

To: Members of the Communities
Scrutiny Committee

Date: 13 January 2023

Direct Dial: 01824 712554

e-mail: democratic@denbighshire.gov.uk

Dear Councillor

You are invited to attend a meeting of the **COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE** to be held at **10.00 am** on **THURSDAY, 19 JANUARY 2023** in **COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNTY HALL, RUTHIN AND BY VIDEO CONFERENCE**.

Yours sincerely

G. Williams
Monitoring Officer

AGENDA

1 APOLOGIES

2 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS (Pages 3 - 4)

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 5 - 12)

To receive the minutes of the Communities Scrutiny Committee held on 08 December 2022 (copy enclosed).

5 REVIEW OF CABINET DECISION RELATING TO THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE REGIONAL FEE SETTING GROUP (Pages 13 - 40)

To consider a report by the Scrutiny Co-ordinator (copy attached) which seeks the Committee, in accordance with the Council's Call-In Procedure Rules, to review the decision taken by Cabinet on 13th December 2022 (copy attached).

10.10 – 11.00 a.m.

6 MISTREATMENT OF DOGS (Pages 41 - 52)

To consider a report by the Public Protection Business Manager, examining the extent of legal and illegal dog sales within Denbighshire (copy attached).

11.00 – 11.50 a.m.

7 SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME (Pages 53 - 72)

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.

11.50 – 12.05 p.m.

8 FEEDBACK FROM COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES

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

12.05 – 12.15 p.m.

MEMBERSHIP

Councillors

Councillor Huw Williams (Chair)

Michelle Blakeley-Walker

Pauline Edwards

James Elson

Martyn Hogg

Councillor Karen Anne Edwards (Vice-Chair)

Alan James

Delyth Jones

Merfyn Parry

Cheryl Williams

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All Councillors for information

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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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COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Minutes of a meeting of the Communities Scrutiny Committee held in Council Chamber, County Hall, Ruthin and by video conference on Thursday, 8 December 2022 at 10.00 am.

PRESENT

Councillors Michelle Blakeley-Walker, Karen Edwards (Vice-Chair), Pauline Edwards, James Elson, Alan James, Cheryl Williams and Huw Williams (Chair)

The Lead Member for Environment and Transport, Councillor Barry Mellor and the Lead Member for Health and Social Care, Councillor Elen Heaton were in attendance at the Committee's invitation.

Observers – Councillors Bobby Feeley, Huw Hilditch-Roberts, Peter Scott, Rhys Thomas, Andrea Tomlin and Mark Young.

ALSO PRESENT

Corporate Director: Economy and Environment (TW), Head of Planning, Public Protection and Countryside Services (EJ), Traffic, Parking and Road Safety Manager (MJ); Senior Engineer Road Safety and Sustainable Transport (BWJ), Scrutiny Coordinator (RhE); Committee administrators (SJ, NH and RhTJ)

Welsh Ambulance Services NHS Trust

Chief Executive (JK);

Director of Partnerships and Engagement (EH)

1 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Merfyn Parry.

2 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

No interests of a personal or a personal and prejudicial nature were declared in any of the matters under discussion at the meeting.

Prior to commencing the meeting's business, the Chair paid tribute to the late Councillor Brian Blakeley, a valued member of the Committee, who had passed away recently. In extending the Committee's condolences to his daughter Councillor Michelle Blakeley-Walker, also a member of the Committee, and the rest of the family he referred to Councillor Blakeley's devoted public service to the residents of Rhyl and of Denbighshire.

3 URGENT MATTERS AS AGREED BY THE CHAIR

No urgent matters had been raised with the Chair of the Committee prior to the meeting's commencement.

4 MINUTES

The minutes of the Communities Scrutiny Committee meeting held on 8 September 2022 were submitted. The Committee:

Resolved: that the minutes of the meeting held on 8 September 2022 be received and approved as true and correct record of the proceedings.

No matters were raised in relation to the contents of the minutes.

5 WELSH AMBULANCE SERVICE TRUST

The Chief Executive of the Welsh Ambulance Service NHS Trust (WAST), alongside the Director of Partnerships and Engagement of the Welsh Ambulance Services NHS Trust, provided members with a presentation highlighting matters relating to ambulance response times, including various emergency response data for callouts in Denbighshire.

During the presentation WAST representatives highlighted Emergency Medical Services Performance. It was only 'red calls' that had a set performance indicator (PI) target, which was that 69% of calls should be responded to within 8 to 10 minutes. The graph for this PI indicated that performance had generally declined since November 2020.

The Service's main aim was to ensure patient safety. With a view to securing patient safety in the face of increase demand on WAST's services a collaborative independent demand and capacity review, focussing on Amber level calls and patient safety concerns had been instigated. This review predicated on the level of hospital handover lost hours of 6,038 (December 2018), considered high at the time. By October 2022, the Trust lost 28,937 hours due to waiting for hospital handover - 36% of its capacity or 65 shifts a day. This situation was likely to worsen in the winter significantly. It was emphasised that the concern about patient demand data was not the fundamental issue concerning patient safety; the fundamental problem was capacity, particularly the number of hours lost waiting to handover patients at hospitals and to a lesser extent sickness absence levels amongst WAST personnel.

In October-22, due to a number of factors e.g. sickness absence, CoVID-19, annual leave, training etc. the number of staff available on WAST rosters was down 40%. The roster review used a benchmark of 30%. Pre-CoVID-19 WAST had started to deliver the 30% benchmark. Unfortunately, although sickness absence was coming down training commitments were high currently due to internal movements linked to recruitment and this had an adverse effect on roster availability.

In relation to data on National Reportable Incidents (NRI) (avoidable deaths/serious avoidable harm) WAST was considered a "high reporting" organisation. This was regarded as a good approach because it meant a culture of openness and transparency, an essential aspect of a patient safety culture. WAST referred patient safety incidents to health boards where the primary cause was considered to be

hospital handover lost hours. It was a health board responsibility to review and report these incidents, where appropriate, as NRIs.

An independent strategic review had been undertaken by Operational Research in Health on behalf of the Emergency Ambulance Services Committee (EASC). EASC was made up of the seven health boards, which have a responsibility for commissioning ambulances. The basis of the Review was Amber patient incidents (serious, but not immediately life-threatening). This represented the largest patient incident category accounting for 70% of patient incidents, compared to Red (immediately life-threatening) which accounts for 10% of patient incidents. It was felt that Amber waiting times were too long, and there was some concern about the number of serious adverse incidents for patients (SAls) in the Amber category.

The findings of this Review identified that the WAST had a gap between the number of full-time equivalent (FTE) staff budgeted to fill its Response rosters and the FTEs required to fill the rosters of 263 FTEs. As a result of this review EASC agreed to invest in WAST and close this gap, known as the “relief gap”. Consequently, WAST delivered an uplift in FTEs of 136 FTEs in 2020/21 and was on target to deliver a further uplift of 127 FTEs in 2021/22, which would close the “relief gap”. This has been achieved despite the pandemic.

The Response Roster Review had twin objectives:

- 1) to improve patient safety (by delivering rosters aligned to patient demand); and
- 2) to improve staff well-being (by delivering good workable shift patterns).

There had been a high level of engagement with the Review and positive feedback received in relation to the approach taken.

