

To: Members of the Performance  
Scrutiny Committee

Date: 23 September 2022

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Dear Councillor

You are invited to attend a meeting of the **PERFORMANCE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE** to be held at **10.00 am** on **THURSDAY, 29 SEPTEMBER 2022** in **COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNTY HALL, RUTHIN AND BY VIDEO CONFERENCE.**

Yours sincerely

G. Williams  
Monitoring Officer

## **AGENDA**

### **1 APOLOGIES**

### **2 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS (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 OF THE LAST MEETING (Pages 7 - 14)**

To receive the minutes of the Performance Scrutiny Committee held on 14 July 2022 (copy enclosed)

### **5 SCHOOL CATEGORISATION ACCORDING TO WELSH MEDIUM PROVISION (Pages 15 - 26)**

To consider a report (copy attached) by the Head of Education outlining the conclusions of the recent Welsh Government consultation on Language Categorisation and its implications for Denbighshire Schools and pupils.

10:10 – 11:00

**6 HAFAN DEG, RHYL (Pages 27 - 36)**

To consider a report (copy attached) by the Service Manager Business Support & Communities, on the effectiveness of the transfer of the facility and services to an external provider, KL Care, including the provider's progress in growing and expanding the services available at the centre, and the lessons learnt from Covid-19.

11:00 – 11:30

**7 SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME (Pages 37 - 58)**

To consider a report by the Scrutiny Coordinator (copy enclosed) seeking a review of the committee's forward work programme and updating members on relevant issues.

11:30 – 11:45

**8 FEEDBACK FROM COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES**

To receive any updates from Committee representatives on various Council Boards and Groups.

11:45

**MEMBERSHIP**

**Councillors**

Hugh Irving (Chair)  
Ellie Chard  
Chris Evans  
Jon Harland  
Carol Holliday

Gareth Sandilands (Vice-Chair)  
Alan Hughes  
Paul Keddie  
Terry Mendies

**Voting Co-opted Members for Education (Agenda Item No. 5 only)**

Terence Flanagan  
Kathleen Jones

Neil Roberts

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## LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2000

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### 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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## PERFORMANCE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Minutes of a meeting of the Performance Scrutiny Committee held in Council Chamber County Hall and by video conference on Thursday, 14 July 2022 at 10.00 am.

### PRESENT

Councillors Ellie Chard, Jon Harland, Carol Holliday, Hugh Irving (Chair), Paul Keddie, Terry Mendies and Gareth Sandilands (Vice-Chair).

Co-opted Members for Education, Kathleen Jones and Neil Roberts for items 5 and 6.

The Lead Member for Education, Children and Families, Councillor Gill German for items 6, 7 and 8

The Lead Member for Health and Social Care, Councillor Elen Heaton for items 7 and 8

### ALSO PRESENT

Corporate Director: Communities / Director of Social Services (NS)

Head of Education (GD)

Interim Head of Service, Business Support Services (AL)

Interim Head of Service, Operational Services (DS)

Head of Children Services (RM)

Principal Education Managers (MG) & (JB)

Inclusion Officer – Additional Learning Needs (ALN) Implementation (JE)

Scrutiny Coordinator (RhE)

Committee Administrator, Host (KJ)

Democratic Services Officer, minutes (KE)

System Leader for GwE – North Wales (JC) for item 5.

**Observers:** Councillor Emrys Wynne and Gwilym Bury (Audit Wales).

## 1 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Alan Hughes, Geraint Lloyd-Williams and co-opted member Terry Flanagan.

## 2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following members declared personal interests in business items 5 & 6 as governors at Denbighshire County Council schools:

Councillor Hugh Irving – Prestatyn High School

Councillor Carol Holliday – Ysgol Clawdd Offa

Councillor Ellie Chard – Ysgol Tir Morfa and also Chair of the Council's Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education (SACRE)

Councillor Gareth Sandilands – Ysgol Clawdd Offa

Neil Roberts – Ysgol y Parc

### **3 URGENT MATTERS AS AGREED BY THE CHAIR**

No items of an urgent nature had been raised with the Chair or the Scrutiny Co-ordinator prior to the commencement of the meeting.

### **4 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

The minutes of the Performance Scrutiny Committee meeting held on 9 June 2022 were submitted. It was:

***Resolved: - that the minutes of the meeting held on 9 June 2022 be received and approved as a true and correct record of the proceedings.***

No matters were raised with regards to the contents of the minutes.

### **5 CURRICULUM FOR WALES**

The Lead Member for Education, Children and Families introduced the report (previously circulated) that reviewed the progress of the implementation of the new Curriculum for Wales. The report was produced in partnership with GwE who would be supporting schools with the implementation of the new curriculum.

The Committee were advised that it was a very different type of curriculum than previously followed, more skills based and less prescriptive. Schools were encouraged to shape the curriculum around their learners. The curriculum would be statutory in all Welsh primary schools from September 2022 and secondary schools from September 2023.

The Head of Education explained that whilst the new curriculum was not prescriptive it gave a clear structure to ensure that Denbighshire's 16,500 students became ambitious, capable, enterprising, creative, healthy, confident and ethically informed.

A statutory requirement to include Relationships and Sexuality Ethics (RSE) was a requirement in the Curriculum for Wales commencing September 2022, mandatory for learners age 3 to 16 years. Similarly, Religion, Values and Ethics (RVE) would be a statutory requirement but its syllabus determined locally. In Denbighshire the Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education (SACRE) had recommended to adopt the RVE guidance produced by Welsh Government as the Denbighshire Agreed Syllabus.

The Committee were advised that the curriculum would follow a thematic approach that focussed on skills rather than content and whilst a subject may still be taught on its own e.g. mathematics, it may also be incorporated in another topic area e.g. humanities.

Consultation was ongoing for G.C.S.E. and A level qualifications examination style and their equivalent - pending implementation of the secondary school curriculum -

but there was still an expectation that there would be numeracy, literacy and scientific qualifications etc.

Historically reports on education results, key stage assessments and national result comparisons had been presented regularly at Performance Scrutiny Committee. The change of focus to local adaptations of the syllabus and less on result outcomes meant that the method of reviewing performance would need to change. Whilst standardised testing would still be available the previous benchmarks they were measured against would not. Work was ongoing to agree a meaningful format to present to future scrutiny committees.

Responding to the Committee's questions Denbighshire and GwE officers advised:

- The negative impact on the learner's mental health when faced with the pressure of multiple examinations over a relatively short period was recognised. It was anticipated that through consultation with Welsh Government and the exam boards continuous assessments and other avenues could be explored to relieve those pressures.
- There had been additional grant funding for schools to prepare and deliver the new curriculum.
- The new Religion, Value and Ethics subject differed from previous teaching as it dealt with belief systems rather than religions per se.
- Whilst schools were encouraged to adapt the curriculum locally there was a core set of 27 skills that had to be covered by the adopted curriculum. The skills and knowledge demonstrated by learners would still be assessed, it was the 'journey progression' that was changing and
- GwE had excellent partnership working relations with Professor Graham Donaldson, architect of the new curriculum and school cluster groups (local and national) to share best practices.

The Head of Education re-iterated that it was the start of the journey with respect to reviewing the success of the Curriculum for Wales. Realistically it would need 12 months to assess how the implementation of the curriculum fared, lessons learned and what success looked like.

Following the in-depth discussion, the Committee:

**Resolved: subject to the above observations to –**

- (i) receive the information presented on the progress made to date with regards to the implementation of the Curriculum for Wales in Denbighshire schools; and***
- (ii) request that a further report be presented in 12 months' time detailing the effectiveness of the Curriculum's implementation in the county's primary schools, including the lessons learnt during the implementation stage, and outlining the measures taken to prepare for the Curriculum's delivery across the County's secondary sector from September 2023.***

## 6 ADDITIONAL LEARNING NEEDS (ALN) TRANSFORMATION

The Lead Member for Education, Children and Families introduced the report (previously circulated) providing an update on the progress made by Local Authority and schools to meet their statutory requirements under the Additional Learning Needs (ALN) and Education Tribunal (Wales) Act, 2018 which replaced the Special Educational Needs (SEN) Code of Practice for Wales (2002)

The Head of Education assured the Committee that the changes to ALN was a key piece of legislation ensuring that schools met the educational needs of all pupils. In respect to progress there had been, over the past 12 months:

- a significant amount of training from the Senior Leadership Team to middle management and Additional Learning Needs Coordinators (ALNCos);
- work with the School Budget Forum to ensure funding was delegated to schools;
- regional working with Wrexham, Conwy and Flintshire to develop an IT system, Eclipse, to incorporate all the new ALN processes and
- an Internal Audit of the ALN implementation which resulted in a high assurance rating.

Officers advised that Eclipse reported on school based ALN identification and Individual Development Plans (IDP). It was not anticipated that there would be much difference in terms of the number of ALN identified which numbered approximately 400 at that time.

A conversion process had begun in schools in January 2022, moving away from the SEN process to the ALN system. It did not necessarily follow that during the conversion that a statemented SEN would automatically have a recognised ALN. Predicted numbers would not be accurate until towards the end of the conversion in September 2024.

Responding to members' questions officers advised that:

- training and engagement had been provided to 3<sup>rd</sup> parties (e.g. parent and governor groups).
- the Eclipse system was accessible by all schools. Each cluster had identified 2 ALNCos to train on the Eclipse system. Who would then train others.
- a new induction process had been implemented for ALNCos which included training on Eclipse.
- the ALN transformation implementation was on track and being monitored regionally and nationally by Welsh Government (WG)
- ALN transformation had been identified as a budgetary pressure during 2021/22 which resulted in additional funding being allocated towards the work; and
- Schools were being audited to ensure that funding was allocated appropriately. The costed Provision Map system required schools to input the actual current needs of the child. This helped schools to plan more effectively to support the pupils going forward.



At the conclusion of a detailed debate members:

**Resolved: subject to the above to –**

- (i) receive the information provided on the progress made by Denbighshire to date to ensure that the local education authority and schools are in a position to meet their statutory requirements under the Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal (Wales) Act, 2018; and***
- (ii) request that a further report be provided to the Committee in 12 months' time on the Council's compliance with the Act's requirements and on the effectiveness of the ECLIPSE system in identifying, monitoring, managing and supporting pupils that have additional learning needs.***

## **7 SOCIAL CARE MARKET STABILITY REPORT**

The Lead Member for Health and Social Care introduced the report (previously circulated). The Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014 introduced a new duty on local authorities and health boards to develop a joint assessment of the sufficiency and sustainability of the social care market. The Market Stability Report had been produced by the North Wales Regional Partnership Board in line with the Code of Practice (Welsh Government, 2021a). It was the first Market Stability Report to be produced, informed by the North Wales Population Needs Assessment 2022.

The report assessed the sufficiency of care and support in meeting the needs and demand for social care as well as the stability of the market.

The Interim Head of Service, Business Support Services referred to the key messages in relation to adult social care for Denbighshire, a slight reduction in overall capacity of the care home sector in Denbighshire. The capacity that was available (basic residential care) did not meet current or future needs of clients which was for more complex needs – Elderly Mentally Infirm (EMI) residential and nursing care.

