

To: Members of the Communities
Scrutiny Committee

Date: 1 September 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, 7 SEPTEMBER 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 - 10)

To receive the minutes of the Communities Scrutiny Committee held on 29 June 2023 (copy enclosed).

5 ENGAGEMENT WITH CARE FORUM WALES (CFW) & CARE PROVIDERS IN DENBIGHSHIRE (Pages 11 - 16)

To consider a report from the Head of Adult Social Care & Homelessness Service (copy attached) examining the progress made in encouraging CFW and local social care providers to engage with the Council in relation to social care provision and the setting of fees.

6 SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME (Pages 17 - 32)

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.

7 FEEDBACK FROM COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES

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

MEMBERSHIP

Councillors

Councillor Huw Williams (Chair)

Michelle Blakeley-Walker

James Elson

Jon Harland

Carol Holliday

Alan James

Councillor Karen Anne Edwards (Vice-Chair)

Brian Jones

Delyth Jones

Merfyn Parry

Cheryl Williams

COPIES TO:

All Councillors for information

Press and Libraries

Town and Community Councils

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, 29 June 2023 at 10.00 am.

PRESENT

Councillors Michelle Blakeley-Walker, Karen Edwards (Vice-Chair), James Elson, Jon Harland, Alan James, Brian Jones, Barry Mellor, Merfyn Parry, Cheryl Williams and Huw Williams (Chair)

Lead Member- Lead Member for Environment and Transport, Councillor Barry Mellor was in attendance at the Committee's invitation for agenda item 6.

Observers- Councillor Jeanette Chamberlain- Jones, Councillor Huw Hilditch-Roberts.

ALSO PRESENT

Corporate Director Economy and Environment (TW), Interim Head of Service for Highways and Environmental Services (AC), Waste and Recycling Manger (SL), Project Manager: Strategic Planning (LR), Scrutiny Coordinator (KE) and Committee Administrators (SJ and NH)

1 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillor Delyth Jones.

2 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

None.

3 APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIR

Nominations for the appointment of Vice Chair were sought from Members.

Councillor Karen Edwards was proposed and seconded for the position of Vice Chair. There being no other nominations it was-

RESOLVED: that Councillor Karen Edwards be appointed as Vice Chair of the Communities Scrutiny Committee for the ensuing Year.

4 URGENT MATTERS AS AGREED BY THE CHAIR

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

5 MINUTES

The minutes of the Communities Scrutiny Committee meeting held on Thursday 4 May 2023 were submitted.

Matters Arising-

Members questioned if there was a start date finalised for the Flood Task and Finish Group meeting. The Interim Head of Service for Highways and Environmental Services informed Members that they were currently in the process of setting up meetings with Member Area Groups (MAGs) to seek nominations for their respective areas.

RESOLVED: *that, subject to the above, the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 4 May 2023 be received and approved as a true and correct record of the proceedings.*

6 UPDATE ON THE WASTE SERVICE REMODELLING PROJECT

The Lead Member for Environment and Transport introduced the Waste Remodelling update to Members.

The new Waste Collection Service had been in planning for a number of years and was being introduced to enable Denbighshire to reach the new statutory target of recycling 70% of household waste set by Welsh Government. It was vitally important that the new service was introduced to contribute to tackling climate change.

It is anticipated that construction of the new waste depot in Denbigh will be complete by the end of Autumn 2023, with the new Waste Service being rolled out from March 2024 (subject to receiving the necessary licence from Natural Resources Wales to enable legal operation from the depot). There were also financial benefits to the new Waste Service being rolled out due the cost of collecting recycling from blue bins under the current service significantly increasing.

The Corporate Director: Economy and Environment stated that the report (previously circulated) provided Members with the opportunity to scrutinise the updated Waste Collections Policy. In addition, it provided updates regarding the roll out of the new Absorbent Hygiene Products (AHP) service and the changes for non-standard households.