In addition, the Review had identified a range of efficiencies for WAST, particularly re-rostering ambulance resources around the daily patient demand pattern. Re-rostering would see the introduction of Cymru High Acuity Response Unit (CHARUs) and more emergency ambulances. The CHARUs would focus on resuscitation (clinical outcomes) and emergency ambulances on the Amber 1 tail (patient safety). Re-rostering was complex and emotive area of work, but the new Rosters were currently going live.

The CHARUs would be replacing the RRV as WAST’s rapid response vehicle. CHARU would provide increased clinical skills and leadership in responding to very high acuity calls. Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board (BCUHB) would see less rapid response resources, as WAST increased the number of emergency ambulances available.

Responding to Members’ questions WAST officials –

- advised that as a direct result of the EMS Roster Review 263 more personnel had been recruited nationally, 73 of whom were located within the BCUHB area
- agreed to facilitate discussions between senior officials of Denbighshire County Council and WAST to explore potential options for enhancing local authority and Third Sector links that could help support the Ambulance

Service, as well as utilising Denbighshire's communications platforms to share messages and to promote the use of volunteers in local communities to lessen the strain on the ambulance services.

- advised that co-working between the fire and rescue and ambulance services did take place, but to various degrees across Wales' three Fire and Rescue Service areas. In some FRS areas a co-responders service existed. Officers clarified the matter was the subject of industrial negotiations, and was continually kept under review.
- confirmed that local defibrillators were crucial to saving lives from cardiac arrests. They were easy to use, would not cause any harm to a patient experiencing a cardiac arrest, and WAST were in possession of up to date location maps of all registered defibrillators and could direct emergency callers to the nearest one for use whilst waiting for an ambulance/RRV.
- stated that in their view the amalgamation of WAST with the Health Board would not provide a solution to the extended hand-over period for patients from the Ambulance Service to hospitals. The issue was the lack of flow of patients from health service settings to social care establishments or back to their own homes. This problem was not unique to North Wales, it was happening across Wales, the UK and internationally.
- advised that the use of ambulances as 'extensions' to Emergency Departments was not good for either the patient or the Ambulance Service. They were undignified places for patients to be waiting for a long time, and until WAST personnel could handover their patients to hospital staff a valuable ambulance resource was tied-up and unavailable to attend another emergency elsewhere.
- outlined the three different types of ambulance services provided by WAST – the emergency 999 ambulances, urgent care ambulances (for conveying less serious cases to hospital) and the non-emergency patient transport (used for conveying people to and from hospital appointments and home from hospital). Whilst WAST did utilise ambulance services provided by charities, such as the Red Cross and St. John's Ambulance, along with private ambulances at times, it could not however be over reliant on the voluntary sector.
- confirmed that first responders did visit people in their homes to assess if an emergency vehicle was required in order to reduce the pressure on ambulance services. WAST now employed a vast range of medical staff such as advanced paramedic practitioners, pharmacists, occupational therapists etc. and dependent upon the nature of the ailment these personnel may be able to deal with the medical emergency without the need to convey to hospital. This in turn would help relieve the pressure on the 999 emergency ambulances.

At the conclusion of an in-depth discussion, the Committee thanked the officers for their presentation, and all WAST personnel for their hard work and efforts which, they carried out under extremely difficult conditions at times. It:

Resolved: subject to the observations made –

- (i) to receive the presentation and information provided by the Welsh Ambulance Services NHS Trust (WAST), and acknowledge the**

- measures being developed and implemented in a bid to respond and effectively manage emergency call-outs going forward;*
- (ii) having regard to the pressures currently experienced by WAST that the Corporate Director: Environment and Economy convene a discussion between senior officials of Denbighshire County Council and WAST with a view to exploring potential options for enhancing local authority and Third Sector links that could possibly help support the Ambulance Service to focus its resources on dealing with emergency calls; and*
- (iii) recommend that links be established with the Council's Communications and Marketing Service with a view to facilitating the sharing of WAST public information messages with residents via the Council's communications channels and social media platforms.*

6 INTRODUCTION OF 20MPH SPEED LIMIT ON THE COUNTY'S ROAD NETWORK

The Lead Member for Environment and Transport, Councillor Barry Mellor, alongside the Head of Planning, Public Protection and Countryside Services, the Traffic, Parking and Road Safety Manager (TPRSM) and the Senior Engineer Road Safety and Sustainable Transport (SERSST) introduced the Introduction of 20 mph Speed Limit on the County's Road Network report (previously circulated).

The report aimed to explain the background to the forthcoming 20 mph limit in towns and villages across Wales, including the Welsh Government's criteria for identifying exceptions to the default speed limit. The report also provided an overview of the tasks that the Council was required to undertake in preparation for the introduction of the default speed limit on 17 September 2023.

The TPRSM provided some background to the new policy advising that in 2020 the Welsh Government (WG) accepted all 21 of the recommendations made in a report by a Task Force it had commissioned to look at the case for making 20 mph the default speed limit in towns and villages across Wales. In July 2022, the Senedd passed the main Statutory Instrument to amend Section 81 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1988 as it applied to Wales so that 20 mph will become the mandatory speed limit for 'restricted roads'. 'Restricted Roads' being roads that have street lights. This legislative change will come into force on the 17th of September, 2023.

The TPRSM informed the Committee that the WG had developed exception criteria to the default 20mph limit based on the likelihood of "significant numbers of pedestrians and cyclists travelling along or across the road". To help local authorities make this assessment, it had also developed the following "place criteria":

- (i) Was the road within 100 metres of a school or other educational establishment?
- (ii) Was the road within 100 metres of a community centre?
- (iii) Was the road within 100 metres of a hospital?

- (iv) Did residential or retail properties front the road and exceed 20 properties per kilometre of the road (i.e. five or more properties every 250 metres of the road)

The TPRSM then outlined the list of proposed exceptions to the default 20 mph speed limit in Denbighshire, as listed in Appendix C to the report.

During the ensuing discussion:

- the Committee queried whether the 20mph limit would have to be introduced in Denbighshire, as some members had experience of the trial areas in the Buckley area and were concerned about the impacts the implementation could have. The TPRSM clarified that the change was a legislative change by the WG which Denbighshire was obliged to implement. As a result of this legislative change almost all of the current 30mph roads in DCC required to be changed to 20mph. The TPRSM stated there would be a significant cost implication if the work was not carried out, as all exemptions agreed post the new default limit's introduction would require to be funded by the local authority, whilst work relating to the default speed limit's introduction was funded by WG. The Committee was advised that the objective of the new default speed limit's implementation was to reduce collisions and serious injuries. Data highlighted that by reducing speed collisions would be reduced.
- Officers clarified that policing and enforcement relating to the default speed limit would remain a Police matter when the changes were implemented.
- the Committee queried what consultation had been carried out in relation to the proposed changes to the speed limit, especially with city, town and community councils. The TPRSM informed the Committee that as the change related to national WG policy, any consultation would have been undertaken by the WG not by local authorities. Although there were plans in place nationally to run a public information publicity campaign in early 2023 to draw people's attention to the changes coming into force in September 2023.
- it was confirmed that Denbighshire already collated data relating to road traffic accidents and speeds on local roads, this work would continue post the introduction of the new default speed limit.
- Some committee members felt the timing of the proposed changes were unfortunate, particularly given the cost implications during a 'cost of living crisis'. It was felt that the money could be spent better elsewhere. Officers advised that all costs associated with the introduction of the default speed limit were being met by WG through grant funding.
- Officers clarified to members that play areas would be included in the 'place criteria' element of the changes, and therefore 20mph limits would apply.
- The Committee agreed that it would be beneficial that the introduction of the 20mph speed limits be discussed at each Member Area Group (MAG) to allow members to discuss the issue on a local level and also to inform officers of potential other exemptions which may need to be included to the current list of proposed exemptions.
- The Committee was concerned about the potential economic impact the introduction of the default speed limit would have throughout Wales, as it would increase delivery times and reduce profit margins across the national

economy. Consequently, they enquired if a local or national economic impact assessment had been undertaken. Officers advised that as this was a national change it would have been the WG that would have initiated any economic impact assessment.