Changing operations from existing residential homes into EMI compatible homes was not an easy conversion. The buildings were often unsuitable and fees did not always cover the cost to the provider.

Advancements in health care and medicine had a significant impact on social care requirements. People with learning difficulties were moving through from children's services to adults' services with complex packages of care that would be required for life.

The desire for clients to remain independent and stay in their own homes had increased the demand for domiciliary care. The challenges around recruitment and retention in the domiciliary field further exacerbated difficulty in provision of cover in that area.

Respite care for people with complex health conditions – stroke, acquired brain injury etc. – was in limited supply and would be reviewed under future commissioning exercises.

The Head of Children Services advised that the report highlighted issues that were already known to Denbighshire. Particularly the lack of local, short term foster placements available, especially for children with complex needs, both in-house and in the independent sector. Those particular placements were targeted to be the focus of commissioning going forward.

Whilst there were residential placements available in Denbighshire, they tended to be for specialist and specific criteria. For more general behaviour placements these were having to be sourced further afield. Future commissioning would be focused on Bwthyn y Ddôl a residential assessment unit shared with Conwy and BCUHB.

Future focus areas would be:

- Commissioning intent on promoting fostering close to home and
- Implementation of an action plan over the next 12-18 months for the in-house team. Including review core support given to carers.

Responding to members' questions officers advised:

- There was a shortage of social care staff and a recruitment and retention crisis (at all levels) throughout the UK.
- Social care and foster care recruitment was being publicised / promoted at every opportunity e.g. backgrounds at virtual meetings, sides of fleet vehicles, recruitment fayres etc.
- A special board had been established to explore various methods of improving recruitment and retention of staff in social care. Amongst the areas being explored were terms and conditions. However, it was acknowledged that attempting to address recruitment and retention of social care staff via terms and conditions would impact on roles throughout the council.
- Whilst the extra care housing in the north of the county were owned by registered social landlords the care provided to residents was undertaken by Denbighshire County Council staff.
- The demand for extra care housing was being managed. If residential care home providers wanted to change their operations Denbighshire was willing to have that conversation.
- Discussion was underway as a region to implement a consortia approach the local authority would be the lead body for an apprenticeship scheme with placements sourced in different settings with both in-house care and independent providers.
- From a market stability perspective, the key objectives for each Service over the next 12 months would be:
  - to attain stability in domiciliary care, looking at micro-enterprise and rural providers and
  - Implementing fostering friendly policies within Denbighshire and preparing for the launch of Bwthyn y Ddôl residential assessment unit.

The Committee, having considered the report and the answers given to members' questions:

**Resolved:**

- (i) to recommend the approval of the North Wales Market Stability Report 2022 (Appendix 1); and***
- (ii) to confirm that the Committee, as part of its consideration, had read, understood and taken account of the Equalities Impact Assessment (Appendix 2).***

## **8 DRAFT DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL SERVICES ANNUAL REPORT**

The Lead Member for Health and Social Care introduced the report (previously circulated) advising the Committee that it was a statutory report requested of the Director of Social Services to summarise the effectiveness of social care services within the Authority and outline priorities for improvement. The main focus in the previous year had been to maintain capacity and resources in order to effectively deliver statutory services to meet the needs of Denbighshire's population.

The Director of Social Services (DSS) explained that the report was an honest and fair reflection of the Adult and Children's Services departments that needed to be considered in context with the situation that social care was in nationally at that time – recovering from the Covid pandemic and the long term effect that it still had on performance and the ability to deliver social care services. Nevertheless, some significant achievements had been made and noted in the report.

The DSS acknowledged that the report was compiled as a team effort from everyone working in social care within Denbighshire – including public and private providers, formal and informal carers - and was a testament to the professionalism, dedication and hard work of everyone working to support adults and children in Denbighshire.

Responding to members' question officers advised:

- Invitations to tender for a building partner were being re-issued for the Bwthyn y Ddôl residential assessment unit project. Interim solutions were being explored, but the Multi Disciplinary Team (MDT) was in place and operational.
- Generally, complaints were resolved within timescales without the need for escalation. Those that did go to stage 2 were minimal. Most complaints were a result of communication – lack of – but training and the implementation of virtual meetings as a result of the pandemic had improved the situation.
- Denbighshire had been asked by the Equality and Human Rights Commission to share their data collection and questions with them to inform a national report and review on Social Services Complaints. Recognising Denbighshire as a learning organisation that takes complaints seriously and responds accordingly.

- The 'Your Voice' complaints report was circulated quarterly for information purposes. Members were advised that if they saw anything of concern in the report they could make an application to have the item brought to scrutiny.
- Priority objectives for the next 12 months were:
  - recruitment and retention of social care staff,
  - ensuring delivery of statutory provision and
  - ensuring that the approach to prevention and intervention was as robust as could be.

It was:

**Resolved: - subject to the above observations, to confirm that the Director of Social Services Annual Report for 2021-2022 provided a clear account of performance during the reporting year.**

## 9 SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME

The Scrutiny Coordinator introduced the report (previously circulated). The forward work programme showed 4 items on the agenda for the next meeting of Performance Scrutiny Committee on the 29<sup>th</sup> September. Although confirmation was yet to be received that the Hafan Deg report would be available.

The three reports requested earlier in the meeting would be included on the future forward work programme.

The Scrutiny Chairs and Vice-Chairs Group (SC&VCG) were holding their re-scheduled meeting on 28th July if Committee members had any items they would like considered for scrutiny they should complete the form (appendix 2) and the SC&VCG could consider it at that meeting.

It was:

**Resolved: subject to the above to confirm the Committee's draft forward work programme, attached as Appendix 1 to the report.**

Meeting concluded at 12.35pm

<b>Report to</b>	<b>Performance Scrutiny Committee</b>
<b>Date of meeting</b>	<b>29th September, 2022</b>
<b>Lead Member / Officer</b>	<b>Cllr. Gill German (Lead Member for Education, Children and Families), Cllr Emrys Wynne (Lead Member for Welsh Language, Culture and Heritage) / Geraint Davies (Head of Education)</b>
<b>Report author</b>	<b>Geraint Davies (Head of Education)</b>
<b>Title</b>	<a href="#"><u>School Categorisation according to Welsh Medium Provision</u></a> <b>(DCC response to legislative changes)</b>

## 1. What is the report about?

1.1. To outline the conclusions of the recent Welsh Government consultation on [Language Categorisation](#) and its implications for Denbighshire Schools and pupils.

## 2. What is the reason for making this report?

2.1. To inform Scrutiny on how the required changes following the consultation will impact on schools and the potential impact of those decisions.

## 3. What are the Recommendations?

3.1. Scrutiny are invited to discuss the details of this report and to identify any aspects of the work which may benefit from detailed examination in the future.

## 4. Report details

4.1. All schools and local authorities in Wales have to tell parents and the Welsh Government in what language they intend to teach. In Wales, this can be through either English or Welsh, or through a combination of both languages.

- 4.2. The current policy for categorising schools has been in place since 2007. The publishing of Cymraeg 2050: A million Welsh speakers in 2017 and more recently, the Curriculum for Wales, highlighted the need to review the policy around categorising schools according to the Welsh-medium provision.
- 4.3. The new arrangements for categorising schools according to the amount of Welsh-medium provision in the school has come into place from September 2022 and will form part of the statutory Pupil Level Annual School Census (PLASC) return in January 2024.
- 4.4. The number of school categories are being reduced to three in the primary sector and three in the secondary sector.
- 4.5. While three categories are introduced for both the primary and secondary sectors, the same criteria are not used to define the nature of their provision. In primary schools, the language provision offered can be categorised rather than the whole school as an institution, meaning a primary school could be either a Category 1, 2 or 3 or a combination of both Category 1 and 2, or Category 2 and 3 school according to the provision it offers (e.g. if there are 2 streams operating within the same school).
- 4.6. In the secondary sector, schools will be categorised as whole institutions, although it is possible that specific development plans will be necessary for secondary schools which currently have a Welsh language stream.
- 4.7. Since one of the intentions of the new categorisation system is to encourage more schools to increase their Welsh-medium provision, there are also two transitional sub-categories in the primary sector and two in the secondary, to facilitate the process for schools moving to the next category. This is in place to allow schools to grow their Welsh language provision over an extended period. Please refer to **Appendix 1** for Category descriptors.

The principle is of not reducing provision – One of the core principles in introducing the new arrangements is that schools should not offer less Welsh-medium provision in the future than has been the done in the past.

4.8 All schools will need to be placed in new categories by September 2022 and this will come into force following PLASC 2024.

- In Denbighshire, the 27 current English Medium primary provision will transfer to be classified Category 1.
- Similarly, the 14 Welsh Medium provision will transfer to be classified Category 3.
- The remaining schools will need to be allocated a category to one of the three main categories or one of the two transitional categories if appropriate.

It should be noted that the Welsh in Education Strategic Plan 2022-32 approved by Cabinet and Welsh Government identifies that in Denbighshire all future Category 2 schools will only provide Welsh medium Foundation Phase Education in order to support immersion and provide more choice for pupils at 7 years old.

4.9 Schools that were previously CAT 4 (English with significant Welsh) will be in the transitional category T2. See **Appendix 2** for suggested transitional routes.

4.10 Linguistic progression in Welsh becomes more challenging as learners transfer to the secondary sector, and increases as learners progress through each year group. Please refer to **Appendix 1** for Category descriptors.

4.11 In Denbighshire, the 5 current English Medium Secondary provision will transfer to be classified Category 1. Similarly, Ysgol Glan Clwyd as the current Welsh Medium provision will transfer to be classified Category 3P.

4.12 The options for future categorisation for Ysgol Brynhyfryd and Ysgol Dinas Bran are not as clear and will be considered individually.

4.13 The provision at Ysgol Brynhyfryd is arranged to Welsh and English streams. On average 40% of each year group attend the Welsh stream. The pupils in the Welsh stream receive at least 80% of subjects (excluding Welsh and English) taught through the medium of Welsh. In addition, from September 2022 Ysgol Brynhyfryd have committed to ensure that the Welsh Medium offer in KS4 will

be equal to the English Medium offer in terms of options meaning pupils in the Welsh stream will receive 100% of subjects through the medium of Welsh.

4.14 The provision at Ysgol Dinas Bran is arranged in to Welsh and English streams. On average 12% of each year group attend the Welsh stream. The pupils in the Welsh stream receive at least 80% of subjects (excluding Welsh and English) taught through the medium of Welsh.