The report also included details of the current Waste Service and the new Waste Service.

Members were advised that:

- The new Waste Service had an anticipated roll out date from March 2024. However, this was subject to receiving the necessary licence from Natural Resources Wales to enable legal operation from the depot.

- From Autumn 2023 the new AHP Service would be rolled out to a targeted pilot area covering the LL16/ LL17 postcodes. The areas would capture around 1000 subscribers, providing a mix of rural, town and urban areas prior to the whole County roll out when the main service change took place in 2024.
- Denbighshire had several households on a `non-standard service` i.e. either a communal or sack service. This was due to vehicle access issues and the properties container storage spaces being limited. The non-standard households in Denbighshire were being reviewed.
- The new Waste Service Model agenda item would be returning to the Communities Scrutiny Committee in October 2023 to discuss further details of the main service roll out.

Members had previously received detailed explanations on the new Waste Service, the roll out and the new services incorporated within it, therefore the Corporate Director opened the discussion to Members in agreement with the Chair.

The Chair thanked the Corporate Director: Economy and Environment for their update and questions were welcomed from Committee Members.

Members asked whether Officers were engaging with Town, City and Community Councils to demonstrate how the new trolley boxes would work. It was felt that this would aid the understanding of residents when the new service was rolled out. The Waste and Recycling Manager informed Members that the new Waste Service agenda item had been scheduled to go to all MAG meetings then further discussions would be held with the Project Team. The Corporate Director informed members that they would work on the detail of engaging with Town, City and Community Councils and inform Members in due course.

Members queried the rules and regulations of the new Waste Service and questioned whether fixed penalty enforcement would be used if residents did not comply. Members also asked how many penalty notices were issued under the existing Waste Service Model. The Waste and Recycling Manager informed Members that there were very few penalty notices distributed under the current service. There was a focus on behavioural change rather than fixed fines.

At this juncture, the Chair paused the meeting to allow the Project Manager: Strategic Planning to join the meeting remotely.

Continuing, the Corporate Director referenced the previous question regarding enforcement. He stated that enforcement was the last resort, that they were primarily focused on education and engaging with residents, which would continue under the new Waste Service.

Members referred to paragraph 4.3 of the report (previously circulated) relating to the pilot AHP Scheme. Members questioned whether the postcodes chosen for the pilot scheme were the most beneficial areas for prior learning before the main roll out of the scheme. The Waste and Recycling Manager informed Members that the areas selected for the pilot scheme were a mixture of town, urban and rural areas. The Planning Manager also explained that another factor for the postcodes being

selected was that they were closer to Parc Adfer, which was the site where the waste would be disposed of.

Members asked how residents could apply to be part of the pilot scheme. The Planning Manager: Strategic Planning advised that email correspondence had been sent to Town Councils and information would be displayed on the Denbighshire County Council (DCC) website, including the registration form and terms and conditions. There were also information leaflets that had been delivered to libraries and One Stop Shops within those areas.

Members sought to clarify who would need to sign up for the AHP Service once it was fully rolled out. For example, if a Grandparent looked after their Grandchild once a week and they were in nappies, would they then be required to sign up to the service. The Planning Manager stated that the AHP Service was not currently open to the wider family and therefore it would be acceptable to put any AHP (small quantities) in the black bin. This would remain under active review following the pilot scheme.

Members referred to the new Battery Collection Service and questioned why disposable Vapes were not mentioned within the report. The Planning Manager informed Members that there were ongoing discussions to clarify if they were to be classed as batteries or small electrical items.

Members questioned collections under the new Waste Service for private and unadopted roads and if there were going to be any changes. The Waste and Recycling Manager stated that the new Service would entail new vehicles and new routes, and this would be re-evaluated to address the most suitable collection points for residents.

The Chair thanked the officers for their update and affirmed that it was very important to continue to educate residents and, Town, City and Community Councils of the changes to the Waste Recycling Model.