- Officers advised that traffic calming measures, such as speed humps, would continue to be considered and utilised where necessary based on road traffic accident data, as such measures were costly to implement.

Following a comprehensive discussion, the Committee –

Resolved:

- (i) subject to the observations made during the discussion and to Member Area Groups (MAGs) being consulted on the exemptions to the default 20 mile per hour speed limit in their area, to receive the contents of the report and appendices; and***
- (ii) that the Council's Economic and Business Development Service be requested to contact the Welsh Government to request a copy of the Economic Impact Assessment undertaken by them in relation to the economic consequences of the proposed implementation of the 20 mile per hour default speed limit in Denbighshire.***

7 SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME

The Scrutiny Coordinator introduced the report (previously circulated) seeking members' review of the Committee's work programme and providing an update on relevant issues.

Discussion focussed on the following: –

- The Mistreatment of Dogs report would be submitted to the Committee for consideration at its meeting on the 19th January. No other items were currently scheduled for presentation.
- for the 9th March meeting two substantial items were currently listed for discussion.

The Committee:

Resolved: to receive the report and confirm the Committee's forward work programme as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report.

8 FEEDBACK FROM COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES

None.

Meeting concluded at 12.35pm.

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Report to	Communities Scrutiny Committee
Date of meeting	19 January 2023
Head of Service	Lisa Jones, Interim Head of Legal and Democratic Services
Report author	Rhian Evans, Scrutiny Co-ordinator
Title	Review of Cabinet Decision relating to the Recommendation of the Regional Fee Setting Group

1. What is the report about?

- 1.1 A review under the Council's Scrutiny 'call-in' procedure of a decision taken by Cabinet, on 13th December 2022, on the 'Recommendation of the Regional Fee Setting Group'.

2. What is the reason for making this report?

- 2.1 A notice of a 'call-in' was submitted by 5 non-Cabinet councillors in accordance with the Council's Constitution. The notice (attached at Annex A) calls for a review by one of the Council's Scrutiny committees into a decision taken by Cabinet on 13th December 2022 in relation to the recommendation of the regional fee setting group.

3. What are the Recommendations?

That the Committee:

- 3.1 having considered the information in this report and its appendices, along with the representations made during the course of the discussion, determines whether to refer the decision on the 'Recommendation of the Regional Fee Setting Group', taken on the 13th December 2022, back to Cabinet for further consideration; and

- 3.2 if it requests Cabinet to reconsider its original decision clearly identifies the reasons its seeks the review and formulates recommendation(s) it would like Cabinet to consider.

4. Report details

- 4.1 On the 13th December 2022 Cabinet considered a report on the 'Recommendation of the Regional Fee Setting Group' (copy attached at Annex B). *Annex B is exempt from publication by virtue of paragraph 14 of Part 4 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.*
- 4.2 At the conclusion of its discussion Cabinet resolved:
"that Cabinet accept all the recommendations of the Fees Group as set out within the report."
- 4.3 The Council's 'call-in' procedure defines a process for Scrutiny to exercise its statutory powers to review or scrutinise executive decisions, and to request that the decision-maker reconsiders a decision that has been taken, prior to it being implemented.
- 4.4 Cabinet's decision was published on the 15th December 2022. The 'call-in' procedure allows non-Cabinet councillors 5 working days in which to submit a notice of 'call-in'. Councillor Merfyn Parry submitted a notice of 'call-in' electronically on 19th December 2022. This request was supported (via individual e-mails) by four other non-Cabinet councillors, namely Councillors Mark Young, Chris Evans, Huw Hilditch-Roberts and Bobby Feeley.
- 4.5 The reason stated for 'calling-in' the decision is as follows:
"To request that Cabinet reconsiders its decision of 13 December 2022 to accept the recommendations of the Fees Group given that both Gwynedd and Ynys Môn are recommending to pay care providers considerably more with a view to ensuring the future sustainability of the social care sector in their areas."
- 4.6 The Council's 'call-in' procedure does stipulate that a special meeting of a scrutiny committee should be convened within 5 working days of the receipt of the Notice of Call-In of Decision unless a scrutiny committee has a scheduled

meeting within that period. The procedure also states that this timeline can be extended if both the decision-maker and the chair of the scrutiny committee agree to an extension. As the decision did not require urgent implementation an extension to the timeline was agreed to enable the decision to be considered at the next available scrutiny committee meeting. Hence its presentation to the Committee at the current meeting.

4.7 After considering the Cabinet's decision and all representations made at the current meeting, Communities Scrutiny Committee must decide whether the decision should be referred back to Cabinet. If it determines that the decision merits being referred back to Cabinet the Committee needs to provide its reasons for referring it back, along with clear information on what it wants Cabinet to consider. Cabinet will consider the referral and the reasons submitted in support of the referral at its next available meeting. At that meeting Cabinet will be expected to demonstrate that appropriate consideration is given to the Scrutiny Committee's recommendations.

4.8 Cabinet will have the options to change or re-affirm its original decision.

4.9 If Communities Scrutiny Committee decides that Cabinet's decision should not be referred back to Cabinet, then the original decision can be implemented immediately.

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

5.1. See Section 6 of the Cabinet report dated 13th December 2022 (Annex B).

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

6.1. See Section 7 of the Cabinet report dated 13th December 2022 (Annex B).

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

7.1. See Section 8 (and Appendix 2) of the Cabinet report dated 13th December 2022 (Annex B).

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

8.1 N/A. This report has been prepared under the provisions and timescales of the Council's Constitution for a 'call-in' of a Cabinet decision.

8.2 Details of the consultation carried out prior to Cabinet taking its decision can be seen in Section 9 of the Cabinet report dated 13th December 2022 (Annex B).

9. Chief Finance Officer Statement

9.1. See Section 10 of the Cabinet report dated 13th December 2022 (Annex B).

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

10.1. See Section 11 to the Cabinet report dated 13th December 2022 (Annex B).

11. Power to make the decision

11.1. Scrutiny's powers in relation to this matter are laid out in:

- Section 21(2) and (3) of the Local Government Act 2000; and
- Sections 7.2.1 and 7.25 of the Council's Constitution



NOTICE OF CALL IN OF DECISION

To: Head of Legal and Democratic Services

We, the undersigned, wish to call in the following decision (*see note 1*).

Decision taken by (*see note 2*): Cabinet

Date decision was taken: 13th DECEMBER 2022

Report Title: RECOMMENDATION OF THE REGIONAL FEE SETTING GROUP

Decision (*see note 3*): ~~that Cabinet accept all the recommendations of the Fees Group as set out within the report~~

Reason for Call In

To request that Cabinet reconsiders its decision of 13 December 2022 to accept the recommendations of the Fees Group given that both Gwynedd and Ynys Môn are recommending to pay care providers considerably more with a view to ensuring the future sustainability of the social care sector in their areas.