4.15 An options appraisal is being conducted to review the possibilities and consequences of the different linguistic categories for both Ysgol Brynhyfryd and Ysgol Dinas Bran

4.16 **Home to School Transport Policy** – There will be implications regarding Welsh medium transport. In Denbighshire’s current Learner Transport Policy (Section 3.3) it states “For Welsh Medium education it would be a school which is categorised as either 1 or 2 within the Welsh Government guidelines on Welsh Medium Provision. For category 2 it would a school where at least 80% of subjects (excluding Welsh and English) are taught through the medium of Welsh, but are also taught through the medium of English.” The new Secondary category 2 requirement (at least 40%) is not comparable with existing Welsh medium offer and therefore this will impact on the eligibility of learners to their nearest Welsh medium offer. Therefore, the Authority will have to issue new clarification guidance to interpret this in relation to the Policy to reflect the categorisation process in advance of its introduction in 2024.

4.17 Presently the Learner Travel (Wales) Measure 2008 directs Authorities (under Section 10) to promote access to education and training through the medium of the Welsh language. Denbighshire does have the ability to re-define, through the clarification guidance, how transport will be provided regarding the new categorisation; with any changes being drawn into a future update to the Policy. Welsh Government are themselves presently considering the consultation undertook last year regarding updates to the Learner Travel Measure, therefore the Authority will have to wait until this is concluded as they may choose to address ‘promoting access’ to Welsh language by cross referencing the new categorisation in the context of the transport legislation.



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

5.1. The project links with the Young People Corporate priority in the Corporate Plan 2017-2022 and also an integral part of our Denbighshire Welsh in Education Strategic Plan.

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

6.1. Costs will be met from existing budgets and proposals will be taken to the School Budget Forum if any changes are required to the school funding formula.

6.2. Potential increase in Pupil Transport Costs is a risk depending on decisions on categorisation of schools. Further work is required to fully understand the impact on the School Transport Policy.

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

7.1 Any Well-being Impact Assessment will be completed as part of any school reorganisation proposals as per the requirement of the Code together with any revisions to the Home to School Transport policy.

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

8.1. This Scrutiny report is the first scrutiny by Members regarding the language category of schools. Consultation with all relevant stakeholders was undertaken by Welsh Government between December 14<sup>th</sup> 2020 and 26 March 2021. Details of the outcome and [summary of responses](#) is available.

## **9. Chief Finance Officer Statement**

9.1. As the report is to inform and promote discussion there are no direct financial implications. However as outlined in Section 6 there are likely to be an increase in costs due to the required changes. Any pressures that cannot be contained within existing resources (e.g. impact on School Transport) will need to be brought forward through the annual budget process at the appropriate time

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

10.1. Concerns have been raised by others with the Diocese, Welsh Government members and officers, Senedd Members and DCC Officers about the progress to change the linguistic character of schools.

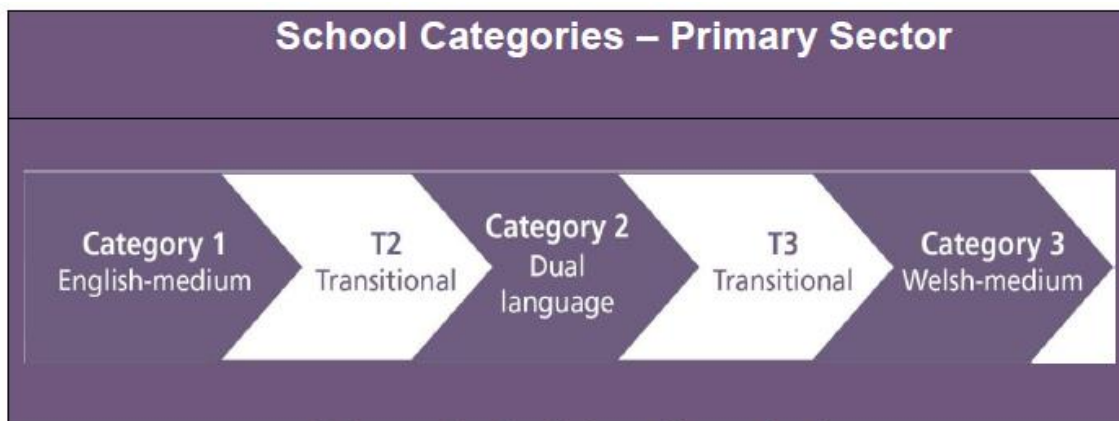
10.2. Any changes in policy could impact and pose a risk to our Cabinet approved and published Welsh Education Strategic Plan.

## **11. Power to make the decision**

11.1. The School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013 provides the legislative requirement for local authorities to review school proposals and to progress proposals to reconfigure school provision.

11.2. Section 21 of the Local Government Act 2000 and Sections 7.2.3 and 7.4.1 of the Council's Constitution.

## School Categories – Primary Sector



### **Category 1 – English-medium school**

English is the school's main language of internal communication as well as with parents and carers. There is recognition that creating a Welsh language ethos within the school will support and encourage positive attitudes towards Welsh language use.

A learner in a school of this category will be able to read, write, speak and listen in English according to age and ability, and will have some understanding of Welsh. Welsh will be taught and assessed as part of the Area of Learning and Experience (AoLE) for languages, literacy and communication.

At least 15% of the learners' school activities (both curricular and extra-curricular) will be in Welsh.

### **Category 2 – Dual language**

Welsh and English will be used for internal communication as well as with parents and carers. There is clear understanding that maintaining a Welsh language ethos within the school will support positive attitudes towards Welsh language use. A learner in a school of this category will be able to speak, read, write and listen in English and Welsh according to age and ability. Welsh language skills will be further strengthened by increasing the amount of learning opportunities (curricular as well as extra-curricular) offered through the medium of Welsh. Where Welsh is used as a medium of learning, occasional English is used at times to reinforce the learners' understanding.

With the right support, learners could progress to a Category 3 Welsh-medium secondary school.

At least 50% of learners' school activities (both curricular and extra-curricular) will be in Welsh. This could be achieved in different ways depending on the school context. It could be by using full Welsh-medium immersion up to age 7 with choice offered in the other year groups, or that 50% of school activities are in Welsh throughout.

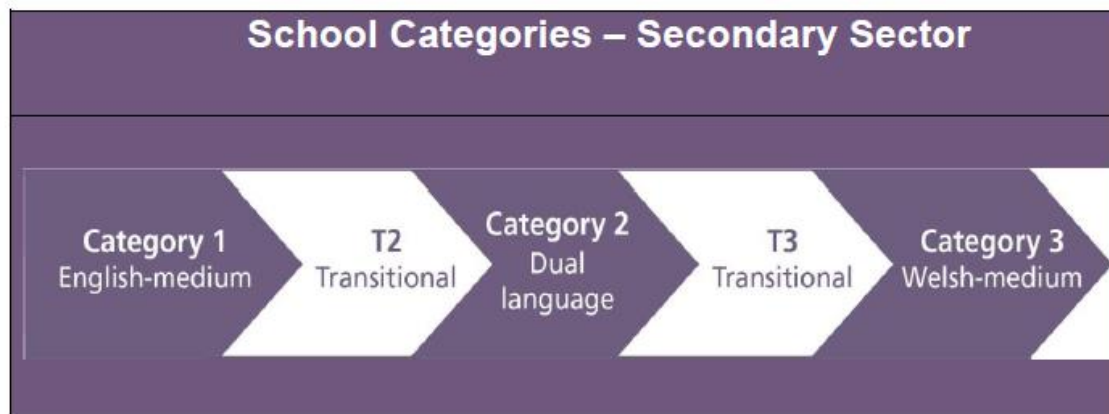
### **Category 3 – Welsh-medium school**

Welsh is the school's main language of internal communication. Communication with parents and carers is in either English, Welsh or bilingually as needed. This is a school with a strong Welsh language ethos at its core, supporting and enabling learners' Welsh language use in all social context in and outside of school.

In a Welsh immersion setting all learners are taught fully in Welsh, with English being used on occasion to ensure understanding during early immersion.

From aged 7 onwards at least 80% of learner's school activities (both curricular and extra-curricular) will be in Welsh.

## School Categories – Secondary Sector



### **Category 1 – English-medium school**

English is the school's main language of internal communication as well as with parents and carers. There is recognition that creating a Welsh language ethos within the school will support and encourage positive attitudes towards Welsh language use.

A learner in a school of this category will be taught mainly through the medium of English, and will be able to speak, read, write and listen in English according to age and ability. Welsh is taught as part of the Area of Learning and Experience (AoLE) for languages, literacy and communication.

At least 15% of the learners' school activities (both curricular and extra-curricular) will be in Welsh.

### **Category 2 – Dual language**

Welsh and English will be used for internal communication as well as with parents and carers. There is clear understanding that maintaining a Welsh language ethos within the school will support positive attitudes towards Welsh language use.

A learner in a school of this category will be able to speak, read, write and listen in English and Welsh according to age and ability. Welsh language skills will be further strengthened by increasing the amount of learning opportunities (curricular (AoLEs) as well as extra-curricular offered through the medium of Welsh

At least 40% of learners undertaking at least 40% of school activities (both curricular and extra-curricular) in Welsh.

### **Category 3 – Welsh-medium school**

Schools in this category are sectioned into two parts: Category 3 Welsh-medium and Category 3P designated Welsh-medium.

For all schools in this category Welsh is the main language of internal communication. Communication with parents and carers is in either English, Welsh or bilingually as needed.

These are schools with a strong Welsh language ethos at their core, supporting and enabling learners' Welsh language use in all social contexts in and outside of school. A learner in this category of schools will be able to speak, read, write and listen in both English and Welsh according to age and ability.