The Chair asked Officers if there was the opportunity to have a site visit to the new depot in the future. The Corporate Director agreed that this could be arranged.

Following an in-dept discussion it was-

RESOLVED: that the update on the new Waste Service Remodelling Project be received and noted.

7 SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME

The Scrutiny Coordinator guided members through the Communities Scrutiny Committee Forward Work Programme report (previously circulated).

The next meeting was scheduled for 7 September 2023, proposed for that meeting were two agenda items.

- I. Engagement with Care Forum Wales, an opportunity to discuss the report before it is presented to Cabinet in November and

II. The Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment review.

Appendix 2 contained a copy of the Member Proposal Form. Members were encouraged to complete the form with any items they thought merited consideration.

Appendix 3 to the report was the Cabinet's Forward Work Programme should the Committee like to scrutinise forthcoming issues.

Appendix 4 to the report was a list of Committee representatives on the various Service Challenge Groups. Following the standing down from Communities Scrutiny Committee of Councillor Pauline Edwards a new representative was required for the Planning, Public Protections and Countryside Services Service Challenge.

Councillor Jon Harland had previously expressed an interest in that Service Challenge Group and was subsequently proposed, seconded and appointed the Communities Scrutiny Committee's representative.

RESOLVED: *that-*

- (i) Councillor Jon Harland be appointed as the Communities Scrutiny Committees representative on the Planning, Public Protection and Countryside Service Challenge Group and-*
- (ii) The forward work programme be received and noted.*

8 FEEDBACK FROM COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES

Councillor Karen Edwards was thanked for attending a recent meeting of Public Protection and Countryside Services at short notice.

Councillor Edwards informed Members that the Service Challenge Groups were very informative. The meetings gave Members the opportunity to have thorough conversations with officers and Head of Services and questions could be asked and answered.

The action notes from the meeting would be circulated to those in attendance and it was agreed that the new representative for the Service Challenge Group would feedback to the Committee at the next meeting.

Councillor James Elson informed Members that there was a meeting for the Capital Scrutiny Group on the 7 June 2023 and they will request the minutes from the meeting and feedback to Members at the next meeting in September.

The Corporate Director informed Members that there had been two Service Challenge Groups held so far and it was pleasing to hear that Members were finding them beneficial.

Meeting concluded at 10:50am

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| Report to | Communities Scrutiny Committee |
| Date of meeting | 7 th September 2023 |
| Lead Member / Officer | Councillor Elen Heaton / Nicola Stubbins Corporate Director: Social Services & Education. |
| Head of Service | Ann Lloyd, Head of Adult Social Care & Homelessness Service |
| Report author | Nicola Stubbins / Ann Lloyd / David Soley |
| Title | Engagement with Care Forum Wales (CFW) & Care Providers in Denbighshire |

1. What is the report about?

- 1.1. To update Communities Scrutiny Committee on the Adult Social Care and Homelessness (ASCH) Services engagement with Care Forum Wales (CFW) & Care Providers in Denbighshire

2. What is the reason for making this report?

- 2.1. Communities Scrutiny Committee have requested an update from the Adult Social Care and Homelessness Services on their engagement with Care Forum Wales (CFW) & Care Providers in Denbighshire

3. What are the Recommendations?

- 3.1. That the Communities Scrutiny Committee confirms it has read, understood, and taken account of this report

4. Report details

4.1. Background

- 4.1.1. In September 2022 Denbighshire's Interim Head of Adult Social Care became Chair of the North Wales Regional Care Fees Group (NWRCFG).
- 4.1.2. At a meeting of North Wales Directors and 151 Officers 16th September 2022, the new Chair of the NWRCFG was tasked with producing a recommendation for North Wales Care Home fees, and for the work to be completed by November 2022. CFW actively engaged with the 2022/23 NWRCFG and facilitated a provider survey and several provider workshops aimed at gathering data to calculate the 'True Cost of Care'.
- 4.1.3. 25th March 2022 CFW withdrew from participation in, and support for the NWRCFG stating; *"Care Forum Wales is extremely disappointed with the care home fees offered by North Wales local authorities for the 2022/23" and "will therefore be withdrawing from the Group unless or until there is an absolute assurance from those in leadership positions across North Wales that our concerns will be taken seriously"*.

