

To: Members of the Partnerships
Scrutiny Committee

Date: 18 October 2023

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Dear Councillor

You are invited to attend a meeting of the **PARTNERSHIPS SCRUTINY COMMITTEE** to be held at **10.00 am** on **THURSDAY, 26 OCTOBER 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 5 - 6)

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

3 URGENT MATTERS AS AGREED BY THE CHAIR

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

4 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING (Pages 7 - 14)

To receive the minutes of the Partnerships Scrutiny Committee meeting held on 14 September 2023 (copy enclosed).

10.05 am - 10.10 am

The Committee will discuss the following items of business, business items number 5 & 6, in its capacity as the Council's designated Crime & Disorder Scrutiny Committee in accordance with the Police & Justice Act 2006 ss. 19 and 20.

5 COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP ANNUAL UPDATE FOR 2022/23
(Pages 15 - 36)

To consider the annual Community Safety Partnership update report for 2022/23 (copy enclosed) which provides details of the Partnership's achievement in delivering its 2022/23 action plan and outlines its progress to date in delivering its action plan for 2023/24.

10.10 am – 10.50 am

6 WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH NORTH WALES POLICE IN DENBIGHSHIRE'S COMMUNITIES

To receive a verbal presentation outlining the partnership working arrangements and practices in Denbighshire and to discuss the effectiveness of these arrangements.

10.50 am – 11.30 am

7 SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME (Pages 37 - 58)

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

11.30 am – 11.50 am

8 FEEDBACK FROM COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES

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

11.50 am – 12.00 noon.

MEMBERSHIP

Councillors

Councillor Joan Butterfield (Chair)

Councillor Peter Scott (Vice-Chair)

Jeanette Chamberlain-Jones

Raj Metri

Kelly Clewett

Arwel Roberts

Pauline Edwards

David Williams

Bobby Feeley
Terry Mendies

Elfed Williams

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LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2000

Code of Conduct for Members

DISCLOSURE AND REGISTRATION OF INTERESTS

I, (<i>name</i>)	<input type="text"/>
a *member/co-opted member of <i>(*please delete as appropriate)</i>	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:- <i>(*please delete as appropriate)</i>	
Date of Disclosure:	<input type="text"/>
Committee (<i>please specify</i>):	<input type="text"/>
Agenda Item No.	<input type="text"/>
Subject Matter:	<input type="text"/>
Nature of Interest: <i>(See the note below)*</i>	<input type="text"/>
Signed	<input type="text"/>
Date	<input type="text"/>

*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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PARTNERSHIPS SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Minutes of a meeting of the Partnerships Scrutiny Committee held in Council Chamber, County Hall, Ruthin and by Video Conference on Thursday, 14 September 2023 at 10.00 am.

PRESENT

Councillors- Joan Butterfield (Chair), Jeanette Chamberlain-Jones, Kelly Clewett, Pauline Edwards, Bobby Feeley, Terry Mendies, Arwel Roberts and Elfed Williams.

Lead Member- Lead Member for Health and Social Care, Councillor Elen Heaton was in attendance at the Committee's invitation.

ALSO PRESENT

Corporate Director- Social Services and Education (NS), Head of Regional Collaboration (CR), Scrutiny Co-ordinator (RE), and Committee Administrators (SJ and NH)

Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board (BCUHB) Representative: Alyson Constantine (AC), Integrated Health Community (IHC) Director of Operations (Central Area) for business item 5.

1 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Peter Scott and Raj Metri.

The Chair and members extended their deepest condolences to Councillor Peter Scott following the sad loss of his wife, Mrs Susan Scott. They requested that their deepest sympathies be conveyed to Councillor Scott and the family.

2 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Councillor Kelly Clewett declared a personal interest in agenda items 5 and 6 as an employee of Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board (BCUHB).

3 URGENT MATTERS AS AGREED BY THE CHAIR

No matters of an urgent nature had been drawn to the Chair or the Scrutiny Co-ordinator's attention prior to the commencement of the meeting.

4 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the Partnerships Scrutiny Committee meeting held on 6 July 2023 were submitted. The Committee:

Resolved: that the minutes of the meeting held on 6 July 2023 be received and approved as a true and correct record of the proceedings.

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

5 NORTH DENBIGHSHIRE COMMUNITY HOSPITAL PROJECT

The Lead Member for Health and Social Care, Councillor Elen Heaton introduced the North Denbighshire Community Hospital Project update.

Members were informed that although the North Denbighshire Community Hospital was a Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board (BCUHB) Project, Denbighshire County Council (DCC) were committed to supporting the vital project.

It was explained that the Project was crucial due to growing demands and pressures within Ysbyty Glan Clwyd A&E Department.

The Lead Member stated that the North Wales Regional Partnership Board (NWRPB) had been required to draft their first 10 year Strategic Capital Plan which had now been submitted to Welsh Government. The development of the Royal Alexandra Hospital was one of three priority projects covering Denbighshire Council.

The Form Zero applications had now been approved by the Regional Partnership Board however, although this was reassuring it was stated that this would only account for 20% of the total funding of the project and was only the first phase of application and not any guarantee of funding.

In August 2023 the Corporate Director, the Leader and the Lead Member for Health and Social Care met with the new interim Chair and Chief Executive of BCUHB. This was a very productive meeting and focused on the development of the North Denbighshire Community Hospital Project. It was reiterated that BCUHB were committed to seeing the project through and were continuing to make contact with Welsh Government to expedite the progress of the project.

The Lead Member expressed the undeniable need for this project to be completed however, there was the need to remember the difficult financial situation being faced.

The Corporate Director further explained the process and timescales as follows:

- Form Zero (application form) had now been submitted and approved by the Regional Partnership Board.
- North Wales Projects that had been approved at Form Zero level will be approved by the Regional Partnership Board and then be submitted to Welsh Government.

The update provided to the Committee in the meeting was a significant step forward in the project however, the funding was yet to be approved by Welsh Government.

The Integrated Health Community (IHC) Director of Operations listed the types of services that would be in place at Royal Alexandra Hospital site and the expectation of them as follows: -

- The recommissioning of community beds
- Enhanced treatment zones
- Level 1-3 Sexual Health
- Community Dental Services
- Older People Mental Health
- CAMHS (Child and Adolescents Mental Health Services)
- Relocation of SPOA (Single Point Of Access Team)
- Minor Injuries Unit (MIU)
- Multidisciplinary Services
- Audiology
- Enhanced radiology
- Preventative advisory services e.g. smoking cessation etc.
- Spaces for the voluntary sector

It was reiterated to the Committee that it was a very difficult financial climate and the cost of the project had significantly changed. The capital project required a review of revenue costs and identification of sources to plug any financial shortfalls.

The Chair thanked the Lead Member and Officers for their comprehensive update and welcomed questions from the Committee.

Members thanked Officers for their work on the Project however, expressed their disappointment at the length of time that this project had been promised to the community and sought clarity on the timescales of the Project going forward.

The Corporate Director understood the frustrations of the Committee and stated that there was currently no timescale for when Welsh Government would respond to the Form Zero Denbighshire County Council would be submitting to them. It would be for Welsh Government to give a date for when the application would be considered by them once they had received it.

Members questioned why there was no report given to the Committee prior to the meeting, and that a Business Case had been submitted however, the Committee had not seen this.

The Corporate Director explained that Committee Members had received updates on the North Denbighshire Community Hospital Project for many years. There was no report submitted for the meeting as there was nothing in writing to share at this moment in time.

At this juncture, the Scrutiny Co-Ordinator explained that BCUHB representatives were not compelled to share documents with the Committee.

The Director of Operations reassured the Committee that they would continue to liaise with Welsh Government to progress the project. Members sought clarity on if there were any statutory rules in place to compel the Minister in Welsh Government to respond to the submissions within a timely

manner. The Chair asked the Scrutiny Co-ordinator if they would seek clarity on this from the Monitoring Officer.

The concerning issue of reinforced autoclaved aerated concrete (RAAC) had been widely documented in the press over the past week and Members questioned if the Health Board had conducted a survey on the North Denbighshire Community Hospital site. The Director of Operations Stated that surveys on the building had been completed and no issues with the concrete had been found.