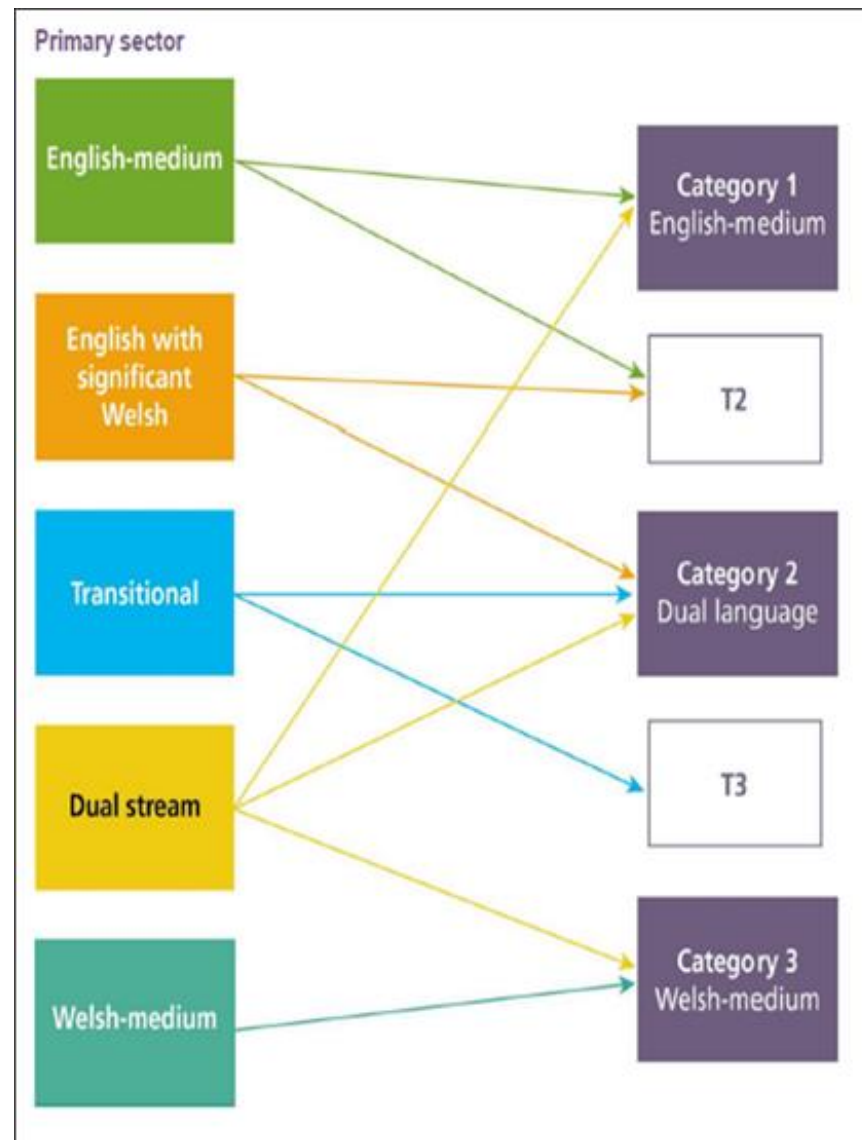
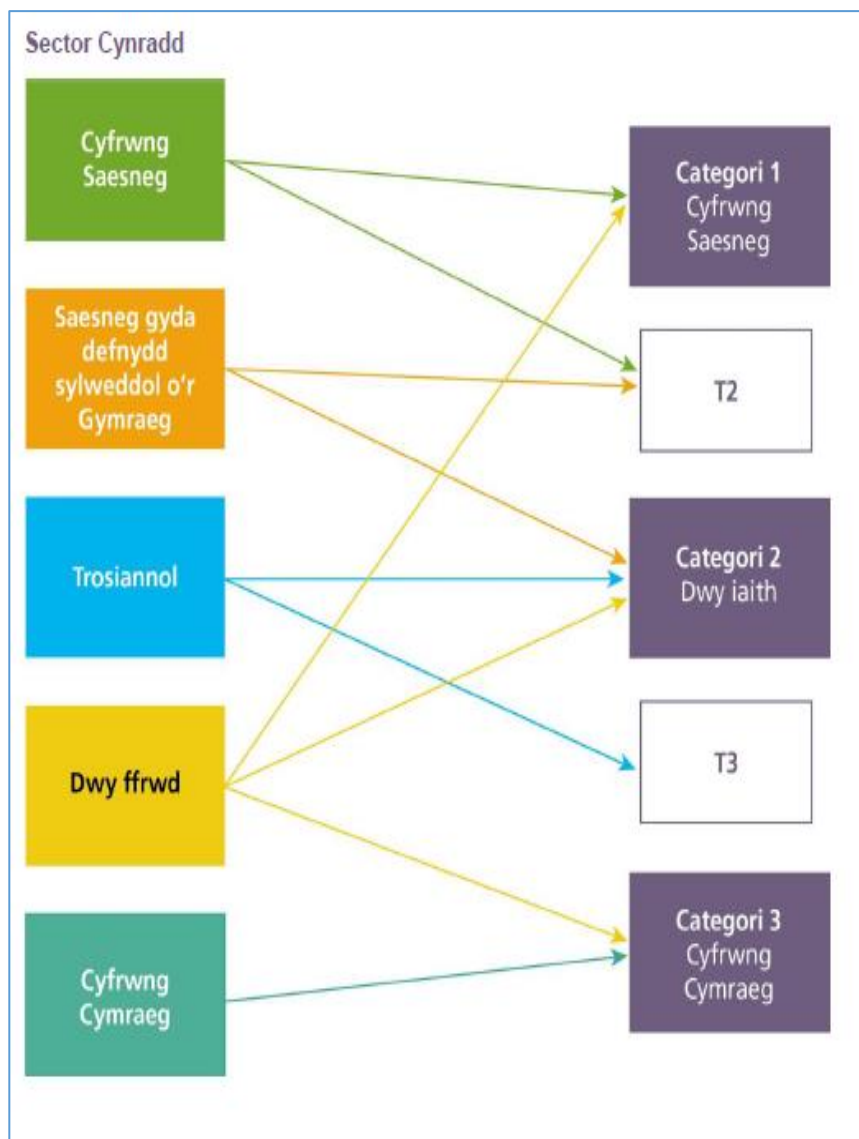
**Category 3 – Welsh-medium school** will offer a wide range of their Areas of Learning and Experience (AoLE) through the medium of Welsh.

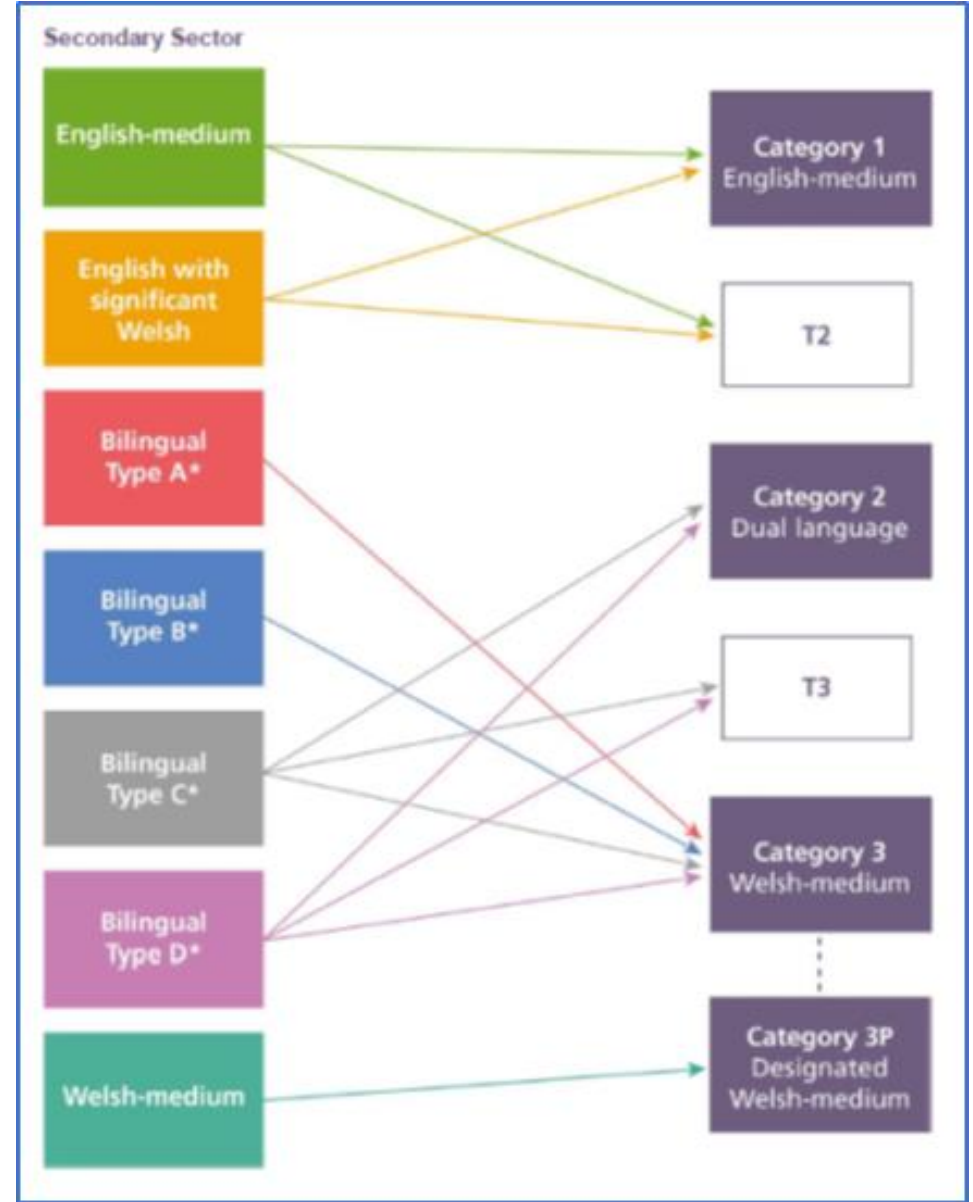
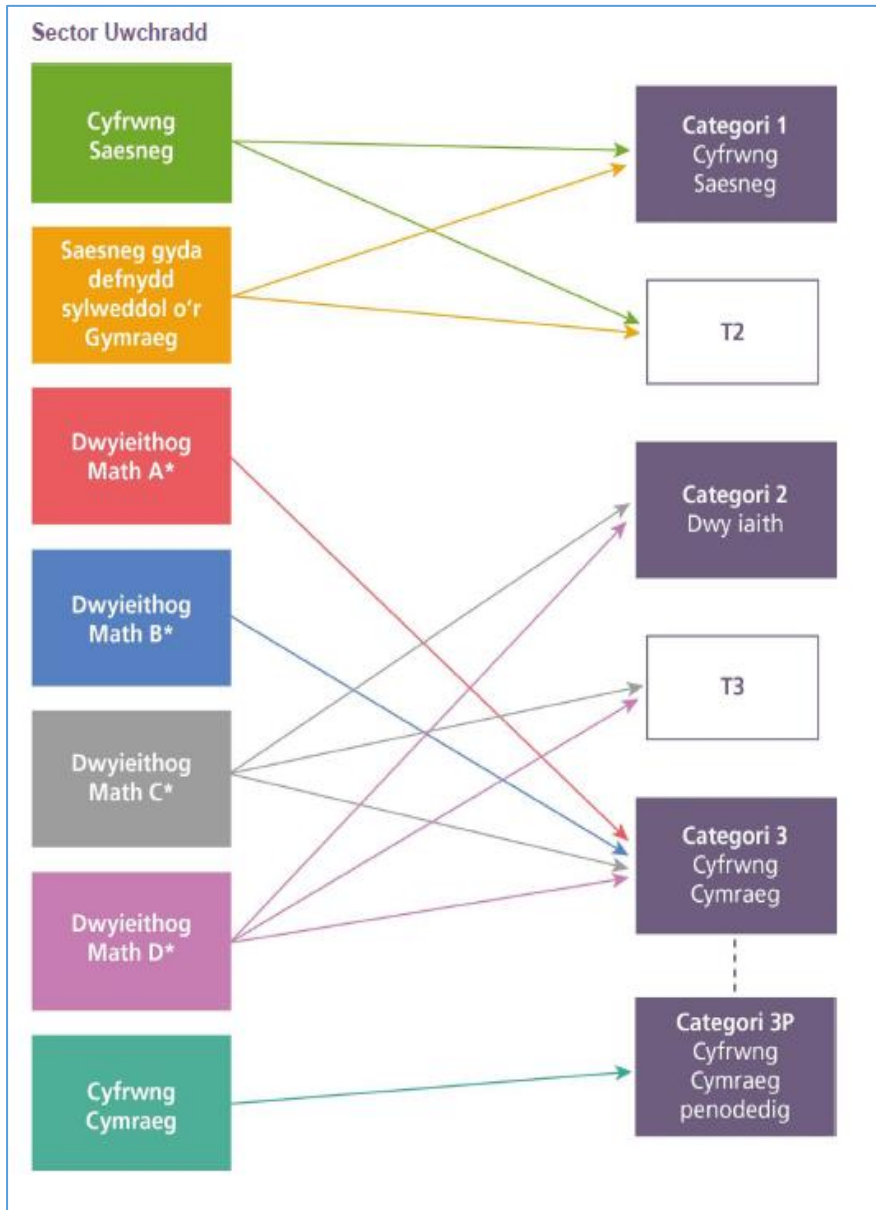
At least 60% % of learners undertaking at least 70% of their school activities (curricular and extra-curricular) in Welsh.

