construction materials, wherever possible.

Positive impacts identified:

Local, national, international supply chains	Local contractors and sub-contractors will be used wherever possible.
Human rights	N/A
Broader service provision in the local area or the region	N/A

Negative impacts identified:

Local, national, international supply chains	
Human rights	
Broader service provision in the local area or the region	

Programme for Sustainable LED Street Lighting

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:	77
Brief description:	Conversion of existing assets to more energy efficient equipment
Date Completed:	18/10/2016 11:14:12 Version: 1
Completed by:	Craig Wilson
Responsible Service:	Highways & Environmental Services
Localities affected by the proposal:	Whole County,

IMPACT ASSESSMENT SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

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

Score for the sustainability of the approach

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

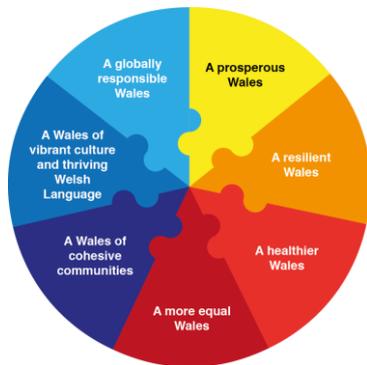


(3 out of 4 stars)

Actual score : 18 / 24.

Summary of impact

Wellbeing Goals



A prosperous Denbighshire	Positive
A resilient Denbighshire	Positive
A healthier Denbighshire	Neutral
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	Neutral

Main conclusions

This project will reduce energy consumption and associated carbon emissions, whilst improving lighting standards and the appearance of the existing road network throughout the county.

THE LIKELY IMPACT ON DENBIGHSHIRE, WALES AND THE WORLD

A prosperous Denbighshire

Overall Impact	Positive
Justification for impact	The project will improve the safety, illumination and appearance of the road network

Positive consequences identified:

Lower energy consumption and carbon emissions
 The project will improve the general appearance of the area
 Improved road and network infrastructure

Unintended negative consequences identified:

Mitigating actions:

Consultation with affected stakeholders

A resilient Denbighshire

Overall Impact	Positive
Justification for impact	Improvement to existing lighting standards whilst achieving energy and carbon reductions

Positive consequences identified:

Use of recyclable products and reduction of light pollution.
 Reduction in energy consumption and carbon emissions
 Less light pollution comparison to previous assets. Press release issued to raise awareness

Unintended negative consequences identified:

Increased waste collections

Mitigating actions:

Old equipment is reused or recycled where possible.

A healthier Denbighshire

Overall Impact	Neutral
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Justification for impact	This project has a negligible impact on promoting healthy lifestyles.
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Positive consequences identified:

Improved lighting promotes a sense of security and well being.

Unintended negative consequences identified:

Mitigating actions:

Not applicable.

A more equal Denbighshire

Overall Impact	Neutral
Justification for impact	This project has no impact

Positive consequences identified:

Unintended negative consequences identified:

Mitigating actions:

This project has no impact

A Denbighshire of cohesive communities

Overall Impact	Positive
Justification for impact	This project will have a positive impact on community safety and well being.

Positive consequences identified:

Better lighting promotes a sense of security and reduces the fear of crime.
The project will improve the aesthetic appearance of the area

Unintended negative consequences identified:

Mitigating actions:

No negative impacts

A Denbighshire of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language

Overall Impact	Neutral
Justification for impact	No impact

Positive consequences identified:

Unintended negative consequences identified:

Mitigating actions:

No impact

A globally responsible Denbighshire

Overall Impact	Neutral
Justification for impact	Negligible impact as a consequence of the project

Positive consequences identified:

Products will be sourced responsibly.

Unintended negative consequences identified:

Materials cannot be procured from local suppliers due to the specialised nature of the equipment.

Mitigating actions:

Negligible impact as a consequence of the project

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Report to	Council
Date of meeting	23 February 2021
Lead Member / Officer	Julian Thompson Hill
Report author	Steve Gadd, Head of Finance & Property
Title	Treasury Management Strategy Statement (TMSS) 2021/22 and Prudential Indicators 2021/22 to 2023/24 (Appendix 1)

1 What is the report about?

- 1.1 The TMSS (Appendix 1) shows how the Council will manage its investments and its borrowing for the coming year and sets the policies within which the TM function operates.

2 What is the reason for making this report?

- 2.1 The Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy's Code of Practice on Treasury Management (the "CIPFA TM Code") requires the Council to approve the TMSS and Prudential Indicators annually. A decision is required therefore to approve the recommendations below.

3 What are the Recommendations?

- 3.1 That Council approves the TMSS for 2021/22 (Appendix 1).
- 3.2 That Council approves the setting of Prudential Indicators for 2021/22, 2022/23 and 2023/24 (Appendix 1 Annex A).
- 3.3 That Council approves the Minimum Revenue Provision Statement (Appendix 1 Section 6).
- 3.4 That Council confirms that it has read, understood and taken account of the Well-being Impact Assessment (Appendix 2) as part of its consideration.

4 Report details

Background

- 4.1 TM involves looking after the Council's cash which is a vital part of the Council's work because approximately £0.5bn passes through the Council's bank account every year.
- 4.2 At any one time, the Council has up to £20m in cash so it needs to make sure that the best rate of return possible is achieved without putting the cash at risk which is why money is invested with a number of financial institutions.

When investing, the Council's priorities are to:

- keep money safe (security);
- make sure that the money comes back when it is needed (liquidity);
- make sure a decent rate of return is achieved (yield).

TMSS 2021/22

- 4.3 The TMSS for 2021/22 is set out in Appendix 1. This report includes TM Prudential Indicators which set limits on the Council's TM activity as shown in Appendix 1 Annex A.

Capital Prudential Indicators

- 4.4 The Capital related Prudential Indicators have been excluded from the TMSS and are now included in the Capital Strategy Report which is a new report introduced by the 2017 edition of the Prudential Code. It is intended to give a high level, concise and comprehensible overview to all elected members of how capital expenditure, capital financing and treasury management activity contribute to the provision of the Council's services.
- 4.5 The Capital Strategy Report has been included with the Capital Plan report to Council and includes the following Capital related Prudential Indicators:

Estimates of Capital Expenditure and Financing

Ratio of Financing Costs to Net Revenue Stream

Capital Financing Requirement

5 How does the decision contribute to the Corporate Priorities?

- 5.1 An efficient TM strategy allows the Council to minimise its borrowing costs and release funding for its investment priorities.

