

To: Members of the Cabinet

Date: 18 January 2023

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Dear Councillor

You are invited to attend a meeting of the **CABINET** to be held at **10.00 am** on **TUESDAY, 24 JANUARY 2023** in the **COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNTY HALL, RUTHIN AND BY VIDEO CONFERENCE.**

Yours sincerely

G. Williams
Monitoring Officer

AGENDA

1 APOLOGIES

2 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

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

3 URGENT MATTERS

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

4 MINUTES (Pages 5 - 12)

To receive the minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on 13 December 2022 (copy enclosed).

5 YEAR 1 APPLICATIONS TO THE SHARED PROSPERITY FUND, AND A GENERAL UPDATE REGARDING THE PROCESS AND TIMESCALES FOR FUTURE APPLICATION ROUNDS (Pages 13 - 22)

To consider a report by Councillor Jason McLellan, Leader and Lead Member for Economic Growth and Tackling Deprivation (copy enclosed) seeking Cabinet approval of the applications to the Shared Prosperity Fund as recommended, and consideration of the information on processes and timescales for future applications and next steps.

6 DENBIGHSHIRE LEARNING DISABILITY SUPPORTED LIVING SCHEMES (Pages 23 - 48)

To consider a report **(which includes a confidential appendix)** by Councillor Elen Heaton, Lead Member for Health and Social Care (copy enclosed) seeking Cabinet approval to the temporary extension of contracts and process for retendering of contracts in relation to Denbighshire Learning Disability Supported Living Schemes.

7 BUDGET 2023/24 - FINAL PROPOSALS (Pages 49 - 78)

To consider a report by Councillor Gwyneth Ellis, Lead Member for Finance, Performance and Strategic Assets (copy enclosed) setting out the implications of the Local Government Settlement 2023/24 and proposals to finalise the budget for 2023/24.

8 FINANCE REPORT (Pages 79 - 126)

To consider a report by Councillor Gwyneth Ellis, Lead Member for Finance, Performance and Strategic Assets (copy enclosed) detailing the latest financial position and progress against the agreed budget strategy.

9 CABINET FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME (Pages 127 - 132)

To receive the enclosed Cabinet Forward Work Programme and note the contents.

MEMBERSHIP

Councillor Gwyneth Ellis
Councillor Gill German
Councillor Elen Heaton
Councillor Julie Matthews
Councillor Jason McLellan

Councillor Barry Mellor
Councillor Win Mullen-James
Councillor Rhys Thomas
Councillor Emrys Wynne

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LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2000

Code of Conduct for Members

DISCLOSURE AND REGISTRATION OF INTERESTS

I, *(name)*

a *member/co-opted member of
*(*please delete as appropriate)*

Denbighshire County Council

CONFIRM that I have declared a ***personal / personal and prejudicial** interest not previously declared in accordance with the provisions of Part III of the Council's Code of Conduct for Members, in respect of the following:-
*(*please delete as appropriate)*

Date of Disclosure:

Committee *(please specify)*:

Agenda Item No.

Subject Matter:

Nature of Interest:

*(See the note below)**

Signed

Date

*Note: Please provide sufficient detail e.g. 'I am the owner of land adjacent to the application for planning permission made by Mr Jones', or 'My husband / wife is an employee of the company which has made an application for financial assistance'.

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CABINET

Minutes of a meeting of the Cabinet held in the Council Chamber, County Hall, Ruthin and by video conference on Tuesday, 13 December 2022 at 10.00 am.

PRESENT

Councillors Jason McLellan, Leader and Lead Member for Economic Growth and Tackling Deprivation; Gill German, Deputy Leader and Lead Member for Education, Children and Families; Gwyneth Ellis, Lead Member for Finance, Performance and Strategic Assets; Elen Heaton, Lead Member for Health and Social Care; Julie Matthews, Lead Member for Corporate Strategy, Policy and Equalities; Win Mullen-James, Lead Member for Local Development and Planning, Rhys Thomas, Lead Member for Housing and Communities, and Emrys Wynne, Lead Member for Welsh Language, Culture and Heritage

Observers: Councillors Ellie Chard, Arwel Roberts, Gareth Sandilands and Peter Scott

ALSO PRESENT

Chief Executive (GB); Corporate Directors: Communities (NS); Governance and Business/Monitoring Officer (GW), and Environment and Economy (TW); Head of Finance and Property (SG); Interim Head of Community Support Services (DS); Lead Officer – Community Housing (GD); Principal Manager – School Support (JC); Business Coordinator: Leader’s Office (SE), and Committee Administrators (KEJ, NPH & RTJ [Webcaster])

1 APOLOGIES

Councillor Barry Mellor, Lead Member for the Environment and Transport.

2 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Councillor Julie Matthews declared a personal interest in agenda item 5 – Housing Rent Setting & Housing Revenue and Capital Budgets 2023/24, because she had friends and family who lived in council housing.

3 URGENT MATTERS

No urgent matters had been raised.

4 MINUTES

The minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on 22 November 2022 were submitted.

Matters Arising – Page 9, Item 6 Revised Delivery Agreement for the Replacement Local Development Plan – Councillor Win Mullen-James advised that the Revised Delivery Agreement had since been approved by Welsh Government.

***RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 22 November 2022 be received and confirmed as a correct record.*

5 HOUSING RENT SETTING & HOUSING REVENUE AND CAPITAL BUDGETS 2023/24

Councillor Rhys Thomas presented the report seeking Cabinet approval for the Denbighshire Housing annual rent increase, the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Capital and Revenue Budgets for 2023/24 and Housing Stock Business Plan.

Some context was provided to the report including the economic background with the cost of living crisis and rise in UK Inflation (CPI) to 10.1% and increases of up to 30% for maintenance and capital programme costs. Consequently, Welsh Government had set a maximum rent increase of 6.5% in Wales (7% set by the UK Government for England), together with some additional amendments to be agreed with the housing sector. It was proposed to increase weekly rents by 5%, resulting in an average weekly rent of £102.31 (average weekly rent increase £4.87). In reaching the proposal a balance had been met between maintenance and investment in housing stock, and the impact on tenants as a result of the increase.

The Lead Officer Community Housing guided Cabinet through the report detail and impact of the current economic climate both in terms of investment in housing stock to meet Welsh Housing Quality Standards (including environmental targets/fuel efficiencies) and funding new build programmes together with the impact on tenants and household finances. As part of the rent setting process, an assessment of cost efficiencies, value for money and affordability for tenants had been carried out, and there was confidence that work had demonstrated rents were affordable, with Denbighshire's rents at the lower end of the target rent and continually monitored.

The report included the forecast outturn for the HRA for 2022/23 in line with the monthly monitoring report with balances at year end forecast to be £2,157m. The impact of a rent increase on the Housing Stock Business Plan (HSBP) was also explained, with each 1% rent increase providing £170k revenue income year on year to enable £3.5m of borrowing for investment over the period of the HSBP. The recommendation to apply a 5% increase and not 6.5% would cost the HRA around £250k for every year of the HSBP. A 5% increase would be worth £850k resulting in £8.5m investment over ten years. It was noted that 72% of tenancies were in receipt of welfare benefit and housing costs support with any rent increase being covered by that support, and assurances were provided regarding ongoing work to support tenants as much as possible. There was a commitment to no evictions due to financial hardship and provision of targeted support for tenants.