Category 3 schools are expected to continue to reflect the linguistic context of the area whilst working towards increasing their Welsh medium provision over time.

**Category 3P – Designated Welsh-medium school** will deliver all Areas of Learning and Experience (AoLE) through the medium of Welsh.

100% of learners undertaking at least 90% of their school activities (curricular and extra-curricular) in Welsh.







<b>Report to</b>	<b>Performance Scrutiny Committee</b>
<b>Date of meeting</b>	<b>29<sup>th</sup> September 2022</b>
<b>Lead Member / Officer</b>	<b>Councillor Elen Heaton, Lead Member for Health &amp; Social Care/ Ann Lloyd, Interim Head of Community Support Services</b>
<b>Report author</b>	<b>Nigel Jones, Service Manager Business Support &amp; Communities</b>
<b>Title</b>	<b>Hafan Deg Day Centre Update</b>

## **1. What is the report about?**

- 1.1. Update on Hafan Deg Day Centre progress

## **2. What is the reason for making this report?**

- 2.1. To provide updates as to the effectiveness of the transfer of the facility and services to an external provider, KL Care, including the provider's progress in growing and expanding the services available at the centre, and the lessons learnt from Covid-19.

## **3. What are the Recommendations?**

That Scrutiny:

- 3.1. considers and comments upon the information provided, and
- 3.2. supports the continuation of the practice of quarterly monitoring, with a view to securing that plans for the Centre are delivered and key milestones achieved.

## 4. Report details

- 4.1. The Centre has managed to build up citizens' attendance following difficult times through the Covid-19 pandemic, and is now fully operational again as a day centre following closure throughout the height of Covid.
- 4.2. However, the effects of the pandemic on the Centre have been considerable, particularly in stalling plans for expanding the services offered. All social care providers have had to learn lessons and adapt following the un-precedented impacts of the pandemic, including examining their own resilience, contingency plans, and looking to deliver services in new ways.
- 4.3. All social care services also continue to struggle because of the significant social care recruitment crisis and rising cost of living. However, as we have moved beyond the emergency response to the pandemic, we need to work closely with the Centre to re-focus on plans for developing their activities. DCC will be working with Hafan Deg to do so, while considering lessons learned both by commissioner and provider in planning for the future of this contract and ensuring it continues to meet the needs of the community.
- 4.4. There had initially been some issues with War Memorial Court residents accessing the day centre, largely because of concerns around infection control (when the pandemic had eased, but Covid-19 continued to spread). Residents from War Memorial Court are however now accessing the Centre for coffee afternoons and bingo evenings, and relationships have improved significantly. This is a testament to the open communication and flexibility that all parties have offered.
- 4.5. There is also work currently underway to ensure that War Memorial Court residents, alongside Hafan Deg citizens, have the opportunity to use IT equipment at the Centre. This should provide a valuable community resource while also supporting greater community links and wellbeing.
- 4.6. During a recent contract monitoring visit (June 2022), while a number of areas for improvement were identified, those attending the centre seemed happy and relaxed. Staff were friendly and it was obvious that they knew the individuals well. The Centre ultimately continues to provide person-centred care to all citizens in attendance, supporting the Council's vision for adult social care, the

five ways to well-being and the requirements of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014

- 4.7. We are currently developing an action plan with KL Care to support the Centre to address the identified areas for improvement, and take the corrective and development actions required to enable the service to fully meet the contract requirements.
- 4.8. Regular and robust contract monitoring must take place to ensure that plans for the centre are being delivered, with key milestones achieved. The pandemic also caused significant disruption to contract monitoring activity; DCC continue to work on getting all monitoring back up to date, and returning to regular provision of performance monitoring information from Hafan Deg is a key action within their new action plan, which will be monitored closely.

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

- 5.1. The existing services at Hafan Deg already support corporate priorities around resilient and connected communities - and plans for development at the Centre will further enhance this.

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

- 6.1. The service continues to be delivered within the set contract costs.

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

- 7.1. Because of the impacts of Covid-19, the plans for expansion of services at the day centre have not yet been realised. The services offered by the centre are therefore not significantly materially different to those in place under the previous impact assessment (Appendix 1). It is recommended that the Wellbeing Impact Assessment is re-visited once key actions have been achieved in line with KL Care's action plan, and work has re-commenced in earnest towards expansion of activities at the Centre now that we are recovering from the pandemic's immediate impacts.

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

8.1. Not applicable

## **9. Chief Finance Officer Statement**

9.1. Not applicable

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

10.1. Continuing (and re-enforcing) quarterly monitoring will reduce risks as issues can be identified and addressed earlier, with DCC's support as needed.

## **11. Power to make the decision**

Section 21 of the Local Government Act 2000

Section 7 of the Council's Constitution

## Appendix 1

# Outsourcing of Hafan Deg

## 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:	291
Brief description:	Outsourcing the building and day care service at Hafan Deg to an independent Provider on a 25 year lease. The Provider will provide an innovative day service to people of Rhyl and surrounding area.
Date Completed:	15/09/2017 10:43:26 Version: 2
Completed by:	Emily Jones-Davies
Responsible Service:	Community Support Services
Localities affected by the proposal:	Rhyl,

# IMPACT ASSESSMENT SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

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

## Score for the sustainability of the approach

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

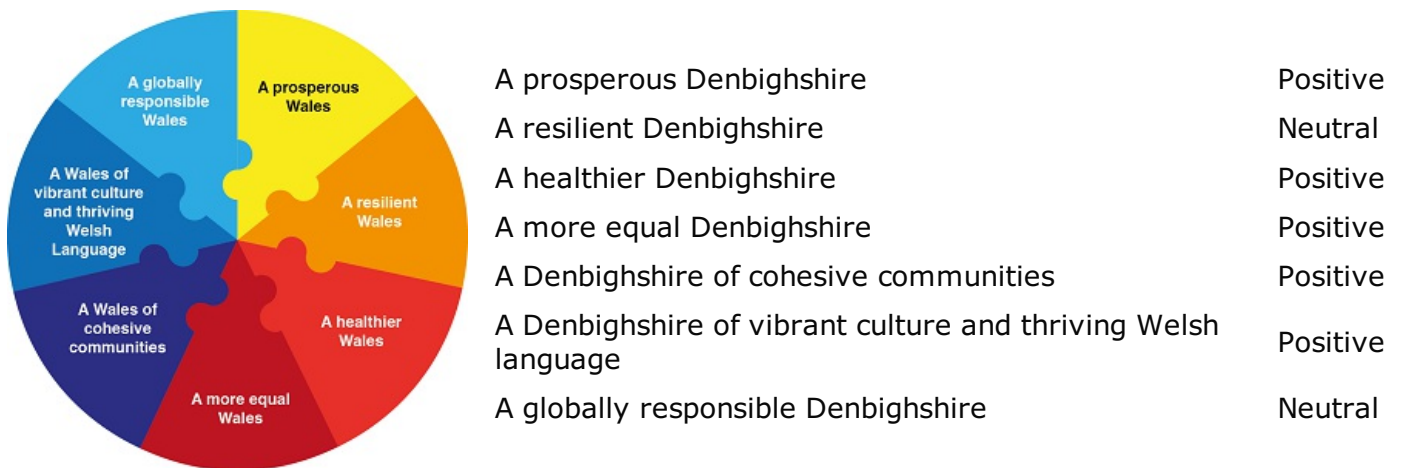


(3 out of 4 stars)

Actual score : 22 / 24.

## Summary of impact

Wellbeing Goals



## Main conclusions

Overall, the service is going to have a positive effect on Denbighshire. The service is tailored towards providing a healthier Denbighshire, whilst providing on-going services to the local community. No further impact assessment is required.

# THE LIKELY IMPACT ON DENBIGHSHIRE, WALES AND THE WORLD

## A prosperous Denbighshire

Overall Impact	Positive
Justification for impact	This service is going to create access to the community for those people who would have otherwise struggled. It will become a community hub, a place for people to go for support, social interaction and stimulation. The increase of people into the area on a regular basis will benefit Denbighshire.

### Positive consequences identified:

This service will enhance the Rhyl and surrounding areas by bringing people together, creating roles and responsibilities for people attending, whilst creating a hub for the local area to access different activities.

Opportunity to increase Jobs within the centre as the service is developed

A major part of this service is to support people to maintain daily living skills and support them to find new skills and abilities.

The project will look at how transport for the citizens can be provided in different ways, making people more independent and sourcing out their own methods of transport and mobility.

### Unintended negative consequences identified:

Minimal service being transferred over means potential reduction in hours or loss of jobs the timescales to do this will be over a long period of time.

1 bus will be lost in the tender process

### Mitigating actions:

Monitor the service closely to see whether the upskilling of people can be carried out any quicker. Offer the provider the choice of taking a bus as part of the tender.

## A resilient Denbighshire

Overall Impact	Neutral
Justification for impact	The service is currently underused. The idea of the tender is to increase people coming to the centre independently and with support. Therefore, there will be an increase in traffic to and from the service because the transport previously supplied is no longer viable. Waste and recycling will increase, however, there are already suitable arrangements in place to collect this, and as it is currently underused there should be minimal impact

### Positive consequences identified:

This will have no impact

The building will remain the same.

This will reduce. currently the centre runs two buses for transport. This has been reduced to 1 in anticipation of the tender, and the option for the Provider has been given to find their own methods of transportation.

Hafan Deg acts as an emergency back up centre for such an occasion.

**Unintended negative consequences identified:**

Possible increase in traffic to and from the centre during drop off and pick up times at the centre as the centre useage increases there may be an increase in recycling / waste, but this will be minimal.

**Mitigating actions:**

Close monitoring of the service.

**A healthier Denbighshire**

Overall Impact	Positive
Justification for impact	The service is focused on preventing isolation and encouraging participation to increase wellbeing. Therefore there are no negative impacts.

**Positive consequences identified:**

The project main objective is to provide a social environment to prevent isolation and promote well-being.

Fitted kitchen will be used to full potential for the community. Currently under used.

The day service aims to increase leisure opportunities for those attending the service. These will depend on peoples wants and interests and what support is available for participation

This is a key element of the service. The main goal of the service is to reduce isolation and increase people's well being to support them to remain within their community for longer.