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

- 6.1 There are no additional cost implications arising as a result of the setting of Prudential Indicators. The point of the TM Strategy is to obtain the best return within a properly managed risk framework.

7 What are the main conclusions of the Wellbeing Impact Assessment?

- 7.1 Financial planning and decision making should ensure that proper regard is given to the requirements of the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act and in particular, proper consideration of the long term impact of financial decisions, including the payback period and whole life costs of capital investment decisions, properly impact assessed budget proposals and long term debt and investment (treasury management) strategies. The principles of prudence, affordability and sustainability are already enshrined within the requirements of the Prudential Code and should underpin financial planning and decision making.
- 7.2 In the context of treasury management, the existing requirements to assess and report on the long term financial consequences of investment and borrowing decisions using prudential indicators and long-term debt planning support the sustainability goals of the Wellbeing Act.
- 7.3 The Wellbeing Impact Assessment report is included in Appendix 2 which shows how an efficient Treasury Management strategy promotes the wellbeing goals of the Act.

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

- 8.1 The Strategy Statement was reviewed by the Corporate Governance Committee on 27 January 2021.
- 8.2 The Council has consulted with its TM consultants, Arlingclose Ltd.

9 Chief Finance Officer Statement

- 9.1 TM involves looking after significant sums of cash so it is a vital part of the Council's work. It requires a sound strategy and appropriate controls to safeguard the Council's money, to ensure that reasonable returns on investments are achieved and that debt is effectively and prudently managed.
- 9.2 It is a requirement of the CIPFA Code of Practice on TM for Council to approve a TMSS each financial year.

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

- 10.1 There are inherent risks involved in any TM activity as outlined in the Strategy Statement. The Council has a risk management policy but it is impossible to eliminate these risks completely.

11 Power to make the Decision

- 11.1 The Local Government Act 2003 determines the requirement for local authorities to set Prudential Indicators and requires the Council to comply with the Prudential Code of Capital Finance for Local Authorities that has been produced by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA).

Denbighshire County Council

**Treasury Management Strategy Statement
and Investment Strategy 2021/22 to 2023/24**

Contents

- 1. Background**
- 2. Treasury Position**
- 3. Treasury Investment Strategy**
- 4. Borrowing Strategy**
- 5. Debt Rescheduling**
- 6. MRP Statement 2021/22**
- 7. Reporting Treasury Management Activity**
- 8. Other Items**

Annexes

- A. Prudential Indicators**
- B. Interest Rate Outlook**
- C. Glossary**

Treasury Management Strategy Statement and Investment Strategy 2021/22 to 2023/24

1 Background

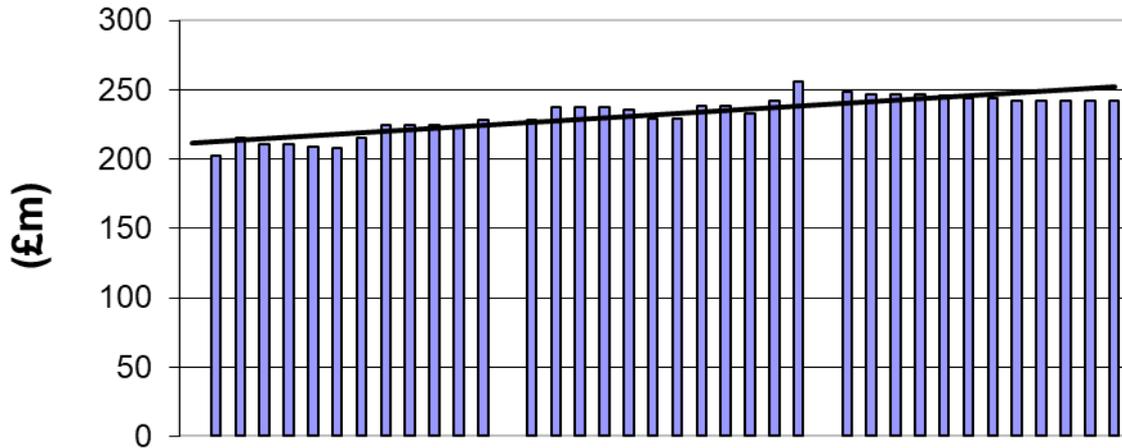
- 1.1 The Council is responsible for its Treasury Management decisions and activity which involves looking after the Council's cash. This is a vital part of the Council's work because approximately £0.5bn passes through the Council's bank account every year.
- 1.2 The CIPFA Code of Practice on Treasury Management requires the Authority to approve a treasury management strategy statement (TMSS) before the start of each financial year.
- 1.3 In addition, the Welsh Government (WG) issued revised *Guidance on Local Authority Investments* in November 2019 that requires the Authority to approve an investment strategy before the start of each financial year. It also requires the Authority to include details of investments and loans which are not held for Treasury Management purposes. Following a review, the Authority has concluded that it doesn't have any non-Treasury related arrangements which fall within the scope of this guidance.
- 1.4 This report fulfils the Authority's legal obligation under the *Local Government Act 2003* to have regard to both the CIPFA Code and the WG Guidance.
- 1.5 The purpose of the TMSS is to set the:
 - Treasury Management Strategy for 2021/22
 - Annual Investment Strategy for 2021/22
 - Prudential Indicators for 2021/22, 2022/23 and 2023/24 (Annex A)
 - Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Statement