We (*see note 4*) request that according to the Council's approved 'call-in' procedure rules (*see note 5*) a meeting of the most appropriate Overview and Scrutiny Committee be held within 5 working days (*see note 6*) of the date of your receipt of this notice.

1. Cllr. Thomas Merfyn Parry (confirmed by e-mail dated 19/12/2022)
2. Cllr. Mark Young (confirmed by e-mail dated 19/12/2022)
3. Cllr. Bobby Feeley (confirmed by e-mail on 20/12/2022)
4. Cllr. Huw Hilditch Roberts (confirmed by e-mail on 20/12/2022)
5. Cllr. Chris Evans (confirmed by e-mail on 19/12/2022)

Dated: **19th December 2022**

Guidance Notes

1. Five working days are allowed for a decision to be called-in following its publication on the Council's web-site and notification to Members of the Council. Urgent decisions may proceed despite a call-in if the decision-maker has the agreement of:
 - (i) the chair of the relevant scrutiny committee, or
 - (ii) if there is no such person or that person is unable to act, the Chair of the Council, or
 - (iii) if there is no chair of the relevant scrutiny committee or Chair of the Council, the Vice Chair of the Council.
2. Please state the name of the decision maker e.g. Cabinet or the Lead Member for.....
3. If the decision contains more than one part, please state which are to be called-in, e.g. parts (a), (b), and (d) of the Resolution.
4. Signatories must be non-executive members. Councillors with a prejudicial interest in the decision may not be a signatory to the Notice of Call-in.
5. The Denbighshire Call-in Procedure Rules appear in the Council's Constitution *Part 4.5 – Scrutiny Procedure Rules*.
6. Timescales may be extended in exceptional circumstances with the agreement of the decision-maker and the chair of the relevant scrutiny committee.

For Office use only

Received by: Rhian Evans, Scrutiny Co-ordinator Date: 20/12/2022

Date decision was published: 15th December 2022

Notification sent to Leader and the Decision taker (date): 22nd December 2022

Notification sent to Chief Executive (date): 20th December 2022

Relevant Scrutiny Committee: Communities Scrutiny Committee

Date: 19th January 2023 Time: 10am Venue: County Hall, Ruthin

By virtue of paragraph(s) 14 of Part 4 of Schedule 12A
of the Local Government Act 1972.

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Report to	Communities Scrutiny Committee
Date of meeting	19th January 2023
Lead Member / Officer	Cllr Win Mullen-James (Lead Member for Local Development and Planning)
Head of Service	Emlyn Jones (Head of Planning, Public Protection and Countryside Services)
Report author	Glesni Owen (Public Protection Business Manager)
Title	Mistreatment of Dogs

1. What is the report about?

1.1. To examine the extent of legal and illegal dog sales within Denbighshire (particularly during the COVID-19 pandemic) – including the number of complaints received, investigated and substantiated and how various agencies work together to tackle any problems reported.

2. What is the reason for making this report?

2.1. Determination of whether working relationships need to be strengthened or improved in order to deal with any problems or deter future problems in relation to this matter with a view to supporting the viability of properly licensed traders to operate thus reducing the suffering of the animals.

3. What are the Recommendations?

3.1. That Members discuss the contents of the report and provide feedback and observations on its content.

4. Report details

Background

- 4.1. The Animal Welfare (Breeding of Dogs) (Wales) Regulations 2014 ('the Regulations') replaced the Breeding of Dogs Act 1973 in Wales and provides for the licensing by Local Authorities ('LAs') of persons involved in the breeding of dogs. The new Regulations introduced stricter criteria for breeding establishments and established an attendant to adult dog ratio at a minimum of one full-time member of staff to 20 adult dogs. The regulations were the first of their kind in the UK and, whilst many welfare organisations and charities had differing views on the contents of the regulations, they were widely welcomed. Since the introduction of the regulation there have been ongoing concerns about the standards at some licensed premises in Wales and the resources and expertise available within Local Authorities to tackle the issues.
- 4.2. Then in September 2021 the Animal Welfare (Licensing of Activities Involving Animals) (Wales) Regulations 2021 (LAIA Regulations) came into force. These Regulations have changed the licensing arrangements for the sale of animals as pets in Wales, which includes a ban on the commercial third party sale of puppies and kittens. Optimising welfare standards across Wales is a priority and the intention of the new Regulations is to promote responsible breeding and ensure puppies and kittens are bred in suitable conditions.
- 4.3. As part of Welsh Government's (WG) commitments in the Animal Welfare Plan for Wales 2021-26 a WG funded project established a Local Authority Enforcement project to support local authorities with training and enforcement work. The project established a National Team of Animal Licensing Officers who work on a national basis to tackle illegal and unlicensed breeders and support local authorities with their investigations. Further information regarding how this project is supporting local authorities is outlined in **Appendix 1**.

Denbighshire's Current Position

- 4.4. Currently we have 13 licensed dog breeders located across the County. Licenses are renewed on an annual basis which includes a visit undertaken by our Animal Welfare Officer and a Veterinarian engaged by the authority who has extensive experience in this field of work. We have high standards of

compliance with licensing conditions. Our Licence holders work closely with our Officers if they require any advice or guidance.

- 4.5. Complaints received by the authority of unlicensed / illegal breeders are not significant. If we suspect that someone is breeding, they will receive a letter and application form to request they apply in order that an assessment can be made to ensure that are able to comply with the current Licensing Conditions.
- 4.6. We are currently investigating a small number of potential unlicensed breeders and have requested the assistance from the Animal Licensing National Team due to our limited resources within our Service to undertake extensive investigations.

Stray Dogs and Rescue Centres

- 4.7. During the pandemic there was a significant decrease in stray dogs enquires to the Dog Warden Service as outlined in Table below, however we are already seeing an increase in enquires for the Service during 2022 with 52% of those enquires in the latter part of the year.

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Dog Warden - Service Request	296	286	159	140	176

Data accurate as of 16/12/2022

- 4.8 Two local Charitable Rescue Centres were contacted to gauge their experience of the impact the pandemic may have had on their Services. One charity did not respond, however North Clwyd Animal Rescue (NCAR) our authorised kennels for the Dog Warden Service provided some useful information. Details of their response can be seen in **Appendix 2**.
- 4.9 Information from NCAR and our own Dog Warden Service demonstrated that there was a significant decrease in stray dogs and dogs handed over during the pandemic. However, there is clear indication that these figures are on the increase to pre-pandemic levels.
- 4.10 NCAR have confirmed they currently have over 400 dogs on a waiting list awaiting handing over, this is the highest number since before the pandemic. The waiting list pre-pandemic was at approximately 100 dogs.

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

5.1. Resilient Communities: The Council works with people and communities to build independence and resilience; - If people choose to purchase a dog for companionship and independence which may support them to live in their own home for longer and allow them to enjoy the countryside with the company of a dog. They know those dogs have come from a reputable breeder with all necessary health checks in place reducing the need for unnecessary costs and visits to the vets due to an unhealthy animal.

5.2. That the required licensed establishment complies with licensing standards and any planning requirements as not to cause noise or odour nuisance to surrounding neighbours.

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

6.1. Costs will be contained within existing service budgets

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

7.1. A well-being impact assessment was not required for the purposes of this report

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

8.1. This has not been subject to a consultation process; however local pet Rescue charities were contacted and were asked to comment regarding the potential impact of the pandemic on their charities. The information and analysis of their responses have been outlined in **Appendix 2**.