The service will offer signposting to other organisations including health.

**Unintended negative consequences identified:**

**Mitigating actions:**

Monitor closely

**A more equal Denbighshire**

Overall Impact	Positive
Justification for impact	The service objective is to provide support to people over the age of 65 or with a disability. The service will offer a signposting service and support to help people manage their financial situation, deal with poverty issues and benefit entitlement.

**Positive consequences identified:**

The service is aimed for people over the age of 65 or those with a disability. The centre will become a Hub for people to drop in and use the services as they wish. It will encompass people from all backgrounds and diversities.

Those people using the centre will be assessed through the new care act to ensure that they have enough money, benefits etc. Also the centre will continuously work with people to support them to



mange this ongoing.

**Unintended negative consequences identified:**

**Mitigating actions:**

Monitor that the signposting service is working correctly.

**A Denbighshire of cohesive communities**

Overall Impact	Positive
Justification for impact	

**Positive consequences identified:**

Safeguarding of vulnerable adults is key and will be monitored through the contract. The service objectives are to increase volunteering within the community, increase involvement with the local community and support people to engage more within their local community. The location is idea for this type of service. The building forms part of a social housing site close to the main town of Rhyl. It has good road links and bus links for easy access.

**Unintended negative consequences identified:**

**Mitigating actions:**

Monitor the contract and ensure training of staff is current.

**A Denbighshire of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language**

Overall Impact	Positive
Justification for impact	Welsh Language is essential in this service for those people to receive services in the language they wish. It will be a clause within the contract.

**Positive consequences identified:**

The service will be offered bilingually when ever possible. Bilingual signage will be used at the centre, and welsh Language courses will be available to staff through Denbighshire. Links with the community, eisteddfod, etc will be encouraged as part of the service within the spec.

**Unintended negative consequences identified:**

**Mitigating actions:**

Monitor the contract.

**A globally responsible Denbighshire**

Overall Impact	Neutral
Justification for impact	TUPE process is law. Denbighshire have to abide by it, therefore there is no positive or negative impact.

**Positive consequences identified:**

The staff will undergo TUPE transfer in accordance with the guidance. All details will be met. The contract states that all policies and procedures relating to human rights, employment, H&S must be current and reviewed at least annually.

**Unintended negative consequences identified:**

**Mitigating actions:**

Work with HR and pensions to make the move go as smoothly as possible.

<b>Report to</b>	<b>Performance Scrutiny Committee</b>
<b>Date of meeting</b>	<b>29 September 2022</b>
<b>Lead Officer</b>	<b>Rhian Evans, Scrutiny Co-ordinator</b>
<b>Report author</b>	<b>Rhian Evans, Scrutiny Co-ordinator</b>
<b>Title</b>	<b>Scrutiny Work Programme</b>

## **1. What is the report about?**

The report seeks Performance Scrutiny Committee to review its draft forward work programme (see Appendix 1). As part of its review the Committee is asked to reflect on the implications of the focus on business critical operations during the emergency phase of the COVID -19 pandemic and the work underway under the recovery phase, whilst also prioritising matters which the Committee deems important to scrutinise.

## **2. What is the reason for making this report?**

To seek the Committee to review and agree on its programme of future work, and to update members on relevant issues.

## **3. What are the Recommendations?**

That the Committee

- 3.1 considers the information provided and approves, revises or amends its forward work programme as it deems appropriate; and
- 3.2 determines whether any key messages or themes from the current meeting should be publicised via the press and/or social media.

## 4. Report details

- 4.1 Section 7 of Denbighshire County Council's Constitution sets out each Scrutiny Committee's terms of reference, functions and membership, as well as the rules of procedure and debate.
- 4.2 The Constitution stipulates that the Council's scrutiny committees must set, and regularly review, a programme for their future work. By reviewing and prioritising issues, members are able to ensure that the work programme delivers a member-led agenda.
- 4.3 For a number of years it has been an adopted practice in Denbighshire for scrutiny committees to limit the number of reports considered at any one meeting to a maximum of four plus the Committee's own work programme report. The aim of this approach is to facilitate detailed and effective debate on each topic.
- 4.4 In recent years the Welsh Government (WG) and Audit Wales (AW) have highlighted the need to strengthen scrutiny's role across local government and public services in Wales, including utilising scrutiny as a means of engaging with residents and service-users. From now on scrutiny will be expected to engage better and more frequently with the public with a view to securing better decisions which ultimately lead to better outcomes for citizens. AW will measure scrutiny's effectiveness in fulfilling these expectations.
- 4.5 Having regard to the national vision for scrutiny whilst at the same time focussing on local priorities, the Scrutiny Chairs and Vice-Chairs Group (SCVCG) recommended that the Council's scrutiny committees should, when deciding on their work programmes, focus on the following key areas:
- budget savings;
  - achievement of the Corporate Plan objectives (with particular emphasis on their deliverability during a period of financial austerity);
  - any other items agreed by the Scrutiny Committee (or the SCVCG) as high priority (based on the PAPER test criteria – see reverse side of the 'Member Proposal Form' at Appendix 2);

- Urgent, unforeseen or high priority issues; and
- Supporting the Council's recovery work in relation to the effects of the COVID-19 crisis on Council services, the local economy and the county's communities

#### 4.6 Scrutiny Proposal Forms

As mentioned in paragraph 4.2 above the Council's Constitution requires scrutiny committees to prepare and keep under review a programme for their future work. To assist the process of prioritising reports, if officers are of the view that a subject merits time for discussion on Scrutiny's business agenda they have to submit a formal request to the SCVCG seeking Scrutiny to consider a report on that topic. This is done via the submission of a 'proposal form' which clarifies the purpose, importance and potential outcomes of suggested subjects.

- 4.7 With a view to making better use of scrutiny's time by focussing committees' resources on detailed examination of subjects, adding value through the decision-making process and securing better outcomes for residents, the SCVCG decided that members, as well as officers, should complete 'scrutiny proposal forms' outlining the reasons why they think a particular subject would benefit from scrutiny's input. A copy of the 'member's proposal form' can be seen at Appendix 2. The reverse side of this form contains a flowchart listing questions which members should consider when proposing an item for scrutiny, and which committees should ask when determining a topic's suitability for inclusion on a scrutiny forward work programme. If, having followed this process, a topic is not deemed suitable for formal examination by a scrutiny committee, alternative channels for sharing the information or examining the matter can be considered e.g. the provision of an 'information report', or if the matter is of a very local nature examination by the relevant Member Area Group (MAG). No items should be included on a forward work programme without a 'scrutiny proposal form' being completed and accepted for inclusion by the Committee or the SCVCG. Assistance with their completion is available from the Scrutiny Co-ordinator.

#### Learner Travel Measure (Wales)

- 4.8 A report outlining the conclusions of a Welsh Government consultation on the above and their potential implications for the county's school pupils was originally

scheduled for presentation to the Committee at the current meeting. As the outcomes of the Government's review are still awaited the report's presentation has been rescheduled for March 2023 (see Appendix 1). Once the outcome is known, the Authority can then assess the implications, model potential cost/budget changes and report to Scrutiny.

#### Denbighshire's Housing and Homelessness Strategy Action Plan

- 4.9 A progress report on the delivery of this action plan was scheduled for presentation to the Committee at its next meeting on 24 November. However, in response to a request received from the Service that the report's presentation be deferred until an in depth thematic review of the Strategy and action plan had been concluded by the Strategic Housing & Homelessness Group, the Chair agreed to defer its presentation until March 2023 (see Appendix 1).

#### Cabinet Forward Work Programme

- 4.10 When determining their programme of future work it is useful for scrutiny committees to have regard to Cabinet's scheduled programme of work. For this purpose, a copy of the Cabinet's forward work programme is attached at Appendix 3.

#### Progress on Committee Resolutions

- 4.11 A table summarising recent Committee resolutions and advising members on progress with their implementation is attached at Appendix 4 to this report.

### **Scrutiny Chairs and Vice-Chairs Group**

- 5.1 Under the Council's scrutiny arrangements, the Scrutiny Chairs and Vice-Chairs Group (SCVCG) performs the role of a coordinating committee. The Group held its first meeting of the new Council term on 28 July 2022 and its subsequent meeting on 8 September.
- 5.2 A number of requests for items to be scrutinised were considered by the Group during both above meetings. Following consideration of the requests the Group have asked this Committee to discuss the Council's response to the recent Estyn inspection findings of Christ the Word School, Rhyl at its next meeting on 24 November (see Appendix 1).

5.3 The Group's next meeting is scheduled for the afternoon of 24 November 2022.

## **6. How does the decision contribute to the Corporate Priorities?**

Effective scrutiny will assist the Council to deliver its corporate priorities in line with community needs and residents' wishes. Continual development and review of a coordinated work programme will assist the Council to deliver its corporate priorities, improve outcomes for residents whilst also managing austere budget and resource pressures.

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

Services may need to allocate officer time to assist the Committee with the activities identified in the forward work programme, and with any actions that may result following consideration of those items.

## **8. What are the main conclusions of the Well-being Impact Assessment?**

A Well-being Impact Assessment has not been undertaken in relation to the purpose or contents of this report. However, Scrutiny's through it work in examining service delivery, policies, procedures and proposals will consider their impact or potential impact on the sustainable development principle and the well-being goals stipulated in the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.

## **9. What consultations have been carried out with Scrutiny and others?**

None required for this report. However, the report itself and the consideration of the forward work programme represent a consultation process with the Committee with respect to its programme of future work.

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

No risks have been identified with respect to the consideration of the Committee's forward work programme. However, by regularly reviewing its forward work programme the Committee can ensure that areas of risk are considered and examined as and when they are identified, and recommendations are made with a view to addressing those risks.

## **11. Power to make the decision**

11.1 Section 21 of the Local Government Act 2000.

11.2 Section 7.11 of the Council's Constitution stipulates that scrutiny committees and/or the Scrutiny Chairs and Vice-Chairs Group will be responsible for setting their own work programmes, taking into account the wishes of Members of the Committee who are not members of the largest political group on the Council.

### **Contact Officer:**

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Note: Any items entered in italics have not been approved for inclusion at the meeting shown by the Committee. Such reports are listed here for information, pending formal approval.