4.2. Engagement with Care Forum Wales

- 4.2.1. Between September 2022 and May 2023, the Chair of the NWRCFG had several informal meetings with the Chief Executive of CFW aimed at promoting a positive dialogue and encouraging her reengagement with the regional fee setting process.
- 4.2.2. 1st March 2023 Graham Boase (Chief Executive) and Nicola Stubbins (Corporate Director) met with Mario Kreft (Honorary Chair, Care Forum Wales) and Mary Wimbury (Chief Executive, Care Forum Wales). This was a constructive meeting at which both parties agreed to keep the dialogue open.

4.3. Engagement with Providers

- 4.3.1. During the 2022/23 Regional Fee setting process, CFW supported the NWRCFG to engage providers through workshops and a 'provider survey'.

- 4.3.2. While numbers were low, the provider workshops were judged successful, however the response to the provider survey was poor. Data gathered from the workshops and provider survey were limited and inconsistent.
- 4.3.3. 31st January 2023 ASCH's Contract and Commissioning Team wrote to all Care Home Providers to advise them of the proposed 2023/24, invite their feedback and offer them the opportunity to engage in an 'open book accounting exercise' if they believed the proposed rate was insufficient for them to provide the required level of care and support.
- 4.3.4. Between March and July 2023, 12 providers met ASCH to conduct open book exercises and 5 providers engaged via email. In addition, a number of providers wrote to the ASCH Contracts and Commissioning Team advising they would not accept the Denbighshire rate, and if their alternative proposal was not accepted, they would give notice on placements.
- 4.3.5. Care Brokers in the ASCH Contracts and Commissioning Team contact care home providers every week to gather data on bed availability.
- 4.3.6. Care Brokers in the ASCH Contracts and Commissioning Team have regular contact with care home providers when arranging individual placements.
- 4.3.7. It is proposed to take a more proactive approach to engaging with providers in the fee setting process for 2024 / 2025. A programme of visits is being planned by ASCH Management in partnership with commissioning staff from Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board (BCUHB) to have open dialogue about the cost of care and ensure providers are involved in the fee setting process.

5. How does the decision contribute to the Corporate Plan 2022 to 2027: The Denbighshire We Want?

- 5.1. **A prosperous Denbighshire** – the care home market in Denbighshire employs a significant number of people right across the county, as well as buying in goods and services, often from local suppliers and businesses.
- 5.2. **A healthier, happy, caring Denbighshire** - maintaining a buoyant care home market in Denbighshire is essential to providing good quality care at a fair price

for older people within the county. Thus allowing older citizens to live safely and happily with the right support when they need it.

5.3. **A better connected Denbighshire** – with care homes located right across the county, they are often in the heart of our local communities, therefore, allowing older people to receive care and support close to their families and in an area they are familiar with.

5.4. **A Denbighshire of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh Language** – the care sector in Denbighshire is supporting this theme by providing services in Welsh and ensuring the local culture and history is central to activities to engage older people, especially those with dementia.

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

6.1. Care fee negotiations and annual uplifts taking into account inflation, rises in National Minimum Wage / Real Living Wage can have a significant impact on the Adult Social Care and Homelessness budget. It is important therefore that annual care fees are seen as being fair to care providers but are reasonable within our budgetary restraints.

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

7.1. A well-being impact assessment is not required for this report as it is for information only

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

8.1. Care fees are agreed at Cabinet on an annual basis and this typically happens in quarter 3 or 4, ready for implementation at the start of the new financial year.