9. Chief Finance Officer Statement

9.1. There is no direct financial implication of this report, with any costs as stated in 6.1, being absorbed within existing budgets

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

10.1. Current data would suggest that services provided by the Dog Warden Service may return to pre-pandemic levels and therefore capacity to undertake work in relation to illegal dog breeders will be affected. The National Team resources will be invaluable for the authority in support any investigations in the future.

10.2. Our findings conclude that current evidence suggests that the number of unlicensed breeders are low in the County. Of those which are known we will work closely with our National team to investigate potential illegal breeders.

10.3. We are not aware that the pandemic has had an impact on illegal breeding in the County, however as seen from the evidence in Appendix 2 there is a growing problem with dogs who require new homes which are clearly placing increased pressure on these charities.

11. Power to make the decision

11.1. The Animal Welfare (Breeding of Dogs) Regulations 2014

11.2. The Animal Welfare (Licensing of Activities Involving Animals) (Wales) Regulations 2021

11.3. Scrutiny's powers in relation to this matter are set out in Section 21 of the Local Government Act 2000 and Section 7 of the Council's Constitution.

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Appendix 1 – National Animal Licensing Team

It is still very much a project/pilot that is still developing and also expanding due to the Animal Plan for Wales into wider animal licensing aspects but still looking to make recommendations to WG on further improvements to the dog breeding controls already in place and hopefully close those loopholes. Ideally a requirement that no one can sell dogs, puppies, kittens without either a licence for commercial operations or registration for other sales (not already caught by the LAIA Regulations).

Objective

- Wales to be recognised as a World Leader by ensuring the highest levels of animal welfare through implementing a breeding, licensing and registration system, which enables consistent controls, enforcement and traceability. Using a robust legislative system to lay down minimum standards and drive improvements through the industry.

Aims

- To ensure all breeding dogs and their puppies have good health and welfare and a good quality of life.
- To ensure that puppies receive adequate enrichment and socialisation programmes to help equip them with the social and behavioural skills necessary to adapt to a home environment and live a good quality of life in the future.
- To implement a new model that will afford protection to legitimate breeders, enable the identification of illegal breeders and promote a fair trading environment by:
 - Requiring all breeders to be either licensed or registered,
 - Implementing a robust inspection procedure and consistent enforcement, and
 - Developing an intelligence capability to support enforcement work.

Barriers to enforcement exist and these have been recognised and identified both by local authorities and wider stakeholders, including; Identification of illegal and unlicensed breeders, Inconsistencies in inspections, lack of legal requirement for inspectors to be qualified or even a minimum level of competence (this also impacts on the quality of inspections undertaken), no central register of dogs and/or breeders to support checks or investigative work. Alongside lack of resource, ineffective penalties and problems with associated legislation such as the Microchipping of Dogs (Wales) Regulations 2015 this has created the significant problem now faced and it is quite clear that business as usual is not an option going forward. Inconsistent enforcement was attributed to the lack of expertise, in terms of both local authority and veterinary support, resources and difficulties with the legislation.

A review of the breeding regulations undertaken by members of the Wales Animal Health and Welfare Framework Group at the end of 2019 also identified important changes required to legislation, licencing conditions, enforcement shortfalls and resources. There were significant recommendations made some of which could be acted on immediately and others that required investment and time, in order to be implemented and deliver the desired change.

An online information system will provide not only a single point of reference/contact for all dog breeding related issues but also an associated back office system that will support both breeders, inspectors and purchasers.

Further to the work undertaken to produce the intelligence problem profile Operation CABAL, support was provided to develop the intelligence and progress more in-depth investigations. The additional enforcement and intelligence capacity has enabled the Regional Investigation Team to be tasked through the Regional Tasking Group with five separate operations although there are others requiring support. These include investigations involving identified organised criminal groups (OCGs) as well as cross border investigations that individual local authorities have been unable to progress alone.

The appointment of the animal licensing officers provides specialist support available for all local authorities. This support can be;

- On the end of the telephone in the form of specialist advice,
- Be a second pair of eyes and ears to help on inspections, or
- Can undertake inspections on behalf of local authorities where required and support investigations.

To date 7 LA's have had support with inspections and another two on specific investigations.

The main point though with the project is that changes will be required in order to ensure that the legislation is enforceable, alongside putting a consistent, strong, inspection regime. The national team support is already proving its value with the additional checks etc. undertaken and support provided.

Key Points:

- This is a Wales wide resource - to support and hopefully free-up local officers for other priorities.
- New Model for the wider industry being developed.
- Animal Welfare Plan for Wales clear on programme for Government commitments, so -
- WG trust and improved profile for Public Protection but if we don't embrace this opportunity it will be taken elsewhere.

It is envisaged a national model will:

- provide a centralised and standardised administration process for licence applications and a single point of reference for applicants and the public;
- ensure greater consistency in support both for businesses and enforcement/regulation agencies;
- create a standard model for future legislative developments;
- improve resilience across Wales for when individual Local Authorities experience unforeseen incidents which challenge business continuity

Appendix 2 – Consultation with Rescue Centres

Two local Charitable Rescue Centres were contacted to gauge their experience of the impact the pandemic may have had on their Services.

We did not receive a response from one Rescue Centre, however the other Centre, North Clwyd Animal Rescue provided an outline of Stray Dogs and those handed in by the public. North Clwyd Animal Rescue is our authorised kennels to take in stray dogs as part of our Dog Warden Services, however they are an organisation who deals with rescued dogs from a wide geographical area and not just Denbighshire.

They have kindly provided information for the purposes of this report. From Figure 1 below you can clearly see the correlation between the first lockdown of the pandemic and a marked drop in dog admission for both the Dog Warden Service and Dogs handed in by the public from across the Region. These low admissions continued throughout the first lockdown however there was a slight increase in admissions for the second half of 2020. Overall admission remained much lower during the pandemic compared to the pre-pandemic period.

However, as you will see during the latter part of this year (October 2022) they have seen the highest number of admissions which is comparable with the pre-pandemic periods. The Centre has been extremely busy in recent months and have been close to capacity on many occasions.

During hand over admissions the Rescue Centre actively try to understand the reasons as to why dog owners decide to hand over their dogs, this is outlined in Figure 2 below.

There are many reasons as to why dogs are handed over to the rescue centre, however few disclose financial as a reason pre and post pandemic.