2 Treasury Position

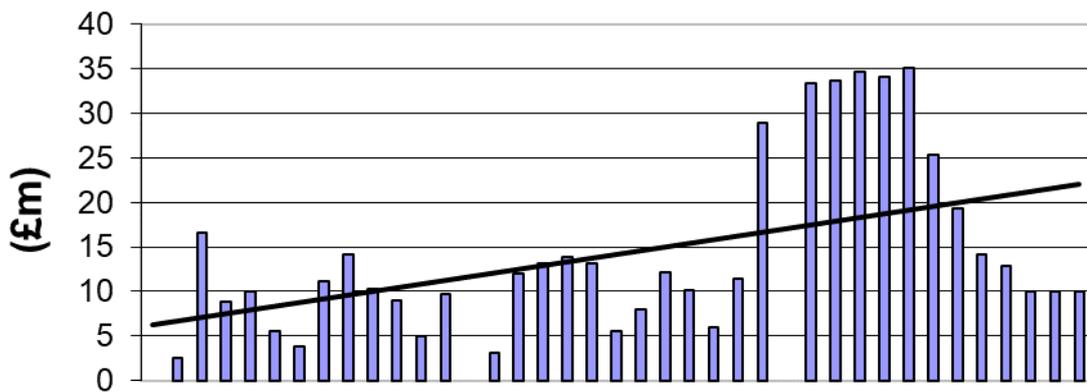
- 2.1 The levels of the Council's borrowing and investment balances over the last three years are shown in the graphs below. The first chart shows the Council's borrowing has increased over this period because the Council has been borrowing to fund its capital plan either from the Public Works Loan Board (PWLB) or on a temporary basis from other local authorities. The second chart shows a corresponding increase in the amount of money which is available for investment.

**Treasury Management Strategy Statement
and Investment Strategy 2021/22 to 2023/24**

Borrowing Balances (2018/19 - 2020/21)



Investment Balances (£m) (2018/19 - 2020/21)



3 Treasury Investment Strategy

3.1 Both the CIPFA Code and the WG Guidance require the Authority to invest its treasury funds prudently, and to have regard to the security and liquidity of its investments before seeking the highest rate of return, or yield. The Authority's objective when investing money is to strike an appropriate balance between risk and return, minimising the risk of incurring losses from defaults and the risk of receiving unsuitably low investment income.

Treasury Management Strategy Statement and Investment Strategy 2021/22 to 2023/24

- 3.2 Given the increasing risk and very low returns from short-term unsecured bank investments, the Council will continue to hold a minimal amount of investments for short-term cash flow purposes and will continue to place a far greater emphasis on investing with the UK Government's Debt Management Office and other local authorities in order to minimise these risks.
- 3.3 The Authority may invest its surplus funds with any of the counterparty types in table 1 below, subject to the cash limits (per counterparty) and the time limits shown.

Table 1: Treasury Investment Counterparties and Limits

Sector	Time limit	Counterparty limit
The UK Government	50 years	Unlimited
Local authorities & other government entities	25 years	£10m
Secured investments *	25 years	£10m
Banks (unsecured) *	13 months	£5m
Building societies (unsecured) *	13 months	£5m
Registered providers (unsecured) *	5 years	£5m
Money market funds *	n/a	£10m
Strategic pooled funds	n/a	£10m
Real estate investment trusts	n/a	£10m
Other investments *	5 years	£5m

*** Minimum Credit Rating:** Treasury investments in the sectors marked with an asterisk will only be made with entities whose lowest published long-term credit rating is no lower than A-. Where available, the credit rating relevant to the specific investment or class of investment is used, otherwise the counterparty credit rating is used. However, investment decisions are never made solely based on credit ratings, and all other relevant factors including external advice will be taken into account.

Government: Loans, bonds and bills issued or guaranteed by national governments, regional and local authorities and multilateral development banks. These investments are not subject to bail-in, and there is generally a lower risk of insolvency, although they are not zero risk. Investments with the UK Government are deemed to be zero credit risk due to its ability to create additional currency and therefore may be made in unlimited amounts for up to 50 years.

Treasury Management Strategy Statement and Investment Strategy 2021/22 to 2023/24

Secured investments: Investments secured on the borrower's assets, which limits the potential losses in the event of insolvency. The amount and quality of the security will be a key factor in the investment decision. Covered bonds and reverse repurchase agreements with banks and building societies are exempt from bail-in. Where there is no investment specific credit rating, but the collateral upon which the investment is secured has a credit rating, the higher of the collateral credit rating and the counterparty credit rating will be used. The combined secured and unsecured investments with any one counterparty will not exceed the cash limit for secured investments.

Banks and Building Societies (Unsecured): Accounts, deposits, certificates of deposit and senior unsecured bonds with banks and building societies, other than multilateral development banks. These investments are subject to the risk of credit loss via a bail-in should the regulator determine that the bank is failing or likely to fail.

Registered Providers (Unsecured): Loans and bonds issued by, guaranteed by or secured on the assets of registered providers of social housing and registered social landlords, formerly known as housing associations. These bodies are regulated by the Regulator of Social Housing (in England), the Scottish Housing Regulator, the Welsh Government and the Department for Communities (in Northern Ireland). As providers of public services, they retain the likelihood of receiving government support if needed.

Money Market Funds: Pooled funds that offer same-day or short notice liquidity and very low or no price volatility by investing in short-term money markets. They have the advantage over bank accounts of providing wide diversification of investment risks, coupled with the services of a professional fund manager in return for a small fee.

Strategic Pooled Funds: Bond, equity and property funds that offer enhanced returns over the longer term but are more volatile in the short term. These allow the Authority to diversify into asset classes other than cash without the need to own and manage the underlying investments. Because these funds have no defined maturity date, but are available for withdrawal after a notice period, their performance and continued suitability in meeting the Authority's investment objectives will be monitored regularly.

Real Estate Investment Trusts: Shares in companies that invest mainly in real estate and pay the majority of their rental income to investors in a similar manner to pooled property funds. As with property funds, REITs offer enhanced returns over the longer term, but are more volatile especially as the share price reflects changing demand for the shares as well as changes in the value of the underlying properties.

Treasury Management Strategy Statement and Investment Strategy 2021/22 to 2023/24

Other investments: This category covers treasury investments not listed above, for example unsecured corporate bonds and company loans. Non-bank companies cannot be bailed-in but can become insolvent placing the Authority's investment at risk.