The Chair thanked Officers for their attendance and the update that was given.

Members thanked Alyson Constantine for attending and for sharing the latest information with them. The Committee:

Resolved: subject to the above observations –

- (i) to acknowledge the information provided in relation to the progress made to date in relation to delivering the North Denbighshire Community Hospital Project;***
- (ii) to register its continued disappointment on the lack of a definitive timescale for the project's delivery; and***
- (iii) request that a further report be presented to the Committee upon receipt of the Welsh Government decisions relating to the Health Board's 10 year Capital Plan and the North Wales Regional Partnership Board's 10 year Strategic Plan.***

6 NORTH WALES REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP BOARD ANNUAL REPORT 2022 TO 2023

The Lead Member for Health and Social Care introduced the North Wales Regional Partnership Board (NWRPB) Annual Report.

Regional Partnership Boards were established as part of the Social Services and Well-being Act.

Regional Partnership Boards had two core aims: -

- To improve the well-being of the population.
- To improve how Health and Care Services were delivered within the region.

Annually the North Wales Regional Partnership Board were required to produce a report and submit it to Welsh Government.

The report (previously circulated) for the year 2022- 2023, gave a comprehensive overview of the achievements and communication and engagements efforts as well as providing an insight into the future priorities of the NWRPB.

Due to the breath of the report the Lead Member asked if the discussion could be opened to Members with the approval of the Chair.

Questions were welcomed from Members.

Members referred to the Regional Integration Fund (RIF) which was outlined in the report. Projects which directly supported carers were important however, the report stated that this funding was granted until 2027. Members questioned whether the funding would be continuing after this date. The Corporate Director- Social Services and Education stated that prior to the introduction of the RIF there was the Integrated Care Fund (ICF), which was allocated on a year by year basis. Currently there was a 5-year commitment to the funding however, the decision as to whether this continued after 2027 was with Welsh Government.

Members questioned the number of Boards that were operating within the NWRPB and their functions. Concerns were raised around how large the NWRPB was becoming. The Corporate Director stated that the NWRPB was a very busy environment and managing meetings and colleagues time was organised as efficiently as possible. Many of the Boards and meetings were required by the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act and more responsibility had been put on the Regional Partnership Board over recent years. Officers were always mindful that Denbighshire and Denbighshire residents were receiving the maximum value from their involvement within the NWRPB. There was a statutory element to the Partnership Board and the Boards within it.

The Corporate Director informed Members that the report was a regional report and the requirements as to how it was constructed were defined by Welsh Government. Therefore, the report did not go into the level of detail for Denbighshire that Members may have required to see. If there were areas of the report that Members felt that they would like more detail on they were advised to inform officers and potentially this detail could be provided at a future meeting.

Members referred to the Housing with Care Fund (HCF). The purpose of the HCF was to support independent living in the Community for people with care and support needs, and to provide intermediate care settings in the community so that people who needed care, support and rehabilitation could return to living independently or maintain their existing independence. This was a 4-year funding programme which funded schemes under 3 objectives.

Members questioned objective 1- Increase the existing stock of housing with care significantly asking if there was an update on this within Denbighshire.

The Corporate Director explained that there was little progression on objective 1 at this time however, this was under constant review. There were currently Projects under objectives 2 and 3 of the report (previously circulated). Denbighshire were utilising their allocation and were moving forward with the HCF.

Members questioned if there was an evaluation of the success of the Boards and the outcomes of the work that was taking place. The Corporate Director stated that evaluation of the Boards was thorough. Many reports were statutory required to be submitted to Welsh Government including the Population Needs Assessment and the Market Stability Report. These reports were evaluated when they were

submitted to Welsh Government. The NWRPB was subject to Audit Wales reviews and formal, informal and good practice evaluation was undertaken.

Members referred to the Annual Delivery Plan in appendix 2 of the report (previously circulated). Specific concerns were raised around the cancellation of the Health Care Support Team Workforce Project, within the District Nursing Team, although it was making a clear difference in the number of patients in hospital waiting for care packages. The Corporate Director stated that difficult decisions needed to be made within the financial climate at that time. As this team was funded via RIF funding, which was a tapered fund where funding reduced year on year, a decision had to be taken on which priorities could be funded going forward. Unfortunately, given the current financial climate further similar difficult decisions would need to be taken in future.

Members commented that North Wales had the largest Health Board in the country and the NWRPB played a crucial role within North Wales. Members commented that many residents were unaware of the NWRPB and what its purpose was and questioned if there was a way to engage local communities and give them knowledge of this. The NWRPB was still in need of being publicised to ensure that local people understood where money was spent and that it controlled many aspects of the care system within North Wales. The Head of Regional Collaboration explained that engaging with the public on the NWRPB was difficult. The NWRPB was good at communicating and sharing information with the people involved in the NWRPB and further work was ongoing to reach a wider audience.

Work was continuing to gather the stories of service users on the success of the projects that had helped them. It was hoped that once the stories were finalised a booklet would be circulated on a regular basis to residents, local members and to Welsh Government to help further with the knowledge and understanding of the NWRPB in the region.

Continuing, the Head of Regional Collaboration informed the Committee that there was an event planned for November 2023 to help residents understand the schemes and projects that were being delivered on a daily basis across the region.

Members questioned that in the report there was no reference to the concerns of the officers at the end of the funding time frame. The Corporate Director confirmed that the report did not contain that information as the contents of the report was dictated by Welsh Government. It was suggested that the report should be read alongside the Corporate Director's Annual Report as this outlined the hopes and aspirations but also the concerns for the coming year.

The Chair thanked the Corporate Director, Lead Member, Head of Regional Collaboration and Officers for bringing the report to the committee.

At the conclusion of an in-depth discussion the Committee:

Resolved:

- (i) to confirm that it had read, understood, and taken into account the work that was required to be undertaken by the Regional Partnership Board; and**
- (ii) subject to the above comments and observations, to receive the details provided on the work and progress achieved during 2022/23 on the areas that were being taken forward under the auspices of the North Wales Regional Partnership Board.**

7 SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME

The Scrutiny Co-ordinator introduced the report and appendices (previously circulated) seeking Members' review of the Committee's work programme which provided and update on relevant issues.

The next Partnerships Scrutiny Committee meeting was scheduled for the 26 October. There were two substantial items listed for the next meeting:

- Setting of Affordable Rent Levels
- Community Safety Partnership (Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Committee)

The Scrutiny Co-ordinator informed Members that the Scrutiny Chairs and Vice-Chairs Group at its recent meeting had agreed to request that the Committee include a report on the Blue Flag Status of Denbighshire's Beaches, which stemmed from a Notice of Motion to County Council, on its forward work programme. This had been placed on the Committee's Forward Work Programme for November 2024.

The Scrutiny Chair's and Vice Chair's Group next meeting was scheduled to be held on 3 October 2023 and Members were encouraged to complete the relevant form attached if there were any items Members wanted to be considered at the meeting.

Appendix 3 was the Cabinet's Forward Work Programme for Members reference. Appendix 4 provided the Committee with further information regarding recommendations from the previous meeting.

At the conclusion of the discussion the Committee:

Resolved: subject to the inclusion, as and when available, of a progress report on the North Denbighshire Community Hospital Project to confirm its forward work programme as set out in Appendix 1 to the report.

8 FEEDBACK FROM COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES

None.

Meeting concluded at 12pm.

Report to	Partnerships Scrutiny Committee
Date of meeting	26th October 2023
Lead Member / Officer	Lead Member for Housing and Communities Councillor Rhys Thomas
Head of Service	Helen Vaughan- Evans, Head of Corporate Support Service: Performance, Digital & Assets
Report author	Sian Taylor, Community Safety Manager
Title	Community Safety Partnership Annual Update for 2022-2023

1. What is the report about?

- 1.1 The Community Safety Partnership (CSP) activity and performance report is based on the joint partnership priorities as identified in the North Wales audit of crime that is conducted annually. The Police and Crime Commissioner agrees the priorities and then draws up an action plan to be delivered locally that is monitored by the Safer North Wales Partnership Board. Locally we deliver this action plan by analysing what is happening in our local area and implementing local solutions.