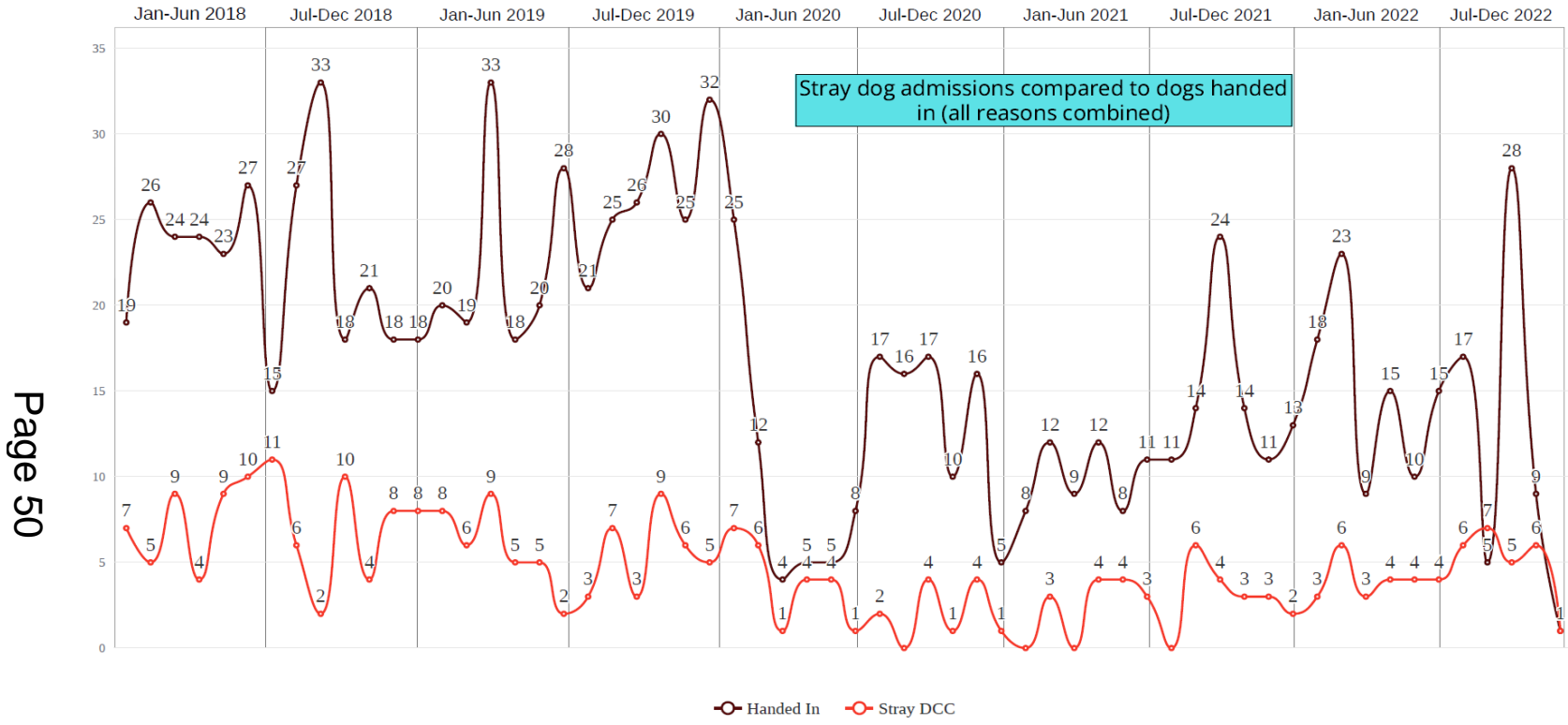
There were 5 admissions during the April-June of this year who disclosed Homelessness as a reason, however this is comparable with figure pre-pandemic.

During this year 27 dogs were handed over due to the owner's death with 21 of this occurring in the latter quarter of this year. This is significantly higher than the previous 3 years. This may be an indication that other family members may not have capacity or the financial resources at this time to care for their loved one's pet dog.

Stray Dog admission are on the increase but have not reached the same levels as pre pandemic.

North Clwyd Rescue Centre have confirmed they currently have over 400 dogs on a waiting list awaiting handing over, this is the highest number since before the pandemic. The waiting list pre-pandemic was at approximately 100 dogs.

Figure 1 – Stray Dogs and Dogs Handed-In January 2018 – December 2020



Data source: North Clwyd Animal Rescue 12/12/2022

Figure 2 - Dog Admissions by Reasons January 2018 – December 2020

Reason for Admission	2018				2019				2020				2021				2022			
	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec
Handed In - Can't cope with behaviour	14	5	7	6	3	9	7	9	10	1	7	7	3	6	13	9	12	8	3	6
Handed In - Change of circumstances	19	14	21	8	7	15	27	30	12	11	15	9	6	10	6	8	9	11	9	5
Handed In - Change of job							1				1			1			1		1	
Handed In - Chases livestock							1													
Handed In - Escape artist	1	1				1														
Handed In - Failed worker				1																
Handed In - Financial	3		2					1							1				1	
Handed In - Homeless	4	3			2	2	1	1	3	2	1		1		1	1		5		
Handed In - Ill health of owner	5	7	9	8	13	7	9	10	10			9	10	4	3	6	17	1	3	1
Handed In - Moving house		6	2	3	2	3	2	5	5		1	5		2	3	1	3	2		1
Handed In - No good with children											1					1				
Handed In - Not enough time	11	8	5	3	11	10	5	4	9		6	6	1	2	5	5	7		5	2
Handed In - Owner allergic	1	2				4	2	1	5						1	3				
Handed In - Owner died	1	12	3	6	4	2		6	4		5	4	2	1	1	6	1	2	3	21
Handed In - Owner pregnant or new baby	2	1			3	7		1	1					1			3		1	
Handed In - Relationship breakdown	2	10	3	5	4	6	4	7	2		2	3	2	1	1	2		1	2	2
Handed In - Unplanned litter	1		15	7	2											4			5	
Handed In - Unwanted	6	6	8	11	6	6	16	6	8		2			1	1	3	1	4	4	
Stray DCC	21	23	19	22	22	19	12	18	18	9	3	9	4	8	9	10	11	11	17	12

Data source: North Clwyd Animal Rescue 12/12/2022

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Report to	Communities Scrutiny Committee
Date of meeting	19 January 2023
Head of Service	Lisa Jones, Interim Head of Legal and Democratic Services
Report author	Rhian Evans, Scrutiny Co-ordinator
Title	Scrutiny Work Programme

1. What is the report about?

- 1.1 The report seeks Communities 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?

- 2.1 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 themes (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.

Cabinet Forward Work Programme

- 4.8 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

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

5. 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 has not met since this Committee last met. Its next meeting is scheduled for the afternoon of 19 January 2023.

6. How does the decision contribute to the Corporate Themes?

- 6.1 Effective scrutiny will assist the Council to deliver its corporate themes 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 themes, improve outcomes for residents whilst also managing austere budget and resource pressures.

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

- 7.1 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?

8.1. A Well-being Impact Assessment has not been undertaken in relation to the purpose or contents of this report. However, Scrutiny through its 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?

9.1. 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?

10.1 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.

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Communities Scrutiny Committee Forward Work Plan

Note: Items entered in italics have not been approved for submission 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
9 March	Cllr. Barry Mellor	1. New Waste and Recycling Model	To detail the outcomes of the pilot projects in West Rhyl (use of microchips in waste containers), Bron y Crêst (communal bin service change) and the Elected Members Recycling Experience initiatives (tbc)	Following assessing the lessons learnt from the pilot projects and initiatives to make recommendations that will support the effective roll-out and delivery of the new waste and recycling with a view to enhancing the benefits of the project for the Council and for local residents	Tony Ward/Andy Clark/Jamie Lees	December 2021 (rescheduled Sept 2022)
	Cllr. Win Mullen-James	2. <i>Second Homes and Short-term Holiday lets (timing tbc – once the full details of the WG proposals are known (incl. Licensing Scheme proposals) and their impact have been fully assessed)</i>	<i>To report the findings and conclusions of the Welsh Government's study in relation to addressing the impact of second home ownership in Wales, including its proposals for reviewing the regulatory framework and system as they</i>	<i>(i) An assessment of the proposals' anticipated impact on Denbighshire County Council, residents, businesses and local economy (ii) Formulation of recommendations with a view to realising maximum benefits for the Council, residents businesses and the economy, or for mitigating the impact of any risks that may arise from any proposals</i>	<i>Emlyn Jones/Angela Loftus/Lara Griffiths/Paul Barnes/Gareth Roberts</i>	<i>June 2022 (rescheduled November 2022)</i>