9. Chief Finance Officer Statement

9.1. As stated in Section 6 the annual increase in care fees is a key pressure for the Council. Any increase above the 3% increase in funding we are expecting from WG will cause pressures that will need to be funded from either further raising Council Tax or finding further savings across the Council.

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

10.1. There is a risk that by not engaging with care providers and Care Forum Wales we are not getting the providers views and experiences on the true cost of care, they become disengaged and are more likely not to accept the care fees we set. We are planning a programme of visits to care homes to proactively engage them in the care fee setting process for 2024 – 2025.

11. Power to make the decision

11.1. Local authorities and health boards are responsible under section 14 of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 to jointly undertake an assessment of the needs for care and support, and the support needs of carers, in their area.

11.2. Section 56 of the Regulation and Inspection of Social Care (Wales) Act 2016 (RISCA) I inserted section 144B into the 2014 Act requiring local authorities to produce a local market stability report.

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| Report to | Communities Scrutiny Committee |
| Date of meeting | 7 September 2023 |
| Head of Service | Lisa Jones, Interim Head of Legal and Democratic Services |
| Report author | Karen 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 how Scrutiny can support the delivery of the Council's Corporate Plan and its aim of becoming Net Carbon Zero and Ecologically Positive by 2030, 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;
- 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 continued 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 scrutinising 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.

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's next meeting is scheduled for 3 October 2023.

6. How does the decision contribute to the Corporate Plan 2022 to 2027: The Denbighshire We Want?

- 6.1 Effective scrutiny will assist the Council to deliver its Corporate Plan 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.
- 6.2 Whilst the decision on the Committee's forward work programme itself will have a neutral contribution on the Council's aim of becoming Net Carbon Zero and Ecologically Positive by 2030, the Committee by effectively scrutinising all matters examined by it can help support the delivery of this ambition.

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?

11.1 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

12.1 Section 21 of the Local Government Act 2000.

12.2 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 |
|-------------|---------------------------|--|---|---|---|-----------------------|
| 7 September | Cllr. Elen Heaton | 1. Engagement with Care Forum Wales (CFW) & Care Providers in Denbighshire | To examine the progress made in encouraging CFW and local social care providers to engage with the Council in relation to social care provision and the setting of fees | The establishment of open communication channels between care providers, their representative body and local authorities locally and regionally for the purpose of setting realistic and fair fees for social care provision which is based on up to date verified data | Nicola Stubbins/David Soley | By SCVCG January 2023 |
| 19 October | Cllr. Barry Mellor | 1. New Waste Service Model – Progress Report | To examine the progress in relation to the activities associated with rollout of the new Service (incl. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An update on the implementation of the main service change • update on the implementation of the AHP Service | Identification of actions or resolutions to any gaps or obstacles encountered to date with the rollout process with a view to addressing them in time to secure a seamless rollout of the new Service and ensure residents' buy-in and compliance with the new waste and recycling service which will support the Council's ambition in relation to carbon reduction. | Tony Ward/ Andy Clark/ Jamie Lees/ Lowri Roberts | By SCVCG March 2023 |
| | Leader | 2 Rhyl Regeneration | To examine the effectiveness of the | Identification of any barriers or slippages and the formulation of | <i>Tony Ward</i> | <i>June 2022</i> |

Communities Scrutiny Committee Forward Work Plan

| Meeting | Lead Member(s) | Item (description / title) | | Purpose of report | Expected Outcomes | Author | Date Entered |
|------------|--|----------------------------|---|--|--|--|--|
| | | | Programme and Governance | Programme Board's work in delivering the regeneration programme to date | 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 | | |
| | Cllr. Win Mullen-James Extend invite to Cllr Peter Scott (Chair of T&F Group) | 3 | GTAA T.B.C. | To review the revised assessment prior to its being submitted to Welsh Government | Members' views and observations are sought on the detail of the work carried out and the revision of the previously submitted GTAA. | Kimberley Mason | 23/05/23 (rescheduled July 2023) |
| 7 December | Cllr. Win Mullen-James | 1. | <i>Second Homes and Short-term Holiday lets and their impact have been fully assessed)</i> (timing tbc – once the full details of the WG proposals are known (incl. Licensing Scheme proposals) | <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 apply to holiday accommodation, along with national and local taxation</i> | (i) <i>An assessment of the proposals' anticipated impact on Denbighshire County Council, residents, businesses and local economy</i> (ii) <i>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/ March 2023)</i> |