Cabinet recognised the need to balance the level of rent increase to meet future investment needs of housing stock against affordability for tenants. Councillor Julie Matthews advised that Cabinet had asked for further detail which had not been included in the report in terms of options appraisals of other percentage increases for comparison purposes in order to evaluate the impact at the different levels and make a fully informed decision. During debate, it appeared there had been some misunderstanding regarding the dissemination of that data which had been readily available and circulated to members on request, and officers apologised that the

modelling data had not reached Councillor Matthews. The point had been made in the report that every 1% increase in rent equated to £170k each year for investment borrowing, with a 3% increase severely impacting the capital programme.

In terms of balancing the impact on housing investment and affordability for tenants, the Head of Finance and Lead Officer Community Housing responded as follows –

- the proposed 5% had been put forward following extensive modelling of different options to ensure council housing was maintained to an appropriate standard whilst also fulfilling contractual obligations with regard to new builds; any lesser increase would result in a reduction in those standards which would require additional investment in future years, and withdrawal from new builds given the impact on borrowing capacity for future investment. Whilst a higher increase would be preferable to fund higher capital expenditure and investment, it was accepted that a balance needed to be made against affordability for tenants
- a report on efficiency, value for money and affordability had been attached as Appendix 3 to the report and detailed those calculations. The proposed 5% was half the inflation rate, the minimum wage and welfare benefits were increasing by 10%, and most salaries should increase by 5%. Other local authorities and housing associations were taking a similar approach. It was accepted that every household was different and each case would be treated differently with targeted support for tenants. If the maximum 6.5% increase was applied the council would still be worse off next year with fewer improvements to council housing due to increases in maintenance and capital costs and lack of rent increase to meet those levels. Less than a 5% increase would result in more tenants losing out on investment in their homes and reduced housing standards.

Cabinet discussed the issue in detail and overall was satisfied that due care and attention had been given to finding the correct balance, although given the current pressures on household finances, no increase at all would have been preferable. It was noted that the increase would be covered by welfare benefit and housing costs support for 72% of tenancies, but there would be a greater impact on the remaining 28% and Cabinet was pleased to note the comprehensive targeted support for tenants and the fact that there would be no evictions due to financial hardships. The importance of ensuring the best possible services for tenants and investment in their homes was highlighted, particularly in terms of fuel efficiencies given the energy crisis which could generate cost savings, and it was vital that work continued to benefit tenants. Reference was also made to the Council's priority to invest in new builds to meet the significant housing need in the county.

Officers responded to further questions and comments as follows –

- confirmed 2100 people on the housing waiting list with a desperate need for social housing and work was ongoing between the authority and local housing associations to best meet those needs in the current challenging housing market
- the modelling of weekly rents by property type had been included in Appendix 3 to the report based on 5% and 6.5% increases by property type; for a three-bedroom house the 5% increase would equate to a weekly increase of £5.53
- provided assurances that a 5% increase would enable the council to keep up with progress in maintaining housing standards based on the current trajectory

and meet the target of 170 additional homes over the five-year period. However, the new WHQS, including net zero by 2033, would be unattainable without significant financial support from the Welsh Government and discussions were ongoing between local authorities, housing associations and Welsh Government in that regard given the future uncertainties.

Councillor Matthews acknowledged the need for a rent increase and valid arguments put forward but reiterated concerns that data modelling of all options had not been shared with Cabinet at the outset to inform decision making, particularly given that any increase would have a detrimental impact on households, with a greater impact on the 28% of households in work and not in receipt of benefits. She also felt a more holistic approach should be taken with other decisions which would impact on people's incomes. There were mixed views as to whether the full data modelling of options should have been included in the report or made available to members separately. The Leader's preference had been for an options report but he felt the data supplied in the report was sufficient to reach a decision.

Councillor Rhys Thomas apologised that the data had not reached Councillor Matthews. He felt there had been a good debate of the issues, reiterating that it was a difficult decision and a balance needed to be made, and stressed that all the money in the HRA was used to benefit tenants in Denbighshire. A rent increase lower than 5% would detrimentally impact on future improvement works and plans to build new homes to meet housing need. On being put to the vote it was –

RESOLVED that –

- (a) *the Housing Revenue Account Budget for 2023/24 (Appendix 1 to the report) and the Housing Stock Business Plan (Appendix 2 to the report) be adopted;*
- (b) *rents for Council dwellings be increased in accordance with the Welsh Government Policy for Social Housing Rents by 5% with effect from Monday 3 April 2023;*
- (c) *the additional report (Appendix 3 to the report) on Affordability, Cost Efficiencies, and Value for Money be noted, and*
- (d) *Cabinet confirms that it has read, understood and taken account of the Well-being Impact Assessment (Appendix 4 to the report) as part of its consideration.*

[Councillor Julie Matthews voted against the above resolution.]

6 CAPITAL PROCESS AND THE FUTURE OF THE STRATEGIC INVESTMENT GROUP

Councillor Gwyneth Ellis presented the report updating Cabinet on a proposed new capital budget setting process and changes to the Terms of Reference and name of the Strategic Investment Group.

The Head of Finance and Property explained the reasoning behind the review of the capital process, taking into account feedback from the Strategic Investment Group (SIG) and to ensure a more strategic approach. The proposals had been discussed at Cabinet Briefing, Senior Leadership Team, and Governance and Audit Committee who had provided an input. Cabinet was guided through the draft capital process as set out in the report, which included a proposed new Capital Scrutiny Group. The guiding principles behind the review included the need for strong governance, scrutiny and transparency and synchronisation of processes.

Main points of the proposal included –

- creation of a Capital Scrutiny Group (CSG) comprising key senior officers and representatives of Cabinet and Scrutiny Committees to review business case proposals for capital investment (other than schemes under £0.250m that were funded 100% by external grant funding to be approved at senior officer level)
- the CSG would not take formal decisions but their views would be taken into consideration by other decision making bodies: Cabinet to approve individual capital schemes with the annual Capital Plan requiring approval by full Council; Corporate Executive Team to approve schemes under £1m if CSG had recorded support; Cabinet to make the final decision on all schemes over £1m; schemes under £1m not supported by the CSG could be taken by the Head of Service to Cabinet for a final decision if agreement could not be reached
- further work was required on the detail of the capital bid forms and process with the aim that all capital projects would be completed on Verto project forms to include all the extra information required to make decisions on capital business cases; detailed operational guidance would be developed by the Spring
- the CSG and Budget Board would be supported by Committee Services from April and the process and terms of reference would be subject to annual review.

Cabinet welcomed the consultation on the proposed new process, including scrutiny by the Governance and Audit Committee on that approach, and supported the new process as a means of strengthening the democratic processes and provide greater transparency of the scrutiny and decision making arrangements involved. Councillors Arwel Roberts and Gareth Sandilands, former members of the SIG, gave their viewpoint on the previous arrangements, which Cabinet found useful, and voiced their support for the proposed new process and merits of that approach. Given the significant changes at Cabinet and senior level since May's local government elections, it was considered timely to review and implement the new approach. The importance of "buy-in" to the process from the whole Council was highlighted with all working together for the benefit of all the county's residents.