- 3.4 Natwest is the Council's banker and will continue to be used for operational and liquidity purposes by transferring cash in and out of the instant access account as required even if its credit rating falls below A-.
- 3.5 For a group of banks under the same ownership, the banking group limit is equal to the individual bank limit.
- 3.6 Credit ratings are obtained and monitored by the Authority's treasury advisers, who will notify changes in ratings as they occur. Where an entity has its credit rating downgraded so that it fails to meet the approved investment criteria then:
 - no new investments will be made,
 - any existing investments that can be recalled or sold at no cost will be, and
 - full consideration will be given to the recall or sale of all other existing investments with the affected counterparty.
- 3.7 The Authority understands that credit ratings are good, but not perfect, predictors of investment default. Full regard will therefore be given to other available information on the credit quality of the organisations in which it invests, including credit default swap prices (the cost of banks insuring themselves against default), financial statements, information on potential government support, reports in the quality financial press and analysis and advice from the Council's treasury management adviser. No investments will be made with an organisation if there are substantive doubts about its credit quality, even though it may otherwise meet the above criteria.
- 3.8 When deteriorating financial market conditions affect the creditworthiness of all organisations, as happened in 2008 and 2020, this is not generally reflected in credit ratings, but can be seen in other market measures. In these circumstances, the Authority will restrict its investments to those organisations of higher credit quality and reduce the maximum duration of its investments to maintain the required level of security. If these restrictions mean that insufficient commercial organisations of high credit quality are available to invest the Authority's cash balances, then the surplus will be deposited with the UK Government, via the Debt Management Office or invested in government treasury bills for example, or with other local authorities. This will cause investment returns to fall but will protect the principal sum invested.

Treasury Management Strategy Statement and Investment Strategy 2021/22 to 2023/24

3.9 **Specified Investments:** The WG Guidance defines specified investments as those:

- denominated in pound sterling,
- due to be repaid within 12 months of arrangement unless the counterparty is a local authority,
- not defined as capital expenditure by legislation, and
- invested with one of:
 - the UK Government,
 - a UK local authority, parish council or community council, or
 - a body or investment scheme of “high credit quality”.

The Authority defines “high credit quality” organisations as those having a credit rating of A- or higher that are domiciled in the UK or a foreign country with a sovereign rating of AA+ or higher.

3.10 **Non-specified Investments:** Any investment not meeting the definition of a specified investment is classed as non-specified. The Authority does not intend to make any investments denominated in foreign currencies. Non-specified investments will therefore be limited to long-term investments, i.e. those that are due to mature 12 months or longer from the date of arrangement and investments with bodies and schemes not meeting the definition of high credit quality. Under this category, the Council has given three loans to Town Councils for capital purposes which are being paid back in instalments over the agreed terms.

Limits on non-specified investments are shown in table 3 below.

Table 3: Non-Specified Investment Limits

	Cash limit
Total long-term investments	£10m
Total investments without credit ratings or rated below A- (except the UK government and UK local authorities)	£10m
Total investments (except pooled funds) with institutions domiciled in foreign countries rated below AA+	£10m
Total non-specified investments	£30m

4 Borrowing Strategy

4.1 In line with its TM strategy and following advice from its treasury consultants, the Council locked in a proportion of its debt at the end of March 2020 at a very low rate (HRA Certainty Rate) with the Public Works Loan Board (PWLb) to fund HRA capital expenditure. A new loan for £15m

Treasury Management Strategy Statement and Investment Strategy 2021/22 to 2023/24

was undertaken over a 10 year period on an Equal Instalment of Principal (EIP) basis at a rate of 0.94%.

- 4.2 The Council has also continued to undertake temporary borrowing from other local authorities as required to cover short-term cash flow requirements as this is a good source of readily available cash at historically low rates.
- 4.3 At the same time, the Council will also continue to monitor its cash position and interest rate levels to ensure that further long term borrowing is undertaken at the optimal time to fund on-going Capital commitments.
- 4.4 The approved sources of borrowing are listed below:
- PWLB and any successor body
 - any institution approved for investments
 - any other bank or building society authorised to operate in the UK
 - any other UK public sector body
 - UK public and private sector pension funds (except Clwyd Pension Fund)
 - capital market bond investors
 - UK Municipal Bonds Agency plc and other special purpose companies created to enable local authority bond issues

5 Debt Rescheduling

- 5.1 The Council is able to pay off loans earlier than it has to and to replace them with cheaper loans in order to save money or to reduce the risk to the Council. Sometimes, these loans will be replaced and sometimes not, depending on market conditions and interest rates.
- 5.2 The lower interest rate environment and changes in the rules regarding the premature repayment of PWLB loans has adversely affected the scope to undertake meaningful debt rescheduling although occasional opportunities arise. A weekly update on this is received from the Council's treasury management advisers so the position is kept under review.

6 Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Statement

- 6.1 The Council's MRP policy was reviewed during 2017/18 to explore potential savings options and the changes have been implemented from 2017/18. The revised MRP policy was agreed by Council on 17 October 2017.
- 6.2 The Council sets aside money each year to repay debt and this is known as the Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP).

Treasury Management Strategy Statement and Investment Strategy 2021/22 to 2023/24

- 6.3 There are four different methods of calculating MRP and the Council needs to say each year which methods it will use. This is known as the MRP Statement.
- 6.4 The MRP Statement is submitted to Council before the start of each financial year. If the terms of the original MRP Statement are revised again during the year, a revised statement will be put to Council at that time.

6.5 MRP Statement

The Council will apply the Asset Life Method to calculate MRP on outstanding supported borrowing incurred up to 31 March 2017 using a straight line calculation over 50 years. This represents a change from the Regulatory Method which had been applied previously.

The Council will apply the Asset Life Method to calculate MRP on supported borrowing incurred on or after 1 April 2017 using a straight line calculation over an appropriate number of years, dependent on the period of time that the capital expenditure is likely to generate benefits. This also represents a change from the Regulatory Method which had been applied previously.

The Council will apply the Asset Life Method to calculate MRP on all capital expenditure funded from unsupported borrowing. This represents a continuation of the previous policy.

- 6.6 MRP on housing assets funded through Prudential Borrowing is charged at 5% of the HRA's CFR. MRP on all other items such as new builds are charged at 2% of the HRA's CFR.