Communities Scrutiny Committee Forward Work Plan

| Meeting | Lead Member(s) | Item (description / title) | | Purpose of report | Expected Outcomes | Author | Date Entered |
|------------|---------------------|----------------------------|--|---|---|---|-----------------------------|
| | | | | <i>systems (the WG's "three-pronged approach to address [the] second homes crisis"</i> | | | |
| 1 February | | | | | | | |
| 14 March | | | | | | | |
| 9 May | Barry Mellor | | <i>Tree Maintenance & Management (tbc)</i> | <i>To examine the Council's policy(ies) relating to tree maintenance and management along with the resources allocated for tree maintenance and management work across Denbighshire</i> | <i>An evaluation of the effectiveness of the Council's current work in relation to tree management and maintenance with a view to securing sufficient resources to ensure the delivery the Council's Corporate Plan themes of a greener, and a fairer, safe and more equal Denbighshire whilst also supporting the ambition of becoming an ecologically positive and net carbon zero authority by 2030.</i> | <i>Emlyn Jones/ Huw Rees / Thomas Hiles</i> | <i>SC&VCG July 2023</i> |

Future Issues

Communities Scrutiny Committee Forward Work Plan

| Item (description / title) | Purpose of report | Expected Outcomes | Author | Date Entered |
|----------------------------|--|---|---------------------------|--------------|
| | Update on the Draft Tourism signage Strategy | To provide an update on progress in regard to brown tourist direction sign projects within Denbighshire | Mike Jones/Peter McDermot | 09/05/23 |
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For future years

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Communities Scrutiny Committee Forward Work Plan

Information/Consultation Reports

| Information / Consultation | Item (description / title) | Purpose of report | Author(s) | Date Entered |
|---|--|---|-----------------------------|---------------|
| INFORMATION (for circulation early autumn 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