In response to questions, the Head of Finance and Property advised that –

- whilst the proposed change to in-year grant funded schemes up to £0.250m to be approved at officer level would streamline that process, the main aim of the new process was to provide a more strategic approach with greater transparency, with information readily available and easily accessible on modern.gov, and to ensure more scrutiny of larger schemes and decisions taken
- the Council had approved a programme of school modernisation via the Sustainable Communities for Learning Programme and funding had been

secured in the medium term financial plan for that purpose. However, the business cases for the individual schemes would be scrutinised by the CSG. A similar approach would be taken to the Levelling Up Fund capital based projects; Council had approved 10% match funding and the Clwyd South Constituency bid had since been approved by the UK Government; the business cases for the individual schemes would be subject to scrutiny by the CSG

- details of the current capital spend were included in Cabinet's monthly finance report. The approved Capital Plan for 2022/23 was £51.8 with expenditure to date of £17.9m, which was typical at this stage in the financial year
- in the interim period since May's elections, matters usually considered by SIG had been dealt with through the Budget Board, with schemes over £1m requiring Cabinet approval. It was expected that the CSG would be in place early next year with information available on modern.gov from April 2023, and an overview of the initial work of the CSG was provided. Most capital schemes involved executive decisions taken either by Cabinet or the Corporate Executive Team but clearly based on the recommendations of the CSG.

Having reviewed the proposed new capital process, it was –

RESOLVED that Cabinet –

- (a) *approve the new capital process, and*
- (b) *support the draft Terms of Reference of the Capital Scrutiny Group which would be presented for approval at the first meeting of the Group.*

At this point (11.30 am) the meeting adjourned for a refreshment break.

7 FINANCE REPORT

Councillor Gwyneth Ellis presented the report detailing the latest financial position and progress against the agreed budget strategy.

A summary of the Council's financial position was provided as follows –

- the net revenue budget for 2022/23 was £233.693m (£216.818m in 2021/22)
- an overspend of £2.189m was forecast for service and corporate budgets (£5.535m overspend last month)
- highlighted current risks and assumptions relating to corporate budgets and individual service areas together with the impact of coronavirus and inflation
- detailed service savings and fees and charges increases (£0.754m); no savings having been requested from Community Support Services or Schools
- provided a general update on the Housing Revenue Account, Treasury Management, Capital Plan and major projects.

Cabinet was also asked to approve plans to spend a capital grant (£1.203m) to upgrade schools' kitchens and dining facilities to accommodate the universal primary free school meals scheme.

The Head of Finance and Property reported on actions taken to reduce the forecasted overspend from £5.535m last month to £2.189m which included an underspend in capital financing costs largely due to project delays; £400k from contingency following final virements on the pay settlement; £230k arising from new ways of working savings relating to staff mileage, and around £1m service savings from delays to recruitment and use of reserves. The importance of reducing the underspend was reiterated which would allow around £2.7m from the budget mitigation reserve to help fund the budget for the next year to allow time to make the necessary budget adjustments for the following year. Whilst the budget position had much improved from the previous month and reflected the situation to date, there may be other pressures identified going forward, such as winter maintenance given the current cold conditions. Finally, reference was made to the recommendation to approve plans to spend a capital grant to upgrade schools' kitchens and dining facilities which had been supported by the Budget Board.

Councillor Gill German elaborated on the roll out of the universal free school meals scheme on a phased basis as part of the partnership agreement between Welsh Labour and Plaid Cymru at Welsh Government level for the benefit of every primary school child. She referred to the challenges in terms of kitchen upgrades and facilities and paid tribute to the Catering Team who had worked tirelessly to deliver the scheme and as a result it would be rolled out early to all Year 1 pupils in Denbighshire from January 2023. The capital grant was vital to implementing the free school meal offer and ensuring the necessary infrastructure was in place.

Councillor German also reported on the recent Foster Carers Christmas event and the excellent offer for local authority fostering including the level of care and mutual support in the service. The budget pressure in that service area was recognised and assurances were provided that work would be ongoing to tackle the budget pressure and further promote the fostering service and its benefits in the new year.

RESOLVED that Cabinet –

- (a) *note the budgets set for 2022/23 and progress against the agreed budget strategy, and*
- (b) *approve the plans to spend a capital grant (£1.203m) to upgrade schools' kitchens and dining facilities to accommodate the Universal Primary Free School Meals scheme as detailed in section 6.9 of the report and Appendix 5 to the report.*

8 CABINET FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

The Cabinet forward work programme was presented for consideration and members noted the following amendments –

- Ysgol Plas Brondyffryn (Outline Business Case) – removed from January
- Ysgol Plas Brondyffryn (Review objection report) – added to February
- North Wales Energy Strategy – added to February

RESOLVED that Cabinet's forward work programme be noted.

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED that under Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972, the Press and Public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it would involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 14 of Part 4 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

9 RECOMMENDATION OF THE REGIONAL FEE SETTING GROUP

Councillor Elen Heaton presented a confidential report seeking Cabinet agreement to the recommendations of the North Wales Regional Fees Group for 2023/24, Residential and Nursing Home fees.

The 2023/34 Fees Group included representatives from all six North Wales local authorities and Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board and had produced a single recommendation for 2023/24 Residential and Nursing Home fees including: Ordinary Residential Care; Residential Care for the Elderly and Mentally Infirm; Nursing Care, and Nursing Care for the Elderly and Mentally Inform. Reference was made to the methodology and guidance used together with relevant data and revised care hours to account for increasing complexity of need in order to deliver a recommendation. The Fees Group unanimously agreed the recommendations contained in the report, believing them to be reasonable and defensible rates for the four categories of Care Home. A table of Denbighshire Care Home fees rates for 2022/23 and percentage increase for 2023/24 had also been included for comparison purposes. Details of the recommended cost increase in Denbighshire's Care Home spend had been provided.

Cabinet considered the report and discussed the merits of the proposed increase in fees as set out, including the reasoning behind the percentage return on investment to reflect the regional approach and subsequent impact on profit margins which should be highlighted. Some concern was expressed regarding the negative press coverage from sources which did not accurately reflect the situation with regard to care home fees and the relationship with care providers. In terms of the quality of care provided, officers provided assurances regarding the contract monitoring process and regular review of care packages to ensure high standards.

RESOLVED that Cabinet accept all the recommendations of the Fees Group as set out within the report.

The meeting concluded at 12.20 pm.

Report to	Cabinet, 24 January 2023
Lead Member / Officer	Cllr Jason McLellan, Leader and Lead Member for Economic Growth & Tackling Deprivation / Liz Grieve, Head of Customer, Communications & Marketing
Report author	Nicola Kneale, Interim Joint Head of Business Improvement & Modernisation
Title	Year 1 applications to the Shared Prosperity Fund, and a general update re. the process and timescales for future application rounds

1. What is the report about?

- 1.1. Applications to the Shared Prosperity Fund that are recommended for approval by Cabinet, plus a general update on future application processes and timescales.

2. What is the reason for making this report?

A decision is required on whether to fund the applications enclosed, and Cabinet need to be aware of next steps in terms of the Shared Prosperity Fund.

3. What are the Recommendations?

- 3.1. That Cabinet approves the applications, based on recommendations from the Core Partnership Group.
- 3.2. That Cabinet considers the information on processes and timescales for future applications (Appendix B) and advises on next steps.