2. What is the reason for making this report?

- 2.1 The purpose of this report is to inform the Partnerships Scrutiny Committee of the activity of the Joint Community Safety Partnership (CSP) from April 2022- March 2023, the work ongoing in 2023/24 and provide detail on how the CSP is funded.

3. What are the Recommendations?

- 3.1 That Partnerships Scrutiny Committee considers and comments on the contents of the attached performance and statistical update for 2022-2023.

4. Report details

4.1 CSP's were created in 1998 to develop and implement Strategies and action plans to reduce crime and disorder. Each Authority had its own CSP. Some 14 years ago Conwy County Borough Council (CCBC) and Denbighshire County Council (DCC) merged their Community Safety teams into a single team, with CCBC being the main employer. Corporate Support Service Performance, Digital and Assets take the lead for managing the Community Safety Partnership activity in Denbighshire.

4.2 The Local Community Safety Partnership meeting regime consists of:

- Strategic Steering Group – held three times a year
- Anti-social Behaviour Tasking Group – held monthly
- Organised Crime Prevention Group- held monthly
- Rhyl Community Safety Forum- held quarterly
- Emerging issues task and finish groups established as and when required

4.3 The three priority areas for 2022-2023 were as follows:

Priority area 1- Work in Partnership to Reduce Crime and Disorder

- Reduce victim based crime
- Reduce Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)
- Support vulnerable people to prevent them becoming victims of crime
- Reduce repeat incidents of victim-based crime and ASB for victims and perpetrators
- Work with the Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) to manage the levels of repeat victims of Domestic Abuse
- Deal effectively with high-risk cases of Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence
- Increase the confidence in reporting Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence
- Increase awareness amongst young people of sexual violence

Priority area 2- Work in Partnership to Reduce reoffending- National/ Regional Priority.

- Adult reoffending (18+)

Priority area 3- Local priorities

- Reduce crime linked to licensed premises and taxis
- Improve confidence in reporting Antisocial Behaviour to the Local Authority
- Deal with any ASB hotspot areas in partnership with others
- Raise awareness locally of emerging crime issues

4.4 Each Priority area has a number of performance indicators assigned to it to monitor progress and crime trends. We review all of the statistics on a quarterly and monthly at a local area basis and act on any emerging issues.

4.5 Please see attached the Community Safety Partnership Performance and Statistical Report for 2022-2023 (Appendix 1).

4.6 Please see attached the Community Safety Partnership work ongoing in Denbighshire 2023-2024 (Appendix 2).

5. How does the decision contribute to the Corporate Plan 2022-2027: The Denbighshire we want?

5.1 Where relevant, the work of the Community Safety Partnership is aligned to the fairer, safe and more equal Denbighshire corporate priority.

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

6.1 The Partnership projects within the Action Plan are fully grant funded. Each Responsible Authority can allocate a certain amount of funding which will directly support the outcomes for reducing crime in Denbighshire. See Appendix 3 for more detail on funding.

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

7.1 Not required.

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

8.1 The Community Safety Partnership was consulted on the 2022-2023 Activity Plans via all Responsible Authorities (Local Authority, North Wales Fire and Rescue Service, North Wales Police, Wales Probation and Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board (BCUHB)).

8.2 The Lead Member and Head of Service in Denbighshire will be briefed on the content of the report.

8.3 The CSP report annually to the Council's Partnerships Scrutiny Committee.

9. Chief Finance Officer Statement

9.1 It is important that the cost of delivering the Community Safety Action Plan continues to be contained within the external funding and budgets available.

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

10.1 That information coming into and out of the Local Authority is appropriately shared and actioned. This is now managed via a quarterly written community safety report to Denbighshire County Council's Strategic Leadership Team and Lead Member and by also establishing a quarterly meeting of senior officers who attend the Regional Community Safety and Safeguarding Boards.

11. Power to make the decision

- Crime and Disorder Act 1998
- Police Reform Act 2002
- Section 21 of the Local Government Act 2000
- Section 19 and 20 of the Police and Justice Act
- Crime and Disorder (Overview and Scrutiny) Regulations 2009
- Section 7.15.2 of the Council's Constitution stipulates that Partnerships Scrutiny Committee as the Council's designated Crime and Disorder Committee has a duty to ensure that the Council's interests, resources and priorities are reflected in the work of the CSP, in accordance with ss19 and 20 of the Police and Justice Act 2006



Appendix 1- Community Safety Partnership Performance report for April 2022- March 2023 for Denbighshire

1. Overall Community Safety Plan Performance summary

1.1. Of the three main priority areas of work for the Community Safety Partnership at the end of March 2023 two were **Acceptable** and one was **Good**. We have seen an increase in the numbers of Theft and handling, vehicle crime, sexual offences and youth reoffending rate which means priority 1 and 2 have remained acceptable when compared to last year but we have seen reductions in all of the other types of crimes we are required to monitor when compared to the year before.

1.2. Here is a summary position for each Partnership Priority in 2022- March 2023.

What each of the colours mean are as follows:

Colour	Measure Status
Green	Excellent
Yellow	Good
Orange	Acceptable
Red	Priority for improvement

Priority	Activity Description	Performance Status 2022-2023	Project/ activity Progress
Priority 1 Reduce Crime and Disorder in the area by working in partnership.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work collectively to reduce victim based crime • Manage Antisocial Behaviour (ASB) • Support vulnerable people to prevent them becoming victims of crime • Reduce repeat incidents of victim based crime and Antisocial Behaviour for victims and perpetrators • Deal effectively with high risk cases of Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence • Increase the confidence in reporting of Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence • Increase awareness amongst young people of sexual violence 	Acceptable	Good

Priority	Activity Description	Performance Status 2022-2023	Project/activity Progress
Priority 2 Work collectively to Reduce Reoffending	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Working collectively to prevent Adult reoffending Work to prevent Children and young people becoming victims of crime or committing crime as a result of exploitation Work collectively in preventing Organised crime/County Lines 	Acceptable	Good
Priority 3 Local and Regional priorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work collectively to manage antisocial behaviour and the response to antisocial behaviour locally. Work collectively to share information on organised crime, County lines and exploitation. Work collectively to raise awareness of Domestic abuse and sexual violence locally Work regionally to develop a Serious violence strategy by January 2024 	Good	Good

2. Detailed performance and project/activity progress per Priority Area

2.1. Priority 1- Reduce Crime and Disorder in Denbighshire by working in partnership

Priority 1 Performance status- Acceptable

Overall, the performance for the priority is **Acceptable** due to the continued increased numbers of Theft and handling, vehicle crime and sexual offences (Victim Based crimes). The status remains the same as 2021-2022.

Work of the partnership included;

- Raising awareness of victim-based crimes via social media, attending events and making sure information is available on our websites.
- Home and business surveys carried out by crime reduction advisors and Police Community Support Officers to help prevent burglaries.
- We provided 15 homes with target hardening equipment and crime prevention advice (Locks/door bars etc.)
- We participated in the monthly Multiagency Risk Assessment Conference meeting called MARAC's online where victims of domestic abuse are discussed and where action plans for assistance are put in place.

- Denbighshire sent out numerous press releases on domestic abuse throughout the year led by our Lead Member and we changed the colour of the Pont y Ddraig Bridge to signify the support of the Local Authority on White Ribbon day on the 25th of November 2022. The International day is dedicated to raising awareness of domestic abuse and violence against women and girls.
- We promoted the 'Live fear free All Wales helpline' received 128 calls from Denbighshire residents. We have been promoting the helpline number at every opportunity.

Priority 1 Project/activity update – Good

We, as a Partnership continued with the work identified in our work plan for 2022-2023. We continued to increase our partnership work on the disruption of organised crime by utilising the individual powers in each organisation. This group helps to provide the police with a rich picture of what's going on with individuals identified as being involved with organised crime.

Regional meetings continued discussing Modern Day Slavery, County Lines, Integrated Offender Management, Serious Violence, Domestic abuse and substance misuse via the Area Planning Board meetings. There have also been a number of regional operational groups established to help carry forward specific pieces of work. For example preventing terrorism operational group, modern day slavery operational group and serious violence regional task and finish group.