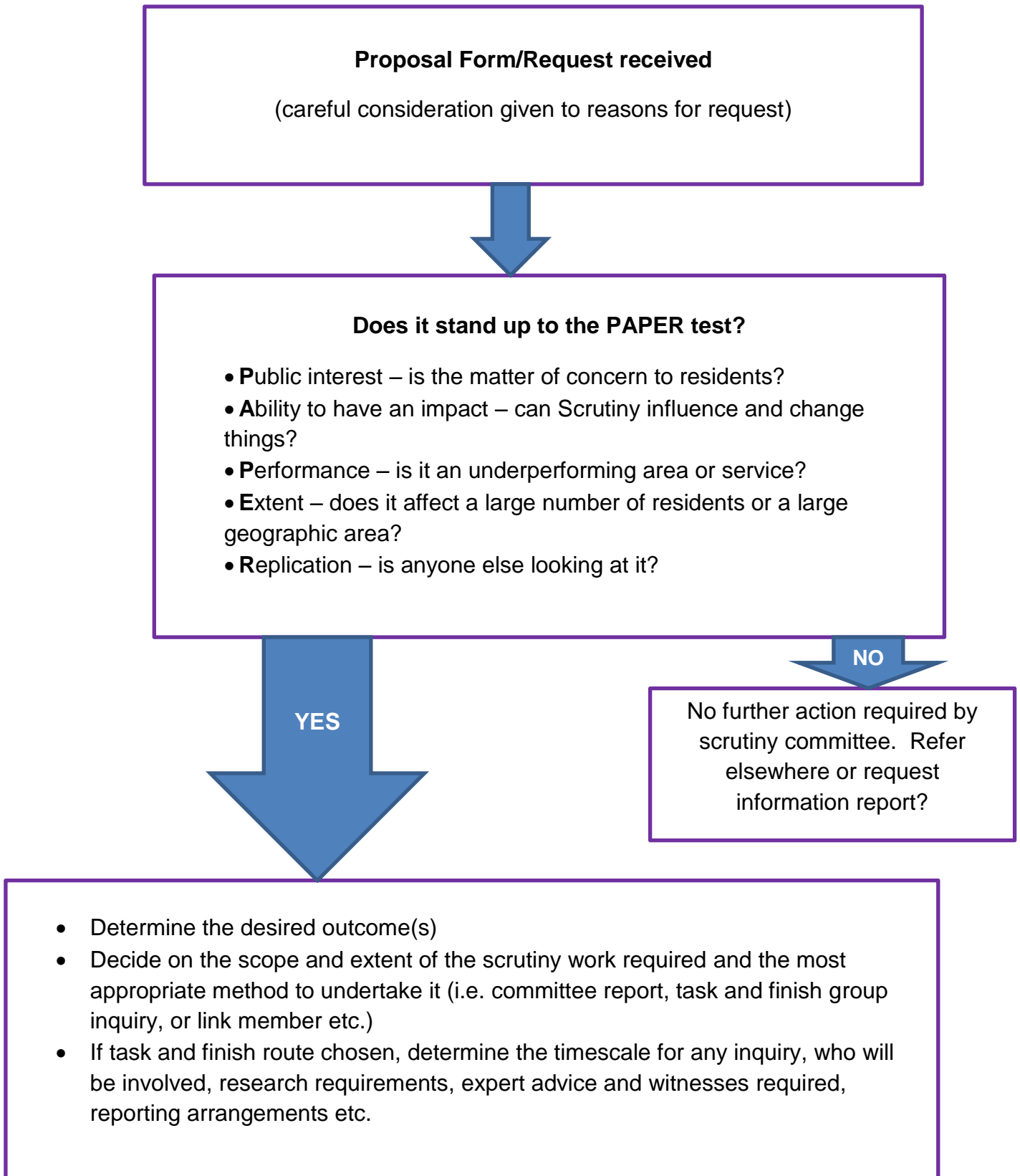
| Meeting | Deadline | Meeting | Deadline | Meeting | Deadline |
|---------|------------------------------|---------|----------------|-------------|-------------------------------|
| 4 May | 19 April (due to B/H) | 29 June | 15 June | 7 September | 23 August (due to B/H) |

21/08/23 KE

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| 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 |
|---------------------|----------------------------|--|--|------------------------------------|---|
| 19 September | 1 | Rhyl Business Improvement District (BID): ballot for 2 nd 5-year term | To request a decision on whether DCC should vote “yes” or “no” in the ballot to determine whether there should be a 2 nd 5-year term for the Rhyl BID | Yes | Cllr Jason McLellan Lead Officer – Tony Ward |
| | 2 | Ysgol Plas Brondyffryn – New Build Project | To seek Cabinet endorsement of the preferred site for the progression of the new build project for Ysgol Plas Brondyffryn | Yes | Cllr Gill German Lead Officer – Geraint Davies Report Author – James Curran / Lisa Walchester |
| | 3 | North East Wales Archive project | To provide Cabinet with an update, to review the options appraisal and seek authorisation to submit a National Lottery Heritage Fund grant application, noting the required match funding contribution if successful | Yes | Cllr Emrys Wynne Lead Officer – Liz Grieve Report Author – Craig Berry / Sian Price |
| | 4 | Regional Strategic Capital Plan – Regional Integration Fund – Health & Social Care | To seek Cabinet agreement and sign off that the Regional Strategic Capital Plan reflects the priorities for | Yes | Cllrs Elen Heaton and Gill German Lead Officer / Report Author – Ann Lloyd |