4. Report details

- 4.1. The UK Government's Shared Prosperity Fund makes £21.2 million available to Denbighshire communities between 2022 and end of March 2025 across three investment priority themes: Communities & Place; Supporting Local Business, and People & Skills. The funding is part of the UK Government's Levelling Up suite of investment.
- 4.2. In anticipation of UK Government approval of the Investment Plan in late November, SLT were invited to develop applications for spending year 1 funding. Please note, the invitation to apply for year 1 funding has been restricted to the local authority only due to the terms of the funding between UK Government and LAs not yet being agreed (therefore carrying a level of financial risk that is not acceptable). All applications must cover until March 2023 only, and be able to spend and deliver by then.
- 4.3. As per UK Government Guidance, a Partnership Group has been established '*... to advise on strategic fit and deliverability...*'. Applications have been shared with the Partnership Group and commentary requested. This has then been shared with a subset of the Partnership Group – the Core Group – who are able to make recommendations to Cabinet on what to fund based on strategic fit, deliverability and affordability. The Core Group is made up as follows:
- DCC Leader (Chair):
 - Corporate Director: Economy, Environment & Communities
 - Lead Member: Corporate Strategy, Policy & Equalities
 - Conwy & Denbighshire Area Superintendent, North Wales Police
 - Chief Officer Denbighshire Voluntary Services Council
 - Chief Officer Cadwyn Clwyd
- 4.4. Appendix A summarises the projects recommended to receive funding. The year 1 allocation is not fully committed, with the breakdown being as follows (please note, national agreement is needed about how Multiply will be allocated).

DCC UKSPF Year 1 Allocation Summary

	Capital £	Revenue £	Revenue: Multiply £	TOTAL £
UKSPF ALLOCATION	850,000.00	1,725,096.00	669,525.00	3,244,621.00
Less Expenditure:				
Committed 4% Admin	0.00	103,004.00	0.00	103,004.00
<i>Applications 1 - 12</i>	<i>497,602.00</i>	<i>1,370,747.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>1,868,349.00</i>
TOTAL SPEND	497,602.00	1,473,751.00	0.00	1,971,353.00
REMAINING	352,398.00	251,345.00	669,525.00	1,273,268.00

This equates to an underspend of almost £604k in 2022-23.

4.5. Recommendations from the Core Group are to fund the projects, details of which are provided at Appendix A.

4.6. Appendix B outlines the process and timelines for opening up further invitations to apply for Shared Prosperity Funding. It also highlights risks to those processes and timescales, and proposed mitigations.

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

5.1. The Investment Plan for the SPF has been developed within the context of our corporate priorities.

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

6.1. Costs associated with this decision will be covered by the 4% administration award that's part of the SPF allocation.

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

Not required for this panel. The investment plan was subject to a WIA.

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

8.1. Scrutiny doesn't have an official role to play in this process. As previously mentioned, the UK Government guidance stipulates the need for a Partnership

Group to advise on investment decisions, in order to aid transparency, accountability, and ensure good value for money.

9. Chief Finance Officer Statement

As noted in 4.2, the applications for year 1 of the investment plan has been restricted to the local authority to mitigate the risk due to the tight timescales to deliver these schemes by March 2023. As noted in 6.1, the costs of the year 1 schemes and associated support costs are fully grant funded.

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

10.1. The tight timescales for applicants to deliver represents a challenge. To overcome this, we will share as much information as possible to help applicants prepare bids, and support successful applicants to help ensure effective project delivery.

11. Power to make the decision

11.1. The Council's economic development function are the responsibility of the Cabinet in accordance with the Council's constitution and the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Functions and Responsibilities) (Wales) Regulations 2007.

11.2. General Power of Competence under the Local Government and Elections Wales Act 2021 s.24

Project Name	Project Contact/ Service/ Department	Brief Overview	Project Value Capital	Project Value Revenue
Nature for Health	Countryside Services - Hannah Arndt	<p>The Nature for Health Programme provides opportunities to help people live healthier and more fulfilled lives through improved access to the natural environment at a local level. Weekly sessions include conservation and rural skills, health and nature walks, arts and crafts and grow your own sessions along with opportunities for volunteering and skills progression.</p> <p>Groups in five delivery areas are now established to provide a number of opportunities for residents to engage with. Workshops and volunteering sessions are carried out on Denbighshire Housing's green spaces and on countryside and heritage sites in Rhyl, Prestatyn, Llangollen, Corwen and Denbigh.</p>	£99,371	£59,029
School Sports Tournaments	DLL - Sian Bennett	<p>10 sports tournaments will be held between Jan-March 2023</p> <p>These tournaments give children the opportunity to participate in a fun festival with information made available to them on local sports clubs that they could join.</p>		£5,000
Purchase of ANPR cameras	Highways and Environment - Mike Bennion	The purchase of six specialist ANPR specification redeployable surveillance cameras which will enable us to monitor and gather information in respect of environmental crime hotspots.	£75,000	£9,000
Denbigh Town Centre CCTV	Highways and Environment - Ian Millington	Upgrading existing aged CCTV cameras across Denbigh town centre and introduce further cameras to increase the area of coverage and providing a maximum of six CCTV cameras to the Denbighshire Partnership public space camera network	£55,687	
Botanical Garden & Rhyl Prom Ponds	Highways and Environment - Mike Bennion	Regeneration of recreational areas - Allow replacement of historical ornamental ponds at Botanical Gardens and Rhyl Prom (4 sites in total)	£42,000	
Additional DM resources	Highways and Environment - Mike Bennion	Provision of additional environmental cleansing, grounds maintenance and AONB resources (peak tourism season April to October 2022)		£250,000

Parks for People	AONB / Countryside - David Shiel	<p>Visitor numbers at key visitor sites have seen a dramatic increase over the last two years – The peak experienced on the lifting of pandemic restrictions have not eased. In fact they have continued to grow.</p> <p>The increase in visitor numbers and associated visitor pressure has meant that it is necessary to have a Ranger presence at each site to provide positive advice and guidance to visitors. This will reduce congestion and the negative impacts of high visitor numbers on the local community and improve the visitor experience.</p>		£130,135
Workstart Scheme	Working Denbighshire - Rachael Sumner- Lewis	The Work Start Scheme is committed to offering high quality work placement opportunities providing residents of Denbighshire aged 16 plus with supported work experience which will enable them to maximise on sustainable employment. Work placements are a vital step in a person's journey to employment, offering an opportunity for them to learn and gain an insight into working life. The Work Start Scheme has been piloted by Denbighshire County Council and offers valuable internal/external (SMEs) work placement opportunities and a Sector Routeway approach. It also offers unemployed people the additional opportunity to develop their skills alongside the valuable work experience.		£305,030
Llwybrau	Education - James Brown	Llwybrau will provide support to approximately 420 young people per academic year in Denbighshire, either reducing the risk of disengagement or providing support to re-engage in education, or to move into employment or training at the end of year 11, so aiming to tackle one of the causes of long term poverty. Llwybrau offers two main strands in the project to support vulnerable young people. These strands are Education Engagement Officers and Counsellors. The Education Engagement officer role builds on the success of the TRAC support mentor, whilst the Counsellors offer additional services to target mental health, particularly boys.		£297,557
Barod	Working Denbighshire - Tina Foulkes	Barod works with people who are not quite ready to enter the labour market to address their barriers to employment, raise aspiration and increase motivation and confidence.		£64,996.25