2.2. Priority 2- Reducing reoffending

Priority 2 performance status- Acceptable

Overall the performance for the priority is Acceptable due to the increase in youth reoffending

Adult Repeat Offender data

	2021/22	2022/23	Percentage change	Number of crimes
Denbighshire	224	209	-6.7%	15 less offences
Conwy	234	169	-27.8	165 less offences

Youth Reoffending data

	2021/22	2022/23	Percentage change	Number of crimes
Denbighshire	17	60	252.9%	Increase +43
Conwy	23	96	317.4%	Increase +73

In 2022-2023 we have seen reductions in adult reoffending in both Denbighshire and Conwy.

In 2022-2023 we had increases in youth reoffending rates. The surge in youth reoffending occurred mid 2022 which has been attributed to coming out of lockdowns after Covid. The Youth Justice Board are aware of the increase in youth offending specifically in the 12-17 age group and are working with the youth offending team and youth services to help prevent further reoffending.

The work of the partnership is as follows:

- Local Integrated offender management programmes continues remotely initially and have managed adult offender and those young people transitioning between childhood and adulthood.
- We continued to promote community resolutions and restorative justice when solving minor issues, some of this work was online and the victims of crime found
- We have attended restorative justice conferences where we have acted as the critical friend in the process.
- We are currently working in partnership to identify repeat antisocial behaviour (ASB) offenders
- We have been working closely with the Youth Justice Service and the Youth services in Denbighshire to access some deterrents for young people and some diversionary activities when youth antisocial behaviour issues have been raised with us as a partnership as well as sharing intelligence with the police so that repeat offenders are targeted.
- We have continued with the forum in Rhyl to look at crime and disorder matters. This group has been established as there are a number of issues in the area that require a single coordination point. This is proving to be very successful.

Priority 2 Project /activity update- Good

The Community Safety Partnership continued to support the multiagency attendance at the Integrated Offender Management programme and assisting with the actions of that programme. We will continue to assist with the programme, which will also address Organised Crime Groups (OCG's) and County Lines work.

We are now trying more targeted work with young offenders as the numbers are relatively small and we think we can have an impact of diverting the offending behaviour. This work will be ongoing.

Additional projects and focus on diversionary activities have been in focus for youth services and youth justice services in Denbighshire.

The issuing of Yellow Cards and the management of these repeat youth offenders have been used in trying to manage the increase we have seen,

2.3. Priority 3- Local Priorities

Priority 3 performance status- Good

Overall performance of the priority is **Good**

In 2022-2022 we have seen a slight reduction in the number of reports of antisocial behaviour and repeat victims of ASB. The work of the partnership was as follows:

- Establishing local multiagency groups in Denbighshire to manage repeat incidents of Antisocial Behaviour
- Promoting the use of community resolutions to resolve repeat incidents of antisocial behaviour
- Using, when appropriate community protection notices / Public Space Protection Orders
- Control of licenced premises and enforcement and monitoring of taxi licences undertaken by the licensing department.
- Sharing information about online fraud utilising National campaigns especially given the reliance on online platforms for everything.
- Community Tension Monitoring this included hate crime monitoring with the assistance of the Regional cohesion team
- Monitoring of protests and vigils
- Applying for additional third sector funding for additional domestic abuse services locally

Priority 3 Project/activity update- Good

We will continue to support the monthly Antisocial Behaviour (ASB) tasking meeting which monitors repeat incidents of ASB and provides a multi-agency response to issues raised as well as taking part in restorative justice conferences and promoting community resolutions and mediation when accepted. We participated in raising awareness of Domestic Abuse, Modern Slavery and County Lines locally, the direction for this work comes from the Regional Vulnerability and Exploitation board and the operational subgroups.

Communications internally and externally on domestic abuse, training and early intervention. This work complimented the work of the Regional Vulnerabilities Board and the regional domestic abuse team.

Additional police activity was carried out in the area of the Night Time economy specifically looking at violence against women and girls and increasing safety.

2022-2023 saw a huge increase of referrals to the specialist domestic violence sector, as victims and survivors found the confidence to seek support following the lifting of restrictions linked to the Covid-19 pandemic. Services saw increases of up to 50% across the board and waiting list inevitably increased for some specialist and therapeutic services. However, it was also a year of increased resource, not just from Welsh Government, but funders such as the Ministry of Justice and the Home Office, so North Wales saw the largest amount of Violence against women and sexual violence related funding coming into the region since regionalisation in 2016. The National Training Framework became fully embedded within the annual training plans of the Local Authorities, Health and Fire, with completion rates climbing rapidly. Ask and Act Champions (Group 3 on the framework) were still slow in coming forward, but this has gradually increased over the 12 months. The IRIS pilot in the South Denbighshire cluster of GP surgeries has been a resounding success, with over 100 GPs and staff receiving enhanced training and support to recognise domestic abuse and make referrals for early intervention. We hope to see this rolled out across Conwy and Denbighshire over the next 2 years, although sustainable funding is always a concern given the suspected reduction in budgets. The North Wales Violence Against women domestic abuse and sexual violence Needs Assessment was completed during this period, showing the rapid increase in referrals to the specialist sector and the need for increased join up of funding, to ensure efficient and effective commissioning of services. A wider range of provision is available than ever before, with recovery programmes embedded into the existing provision across the region. Children and Young people affected by violence have been a priority over the last year and there are now specialist Children and Young People's Workers embedded within more of the services than ever before. They offer a wide range of support, including one to one support, as well as play therapy within the refuges and targeted group programmes in many schools across North Wales. The capital funding for disbursed units was used to address a previously unmet need that of families fleeing abuse over the weekend or out of hours. Many families have been forced to stay in local hotels if refuges don't have space and this means they have no kitchen facilities, space for pets etc. There is now a specific building allowing large families to have a real "home" environment, while they wait for appropriate longer term provision. This increases the chances of them making the final move away from abuse, but also gives them the opportunity to function as a family unit within their own space

3. Crime Statistics from April 2022 - March 2023

3.1. Conwy statistics included in this report as Denbighshire Scrutiny requested the comparison data some years ago.

3.2. The tables below highlight the year-to-date (YTD) volumes of each crime category for the fiscal years 2021/22 and 2022/23. Also included on the chart is the current YTD change in volumes for 2022/23 in comparison to 2021/22:

3.3 Denbighshire

3.3.1 In 10 of the 13 crime and incident categories, 2022/23 saw decreases in volumes in Denbighshire. Increases were seen in the remaining 3 categories.

Denbighshire - Crime & Incident Data	Fiscal Year (YTD)		Change (YTD)	Actual number of Crimes
	2021/22	2022/23		
All Victim Based Crime	10,744	9,963	-7.3%	-781
Violence with injury (VAPWI)	1,345	1,322	-1.7%	-23
Violence without injury (VAP)	2,258	2,171	-3.9%	-87
Stalking & Harassment	1,987	1,701	-14.4%	-286
Sexual offences	512	534	4.3%	+22
Burglary Residential	269	231	-14.1%	-38
Burglary - Business and Community	112	95	-15.2%	-17
Robbery	46	37	-19.6%	-9
Vehicle Crime	180	223	23.9%	+43
Theft and Handling	1,438	1,534	6.7%	+96
Domestic Crime	2,539	2,357	-7.2%	-182
Criminal Damage and Arson	1,111	1,083	-2.5%	-28
Anti-Social Behaviour	2,613	2,447	-6.4%	-166

3.4 Conwy

3.4.1 In 8 of the 13 crime and incident categories, 2022/23 saw decreases in volumes in Conwy. Increases were seen in the remaining 5 categories.