Meeting	Lead Member(s)	Item (description / title)	Purpose of report	Expected Outcomes	Author	Date Entered
24 November	<b>Cllr. Gill German</b>	1. <i>Christ The Word – Response to Estyn Inspection</i>  <b>[Education]</b>	<i>To present the local education authority's response/action plan following the 2022 Estyn inspection of the school</i>	<i>Determination of regular monitoring arrangements for the agreed actions to address the recommendations contained in the Regulator's report, with a view to:</i> <i>(i) securing continual improvement in all aspects of the school's work to ensure that all pupils are supported to achieve their full potential; and</i> <i>(ii) ensuring that the lessons learnt by all stakeholders are applied across all schools in Denbighshire as they introduce the new curriculum.</i>	<i>Nicola Stubbins/Geraint Davies</i>	<i>By SCVCG Sept 2022</i>
	<b>Cllr. Gwyneth Ellis</b>	2. <i>Council Performance Update (July – Sept)</i>	<i>To present details of the Council's performance in delivering against the Council's strategic plan and services</i>	<i>Identification of areas for improvement and potential future scrutiny</i>	<i>Iolo McGregor</i>	<i>December 2021</i>
	<b>Cllr. Gwyneth Ellis</b>	3. <i>Corporate Risk Register (Sept Review)</i>	<i>To consider the latest version of the Council's Corporate Risk Register and risk appetite statement</i>	<i>Effective monitoring and management of identified risk to reduce risks to residents and the Authority</i>	<i>Iolo McGregor/Emma Horan</i>	<i>December 2021</i>
	<b>Cllrs. Elen Heaton &amp; Julie Matthews</b>	4. <i>Cefndy Healthcare &amp; Options Appraisal for future business delivery</i>	<i>To consider an options appraisal for future delivery of the company's business</i>	<i>Formulate recommendations in relation to a future business model that will support the delivery of the</i>	<i>Ann Lloyd/Nick Bowles</i>	<i>October 2021</i>

Meeting	Lead Member(s)	Item (description / title)	Purpose of report	Expected Outcomes	Author	Date Entered
				Council's priority relating to Resilient Communities		
26 January 2023	<b>Cllr. Emrys Wynne</b>	1. Library Service Standards 2021-22	To consider the results of the WG's annual evaluation of the Council's Library Service and receive information on how the Service has progressed and adapted its service provision during the year	Identification of any slippages in performance in order to formulate recommendations to redress the situation and ensure that the Service delivers the Council's Corporate Plan and its priorities in relation to Young People, Resilient and Connected Communities	<i>Liz Grieve/Bethan Hughes</i>	January 2022
16 March	<b>Cllr. Gill German</b>	1. <i>Learner Travel Measure (Wales)</i> <b>[Education]</b>	<i>To outline the conclusions of the recent Welsh Government consultation on the Measure and its implications for Denbighshire schools and pupils</i>	<i>Identification of potential changes to the Council's learner travel policy and any associated costs and budget implications</i>	<i>Geraint Davies/Ian Land</i>	January 2021 (rescheduled Sept 2022)
	<b>Cllr. Rhys Thomas</b>	2. Denbighshire's Housing and Homelessness Strategy Action Plan	To examine the progress made to date in delivering the revised Strategy and Action Plan approved by County Council in December 2020	The identification of actions that will support and ensure the delivery of the Council's Corporate Priorities relating to Housing, Environment, Young People and Resilient Communities and ultimately the Corporate Plan	Emlyn Jones/ Angela Loftus/Jane Abbott	January 2022 (rescheduled Sept 2022)
27 April						
8 June						
20 July	<b>Cllr. Gill German</b>	1. Curriculum for Wales <b>[Education]</b>	To detail the progress made in relation to the implementation of the new Curriculum for Wales:	Assurances that all educational establishments and staff are fully equipped and trained to deliver the	Geraint Davies/James Brown/GwE	July 2022

Meeting	Lead Member(s)	Item (description / title)		Purpose of report	Expected Outcomes	Author	Date Entered
				(i) in primary schools – what worked well, areas for improvement and lessons learnt by all stakeholders during the initial implementation phase; (ii) in secondary schools – the lessons learnt during the implementation phase at the high school that commenced rolling out the new curriculum from September 2022 and the support provided by the local education authority and GwE to schools, education staff and governing bodies in readiness for the delivery of the new curriculum in secondary schools from September 2023	new curriculum, identification of any gaps or risks associated with the provision and solutions to address them, ahead of its implementation with a view to ensuring that children and young people in Denbighshire realise their full potential in line with the Council’s Corporate Plan		
	<b>Cllr. Gill German</b>	2.	Additional Learning Needs (ALN) Transformation  <b>[Education]</b>	To examine the Council’s compliance with the statutory requirements of the Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal (Wales) Act 2018 and the effectiveness of the ‘ECLIPSE’ system in identifying, tracking, managing and supporting pupils identified as having ALNs	To reduce the risk of the Authority not complying with any of the requirements of the Act and to ensure that every pupil and student in the County is given the required support and opportunities to realise their full potential	Geraint Davies/Mari Gaskell/Joseph Earl	July 2022
	<b>Cllrs. Gill German &amp; Elen Heaton</b>	3.	Draft Director of Social Services Annual Report 2022/23	To scrutinise the content of the draft annual report to ensure it provides a fair and clear evaluation of performance and clearly articulates future plans	Identification of any specific performance issues which require further scrutiny by the committee in future	Nicola Stubbins/Ann Lloyd/Rhiain Morelle/David Soley	July 2022
28 September							

Meeting	Lead Member(s)	Item (description / title)	Purpose of report	Expected Outcomes	Author	Date Entered
30 November						

**Future Issues**

Item (description / title)	Purpose of report	Expected Outcomes	Author	Date Entered
<i>Dolwen Residential Care Home (tbc)</i>	<i>To consider the Task and Finish Group’s recommendations relating to the future provision of services at Dolwen Residential Care Home, Denbigh</i>	<i>Pre-decision scrutiny of the task and finish group’s findings and the formulation of recommendations for presentation to Cabinet with respect of the future provision of services at Dolwen with a view to ensuring that everyone is supported to live in homes that meet their needs and are able to live independent and resilient lives</i>	<i>Task and Finish Group/Phil Gilroy/Abbe Harvey</i>	<i>July 2018 (currently on-hold due to COVID-19)</i>
Post 16 provision at Rhyl College (suggested for scrutiny during service challenge)  Date tbc following the easing of COVID-19 restrictions	<i>To examine the post 16 provision at Rhyl College</i>	<i>The development of an effective working relationship between the College and the Council to secure the delivery of courses required to support the delivery of the North Wales Growth Deal and improve the future prospects of the area’s students</i>	Rhyl College (and invite Geraint Davies & John Evans – post 16 officer from DCC)	<i>By SCVCG July 2020</i>

Information/Consultation Reports

Date	Item (description / title)	Purpose of report	Author	Date Entered
<p><b>March &amp; September 2023</b></p> <p>[Information]</p>	<p><i>Council Performance Update Q1 &amp; Q3</i></p>	<p><i>To present details of the Council's performance in delivering against the Council's strategic plan and services</i></p>	<p>Iolo McGregor/Heidi Barton-Price</p>	<p>September 2018</p>
<p><b>Feb/May/Sept/November each year</b></p> <p>[Information]</p>	<p>Quarterly 'Your Voice' complaints performance to include social services complaints</p>	<p>To scrutinise Services' performance in complying with the Council's complaints and identify areas of poor performance with a view to the development of recommendations to address weaknesses. The report to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) a comprehensive explanation on why targets have not been met when dealing with specific complaints, reasons for non-compliance, and measures taken to rectify the failures and to ensure that future complaints will be dealt with within the specified timeframe;</li> <li>(ii) how services encourage feedback and use it to redesign or change the way they deliver services; and</li> <li>(iii) details of complaints which have been upheld or partially upheld and the lessons learnt from them.</li> </ul> <p>Report to include example(s) of complaints and compliment(s) received.</p> <p><b><i>Consideration of the information provided will assist the Committee to determine whether any issues merit detailed scrutiny</i></b></p>	<p>Kevin Roberts/Ann Lloyd</p>	<p>November 2018</p>
<p>Information Report <b>(June 2020 rescheduled to December 2022)</b></p>	<p>Housing Services – Review of the effectiveness of the new working model for Housing Officers and the development of new ways of working with residents from the lessons learnt through COVID-19</p>	<p>To review the effectiveness and impact of the new Housing Officer model in delivering personal advice and support to tenants, particularly those who reside in older people's schemes</p>	<p>Geoff Davies</p>	<p>March 2019 (rescheduled May 2019 &amp; then Jan &amp; Dec 2021 at officers</p>

				request due to COVID-19 pressures)
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**Note for officers – Committee Report Deadlines**

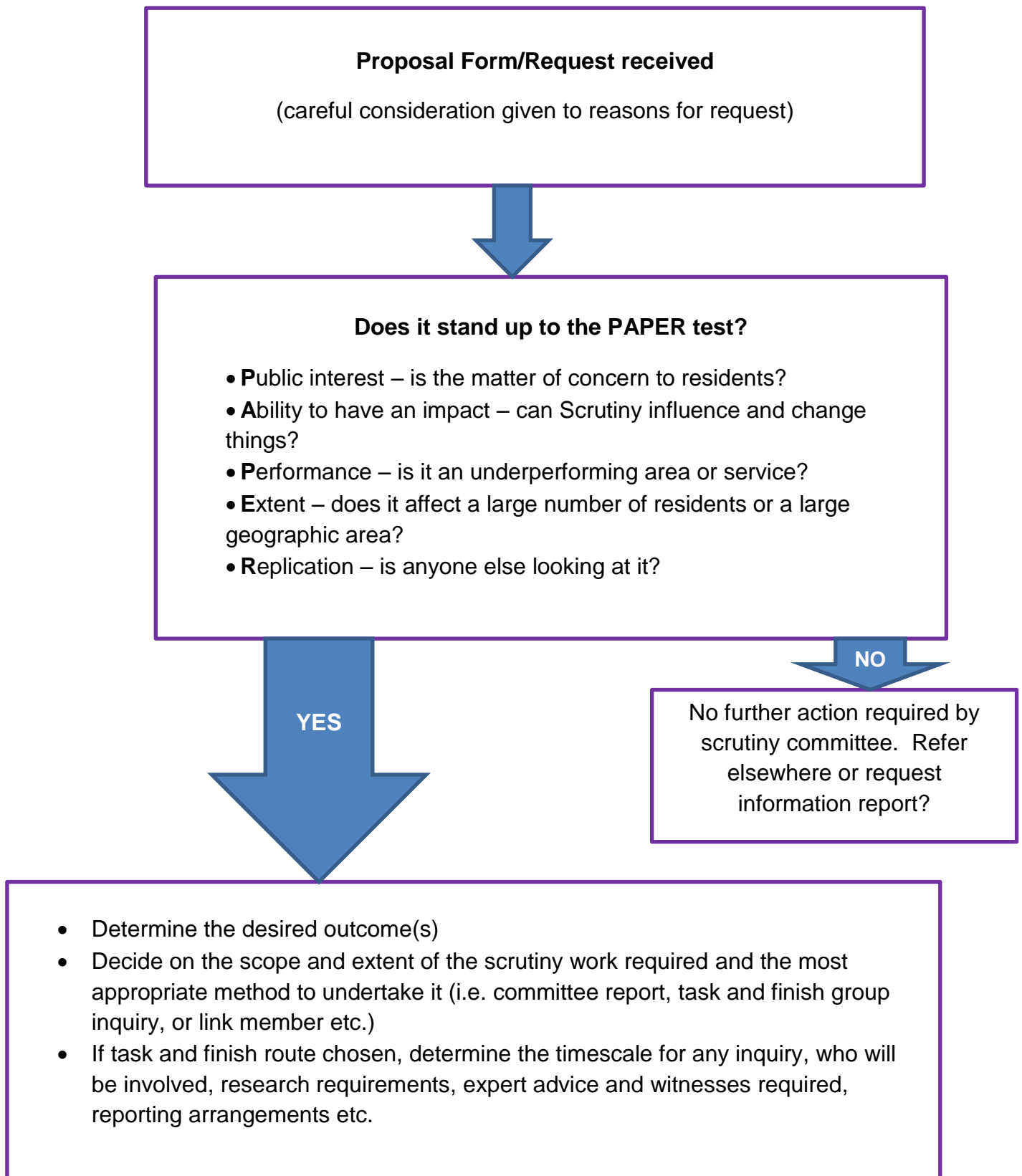
Meeting	Deadline	Meeting	Deadline	Meeting	Deadline
24 November	<b>10 November</b>	26 January 2023	<b>12 January 2023</b>	16 March	<b>2 March</b>