		<p>This project joins up a variety of services around individuals aged 16-35 to address the variety of barriers to employment, raise aspiration, increase motivation and engagement with the labour market or the mainstream DWP employment programmes.</p> <p>Given the regional difficulties being experienced recruiting to employability and skills support we aim to open the doors to a wider age group in January which will help us to hit the ground running from April should further funding be secured.</p>		
Rhyl Youth Centre Refurbishment	Youth Service - Jeanette Smalls	<p>The project will see the refurbishment of the former East Parade Cafe (vacant since 2015) to relocate Rhyl Youth Centre to the building. The project will deliver a fit-for-purpose modern building for the young people of Rhyl and North Denbighshire, increasing access to youth work activity, specific youth work interventions, advice, guidance and information, and access to partner agencies.</p> <p>Maintenance work to the interior rooms and redecoration, internal safety systems check and works due to the building being vacant and installation of a kitchen and new windows.</p>	£225,544	
Warm Welcome/Food Bank/Heating funding passport	Housing - Cath Taylor	<p>We would like to offer financial assistance, through grant schemes to our Croeso Cynnes community hubs and community foodbank initiatives. Both of the above have received small, emergency response funding through WLGA previously, both of which were very quickly oversubscribed. We would also like to offer our third sector partners the opportunity to apply for some funding for pilot projects to respond to the ever-increasing cost of living crisis. We hope this funding will attract creative ideas for addressing the cost of living crisis at a local level. These three responses will provide a platform to engaging more widely with our communities and enabling 'wrap-around' support to be channelled through them by way of professional support services e.g. help with finances, employability, learning opportunities etc...</p>		£250,000

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Appendix B: Regional Arrangements

Gwynedd are leading on behalf of the region, and, while the emphasis is on local decision-making, it is necessary to coordinate as much as possible so as to maximise efficiency and opportunity for stakeholders to bid for funding on a single or multi-LA footprint.

Meanwhile, there are important queries outstanding with UK Government, which makes planning ahead challenging.

As things stand, the timescales are as follows:

By 24th Jan: Publication of Regional Prospectus to inform potential bidders of the process, regional and local priorities. Opening invitations to bid for funds of £250K and above, for projects to cover one or more Counties, to include bids to host Key Funds (through which smaller projects will be delivered).

17th-24th February (to be confirmed): Closing date for Stage 1 Applications.

Feb-March: Local Partnership Groups to review relevant applications and make recommendations to decision makers (in Denbighshire this will be Cabinet).

Due diligence on recommended projects to be undertaken after Cabinet Decision. For bids that cross more than one county the due diligence will be undertaken by the Regional Team. For all others, due diligence will be undertaken locally.

Therefore, the date for when papers will be submitted to Cabinet to make a decision is currently unknown as it relies on a number of internal and external factors.

Timescales are challenging for everyone: for the partnership, as well as for successful bidders and work is being done to support smooth processes. For instance, while the online application form is not due to go live until 24th January, detailed Guidance on the process will be published week beginning 16th January, which will give prospective bidders time to start developing their bids. In addition, work is underway for a number of Key Funds to be launched quickly so as to enable cascading of funding to happen as quickly and efficiently as possible. Denbighshire's website is being kept up to date with information on the approach, and on areas that are priorities for the County.

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Report to	Cabinet
Date of meeting	24 th January 2023
Lead Member / Officer	Councillor Elen Heaton / David Soley (Community Support Services)
Head of Service	David Soley
Report author	Alison Heaton, Contracts & Procurement Officer (Community Support Services)
Title	Denbighshire Learning Disability Supported Living Schemes

1. What is the report about?

1.1. This report contains recommendations for Cabinet to approve a further temporary extension of Learning Disability Supported Living contracts.

2. What is the reason for making this report?

- 2.1. A decision is required on the issuing of temporary extensions to 41 Learning Disability Supported Living contracts. In September 2021 Cabinet approved similar extensions and approved a process to undertake mini-tenders under the North Wales Regional Supported Living Framework for each of these contracts. A full list of these contacts is attached as appendix 1.
- 2.2. DCC's Contract Procedure Rules require that for the extension of contracts with a value over £2 million that they receive Cabinet approval.

3. What are the Recommendations?

- 3.1. That Cabinet approve the issuing of temporary extensions to 41 learning Disability Supported Living contracts for a maximum period to 30th September 2026. The contract details and the proposed revised timetable for the retendering of these contracts is attached as appendix 1.

4. Report details

- 4.1. In line with national guidelines, Supported Living is well established as one of Denbighshire's preferred ways of meeting the needs of people with a learning disability who are no longer able to live with their Carers. The procurement of such services must be in accordance with the Council's Contract Procedure Rules (CPRs) and compliant with the domestic and EU law, namely the Public Contracts Regulations 2015.
- 4.2. Supported Living contracts have been extended over the years in line with Corporate Contract Procedure Rules. However, we do need to approach the market for each of these contracts.
- 4.3. Unfortunately, due to delays with the implementation of the North Wales Regional Supported Living Framework, and then the occurrence of the COVID 19 Pandemic, work has not progressed as quickly as anticipated. The last extensions to 31st March 2023 were approved by Cabinet in September 2021.
- 4.4. Following this, we arranged to meet with providers to discuss next steps for the tendering process, which took place on the 10th of December 2021. Providers raised a number of concerns during this meeting; concerns later reiterated by Care Forum Wales. While some things were not within our gift to change, we committed to giving further consideration as to how we might be able to minimise negative impacts on providers and citizens. This particularly included considering how we could enable greater choice and control, in line with the Social Services and Wellbeing Act - and following several internal discussions, we have agreed a plan to enable a more robust exploration of the option of direct payments for citizens in supported living.
- 4.5. This piece of work around direct payments will be led by the Complex Disabilities and Financial Assessments (direct payments) Teams. It is

anticipated that this work will take up to 12 months to complete, hence the reason for the proposal that the first tenders be advertised in April 2024.

- 4.6. For the contracts where direct payments are not deemed appropriate following consultation with citizens, mini tenders will be run on a patch basis between April 2024 and July 2026. Obviously dependent on the uptake of direct payments, this may well reduce the number of contracts that will be retendered therefore reducing the total period of time that the retendering exercise will take.
- 4.7. To enable us to undertake this direct payments work, and then once concluded, to allow for the required re-tendering activity as appropriate, a further extension to the 41 contracts is required. The extensions will be for a maximum period to 30th September 2026. The tender processes will be staggered throughout this extension period, with the contract awards being made following each individual tender exercise, therefore the majority will be awarded prior to that date.

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

- 5.1. The provision of supported living for individuals with learning disabilities supports the corporate priority that vulnerable people are protected and able to live as independently as possible. It also supports people and communities to build independence and resilience. Where citizens may be able to take up direct payments, the choice and control this affords should further enhance this.

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

- 6.1. Ongoing funding for these schemes is contained within budget and projected spend, these are not new commitments. No further additional costs other than required uplifts during the course of the contract period will be required. Any additional uplifts may be required in order for providers to meet legal requirements such as The National Real Living Wage.
- 6.2. Historical and projected costings for each of these contracts are contained within appendix 1. The combined total value of these contracts from their start dates to 31/03/2023 is £59,771,380. They have a combined total annual value of £6,437,834.

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

7.1. The Well-Being Impact Assessment gave 3 out of 4 stars and a score of 31/36; having a positive impact on all of the Well-Being goals in Denbighshire.