Conwy - Crime & Incident Data	Fiscal Year (YTD)		Change (YTD)	Actual number of Crimes
	2021/22	2022/23		
All Victim Based Crime	10,861	10,228	-5.8%	-633
Violence with injury (VAPWI)	1,363	1,408	3.3%	+45
Violence without injury (VAP)	2,343	2,241	-4.4%	-102
Stalking & Harassment	2,075	1,804	-13.1%	271
Sexual offences	480	506	5.4%	+26
Burglary Residential	239	287	20.1%	+48
Burglary - Business and Community	119	137	15.1%	+18
Robbery	30	22	-26.7%	-8
Vehicle Crime	232	148	-36.2%	-84
Theft and Handling	1,289	1,520	17.9%	+231
Criminal Damage & Arson	1,358	1,277	-6.0%	-81
Domestic Crime	2,666	2,560	-4.0%	-106
Anti-Social Behaviour	3,369	3,093	-8.2%	-276

3.5 Violence Offences

3.5.1 Violence with Injury offences decrease seen in Denbighshire whilst Conwy saw an increase
(Denbighshire -1.7% decrease -23 crimes) and (Conwy 3.3% Increase +45 crimes),

3.5.2 Violence without Injury offences decreased in both counties

(Denbighshire -3.9% decrease -87 crimes) and (Conwy -4.4% decrease -102 crimes),

3.6 Stalking & Harassment

3.6.1 Significant decreases in the volume of stalking and harassment offences were seen in both counties. Home Office recording changes in April 2020 to the category of Stalking & Harassment led to initial large increases across the force, and nationally, however the volumes levelled out over the past couple of years and now decreases are being seen.

(Denbighshire -14.4% decrease 286 crimes) and (Conwy -13.1% decrease -271 crimes),

3.7 Sexual Offences

3.7.1 Sexual Offences have increased in both counties in 2022/23 in comparison to 2021/22. These increases have been seen across the whole of North Wales. As part of a national review of how police forces record and investigate sexual offences (Op SOTERIA), North Wales Police are currently in the process of completing a Rape and Serious Sexual Offences problem profile, to better understand the nature of rape and sexual offences and utilise the knowledge to thoroughly investigate suspects and better support victims.

(Denbighshire +4.3% increase +22 crimes) and (Conwy +5.4% in increase 26 crimes)

3.8 Acquisitive Crime (*Burglary Residential, Burglary Business & Community, Robbery, Vehicle Crime and Theft & Handling*)

3.8.1 Conwy saw an increase in Burglary Residential offences in 2022/23 in comparison, whereas Denbighshire experienced a decrease in volumes.

(Denbighshire -14.1% decrease -38 crimes) and (Conwy +20.1% increase of +48 crimes)

3.8.2 **Burglary Business & Community** offences rose in Conwy, however due to the low volume of offences, the increase equates to just 18 offences more than the previous year. Denbighshire experienced a reduction in 2022/2.

(Denbighshire -15.2% decrease of -17 crimes) and (Conwy +15.1% increase of +18 crimes)

3.8.3 **Vehicle crime** saw a significant decrease in Conwy in 2022/23, however there was an increase in offences in Denbighshire. In terms of volume, there were an additional 23 vehicle crimes in

Rhyl in 2022/23 compared to 2021/22. A spate of 16 vehicle crimes in January 2023 in St Asaph also contributed to the increases seen in Denbighshire. A male has since been arrested and charged with these offences.

(Denbighshire +23.9% increase +43 crimes) and Conwy (-36.2% decrease -84 crimes)

3.8.4 **Theft & Handling** increased in both counties in 2022/23. This category contains Shoplifting, where increases in offences have been seen over recent months, particularly in Conwy. There is also an increasing number of *Making off without payment* offences in each county, again to a larger extent in Conwy: We often see increases of this kind when there are cost of living issues in communities.

(Denbighshire increase 6.7% +96 crimes) and (Conwy increase 17.9% increase +231 crimes)

3.9 Criminal Damage and Arson

3.9.1 Criminal damage and Arson in both Conwy and Denbighshire decreased in 2022/23 in comparison to last year. These decreases are in line with the trend being seen across the force area.

(Denbighshire -2.5% decrease -28 crimes) and (Conwy -6% decrease -81 crimes)

3.10 Domestic Crime

3.10.1 There have been decreases in the volume of domestic crimes for both counties in 2022/23 compared to last year. These decreases have also been seen across North Wales.

(Denbighshire -7.2% decrease -182 crimes) and (Conwy -4% decrease -106 crimes)

3.11 Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)

3.11.1 Conwy and Denbighshire experienced decreases in ASB volumes in 2022/23 compared to 2021/22. Recent requests for analysis have highlighted issues around youth related ASB across North Wales.

3.11.2 Repeat victims of ASB, repeat locations where ASB is occurring, and high-risk vulnerable victims are referred for review to monthly multi-agency tasking groups.

(Denbighshire -6.4% decrease -166 crimes) and (Conwy -8.2% decrease -276 crimes)



Appendix 2- Community Safety Partnership work ongoing in Denbighshire 2023-2024

Summary

- 2.1 We will continue to work regionally to access additional funding for third sector domestic abuse services and to make sure the support services we have are as robust as they can be to cope with the increases we are seeing.
- 2.2 We will continue with our problem solving approach to antisocial behaviour. It would appear from the number of multiagency meetings we have arranged and participated in that this is the best way to deal with repeat incidents is to bring everyone together and update those suffering from ASB on a regular basis to ensure they are consulted and updated.
- 2.3 Youth ASB has been a focus over the last 12 months and will continue to be so. We are working collectively to identify those who are continuously causing issue in our communities.
- 2.4 We are anticipating a rise in all crime areas over the next year due to socio-economic issues communities are facing. There are discussions about preventing crimes ongoing regionally, such as campaigns about securing properties and businesses across the County. The Roll out of a police initiative 'We Don't Buy Crime' will help focus our partnership activity on reducing the theft and handling category of crime.

Specific initiatives for 2023-24

2.5 We Don't Buy Crime

2.5.1 'We Don't Buy Crime' is an initiative partnering with communities and businesses to minimise crime specifically where we have seen our increases in Denbighshire. Focussing on;

- Burglary
- Robbery
- Theft
- Vehicle crime

These are crimes where the offender profits from the crime. They're collectively known as 'acquisitive crime'.

2.5.2 We will continue assisting the Rural Crime Team in the police with the promotion of crime prevention measures and the use of smartwater a bespoke DNA address identification liquid for high value farm items such as quad bikes and target hardening measures. As we enter a period of economic uncertainty history shows us these types of crimes will increase as these

items are very valuable and sought after on the black market. This will also form part of the initiative above with specific work being done with farming communities.

- 2.5.3 As an authority we also have to develop a Serious Violence Strategy by January 2024. We are working regionally on the strategy with the support from the Police and Crime Commissioner's Office. The Crime Commissioner has been allocated specific funding for the development of this strategy across North Wales.
- 2.5.4 The Serious Violence Duty will require local authorities, the police, fire and rescue authorities, specified criminal justice agencies and health authorities to work together to formulate an evidence-based analysis of the problems associated with serious violence in a local area, and then produce and implement a strategy detailing how they will respond to those particular issues. Prisons, youth custody agencies and educational authorities may also need to work with these core partners.
- 2.5.5 As a result of this duty the police, local authorities, fire and rescue authorities, and specified health and criminal justice agencies will have to work together to identify and publish what actions they need to take collectively to reduce violent crime, including domestic abuse and sexual offences. Educational authorities, prisons and youth custody agencies may also be required to work with those bodies as a result of this duty. The legislation grants these authorities the power to share data and information with each other for the purpose of preventing and reducing serious violence. We are being encouraged to place an emphasis on early intervention with young people in order to prevent them from becoming either a victim or perpetrator of serious violence in the first place. Partnerships already work well in tackling serious violence and the Home Office wants to build on this good practice so that it is more consistent across England and Wales.

2.6 Clear, Hold, Build - a police/partnership initiative.

2.6.1 Alongside the serious violence duty strategy development there is something called Clear, Hold, Build a police/partnership initiative. **The initiative aims to:**

- Tackle organised crime groups (OCGs) acting in the neighbourhood
- Build community resilience
- Improve confidence and trust in the police
- Make the area a safer place to live

2.6.2 This is achieved through three flexibly deployed phases of activity – Clear, Hold and Build (CHB).

- **Clear**

The clear phase involves initial targeted enforcement activity (arrests and relentless disruption) that target OCG members, their networks, business interests, criminality, and spheres of influence. The police use all powers and levers to impact on their ability to operate, creating safer spaces to begin restoring community confidence.