Cabinet Forward Work Plan

| Meeting | Item (description / title) | | Purpose of report | Cabinet Decision required (yes/no) | Author – Lead member and contact officer |
|-------------------|----------------------------|---|---|------------------------------------|--|
| | | | integrated health and social care in Denbighshire | | |
| | 5 | Annual Treasury Management Review Report 2022/23 | To give a review of the Treasury Management activities over the previous financial year (2022/23) | Tbc | Cllr Gwyneth Ellis Lead Officer – Steve Gadd Report Author – Rhys Ifor Jones |
| | 6 | Updated Denbighshire Procurement Strategy (2022 – 2027) | To seek adoption of the updated Denbighshire Procurement Strategy | Yes | Cllr Julie Matthews Lead Officer – Lisa Jones Report Author – Karen Bellis |
| | 7 | Finance Report | To update Cabinet on the current financial position of the Council | Tbc | Cllr Gwyneth Ellis Lead Officer/Report Author Steve Gadd |
| | 8 | Items from Scrutiny Committees | To consider any issues raised by Scrutiny for Cabinet’s attention | Tbc | Lead Officer – Scrutiny Coordinators |
| | | | | | |
| 24 October | 1 | Finance Report | To update Cabinet on the current financial position of the Council | Tbc | Cllr Gwyneth Ellis Lead Officer/Report Author Head of Finance and Audit |
| | 2 | Items from Scrutiny Committees | To consider any issues raised by Scrutiny for Cabinet’s attention | 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 |
|--------------------|----------------------------|--|---|------------------------------------|--|
| 21 November | 1 | Care Home Fee Setting 2024/25 | To brief Cabinet on the outcome of the Regional 2024/25 Care Home Fee Setting process and seek approval for Denbighshire's response to its recommendation | Yes | Cllr Elen Heaton Lead Officer / Report Author – Nicola Stubbins / David Soley |
| | 2 | Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment (GTAA) | To seek approval for re-submission of the draft amended GTAA to the Welsh Government | Yes | Cllr Win Mullen-James Lead Officer – Tony Ward Report Author – Angela Loftus / Kimberley Mason |
| | 3 | Council Performance Self-Assessment Update – July to September | To present an update on the council's performance against its functions, including Corporate Plan and Strategic Equality objectives | Tbc | Cllr Gwyneth Ellis Lead Officer – Nicola Kneale Report Author – Emma Horan |
| | 4 | Finance Report | To update Cabinet on the current financial position of the Council | Tbc | Cllr Gwyneth Ellis Lead Officer/Report Author Head of Finance and Audit |
| | 5 | Items from Scrutiny Committees | To consider any issues raised by Scrutiny for Cabinet's attention | Tbc | Lead Officer – Scrutiny Coordinators |
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| 19 | 1 | North Wales Construction | To approve the NWCF | Yes | Cllr Julie Matthews |

Cabinet Forward Work Plan

| Meeting | Item (description / title) | | Purpose of report | Cabinet Decision required (yes/no) | Author – Lead member and contact officer |
|-----------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|------------------------------------|---|
| December | | Framework (NWCF) Phase 3 | following the procurement exercise | | Lead Officer – Lisa Jones Report Author – Karen Bellis |
| | 2 | North Wales Velodrome Business Case | To consider the business case for the North Wales Velodrome Project | | Cllr Rhys Thomas Tony Ward / Jamie Groves |
| | 3 | Finance Report | To update Cabinet on the current financial position of the Council | Tbc | Cllr Gwyneth Ellis Lead Officer/Report Author Head of Finance and Audit |
| | 4 | Items from Scrutiny Committees | To consider any issues raised by Scrutiny for Cabinet's attention | Tbc | Lead Officer – Scrutiny Coordinators |
| | | | | | |

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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> |
|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| | | | | | |
| 5 September | 19 September | 24 October | 10 October | 21 November | 7 November |

Updated 22/08/2023 – KEJ

Cabinet Forward Work Programme.doc