7 Reporting Treasury Management Activity

- 7.1 The Section 151 Officer (Chief Finance Officer) will report to the Corporate Governance Committee on treasury management activity / performance as follows:
- (a) The Treasury Management Strategy Statement and Prudential Indicators will be submitted to the committee in January each year prior to approval by Council.
 - (b) Two treasury management updates will be submitted to the committee in January and July each year.
 - (c) An annual report on treasury activity will be submitted to the committee in July each year for the preceding year prior to approval by Cabinet.

A treasury update showing the latest investment and borrowing position will be included in the monthly Revenue Monitoring report and borrowing will also be reported on in the Capital Plan to Council. The Capital Strategy Report will also be reported to Council in February with the Capital Plan.

Treasury Management Strategy Statement and Investment Strategy 2021/22 to 2023/24

8 Other items

8.1 Investment Training

8.1.1 Member Training

The CIPFA Code of Practice on Treasury Management requires the Section 151 Officer to ensure that all members tasked with treasury management responsibilities, including scrutiny of the treasury management function, understand fully their roles and responsibilities. The last Treasury Management training session for members was given on 20 November 2019.

The Council has nominated the Corporate Governance Committee as the committee which has responsibility for scrutiny of the treasury management function.

8.1.2 Staff Training

Staff attend training courses, seminars and conferences provided by Arlingclose and CIPFA. There is a team of three members of staff who cover TM duties on a rota basis to ensure that their knowledge is kept up to date. These members of staff are also members of professional accountancy bodies including the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) and the Association of Accounting Technicians (AAT). The operational processes which staff must follow are shown within the Treasury Management Practices (TMPs) which have been updated recently. Since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, staff have been accessing the Council's TM systems through the Council's remote access system from home. The same processes are followed but a paperless system is now used which involves maintaining the same documentation in PDF format with electronic signatures.

8.2 Treasury Management Advisers

The Council uses Arlingclose Ltd as Treasury Management Advisers and receives the following services:

- Credit advice
- Investment advice
- Borrowing advice
- Technical accounting advice
- Economic & interest rate forecasts
- Workshops and training events

The Council maintains the quality of the service with its advisers by holding quarterly strategy meetings and tendering every 5 years. The strategy meetings have been held on line since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic. Following a tendering exercise at the end of 2018, the contract

Treasury Management Strategy Statement and Investment Strategy 2021/22 to 2023/24

was renewed with Arlingclose from 01 January 2019 for three years with an option to extend for a further two year period. This means that the contract will be reviewed at the end of 2021 and extended for a further two year period if the Council is satisfied with the service received.

8.3 Markets in Financial Instruments Directive (MIFID)

8.3.1 The way that local authorities can access financial services changed in January 2018 as a result of the second Markets in Financial Instruments Directive (MIFID) from the EU. Under the new regulations, local authorities can only continue to be classed as professional clients if they have at least a £10m investment balance and staff with relevant experience. Local authorities not meeting the criteria are reclassified as retail clients. Retail clients have greater protection when placing investments because there is a requirement for firms to ensure that investments are suitable for the client. Professional clients are assumed to have greater knowledge and therefore need less protection.

8.3.2 The Council is not in a position to be classed as a professional client because it does not have an investment balance which is consistently above £10m so it is classified as a retail client. In practice, this does not have an impact on the Council's treasury management activities which consist of cash deposits or loans which are outside the scope of MIFID. The Council's investment advisers, Arlingclose, will continue to advise retail clients as they have a retail adviser who is able to advise on any investment products which come under the scope of MIFID such as shares and bonds.

8.4 Investment of Money Borrowed in Advance of Need

The Authority may, from time to time, borrow in advance of need, where this is expected to provide the best long term value for money. Since amounts borrowed will be invested until spent, the Authority is aware that it will be exposed to the risk of loss of the borrowed sums, and the risk that investment and borrowing interest rates may change in the intervening period. These risks will be managed as part of the Authority's overall management of its treasury risks.

The total amount borrowed will not exceed the authorised borrowing limit. The maximum period between borrowing and expenditure is expected to be three years, although the Authority is not required to link particular loans with particular items of expenditure.

8.5 Policy on Use of Financial Derivatives

In the absence of any explicit legal power to do so, the Authority will not use standalone financial derivatives (such as swaps, forwards, futures and options). Derivatives embedded into loans and investments, including pooled funds and forward starting transactions, may be used, and the risks

Treasury Management Strategy Statement and Investment Strategy 2021/22 to 2023/24

that they present will be managed in line with the overall treasury risk management strategy.

8.6 Housing Revenue Account (HRA)

The Council operates one loans pool for the General Fund and the HRA. A proportion of the Council's investment and debt interest is apportioned to the HRA at year end. The amount of HRA investment interest is calculated by applying the Council's average investment interest rate to the HRA's average notional cash balance.

**Treasury Management Strategy Statement
and Investment Strategy 2021/22 to 2023/24**

ANNEX A

PRUDENTIAL INDICATORS 2021/22 TO 2023/24

1 Upper Limits for Fixed Interest Rate Exposure and Variable Interest Rate Exposure

- 1.1 These indicators allow the Council to manage the extent to which it is exposed to changes in interest rates. This Council calculates these limits on a net interest paid basis (i.e. interest paid on fixed rate debt net of interest received on fixed rate investments).
- 1.2 The upper limit for variable rate exposure has been set to ensure that the Council is not exposed to interest rate rises which could adversely impact on the revenue budget. The limit allows for the use of variable rate debt to offset exposure to changes in short-term rates on investments.

	2020/21 Approved %	2021/22 Estimate %	2022/23 Estimate %	2023/24 Estimate %
Upper Limit for Fixed Interest Rate Exposure	100	100	100	100
Upper Limit for Variable Rate Exposure	40	40	40	40

- 1.3 The limits above provide the necessary flexibility within which decisions will be made for drawing down new loans on a fixed or variable rate basis; the decisions will ultimately be determined by expectations of anticipated interest rate movements as set out in the Council's treasury management strategy.