- **Hold**

The hold phase involves consolidating and stabilising the initial clear phase to stop remaining or other OCG members capitalising on the vacuum created.

This phase aims to improve community confidence by ensuring spaces remain safe. Visible neighbourhood policing in hot spot areas is used to provide continuing reassurance.

- **Build**

The build phase involves a whole-system approach to delivering community-empowered interventions that tackle drivers of crime, exploitation of vulnerabilities and hotspots of harm.

This phase aims to:

Improve engagement with services

Increased confidence within the community

2.6.3 Greater reporting through to police and partnerships through continued neighbourhood policing and partnership working

2.6.4 Intended outcome of Clear, Hold, Build in a high crime area

- The activity focuses on reducing the activity of organised crime in the area and improving community safety and confidence in the police. This is likely to initially increase reporting of crime and enable further problem solving to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour.

2.7 Safer Streets 5 Fund - Managed by the Police and Crime Commissioners Office and North Wales Police

2.7.2 Bid awaiting formal written approval by the Home Office (end of September/beginning of October 2023)-Project will be completed by March 2025.

2.7.3 The thematic areas of focus for Safer Streets 5 are: Antisocial behaviour, Violence against Women and Girls (in public settings) and Neighbourhood Crime (specifically residential burglary, vehicle crime, street Robbery etc.).

2.7.4 The executive management of the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner and North Wales Police were keen to ensure that the funding was utilised on a need basis and so it was important that applications were made in line with the

demand and risk profile our data indicated and not allocated geographically just because an area hadn't yet received any Safer Streets funding.

2.7.5 Clarification from Home Office stated that 3 thematic projects would be acceptable with the areas of high crime being targeted.

2.7.6 In determining the areas of need the following data sets were analysed:

- Recorded incidents under each theme / 1000 population across preceding 5 years including 5 year mean value.
- Recorded incidents under each theme / 1000 population for the most recent whole recording year vs 5 yr mean value to indicate increase or decrease in demand / risk.
- Community SOC (Serious and Organised Crime) profiles. These detail the number of OCGs (Organised Crime Groups) resident within and active within each local Policing area and makes comment at ward levels.
- Local Policing district Violence Against women and Girls profiles. This provides more of a narrative in respect of the makeup of Violence Against women and girls offending within a Local Policing District, highlighting the nature of offending, specific hot-spot areas and merging / escalating risks.
- Are profiles detailing offences relevant to the Serious Violence Duty (Partnership)

2.7.7 Across these data sets and all 3 thematic areas of focus for Safer Streets 5 Rhyl West 2 came out as the highest demand and highest risk area. Therefore Rhyl West 2 (and Rhyl West as a ward) will benefit from interventions across each of the 3 thematic projects.

2.7.8 Rhyl West 2 (and Rhyl West as a ward) interventions subject to Home Office approval will be as follows:

- Thematic Area 1- Neighbourhood Crime in Residential areas, Vehicle crime and street robbery

Target hardening packs to all residential premises within the area identified (including Smart Water, Ring Door bells and / or security lights, signage, and bespoke crime prevention advice).

Access to online interactive crime prevention tools, including home security (interactive 3D residential property) and vehicle security.

NWP dedicated We Don't Buy Crime officers providing in person crime prevention and engagement days monthly within the targeted area for the life of the project.

New CCTV server for Denbighshire at a cost of £93K to support the planned upgrade of CCTV infrastructure (already commissioned using Shared Prosperity funding). The server is required to support the new modern HD cameras and essentially future proof the local CCTV network.

- Thematic Area 2 -Antisocial Behaviour

Liverpool Football Club Foundation Onside Project (LFC Foundation)/ County Lines School programme. This will support either 2 secondary schools or if run from the local PRU will support all Secondary schools servicing the Rhyl West area (and feeder primary schools), through the provision of a full time LFC Foundation youth worker. The programme offers high risk / high demand students alternative curriculum activities designed to build essential skills, improve consequential thinking, develop respect and community ownership and increase health and wellbeing. The programme runs through multiple cohorts of young people that will be referred into the scheme via a multi-agency triage panel. The programme will also provide interventions in respect of Child Criminal Exploitation, in particular County Lines, which is of particular relevance to Rhyl West. The programme has delivered significant success in other areas demonstrating similar issues. The total cost is £90K, all of which is covered by Safer Streets Fund 5

Eagle House Community Interest Company. This intervention delivers a high intensity programme to develop confidence, essential skills for life such as mutual respect, team working, community ownership and consequential thinking through a 2 day introduction followed by 5 day residential training programme in the Eryri National Park. Each course will cater for 8 young people. The area of Rhyl West will essentially benefit from 2 courses. The first will target those considered hardest to reach and engage in respect of the LFC foundation programme above, therefore intending to act as a springboard into engagement with this longer term initiative. The second course will be available to Denbighshire Youth Justice Service who hi-light an increasingly high volume of late teenage / school leavers in the area in crisis is so much as they are reliant on supported housing, have little employment prospects and subject of criminal exploitation. Again this is a proven intervention delivered by skilled professionals.

- Thematic Area 3 -Violence Against women and Girls

A stalking coordinator role will be established within North Wales Police. This is to address NWP being an outlier in respect of the high volume of harassment and stalking offences recorded, and the low level of detections and other offender based control measures such as Stalking Prevention Orders and Sexual Harm orders being applied for and imposed upon offenders. The work of this staff member will focus on the Rhyl west area along with the other areas highlighted as part of this project. They will support investigations and train colleagues with the intended outcome of a higher output of positive outcomes in terms of reported crimes, increased offender management, decreased repeat offending and increased quality of service for victims.

2.8 Don't Steal My future

- 2.8.1 This is a project delivered by the Rape and Sexual Abuse Support Centre in North Wales. This is the second of their and award winning programme that has been re-worked from a target group of year 11 and above, to year 8 and 9 pupils. It is redesigned to ensure it is age appropriate and will be delivered into all secondary schools servicing the project areas. Included in this training is additional support training and materials for school staff to deal with related disclosures made to them and to support young people seeking advice re these issues.
- 2.8.2 All students will be given this input in the relevant age range. The input is offender focussed and of particular importance as we see a trend in violence against women and girls offences occurring in our schools increasing. The project tackles in addition to consent, the impact that online influences and the ready access to and use of pornography has on young people's behaviours and relationships and how this impacts lives in the long term.
- 2.8.3 North Wales Police have secured a by-stander training product having worked with Professor Adam Winstock from University College in London and Welsh Women's Aid. We will be investing Safer Streets funds into having this translated into a further 6 languages based upon the demographics of our local communities alongside an existing support booklet. Members of the NWP Violence Against Women team will with our regional Community Cohesion partners undertake outreach activities into our hard to reach minority communities. We will deliver the by-stander training initially to key community figures and subsequently hold an open session for community members in a space familiar to them and considered culturally appropriate and in their preferred / first language. We therefore anticipate there will be multiple sessions within the Rhyl area catering for the hard to engage / minority communities within the town. The intent is to make clear what constitutes an offence, the need for community members to step in and protect their friends, family and community and how they can safely do this. We seek to build trust within these communities in respect of NWP, us in Local Authorities and our third sector partners and intend to have appropriate representation at each delivery so demonstrating the support and safe spaces victims can access.



Appendix 3: Community Safety Partnership - Further information on funding.

1. Financial Sources of the Partnership

- 1.1. The Partnership receives no direct grant funding to manage/ allocate. The funding from the Home office and Welsh Government is all given directly to the North Wales Police and Crime Commissioner to commission crime and disorder services/and projects across North Wales.
- 1.2. We are able to access some of the funding allocated to the commissioner from the Home Office Safer Streets fund and Serious Violence fund for local projects by working with the office of the crime commissioner on regional bids.
- 1.3. Regional Domestic Abuse funding from the Welsh Government and Ministry of Justice are also managed by the Office of the Crime Commissioner.