Communities Scrutiny Committee Forward Work Plan

Meeting	Lead Member(s)	Item (description / title)		Purpose of report	Expected Outcomes	Author	Date Entered
				<i>apply to holiday accommodation, along with national and local taxation systems (the WG's "three-pronged approach to address [the] second homes crisis"</i>			
4 May	Cllr. Win Mullen-James	1.	<i>Draft Tourism Signage Strategy for Denbighshire (tbc)</i>	<i>To examine the draft Tourism Signage Strategy for the county developed by the Working Group including potential funding sources and the anticipated timescale for the Strategy's delivery</i>	<i>The development of a tourism signage strategy that complements trunk road signage and technological innovations in the field of tourism, takes into account the aims of 'The Wales Way' project, attracts visitors and increases the value of tourism spend in the county in line with the corporate priority relating to the Environment, and in-keeping with the outcomes of Denbighshire's Tourism Strategy</i>	<i>Mike Jones/Peter McDermott</i>	<i>March 2020 (rescheduled due to COVID-19 Sept & Dec 20, Sept 2021 & Jan 2022 by SCVCG & Nov 2022)</i>
29 June	Cllr. Barry Mellor	1.	<i>Llangollen Car Park Tariff Pilot Scheme</i>	<i>To outline the effectiveness of the pilot scheme for varying car park tariffs in Llangollen</i>	<i>Identification of lessons learnt from the pilot scheme's implementation and operation in readiness for the introduction of similar schemes in other areas in future</i>	<i>Emlyn Jones/Mike Jones/Peter Lea</i>	<i>January 2021</i>
	Cllr. Barry Mellor	2.	<i>Flood Risk Working Group</i>	<i>To consider a report on the work of the multi-agency and riparian</i>	<i>Ensuring: (i) all communication channels are open and being used effectively to</i>	<i>Tony Ward/Tim Towers</i>	<i>March 2022</i>

Communities Scrutiny Committee Forward Work Plan

Meeting	Lead Member(s)	Item (description / title)		Purpose of report	Expected Outcomes	Author	Date Entered
				<i>landowners information sharing working group</i>	<i>inform and advise residents and stakeholders alike; (ii) that all information on relevant developments and proposals are being shared between flood risk authorities and stakeholders in a timely manner</i>		
	Leader	3.	Rhyl Regeneration Programme and Governance	To examine the effectiveness of the Programme Board's work in delivering the regeneration programme to date	Identification of any barriers or slippages and the formulation of recommendations to try and address them and sustain the delivery of the programme to secure the regeneration of Rhyl to benefit the economy and the lives of the town's residents and the county in general	<i>Emlyn Jones/Nicola Kneale/Lois Lambie</i>	<i>June 2022</i>
7 September							
19 October							
7 December							

Future Issues

Item (description / title)	Purpose of report	Expected Outcomes	Author	Date Entered

Communities Scrutiny Committee Forward Work Plan

For future years

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Information/Consultation Reports

Information / Consultation	Item (description / title)	Purpose of report	Author(s)	Date Entered
INFORMATION (for circulation early 2023 <i>once work has been undertaken</i>)	Community Impact Assessment on the communities of Rhewl and Llanynys	To present the findings of the community impact assessment undertaken following the closure of Ysgol Rhewl as agreed as part of the modernising education programme	Geraint Davies/James Curran	December 2020

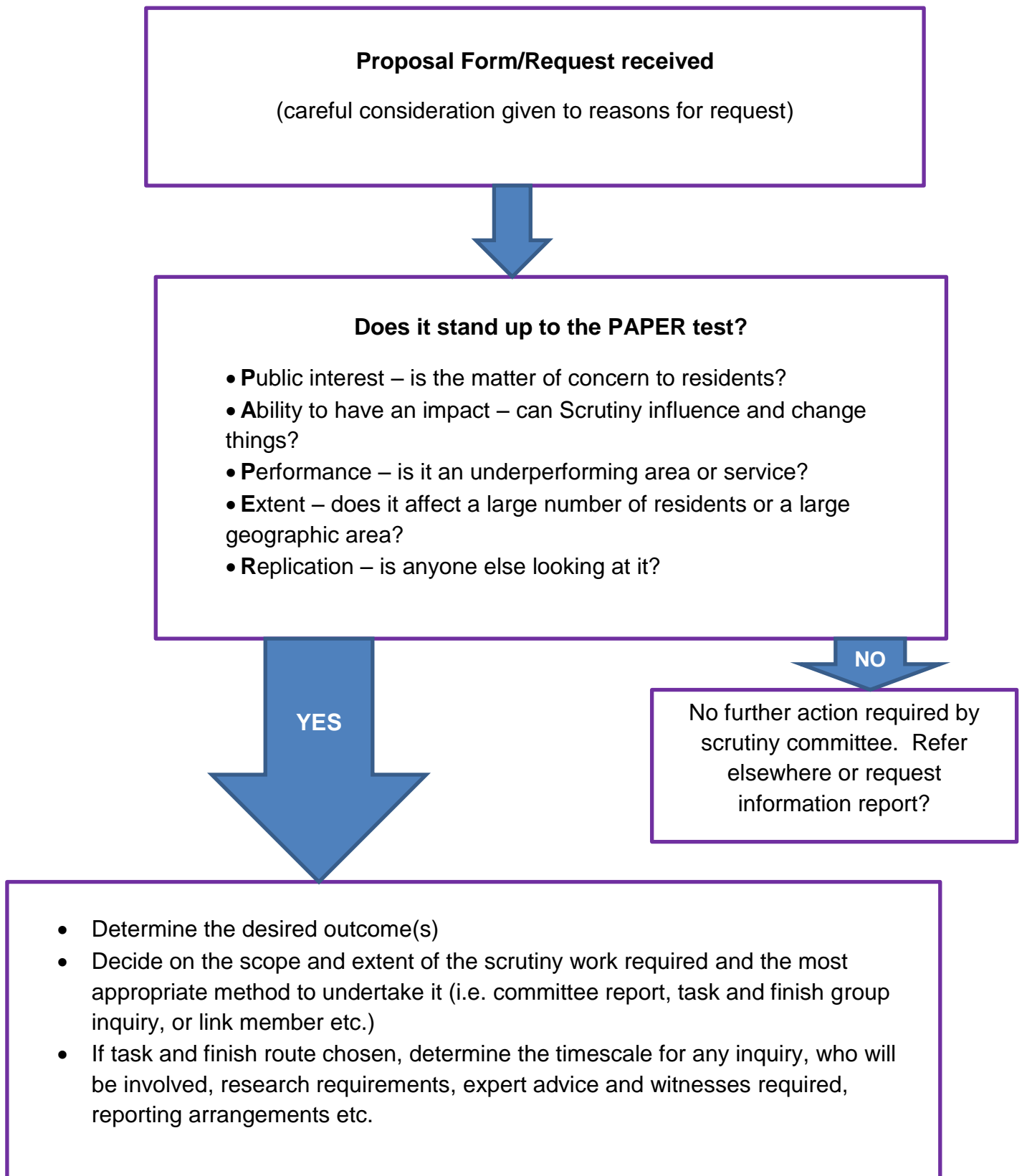
Note for officers – Committee Report Deadlines