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Updated 15/09/2022 RhE

<b>Member Proposal Form for Scrutiny Forward Work Programme</b>	
<b>NAME OF SCRUTINY COMMITTEE</b>	
<b>TIMESCALE FOR CONSIDERATION</b>	
<b>TOPIC</b>	
<b>What needs to be scrutinised (and why)?</b>	
<b>Is the matter one of concern to residents/local businesses?</b>	<b>YES/NO</b>
<b>Can Scrutiny influence and change things?</b> (if 'yes' please state how you think scrutiny can influence or change things)	<b>YES/NO</b>
<b>Does the matter relate to an underperforming service or area?</b>	<b>YES/NO</b>
<b>Does the matter affect a large number of residents or a large geographical area of the County</b> (if 'yes' please give an indication of the size of the affected group or area)	<b>YES/NO</b>
<b>Is the matter linked to the Council's Corporate priorities</b> (if 'yes' please state which priority/priorities)	<b>YES/NO</b>
<b>To your knowledge is anyone else looking at this matter?</b> (If 'yes', please say who is looking at it)	<b>YES/NO</b>
<b>If the topic is accepted for scrutiny who would you want to invite to attend e.g. Lead Member, officers, external experts, service-users?</b>	
<b>Name of Councillor/Co-opted Member</b>	
<b>Date</b>	

## Consideration of a topic's suitability for scrutiny





## Cabinet Forward Work Plan

Meeting		Item (description / title)	Purpose of report	Cabinet Decision required (yes/no)	Author – Lead member and contact officer
<b>29 Sept</b>	1	Formation of a Nutrient Management Board to tackle phosphorus pollution in the “River Dee and Bala Lake” Special Area of Conservation	To provide an update on the proposal to create a Nutrient Management Board and agree member representation on the Board	Yes	Cllrs Win Mullen-James and Barry Mellor Lead Officer Angela Loftus Report Author Karsten Brußk
	2	Council Housing Major External Repairs – Decarbonisation Works Rhydwen Drive Phase 2	To award the contract for the continuation of the decarbonisation works along the street without losing continuity	Yes	Cllr Rhys Thomas Lead Officer David Lorey Report Author Katrina Allen
	3	Finance Report	To update Cabinet on the current financial position of the Council	Tbc	Cllr Gwyneth Ellis Lead Officer/Report Author Steve Gadd
	4	Items from Scrutiny Committees	To consider any issues raised by Scrutiny for Cabinet’s attention	Tbc	Lead Officer – Scrutiny Coordinator
<b>18 Oct</b>	1	Central Rhyl Coastal Defence Scheme and Central Prestatyn Coastal Defence Scheme	To seek endorsement to proceed with the schemes	Yes	Cllr Barry Mellor Lead Officer Tony Ward
	2	District Heating System Proposal Betws Gwerfil Goch	To present the outcome of the consultation and engagement exercise DCC have carried out with the	Tbc	Cllr Rhys Thomas Lead Officer David Lorey Report Author Mark Cassidy

## Cabinet Forward Work Plan

Meeting	Item (description / title)		Purpose of report	Cabinet Decision required (yes/no)	Author – Lead member and contact officer
			owner occupiers and council tenants of Betws GG, with regard to a district heating system proposal.		
	3	Review of Cabinet Decision relating to the Proposed Scheme of Delegated Decision Making for Land Acquisition (Freehold and Leasehold) for Carbon Sequestration and Ecological Improvement Purposes	To reconsider Cabinet's original decision, with a view to expediting the decision making process for purchasing land, taking into account the Scrutiny Committee's recommendations thereon	Yes	Cllr Barry Mellor Cllr Gwyneth Ellis Report Author Jane Hodgson
	4	Ysgol Plas Brondyffryn	To review the findings of the consultation and to consider the publishing of the statutory notice	Tbc	Cllr Gill German Geraint Davies / James Curran
	5	Annual Treasury Management Report 2021-22	To give a review of the Treasury Management activities over the previous financial year (2021-22)		Cllr Gill German Geraint Davies / James Curran
	6	Finance Report	To update Cabinet on the current financial position of the Council	Tbc	Cllr Gwyneth Ellis Lead Officer/Report Author Steve Gadd
	7	Items from Scrutiny Committees	To consider any issues raised by Scrutiny for	Tbc	Lead Officer – Scrutiny Coordinator

## Cabinet Forward Work Plan

Meeting	Item (description / title)		Purpose of report	Cabinet Decision required (yes/no)	Author – Lead member and contact officer
			Cabinet's attention		
<b>22 Nov</b>	1	Council Performance Update – July to September	To consider the Council's performance in delivering against the council's strategic plan and services	Tbc	Cllr Gwyneth Ellis Lead Officer Nicola Kneale Report Author Iolo McGregor
	2	Temporary Accommodation Support Project	To seek Cabinet approval to award the contract for the project	Yes	Cllr Rhys Thomas Lead Officer Ann Lloyd Report Author Hayley Jones
	3	Draft Sustainable Transport Plan	To seek Cabinet approval of the draft Sustainable Transport Plan for consultation	Yes	Cllr Barry Mellor Lead Officer/Report Author Mike Jones
	4	Implementation of Renting Homes (Wales) Act 2016 and the Introductory Tenancy Policy for council housing	To give an overview of new legislation and ask for a decision on ending the Use of Introductory Tenancies for new council tenants	Yes	Cllr Rhys Thomas Lead Officer Liz Grieve Report Author Geoff Davies
	5	Queen's Market: Operator Contract Award	Following the culmination of the procurement process to appoint an operator for the Queen's Market in Rhyl, approval is sought from Cabinet to award a contract to the preferred tenderer	Yes	Cllr Jason McLellan Lead Officer Emlyn Jones Report Author Russ Vaughan

## Cabinet Forward Work Plan

Meeting	Item (description / title)		Purpose of report	Cabinet Decision required (yes/no)	Author – Lead member and contact officer
	6	Finance Report	To update Cabinet on the current financial position of the Council	Tbc	Cllr Gwyneth Ellis Lead Officer/Report Author Steve Gadd
	7	Items from Scrutiny Committees	To consider any issues raised by Scrutiny for Cabinet's attention	Tbc	Lead Officer – Scrutiny Coordinator
<b>13 Dec</b>	1	Housing Rent Setting & Housing Revenue and Capital Budgets 2023/24	To seek approval for the proposed annual rent increase for council housing and to approve the Housing Revenue Account Capital and Revenue Budgets for 2023/24 and Housing Stock Business Plan	Yes	Cllr Gwyneth Ellis Lead Officer/Report Author Geoff Davies
	2	Ysgol Plas Brondyffryn	To consider the final OBC / FBC for the proposed new building for Ysgol Plas Brondyffryn	Tbc	Cllr Gill German Lead Officer Geraint Davies Report Author James Curran
	3	Finance Report	To update Cabinet on the current financial position of the Council	Tbc	Cllr Gwyneth Ellis Lead Officer/Report Author Steve Gadd
	4	Items from Scrutiny Committees	To consider any issues raised by Scrutiny for Cabinet's attention	Tbc	Lead Officer – Scrutiny Coordinator

## Cabinet Forward Work Plan

Note for officers – Cabinet Report Deadlines

<i>Meeting</i>	<b><i>Deadline</i></b>	<i>Meeting</i>	<b><i>Deadline</i></b>	<i>Meeting</i>	<b><i>Deadline</i></b>
<i>20 September</i>	<b><i>6 September</i></b>	<i>18 October</i>	<b><i>4 October</i></b>	<i>22 November</i>	<b><i>8 November</i></b>

Updated 20/09/2022 – KEJ

Cabinet Forward Work Programme.doc

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## Progress with Committee Resolutions

Date of Meeting	Item number and title	Resolution	Progress
14 July 2022	5. Curriculum for Wales	<p><b><u>Resolved:</u></b> <i>subject to the above observations to –</i></p> <p><i>(i) receive the information presented on the progress made to date with regards to the implementation of the Curriculum for Wales in Denbighshire schools; and</i></p> <p><i>(ii) request that a further report be presented in 12 months' time detailing the effectiveness of the Curriculum's implementation in the county's primary schools, including the lessons learnt during the implementation stage, and outlining the measures taken to prepare for the Curriculum's delivery across the County's secondary sector from September 2023.</i></p>	Lead Member and officers advised of the Committee's recommendations and a follow-up report has been scheduled into the Committee's forward work programme for its meeting in July 2023 (see Appendix 1)
	6. Additional Learning Needs (ALN) Transformation	<p><b><u>Resolved:</u></b> <i>subject to the above to –</i></p> <p><i>(i) receive the information provided on the progress made by Denbighshire to date to ensure that the local education authority and schools are in a position to meet their statutory requirements under the Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal (Wales) Act, 2018; and</i></p> <p><i>(ii) request that a further report be provided to the Committee in 12 months' time on the Council's compliance with the Act's requirements and on the effectiveness of the ECLIPSE system in identifying,</i></p>	Lead Member and officers informed of the Committee's recommendations. A follow-up report is scheduled for presentation to the Committee at its July 2023 meeting (see Appendix 1)

		<i>monitoring, managing and supporting pupils that have additional learning needs.</i>	
	<b>7. Social Care Market Stability Report</b>	<p><b><u>Resolved:</u></b></p> <p><i>(i) to recommend the approval of the North Wales Market Stability Report 2022 (Appendix 1); and</i></p> <p><i>(ii) to confirm that the Committee, as part of its consideration, had read, understood and taken account of the Equalities Impact Assessment (Appendix 2).</i></p>	Lead Members and officers informed of the Committee's recommendations. The report is scheduled for presentation to Cabinet at its September 2022 meeting.
	<b>8. Draft Director of Social Services Annual Report</b>	<p><b><u>Resolved:</u></b> - <i>subject to the above observations, to confirm that the Director of Social Services Annual Report for 2021-2022 provided a clear account of performance during the reporting year.</i></p>	Lead Members and officers advised of the Committee's recommendations. The Annual Report has since been published on the Council's website.