2. Community Safety Team and funding sources

- 2.1. Community Safety Manager- working across Denbighshire and Conwy. Half of the costs each funded by Denbighshire and Conwy via Local Authority revenue funding. Joint manager post created July 2008
- 2.2. 1/3 of a partnership statistical crime analyst (based within North Wales Police) – funded by revenue funding in both Local authorities- regional agreement began 2008 and is reviewed every three years by the Safer North Wales Partnership Board.
- 2.3. North Wales Substance Misuse Coordinator- based with the Community Safety Team Grant funded by The Area Planning Board substance misuse funding from the Welsh Government- Post in place since 2006 post classed as permanent.

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Report to	Partnerships Scrutiny Committee
Date of meeting	26 October 2023
Head of Service	Catrin Roberts, Head of Corporate Support Service: People
Report author	Rhian Evans, Scrutiny Co-ordinator
Title	Scrutiny Work Programme

1. What is the report about?

1.1 The report seeks Partnerships 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; 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.

Setting of Affordable Rent Levels

- 4.8 The above report was scheduled for presentation at the current meeting. However, in a response to a request from officers the Chair permitted the deferral of the report's presentation until the Committee's meeting on 14 December 2023 (see Appendix 1). The deferral of this item provided an opportunity for a new business item to be included on the agenda for the current meeting, enabling Committee members to hold a discussion with representatives from North Wales Police on working in partnership in the Denbighshire communities.

Cabinet Forward Work Programme

- 4.9 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

- 4.10 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 met on 3 October 2023. At that meeting no items were referred to this Committee for examination. The Group's next scheduled to meet on the 28 November 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?

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.

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
14 December	<i>Cllr. Rhys Thomas</i>	1. <i>Setting of Affordable Rent Levels</i> <i>(Representatives from RSLs and the private rented sector landlords to be invited for the discussion)</i> TBC	<i>To examine the criteria and mechanism for setting 'affordable' rent levels in Denbighshire (including for Council Housing stock RSL and private rented sector housing)</i>	<i>To determine whether the Council can influence the application of the methodology with a view to delivering its corporate themes relating to a Denbighshire of quality housing that meets people's needs and a fairer, safe and more equal area.</i>	<i>Emlyn Jones/Liz Grieve/Angela Loftus/Jane Abbott</i>	<i>By SCVCG April 2023 (rescheduled September 2023)</i>
8 February 2024	<i>Cllr. Elen Heaton</i>	1. <i>North Denbighshire Community Hospital Project</i> <i>(TBC once WG decision is known)</i>	<i>To consider the current position with regards to the project's delivery, including support in principle from the RPB & WG, identification of potential funding streams along with the expected timescale for various</i>	<i>An understanding of current timescales and project brief to support the Council to plan its services for residents across the county</i>	<i>BCUHB</i>	<i>September 2023</i>

Meeting	Lead Member(s)	Item (description / title)	Purpose of report	Expected Outcomes	Author	Date Entered
			<i>phases involved with its delivery</i>			
21 March						
16 May						
4 July	Leader (NWEAB Programme Office reps also to attend)	1. North Wales Economic Ambition Board Annual Report 2023/24	To consider the Board's Quarter4/Annual Report on its work and progress during 2023/24	To ensure that the Board delivers its priorities and projects in line with the stipulations and conditions laid out between the Board and the UK & Welsh Governments	NWEAB/Tony Ward	July 2023
	Cllr. Elen Heaton	2. Annual Report on Adult Safeguarding 2023/24	To consider the annual report on adult safeguarding, and information in place to meet the statutory requirements of the Social Services and Well-being Act 2014 and an evaluation of the financial and resource impact of the Supreme Court's 2014 Judgement on deprivation of liberty	An evaluation of whether the Authority is meeting its statutory duty with respect to adult safeguarding and has sufficient resources to undertake this work along with the additional work in the wake of the	David Soley/Alaw Pierce/Nerys Tompsett	July 2023

Meeting	Lead Member(s)	Item (description / title)	Purpose of report	Expected Outcomes	Author	Date Entered
			on the Service and its work (data to include actual numbers in each category as well as % figures and the actual number of allegations proven)	Supreme Court's judgement		
12 September	Cllr. Rhys Thomas	1. Community Safety Partnership [Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Committee]	To detail the Partnership's achievement in delivering its 2023/24 action plan and its progress to date in delivering its action plan for 2024/25. The report to include financial sources and the progress made in spending the allocated funding. (report to include actual numbers as well as percentages to enable the Committee to effectively evaluate the impact of measures put in place)	Effective monitoring of the CSP's delivery of its action plan for 2023/24 and its progress to date in delivering its plan for 2024/25 will ensure that the CSP delivers the services which the Council and local residents require	Nicola Kneale/Sian Taylor	July 2023

Meeting	Lead Member(s)	Item (description / title)	Purpose of report	Expected Outcomes	Author	Date Entered
	Cllr. Elen Heaton	2. North Wales Regional Partnership Board Annual Report 2023/24	To provide an overview of the Regional Partnership Board's activities during 2023/24 and its priority areas for 2024/25	Ensure that the Board is working effectively to support the delivery seamless health, social care and well-being services for Denbighshire residents and the wider North Wales region	Nicola Stubbins/Head of Regional Collaboration	July 2023
7 November	Cllr. Barry Mellor	1. Blue Flag Status for Denbighshire's Beaches (Reps from NRW & Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water to be invited to attend)	To explore the work being undertaken with partner organisations in a bid to received blue flag status accreditation for as many as possible of the county's beaches	To seek assurances or make recommendations to ensure that all partners are working effectively together to achieve the accreditation with a view to boosting the local tourism and recreational economy and ultimately lead to wider economic benefits and	Tony Ward/Emlyn Jones	By SCVCG July 2023 (in response to a Notice of Motion to County Council)

Meeting	Lead Member(s)	Item (description / title)	Purpose of report	Expected Outcomes	Author	Date Entered
				support the delivery of a greener, fairer, safer and more equal Denbighshire		
19 December						

Future Issues

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

For future years

Information/Consultation Reports

Information / Consultation	Item (description / title)	Purpose of report	Author	Date Entered
Information Report (for circulation December 2023)	Quarterly Monitoring of External Care Providers	To provide details of the regular monitoring of external care service providers commissioned by the council for social care services, identifying any escalating concerns or other areas of concern	Katie Newe/Ben Chandler	By SCVCG 2018
INFORMATION REPORT (for circulation in Sept (Q1), Nov/Dec (Q2) & February (Q3) each year) Feb, Sept & Nov 2023	North Wales Economic Ambition Board	To provide information on the Board's performance and progress in delivering its priorities and projects in line with the stipulations and conditions laid out between the Board and the UK & Welsh Governments	NWEAB/Tony Ward	December 2021
INFORMATION REPORT (September 2024)	Collaborative Procurement Service's Annual Report	To receive information on the collaborative Service's activity and performance during 2023/24	Gary Williams/Lisa Jones/Karen Bellis	September 2023

INFORMATION REPORT (upon publication – late 2023?)	Welsh Government's report on mould & condensation in social housing in Wales	To circulate the Welsh Government's report on following its review of how social housing landlords in Wales respond and deal with reported incidents of mould & condensation in their housing stock.	Emlyn Jones/Angela Loftus/Geoff Davies	May 2023
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Updated 12/10/2023 – RhE