2 Maturity Structure of Fixed Rate borrowing

- 2.1 This indicator highlights the existence of any large concentrations of fixed rate debt needing to be replaced at times of uncertainty over interest rates and is designed to protect against excessive exposures to interest rate changes in any one period, in particular in the course of the next ten years.
- 2.2 It is calculated as the amount of projected borrowing that is fixed rate maturing in each period as a percentage of total projected borrowing that is fixed rate. The maturity of borrowing is determined by reference to the earliest date on which the lender can require payment.

**Treasury Management Strategy Statement
and Investment Strategy 2021/22 to 2023/24**

Maturity structure of fixed rate borrowing	Actual %	Lower Limit %	Upper Limit %
under 12 months	4.68	0	30
12 months and within 24 months	3.44	0	30
24 months and within 5 years	10.06	0	30
5 years and within 10 years	14.30	0	30
10 years and above	67.52	50	100

3 Credit Risk

3.1 The Council considers security, liquidity and yield, in that order, when making investment decisions.

3.2 Credit ratings remain an important element of assessing credit risk, but they are not a sole feature in the Council’s assessment of counterparty credit risk.

3.3 The Council also considers alternative assessments of credit strength, and information on corporate developments of and market sentiment towards counterparties. The following key tools are used to assess credit risk:

- Published credit ratings of the financial institution (minimum A- or equivalent) and its sovereign (minimum AA+ or equivalent for non-UK sovereigns);
- Sovereign support mechanisms;
- Credit default swaps (where quoted);
- Share prices (where available);
- Economic fundamentals, such as a country’s net debt as a percentage of its GDP;
- Corporate developments, news, articles, markets sentiment and momentum;
- Subjective overlay.

3.4 The only indicators with prescriptive values are credit ratings. Other indicators of creditworthiness are considered in relative rather than absolute terms.

4 Upper Limit for total principal sums invested over 1 year

4.1 The purpose of this limit is to contain exposure to the possibility of loss that may arise as a result of the Council having to seek early repayment of the sums invested.

Upper Limit for total principal sums invested over 1 year	2020/21 Approved £m	2021/22 Estimate £m	2022/23 Estimate £m	2023/24 Estimate £m
	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00

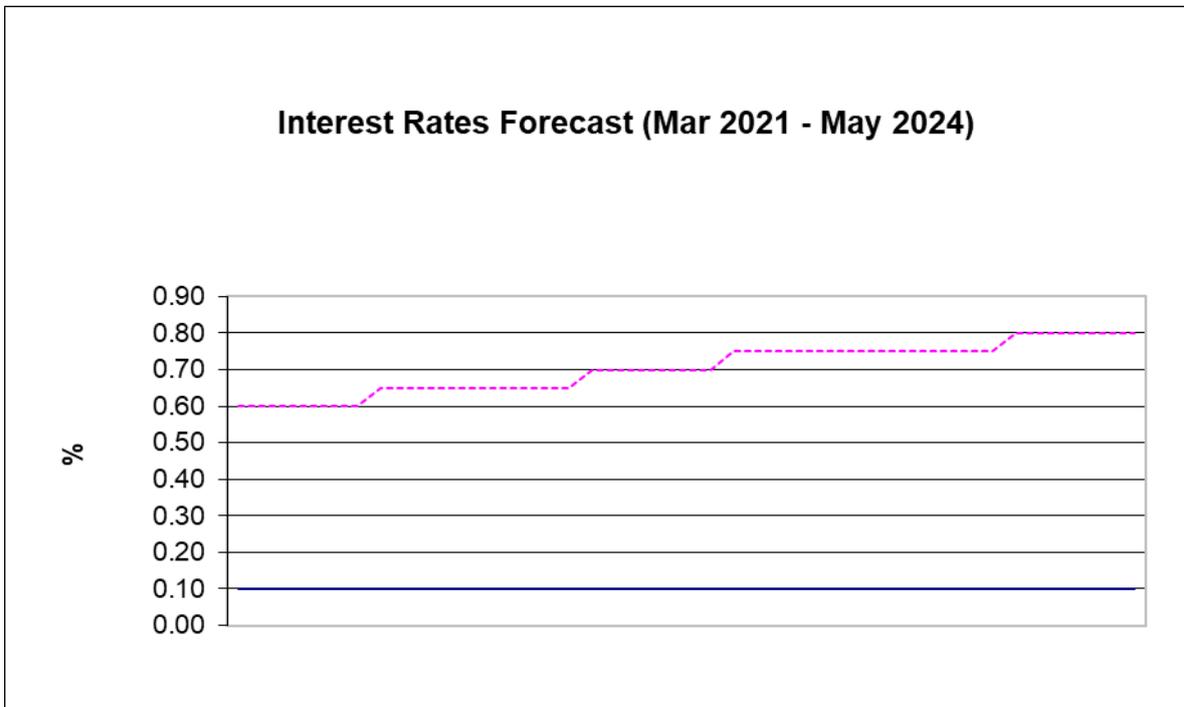
**Treasury Management Strategy Statement
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ANNEX B

INTEREST RATES FORECAST

The graph below shows the interest rate forecast for the Official UK Bank Rate and the 50 year GILT rate from March 2021 to May 2024. The Official Bank Rate influences the rate at which the Council can invest. The GILT rate is the rate at which the Government borrows money and therefore this affects the rate at which the Council can borrow from the PWLB which is approximately 1% above GILT rates.

As the graph shows, it's much more expensive to borrow than to invest at the moment with the Official UK Bank Rate expected to remain fairly constant over the period. The graph illustrates that the difference between investment and borrowing rates is approximately 1.5%.