Meeting	Deadline	Meeting	Deadline	Meeting	Deadline
9 March	23 February	4 May	19 April (due to B/H)	29 June	15 June

06/01/2023 RhE

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

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
24 Jan	1	Denbighshire Learning Disability Supported Living Schemes	To ask Cabinet to approve the temporary extension of these contracts and to approve the timescale and process for the recommissioning/retendering of the contracts.	Yes	Cllr Elen Heaton Lead Officer David Soley Report Author Alison Heaton
	2	Shared Prosperity Funding – Investment Proposals	To seek Cabinet approval for spend against the Shared Prosperity Fund	Yes	Cllr Jason McLellan Lead Officer – Liz Grieve Report Author – Nicola Kneale
	3	Budget 2023/24 – Final Proposals	To consider proposals to finalise the budget for 2023/24	Tbc	Cllr Gwyneth Ellis Lead Officer/Report Author Steve Gadd
	4	Finance Report	To update Cabinet on the current financial position of the Council	Tbc	Cllr Gwyneth Ellis Lead Officer/Report Author Steve Gadd
	5	Items from Scrutiny Committees	To consider any issues raised by Scrutiny for Cabinet's attention	Tbc	Lead Officer – Scrutiny Coordinator
21 Feb	1	Shared Prosperity Funding – Investment Proposals	To seek Cabinet approval for spend against the Shared Prosperity Fund	Yes	Cllr Jason McLellan Lead Officer – Liz Grieve Report Author – Melanie

Cabinet Forward Work Plan

Meeting		Item (description / title)	Purpose of report	Cabinet Decision required (yes/no)	Author – Lead member and contact officer
					Evans
	2	Ysgol Plas Brondyffryn	To review the objection report and consider the determination of the statutory notice	Tbc	Cllr Gill German Lead Officer Geraint Davies Report Author James Curran
	3	North Wales Energy Strategy	To present the North Wales Strategy and Action Plan for endorsement, and note the commencement of Local Area Energy Planning	Yes	Cllr Barry Mellor Lead Officer Gary Williams Report Author Helen Vaughan-Evans
	4	Finance Report	To update Cabinet on the current financial position of the Council	Tbc	Cllr Gwyneth Ellis Lead Officer/Report Author Steve Gadd
	5	Items from Scrutiny Committees	To consider any issues raised by Scrutiny for Cabinet's attention	Tbc	Lead Officer – Scrutiny Coordinator
28 March	1	Shared Prosperity Funding – Investment Proposals	To seek Cabinet approval for spend against the Shared Prosperity Fund	Yes	Cllr Jason McLellan Lead Officer – Liz Grieve Report Author – Melanie Evans
	2	Finance Report	To update Cabinet on the current financial position of the Council	Tbc	Cllr Gwyneth Ellis Lead Officer/Report Author Steve Gadd

Cabinet Forward Work Plan

Meeting		Item (description / title)	Purpose of report	Cabinet Decision required (yes/no)	Author – Lead member and contact officer
	3	Items from Scrutiny Committees	To consider any issues raised by Scrutiny for Cabinet's attention	Tbc	Lead Officer – Scrutiny Coordinator
25 April	1	Shared Prosperity Funding – Investment Proposals	To seek Cabinet approval for spend against the Shared Prosperity Fund	Yes	Cllr Jason McLellan Lead Officer – Liz Grieve Report Author – Melanie Evans
	2	Finance Report	To update Cabinet on the current financial position of the Council	Tbc	Cllr Gwyneth Ellis Lead Officer/Report Author Steve Gadd
	3	Items from Scrutiny Committees	To consider any issues raised by Scrutiny for Cabinet's attention	Tbc	Lead Officer – Scrutiny Coordinator
23 May	1	Shared Prosperity Funding – Investment Proposals	To seek Cabinet approval for spend against the Shared Prosperity Fund	Yes	Cllr Jason McLellan Lead Officer – Liz Grieve Report Author – Melanie Evans
	2	Finance Report	To update Cabinet on the current financial position of the Council	Tbc	Cllr Gwyneth Ellis Lead Officer/Report Author Steve Gadd
	3	Items from Scrutiny Committees	To consider any issues	Tbc	Lead Officer – Scrutiny

Cabinet Forward Work Plan

Meeting	Item (description / title)		Purpose of report	Cabinet Decision required (yes/no)	Author – Lead member and contact officer
			raised by Scrutiny for Cabinet's attention		Coordinator
27 June	1	Shared Prosperity Funding – Investment Proposals	To seek Cabinet approval for spend against the Shared Prosperity Fund	Yes	Cllr Jason McLellan Lead Officer – Liz Grieve Report Author – Melanie Evans
	2	Finance Report	To update Cabinet on the current financial position of the Council	Tbc	Cllr Gwyneth Ellis Lead Officer/Report Author Steve Gadd
	3	Items from Scrutiny Committees	To consider any issues raised by Scrutiny for Cabinet's attention	Tbc	Lead Officer – Scrutiny Coordinator

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Note for officers – Cabinet Report Deadlines

<i>Meeting</i>	<i>Deadline</i>	<i>Meeting</i>	<i>Deadline</i>	<i>Meeting</i>	<i>Deadline</i>
<i>24 January</i>	<i>10 January</i>	<i>21 February</i>	<i>7 February</i>	<i>28 March</i>	<i>14 March</i>

Updated 10/01/2023 – KEJ

Cabinet Forward Work Plan

Cabinet Forward Work Programme.doc

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Progress with Committee Resolutions

Date of Meeting	Item number and title	Resolution	Progress
8 December 2022	5. Welsh Ambulance Service Trust	<p><u>Resolved:</u> <i>subject to the observations made –</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>(i) to receive the presentation and information provided by the Welsh Ambulance Services NHS Trust (WAST), and acknowledge the measures being developed and implemented in a bid to respond and effectively manage emergency call-outs going forward;</i> <i>(ii) having regard to the pressures currently experienced by WAST that the Corporate Director: Environment and Economy convene a discussion between senior officials of Denbighshire County Council and WAST with a view to exploring potential options for enhancing local authority and Third Sector links that could possibly help support the Ambulance Service to focus its resources on dealing with emergency calls; and</i> <i>(iii) recommend that links be established with the Council's Communications and Marketing Service with a view to facilitating the sharing of WAST public information messages with residents via the Council's communications channels and social media platforms.</i> 	Officers informed of the Committee's recommendations. Work has been instigated with a view to offering support to the Ambulance Service as per the Committee's recommendations.

	<p>6.Introduction of 20mph Speed Limit on the County's Road Network</p>	<p><u>Resolved:</u></p> <p>(i) <i>subject to the observations made during the discussion and to Member Area Groups (MAGs) being consulted on the exemptions to the default 20 mile per hour speed limit in their area, to receive the contents of the report and appendices; and</i></p> <p>(ii) <i>that the Council's Economic and Business Development Service be requested to contact the Welsh Government to request a copy of the Economic Impact Assessment undertaken by them in relation to the economic consequences of the proposed implementation of the 20 mile per hour default speed limit in Denbighshire.</i></p>	<p>Lead Member and officers advised of the Committee's recommendations.</p> <p>(i) arrangements being made to attend relevant MAGs to discuss the proposed exemptions in their areas; and</p> <p>(ii) enquiries being made with WG with a view to obtaining a copy of the requested Economic Impact Assessment.</p>
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