Note for officers – Committee Report Deadlines

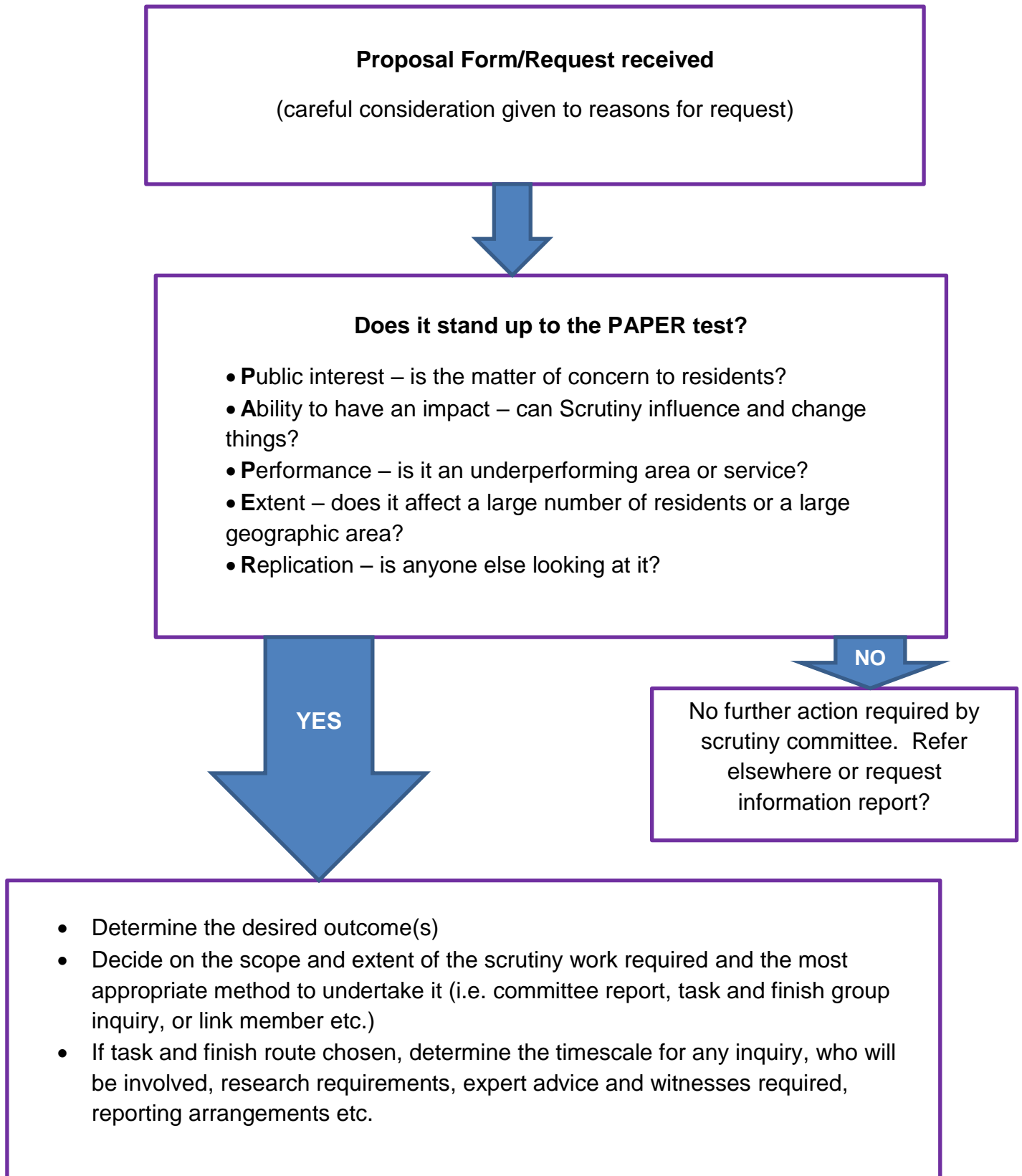
Meeting	Deadline	Meeting	Deadline	Meeting	Deadline
14 December	30 November	8 February 2024	25 January 2024	21 March	7 March

Partnerships Scrutiny Work Programme.doc

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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 priorities (if 'yes' please state which priority/priorities)	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
21 November	1	Library Savings Proposal	To outline how savings could be achieved by reducing Library Services	Yes	Cllr Emrys Wynne Lead Officer/Report Author – Liz Grieve
	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	Re-tendering of Supported Living Contracts	To request Cabinet approval for DCC to commence the re-tendering of supported living contracts	Yes	Cllr Elen Heaton Lead Officer – Ann Lloyd Report Author – Charlotte Jones / Liana Duffy
	5	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
	6	Items from Scrutiny Committees	To consider any issues raised by Scrutiny for Cabinet's attention	Tbc	Lead Officer – Scrutiny Coordinators

Cabinet Forward Work Plan

Meeting	Item (description / title)		Purpose of report	Cabinet Decision required (yes/no)	Author – Lead member and contact officer
19 December	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 / Ann Lloyd
	2	North Wales Construction Framework (NWCF) Phase 3	To approve the NWCF following the procurement exercise	Yes	Cllr Julie Matthews Lead Officer – Lisa Jones Report Author – Karen Bellis
	3	North Wales Velodrome Business Case	To consider the business case for the North Wales Velodrome Project		Cllr Rhys Thomas Tony Ward / Jamie Groves
	4	Housing Rent Setting & Housing Revenue and Capital Budgets 2024/25	To seek approval for the proposed annual rent increase for council housing and to approve the Housing Revenue Account Capital and Revenue Budgets for 2024/25 and Housing Stock Business Plan	Yes	Cllr Rhys Thomas Lead Officer/Report Author Geoff Davies
	5	Contract for Haulage, Sorting and Brokerage of Dry Mixed Recycling (DMR)	To consider a contract variation/extension of DMR	Yes	Cllr Barry Mellor Lead Officer/Report Author – Simon Lammond

Cabinet Forward Work Plan

Meeting	Item (description / title)		Purpose of report	Cabinet Decision required (yes/no)	Author – Lead member and contact officer
	6	Finance Report	To update Cabinet on the current financial position of the Council	Tbc	Cllr Gwyneth Ellis Lead Officer/Report Author Head of Finance and Audit
	7	Items from Scrutiny Committees	To consider any issues raised by Scrutiny for Cabinet's attention	Tbc	Lead Officer – Scrutiny Coordinators
23 January	1	Budget 2024/25 - Final Proposals	To consider the implications of the Local Government Settlement 2024/25 and proposals to finalise the budget for 2024/25	Tbc	Cllr Gwyneth Ellis Head of Finance and Assets
	2	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
	3	Items from Scrutiny Committees	To consider any issues raised by Scrutiny for Cabinet's attention	Tbc	Lead Officer – Scrutiny Coordinators
20 February	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

Cabinet Forward Work Plan

Meeting	Item (description / title)		Purpose of report	Cabinet Decision required (yes/no)	Author – Lead member and contact officer
	2	Items from Scrutiny Committees	To consider any issues raised by Scrutiny for Cabinet's attention	Tbc	Lead Officer – Scrutiny Coordinators
19 March	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 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>
<i>24 October</i>	<i>10 October</i>	<i>21 November</i>	<i>7 November</i>	<i>19 December</i>	<i>5 December</i>

Updated 09/10/2023 – KEJ
Cabinet Forward Work Programme.doc

Progress with Committee Resolutions

Date of Meeting	Item number and title	Resolution	Progress
14 September 2023	5. North Denbighshire Community Hospital Project	<p><u>Resolved:</u> <i>subject to the above observations –</i></p> <p><i>(i) to acknowledge the information provided in relation to the progress made to date in relation to delivering the North Denbighshire Community Hospital Project;</i></p> <p><i>(ii) to register its continued disappointment on the lack of a definitive timescale for the project's delivery; and</i></p> <p><i>(iii) request that a further report be presented to the Committee upon receipt of the Welsh Government decisions relating to the Health Board's 10 year Capital Plan and the North Wales Regional Partnership Board's 10 year Strategic Capital Plan.</i></p>	Health Board representative, Lead Member and officers informed of the Committee's observations and recommendations. A progress report has been provisionally scheduled into the Committee's forward work programme for early 2024 (see Appendix 1).
	6. North Wales Regional Partnership Board Annual Report	<p><u>Resolved:</u></p> <p><i>(i) to confirm that it had read, understood, and taken into account the work that was required to be undertaken by the Regional Partnership Board; and</i></p> <p><i>(ii) subject to the above comments and observations, to receive the details provided on the work and progress achieved during 2022/23 on the areas that were being taken forward under the auspices of the North Wales Regional Partnership Board.</i></p>	Lead Member and officers advised of the Committee's comments and recommendations. The presentation of the Board's next Annual Report has been scheduled into the Committee's forward work programme for September 2024 (see Appendix 1).

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