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

8.1. In terms of the request to approve the temporary extensions, and to retender the 41 contracts, consultation has begun to take place with the individuals and their families/advocates who currently reside in the properties. Consultation has also been undertaken with DCC staff, colleagues from BCUHB, Providers and representatives from DCC Legal and Procurement departments.

8.2. Cabinet approval has previously been granted for the development and later the implementation of the North Wales Regional Framework for Supported Living. Consultation on a regional basis was undertaken during discussion around collaborating to develop the common procurement process across the six North Wales Local Authorities and BCUHB. Consultation has also been undertaken with DCC staff, representatives from Legal and Procurement, colleagues from BCUHB, Providers and Citizens (and their representatives/advocates).

8.3. Cabinet approved extensions to these contracts in September 2021 as well as the process for undertaking mini tenders under the North Wales Supported Living Framework.

8.4. As noted above, following the meeting with Providers in December 2021, and concerns raised by CFW, further consultation has been carried out which resulted in the plan for direct payments work as detailed above.

9. Chief Finance Officer Statement

9.1. The service has identified in Section 6 that there is ongoing funding for these schemes contained within budget and projected spend, and that these are not new commitments. The service is under huge financial pressures at the moment and the increase in future costs, also identified in section 6, will need to be factored into the annual finance report to the Budget Board. The recommendation is supported.

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

10.1. The Authority would be in a vulnerable position if it were to procure services from a Provider without there being a contract in place.

10.2. Denbighshire County could potentially be challenged for not tendering these contracts. The risk associated in not going out to tender may be from other potential bidders who have not had the opportunity to compete for the service provision. Providers are aware that these extensions are time limited and the reason why they are being awarded.

10.3. There is a significant risk that when we do retender these contracts it will result in higher costs. There will also be inflationary uplifts between now and the tenders. It should also be noted that WG made a commitment in June this year to progress the implementation of payment of the National Living Wage to those working in the social care sector. Consideration is being given to benchmarking the rates at the time of tendering, tenders are evaluated on the ratio 30% price / 70% quality. Service specifications for each of the schemes will also be reviewed prior to each tender.

11. Power to make the decision

11.1. Denbighshire County Council's Contract Procedure Rules require that the awarding of contracts with a value of over £1 million, (but less than £2 million) require approval by a Lead Member Delegated Decision.

11.2. Supported Living services are supported by the Council under the Social Services and Well-being Act 2014.

11.3. Supported Living Services are regulated by the Care Inspectorate Wales under The Regulation and Inspection of Social Care (Wales) Act 2016.

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By virtue of paragraph(s) 13, 14 of Part 4 of Schedule 12A
of the Local Government Act 1972.

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Extensions to, the offer of Direct Payments and the retendering of the remainder of the 41 Learning Disability Supported Living contracts in Denbighshire.:

Well-being Impact Assessment Report

This report summarises the likely impact of the proposal on the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of Denbighshire, Wales and the world.

Assessment Number: 1132

Brief description: The impact of the temporary extensions to contracts whilst we explore the options with citizens to offer direct payments to commission their own supported living support.

Date Completed: [TEXT HERE] Version: 0

Completed by: [TEXT HERE]

Responsible Service: Community Support Services

Localities affected by the proposal: Whole County,

Who will be affected by the proposal? Adults with Learning Disabilities who live in Denbighshire who receive commissioned supported living support in their own homes, their families, and the organisations who currently provide these services.

Was this impact assessment completed as a group? Yes

Summary and Conclusion

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

Score for the sustainability of the approach

3 out of 4 stars

Actual score : 31 / 36.

Summary for each Sustainable Development principle

Long term

The offer of Direct Payments will offer citizens greater choice and control in accordance with the Social Services & Well-Being Act 2014.

Prevention

The offer of Direct Payments will offer citizens greater choice and control in accordance with the Social Services & Well-Being Act 2014. In preparation for any subsequently required tendering, service specifications and tender evaluation will include a focus on the promotion of independence and resilience.

Integration

While exploring the option of Direct Payments, citizens pooling their Direct Payments will be considered. Any subsequently required retendering will include service specifications and tender evaluations with strong reference to individual outcomes and health and well-being goals. They will also be in line with DCC and Welsh Govt priorities and guidelines in relation to H&WB and integration.

Collaboration

The offer of Direct Payments or retendering will require different teams to work collaboratively - both

ect Payments and the retendering of the remainder of the 41 Learning Disability Supported Living

within CSS and corporately (e.g. procurement and legal). It will also involve working closely with citizens and their families, Health colleagues, Advocates and others

Involvement

Where DPs may be taken up, citizens will be supported to understand their responsibilities & they will have greater choice & control. For any re-tenders we'll be working with citizens & families to ensure they're involved in the process & that their views inform service specifications and tender questions. We would look to commission independent orgs to provide information, advice & support to citizens. Person centred engagement tools will be used. We will also keep providers informed.

Summary of impact

Well-being Goals	Overall Impact
A prosperous Denbighshire	Positive
A resilient Denbighshire	Positive
A healthier Denbighshire	Positive
A more equal Denbighshire	Positive
A Denbighshire of cohesive communities	Positive
A Denbighshire of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language	Positive
A globally responsible Denbighshire	Positive

Main conclusions

In line with procurement regulations, we cannot continue with the existing contracts indefinitely; however, taking a more robust, planned approach to offering Direct Payments as an option enables

ect Payments and the retendering of the remainder of the 41 Learning Disability Supported Living Frameworks to meet our obligations under the Social Services Well-Being Act 2014, as well as ultimately satisfy procurement regs with any subsequently required re-tendering. Greater choice and control should bring positives both for citizens and also potentially for existing providers, and potential negatives will be minimised as far as possible through robust processes, communications and advice/support. For the services that will be retendered, the views and choices of the citizens will be at the forefront of the process. Providers who will be approached to bid have already been successful in tendering to be included on the North Wales Regional Supported Living Framework. The mini tenders will involve a rigorous evaluation of tender submissions to ensure that the services are of the highest possible quality.

The likely impact on Denbighshire, Wales and the world.

A prosperous Denbighshire

Overall Impact

Positive

Justification for impact

The project is being undertaken in order that Direct Payments are offered where appropriate and in accordance with the Social Services & Wellbeing Act.

Further actions required

By exploring the Direct Payments option, and thus offering citizens greater choice and control as an alternative to retendering. For those contracts that will be tendered, the process will be of a robust nature to ensure that the citizens' needs are met in the most appropriate way and causes limited impact on their quality of life. There is always a risk when it comes to offering DPs or re-tendering that some existing providers will lose contracts/work; however, we must comply with the legislation, and all processes will be undertaken in line with relevant guidance and with clear communication to both citizens and providers.

Positive impacts identified:

A low carbon society

Providers will be encouraged to deliver services in an appropriate way. It is anticipated that existing supported living sites will be retained (these are citizens' own homes, and support purchased/commissioned to go into citizens homes is done via separate arrangements).

Quality communications, infrastructure and transport

Will be encouraged in the delivery of services, relates to several key objectives of supported living.

Economic development

The people living and working within communities contribute to economic development.

Quality skills for the long term

Citizens learning new skills is a key objective of supported living. Staff may also require specialist training.

Quality jobs for the long term

Citizens will be supported to understand their responsibilities as an employer (or a Suitable Person will be identified where appropriate) where DPs are taken up. Where we retender, longer term contracts will ensure this.