———— Official Bank Rate
----- 50-yr GILT Rate

**Treasury Management Strategy Statement
and Investment Strategy 2021/22 to 2023/24**

ANNEX C

GLOSSARY - Useful guide to Treasury Management Terms and Acronyms

BANK OF ENGLAND	UK's Central Bank
BANK RATE	Bank of England Interest Rate (also known as Base Rate)
CPI	Consumer Price Index – a measure of the increase in prices
RPI	Retail Price Index – a measure of the increase in prices
DMO	Debt Management Office – issuer of gilts on behalf of HM Treasury
FSA	Financial Services Authority - the UK financial watchdog
GDP	Gross Domestic Product – a measure of financial output of the UK
LIBID	London Interbank Bid Rate - International rate that banks lend to other banks
LIBOR	London Interbank Offer Rate – International rate that banks borrow from other banks (the most widely used benchmark or reference for short term interest rates)
PWLB	Public Works Loan Board – a Government department that lends money to Public Sector Organisations
MPC	Monetary Policy Committee - the committee of the Bank of England that sets the Bank Rate
LONG TERM RATES	More than 12 months duration
SHORT TERM RATES	Less than 12 months duration
BOND (GENERAL)	An investment in which an investor loans money to a public or private company that borrows the funds for a defined period of time at a fixed interest rate
GOVERNMENT BOND	A type of bond issued by a national government generally with a promise to pay periodic interest payments and to repay the face value on the maturity date

Treasury Management Strategy Statement and Investment Strategy 2021/22 to 2023/24

CORPORATE BOND	A type of bond issued by a corporation to raise money in order to expand its business
COVERED BOND	A corporate bond issued by a financial institution but with an extra layer of protection for investors whereby the investor has recourse to a pool of assets that secures or “covers” the bond if the financial institution becomes insolvent
GILT	A bond that is issued by the British government which is classed as a low risk investment as the capital investment is guaranteed by the government
REPO	A repurchase agreement involving the selling of a security (usually bonds or gilts) with the agreement to buy it back at a higher price at a specific future date For the party selling the security (and agreeing to repurchase it in the future) it is a REPO For the party on the other end of the transaction e.g. the local authority (buying the security and agreeing to sell in the future) it is a reverse REPO
FTSE 100	Financial Times Stock Exchange 100 - An index composed of the 100 largest companies listed on the London Stock Exchange which provides a good indication of the performance of major UK companies

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Treasury Management Strategy Statement 2021/22

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:	148
Brief description:	The Treasury Management strategy for 2021/22
Date Completed:	06/01/2021 12:45:28 Version: 17
Completed by:	Rhys Ifor Jones
Responsible Service:	Finance
Localities affected by the proposal:	Whole County,
Who will be affected by the proposal?	Proposals have little or no direct impact on the vast majority of residents as the strategy involves managing the Council's investments and borrowing.
Was this impact assessment completed as a group?	No

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 : 20 / 30.

Implications of the score

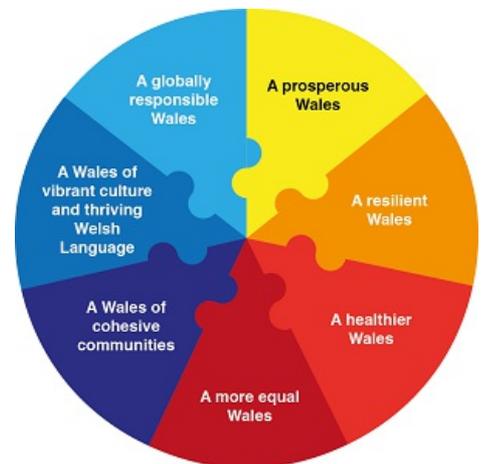
An efficient Treasury Management strategy ensures that the Council is maximising the use of its resources in order to guarantee the sustainability of the approach in the long term.

Summary of impact

Well-being Goals

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

- Positive
- Positive
- Neutral
- Neutral
- Neutral
- Neutral
- Neutral



Main conclusions

An effective Treasury Management strategy ensures that the Council's investment and borrowing decisions will contribute towards the goal of maximising income and minimising costs which supports efficient service delivery.

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 be 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	An effective Treasury Management strategy ensures that the Council's investment and borrowing decisions will contribute towards the goal of maximising income and minimising costs which supports efficient service delivery.
Further actions required	Sound financial planning and efficient long term treasury management strategies ensure that the positive impact of this report on the County's prosperity is maximised.

Positive impacts identified:

A low carbon society	
Quality communications, infrastructure and transport	Financial planning and decision making ensures that proper consideration of the long term impact of financial decisions is given, including the payback period and whole life costs of capital investment decisions, properly impact assessed budget proposals and long term debt and investment (treasury management) strategies.
Economic development	The Treasury Management strategy and Prudential Indicators ensure that the Council's cash is safeguarded as much as possible by making investments in banks recommended in the annual strategy statement.
Quality skills for the long term	The strategy ensures that the Council's borrowing is monitored and is within set limits and is affordable. It identifies current financing requirements for the Capital Plan and estimates the proposed capital requirements for the next three financial years.
Quality jobs for the long term	Sound investment and borrowing decisions relating to the Council's cash will maximise the Council's income within the guidelines set in the Treasury Management strategy.
Childcare	The Prudential Indicators are a statutory requirement which demonstrate the affordability of our plans and contribute towards the overall financial wellbeing of Denbighshire.

Negative impacts identified:

A low carbon society	
Quality communications, infrastructure and transport	
Economic development	
Quality skills for the long term	
Quality jobs for the long term	
Childcare	

A resilient Denbighshire

Overall Impact	Positive
Justification for impact	A sound Treasury Management strategy ensures that the Council's cash is secure and new borrowing is affordable. It also enables the Council to react quickly to market volatility by continual monitoring of the financial institutions throughout the year.
Further actions required	Good investment decisions will help the Council to develop more efficient working practices which will use less resources which will help to maximise the positive impact of this report on the County's resilience.

Positive impacts identified:

Biodiversity and the natural environment	
Biodiversity in the built environment	
Reducing waste, reusing and recycling	Good investment decisions will help the Council to develop more efficient working practices which will use less resources.
Reduced energy/fuel consumption	The strategy is set at the start of the financial year but it is monitored carefully throughout the year to ensure that the Council reacts quickly to any market volatility and the impact on the banking institutions.
People's awareness of the environment and biodiversity	
Flood risk management	

Negative impacts identified:

Biodiversity and the natural environment	
Biodiversity in the built environment	
Reducing waste, reusing and recycling	
Reduced energy/fuel consumption	
People's awareness of the environment and biodiversity	
Flood risk management	

A healthier Denbighshire

Overall Impact	Neutral
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Justification for impact	Proposals have little or no direct impact on the vast majority of residents as the strategy involves managing the Council's investments and borrowing.
Further actions required	The impact of this report is neutral in this particular area so this is not applicable.