Childcare

[TEXT HERE]

Negative impacts identified:

A low carbon society

[TEXT HERE]

Quality communications, infrastructure and transport

[TEXT HERE]

Economic development

There is a risk that offering DPs (or retendering) could de-stabilize the LD provider market and we could lose some local provider businesses.

Quality skills for the long term

[TEXT HERE]

Quality jobs for the long term

Providers are struggling to recruit and retain staff.

Childcare

[TEXT HERE]

A resilient Denbighshire

Overall Impact

Positive

Justification for impact

Citizens will be encouraged as part of their routines to reduce waste, reuse and recycle. Reduced energy/fuel consumption would be encouraged as part of the lives of the citizens. It is expected that existing supported living sites will continue to be used.

Further actions required

Where re-tendered, by including as a contractual requirement to deliver the services where possible.

Positive impacts identified:

Biodiversity and the natural environment

[TEXT HERE]

Biodiversity in the built environment

It is expected that existing buildings used for supported living will be retained.

Reducing waste, reusing and recycling

Citizens will be encouraged as part of their routines to reduce waste, reuse and recycle.

Reduced energy/fuel consumption

This would be encouraged as part of citizens' lives, e.g. through use of smart tech.

People’s awareness of the environment and biodiversity

[TEXT HERE]

Flood risk management

[TEXT HERE]

Negative impacts identified:

Biodiversity and the natural environment

[TEXT HERE]

Biodiversity in the built environment

[TEXT HERE]

Reducing waste, reusing and recycling

[TEXT HERE]

Reduced energy/fuel consumption

[TEXT HERE]

People’s awareness of the environment and biodiversity

[TEXT HERE]

Flood risk management

[TEXT HERE]

A healthier Denbighshire

Overall Impact

Positive

Justification for impact

Either by offering the option of Direct Payments or the robust tendering process will ensure that the health and well-being needs of the citizens will be met.

Further actions required

Citizens will be offered the choice of DPs, if these are deemed not to be appropriate for any reason, we will re-tender the support. We will ensure that citizens can make fully informed decisions, and that there is support and advice there for all citizens regardless of the path taken to pay for their support. Where we re-tender, service specifications will be tailored to each individual's specific needs and will be geared towards ensuring their health and well-being.

Positive impacts identified:

A social and physical environment that encourage and support health and well-being

This is a key objective of supported living.

Access to good quality, healthy food

Supporting a healthy lifestyle, as well as budgeting, is a key objective of supported living.

People's emotional and mental well-being

This is a key objective of supported living. Offering DPs will also give people greater choice and control.

Access to healthcare

Supporting citizens' health and working collaboratively with Health colleagues is a key objective of supported living.

Participation in leisure opportunities

Supporting community engagement and a healthy lifestyle is a key objective of supported living.

Negative impacts identified:

A social and physical environment that encourage and support health and well-being

[TEXT HERE]

Access to good quality, healthy food

[TEXT HERE]

People's emotional and mental well-being

DPS bring a number of responsibilities and the process may increase stress for some citizens/families.

Access to healthcare

[TEXT HERE]

Participation in leisure opportunities

[TEXT HERE]

A more equal Denbighshire

Overall Impact

Positive

Justification for impact

By exploring the Direct Payments option, and thus offering citizens greater choice and control as an alternative to retendering. For those contracts that will be tendered, the process will be of a robust nature to ensure that the citizens' needs are met in the most appropriate way and causes limited impact on their quality of life. Any required service specifications will be tailored to each individual's specific needs and will be geared towards protecting these vulnerable citizens.

Further actions required

By looking at the offer of Direct Payments as an alternative to retendering, and where subsequently needed, ensuring a robust tendering process. We are exploring options collaboratively to try to find creative solutions when it comes to ensuring a Suitable Person can be in place for individuals who need one.

Positive impacts identified:

Improving the well-being of people with protected characteristics. The nine protected characteristics are: age; disability; gender reassignment; marriage or civil partnership; pregnancy and maternity; race; religion or belief; sex; and sexual orientation

This is a key objective of supported living.

People who suffer discrimination or disadvantage

This is a key objective of supported living.

People affected by socio-economic disadvantage and unequal outcomes

This is a key objective of supported living.

Areas affected by socio-economic disadvantage

Several supported living schemes are based in areas of greater socio-economic disadvantage in Denbighshire. Having robust support in place enables individuals to improve their wellbeing and socio-economic stability (e.g. through support to find employment).

Negative impacts identified:

Improving the well-being of people with protected characteristics. The nine protected characteristics are: age; disability; gender reassignment; marriage or civil partnership; pregnancy and maternity; race; religion or belief; sex; and sexual orientation

[TEXT HERE]

People who suffer discrimination or disadvantage

ect Payments and the retendering of the remainder of the 41 Learning Disability Supported Living

In some cases DPs may only be offered where there is a Suitable Person, as required by Law. Should an appropriate Suitable Person not be identified, this may disadvantage some individuals when it comes to the choice and control we are able to offer.

People affected by socio-economic disadvantage and unequal outcomes

[TEXT HERE]

Areas affected by socio-economic disadvantage

[TEXT HERE]

A Denbighshire of cohesive communities

Overall Impact

Positive

Justification for impact

The Offer of Direct Payments offers citizens greater choice and control in the provision of their services; however, for those contracts that will be retendered, citizens' views and choices will be at the forefront of the process.

Further actions required

By looking at the offer of Direct Payments as an alternative to retendering and ensuring a robust tendering process. It is likely (although not guaranteed) that existing staff will be eligible for TUPE.

Positive impacts identified:

Safe communities and individuals

This is a key objective of supported living. Support staff and managers are very skilled at knowing how best to keep people safe and how to manage risk. Where citizens may choose alternative support, oversight from practitioners will remain to ensure outcomes are being achieved and people are being kept safe.

Community participation and resilience

This is a key objective of supported living. Support staff and managers are very skilled at knowing how best to keep people safe and how to manage risk. Where citizens may choose alternative support, oversight from practitioners will remain to ensure outcomes are being achieved and people are being kept safe.

The attractiveness of the area

[TEXT HERE]

Connected communities

This is a key objective of supported living. Support staff and managers are very skilled at knowing how best to keep people safe and how to manage risk. Where citizens may choose alternative support, oversight from practitioners will remain to ensure outcomes are being achieved and people are being kept safe.

Rural resilience

Through use of DPs citizens will have choice and control to enable them to purchase support in their language of choice. Any required service specifications would include the requirement for the services to be offered in the citizens' language of choice.

Negative impacts identified:

Safe communities and individuals

[TEXT HERE]

Community participation and resilience

[TEXT HERE]

The attractiveness of the area

[TEXT HERE]

Connected communities

[TEXT HERE]

Rural resilience

Through potential changes of providers, there is a risk of losing existing Welsh speaking staff.

A Denbighshire of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language

Overall Impact

Positive

Justification for impact

Service specifications will be written in such a way that ensures that cultural choices are addressed and that the Welsh Language is valued.

Further actions required

Where re-tendered, the active offer/adherence to Welsh language standards will also be a contractual requirement. It is likely (although not guaranteed) that existing staff will be eligible for TUPE.

Positive impacts identified:

People using Welsh

Through use of DPs citizens will have choice and control to enable them to purchase support in their language of choice. Any required service specifications would include the requirement for the services to be offered in the citizens' language of choice.