Positive impacts identified:

A social and physical environment that encourage and support health and well-being	
Access to good quality, healthy food	
People's emotional and mental well-being	
Access to healthcare	
Participation in leisure opportunities	The strategy contributes to the overall financial health of Denbighshire and therefore supports the delivery of the annual budget.

Negative impacts identified:

A social and physical environment that encourage and support health and well-being	
Access to good quality, healthy food	
People's emotional and mental well-being	
Access to healthcare	
Participation in leisure opportunities	

A more equal Denbighshire

Overall Impact	Neutral
Justification for impact	A good treasury management strategy contributes to the overall financial resilience of the Council and supports the on-going work of the Authority without impacting on residents.
Further actions required	The impact of this report is neutral in this particular area so this is not applicable.

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	
People who suffer discrimination or disadvantage	
Areas with poor economic, health or educational outcomes	
People in poverty	An efficient treasury management strategy contributes to the financial resilience of the Council and supports service delivery.

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	
People who suffer discrimination or disadvantage	
Areas with poor economic, health or educational outcomes	
People in poverty	

Overall Impact	Neutral
Justification for impact	A good treasury management strategy contributes to the overall financial resilience of the Council and supports the on-going work of the Authority without impacting on residents.
Further actions required	The impact of this report is neutral in this particular area so this is not applicable.

Positive impacts identified:

Safe communities and individuals	
Community participation and resilience	
The attractiveness of the area	
Connected communities	
Rural resilience	

Negative impacts identified:

Safe communities and individuals	
Community participation and resilience	
The attractiveness of the area	
Connected communities	
Rural resilience	

A Denbighshire of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language

Overall Impact	Neutral
Justification for impact	A good treasury management strategy contributes to the overall financial resilience of the Council and supports the on-going work of the Authority. It has no direct impact on the language and the culture because any treasury management decisions are based on the treasury strategy and advice from financial consultants.
Further actions required	The impact of this report is neutral in this particular area so this is not applicable.

Positive impacts identified:

People using Welsh	
Promoting the Welsh language	Page 237

Culture and heritage	
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Negative impacts identified:

People using Welsh	
Promoting the Welsh language	
Culture and heritage	

A globally responsible Denbighshire

Overall Impact	Neutral
Justification for impact	A good treasury management strategy contributes to the overall financial resilience of the Council and supports the on-going work of the Authority. It has no direct impact on the local area.
Further actions required	The impact of this report is neutral in this particular area so this is not applicable.

Positive impacts identified:

Local, national, international supply chains	
Human rights	All investments are undertaken from national institutions in line with the strategy and financial advice. The strategy determines the institutions with the minimum credit rating which the Authority is permitted to invest with.
Broader service provision in the local area or the region	All borrowing is undertaken from central Government as detailed in the strategy and in line with other local authorities.

Negative impacts identified:

Local, national, international supply chains	
Human rights	
Broader service provision in the local area or the region	

COUNCIL FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

Meeting	Item (Description / Title)		Purpose of Report	Council Decision Required (yes/no)	Lead member and Contact Officer
13 April 2021	1	Arrangements for the election of Chair and Vice-Chair	To agree the process and candidates to be formally elected at the Council's Annual meeting in May 2021	No	Councillor Richard Mainon / Gary Williams / Steve Price
18 May 2021 ANNUAL COUNCIL	1	Election of Chair and Vice-Chair of Denbighshire County Council	To elect the Council's Chair and Vice-Chair for the 2021-2022 municipal year	No	Councillor Richard Mainon / Gary Williams / Steve Price
6 July 2021	1	Annual Performance Review		Yes	Alan Smith / Iolo McGregor
7 September 2021					
12 October 2021					
7 December 2021					

COUNCIL FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

FUTURE ITEMS

Annual Report of the Standards Committee	To consider the Annual Report	Chair of the Standards Committee / Gary Williams	TBC
Real Living Wage	Financial implication following discussion at Full Council on 26 January 2021	Councillor Julian Thompson-Hill / Steve Gadd / Catrin Roberts	TBC
Investigation into Flooding	Once investigation carried out, report to be submitted to Full Council following request from Full Council on 26 January 2021	Councillor Brian Jones	TBC

Note for Officers – Full Council Report Deadlines

<i>Meeting</i>	<i>Deadline</i>	<i>Meeting</i>	<i>Deadline</i>	<i>Meeting</i>	<i>Deadline</i>
13.04.2021	30.03.2021	18.05.2021	04.05.2021	06.07.2021	22.06.2021
07.09.2021	24.08.2021	12.10.2021	28.09.2021	07.12.2021	23.11.2021

Updated 10/02/2021 SLW

Council Forward Work Programme.doc

Council Briefing Forward Work Programme

Meeting	Item (Description / Title)		Purpose of Report	Lead member and Contact Officer
15 March 2021	1	Armed Forces Covenant Awareness Training		Cllr Richard Mainon / Gary Williams/ Stephen Townley, Armed Forces Liaison Officer Contact:
	2	Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation (WIMD) Results for Denbighshire	To bring to members the WIMD results for Denbighshire	Nicola Kneale
	3	21 st Century Schools Funding Programme	To inform members on the: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Background to the funding and the prioritisation process followed to determine which schools merited benefiting from investment; (ii) When details of the investment already made in the county's schools and the current position; (iii) A clear outline of future plans, subject to the availability of Welsh Government and Council funding, to make Denbighshire County Council schools fit for the 21st Century 	Cllr Huw Hilditch-Roberts / Geraint Davies / James Curran
7 June 2021				
8 November 2021				

Council Briefing Forward Work Programme

FUTURE MEETINGS TBC:

CSSR – to discuss the support staff review (Judith Greenhalgh / Alan Smith) – deferred from 9 March 2020 meeting

Updated 10.02.2021 - SLW