Promoting the Welsh language

Through use of DPs citizens will have choice and control to enable them to purchase support in their language of choice. Any required service specifications would include the requirement for the services to be offered in the citizens' language of choice.

Culture and heritage

Through use of DPs citizens will have choice and control to enable them to purchase support in their language of choice, and engage with their local communities. Any required service specifications would include the requirement for the services to be offered in the citizens' language of choice, and for citizens to be supported to engage in their local communities.

Negative impacts identified:

People using Welsh

With any potential change in provider, there is a risk of losing Welsh speaking staff.

Promoting the Welsh language

[TEXT HERE]

Culture and heritage

[TEXT HERE]

A globally responsible Denbighshire

Overall Impact

Positive

Justification for impact

There is an opportunity for new providers to work in Denbighshire. Whether DPs or retendering are applicable, DCC will ensure that the appropriate guidance and legislation is adhered to.

Further actions required

There will be clear communications and engagement with citizens, family members and providers throughout this process. Any required retendering will be undertaken in line with relevant legislation and processes.

Positive impacts identified:

Local, national, international supply chains

This is an opportunity to attract new providers to the area, which may bring more diverse service offers/options and greater value for money. Where we retender, the socio and eco credentials of providers will be looked at.

Human rights

Where DPs are taken up, advice and support will be provided to ensure that citizens (and their Suitable Person if applicable) are fully aware of roles and responsibilities in respect of employment law etc. Where re-tendered, it will be a contractual requirement that the Human Rights Act is adhered to.

Broader service provision in the local area or the region

This is an opportunity to attract new providers to the area.

Reducing climate change

It is anticipated that existing supported living buildings will continue to be used. Creative use of technology to provide support and promote independence also continues to be a key aim of supported living.

Negative impacts identified:

Local, national, international supply chains

[TEXT HERE]

Human rights

[TEXT HERE]

Broader service provision in the local area or the region

Offering DPs or retendering runs the risk of some existing providers losing their work/contract(s) in Denbighshire.

Reducing climate change

[TEXT HERE]

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Report to	Cabinet
Date of meeting	24 th January 2023
Lead Member / Officer	Councillor Gwyneth Ellis, Lead Member for Finance, Performance and Strategic Assets
Report author	Steve Gadd, Head of Finance and Property
Title	Budget 2023/24 - Final Proposals

1. What is the report about?

The report sets out the implications of the Local Government Settlement 2023/24 and proposals to finalise the budget for 2023/24.

2. What is the reason for making this report?

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

2.2 To provide an overview of the budget process and the impact of the Local Government Settlement and to approve the budget for 2023/24, including the level of Council Tax.

3. What are the Recommendations?

3.1 To note the impact of the Draft Local Government Settlement 2023/24.

3.2 That Cabinet supports the proposals outlined in Appendix 1, and detailed in Section 4, and recommends them to the full Council in order to finalise the budget for 2023/24.

3.3 To recommend to Council the average Council Tax rise of 3.8% proposed.

3.4 To recommend to Council that authority is delegated to the Head of Finance and Property in consultation with the Lead Member for Finance to adjust the use of cash included in the budget proposals by up to £500k if there is movement between the draft and final settlement figures in order to allow the setting of Council Tax in a timely manner.

3.5 That Cabinet confirms that it has read, understood and taken account of the Well-being Impact Assessment.

4. Report details

4.1 The Draft Local Government Settlement for 2023/24 was received by the council on 14th December and resulted in a positive settlement of 8.2%, compared to the Welsh average of 7.9%. The Final Settlement is expected in early March but Welsh Government (WG) have indicated that there should be very few changes. Within the announced figure WG have advised the following:

- All pay increases for both teaching and non-teaching posts are included within the RSG.
- The responsibility to pay both our own Social Care and the private sector Social Care sector the Real Living Wage.

4.2 The draft settlement includes a slightly increased indicative average settlement increases of 3.0% for 2024/25. Although this is very welcome from a planning perspective it does indicate that difficult decisions will be required over the coming years.

4.3 There were no 'transfers in' included in the draft settlement.

4.4 The final proposals to balance the 2023/24 budget are shown in the Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) in Appendix 1. The main areas of growth and pressures are:

- Pay pressures (including net impact of decrease in National Insurance) of £3.269m
- Price and energy inflation of £2.897m – this includes the latest energy increase estimates received on the 22nd December (increase of £2.6m)
- Fire Service Charge of £535k
- Allowance for increase in Council Tax Reduction Scheme of £350k
- Schools inflationary pressures are recognised amounting to £3.936m
- Schools demographic pressure of £310k

- £8.187m to recognise demand pressures and forecasts in Community Support Services as part of the council's long term strategy to manage care budgets as well as recognising the agenda to ensure all care staff are paid the Real Living Wage
- £2.700m to recognise existing pressures in Education and Children's Services relating to Out of County Placements and Recoupment.
- £1.000m pressure to meet the increased costs within School Transport which is becoming evident in the monthly monitoring
- Increase in insurance costs relating to impact of inflation of £150k
- Investment in priorities amounting to £0.500m:
 - Further investment in Carbon Zero Project of £134k for additional staff to undertake the necessary work. The programme proposes to use the existing allocation of prudential borrowing to fund capital spend in 23/24 due to underspends over the last two years.
 - Increased Investment in Highways Capital Programme as proposed by Council (£4m capital) – requires an estimated £235k in Capital Finance Budget
 - This leaves £131k which it is proposed will be used in year to continue to fund capital projects in year (eg those that were brought forward by the Horizon Scanning exercise or that come out of the new Capital Plan) - £131k would equate to capital investment of c£2.2m.
- Service non-strategic pressures of £1.282m – pressures and requirements for investments identified by services themselves and summarised in Appendix 2.

4.5 The pressures identified above amount to £25.116m. A draft settlement of around 14.5% would have been required in order to fund all these pressures. The net +8.2% settlement generates £14.231m additional revenue leaving a funding gap of £10.885m.

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

- There are savings in the Capital Financing Budget amounting to £1.067m – these do not reflect reductions in the capital programme but an increase use of cash and delays to some projects.
- Corporate contingencies relating to the unused element of the Covid Contingency put aside as part of last year's budget process amounting to £1.200m.
- The impact of the triennial actuarial review of the Clwyd Pension Fund means that the Council now finds itself in a position of a small surplus instead of a significant deficit that required repaying. This results in a saving of £3.828m.

- The savings from bringing the Revenues and Benefits Service back in house are now confirmed and a further £300k can be released.
- Services were asked to identify 1% savings/efficiencies and were able to identify £961k of savings as summarised below (and included in full at Appendix 3):
 - Fees and Charges Income Budgets have been inflated in line with agreed Fees and Charges policy which increases external income by £423k.
 - Savings involving some element of service change amount to £371k
 - Technical budget reductions which have no impact on service delivery amount to £167k
- Schools were also asked to plan for 1% efficiencies which amount to £816k.
- It is recommended that the Council Tax increases by 3.8% which, along with minor changes to the Council Tax Base, will generate £2.713m additional revenue. This level is at the lower end of indicative increases across Wales. It is also lower than the average of 4.35% over the last four years.

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

Effective management of the council's budgets and delivery of the agreed budget strategy underpins activity in all areas. The proposals include allocations to continue to support both corporate and service priorities.

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

Details are set out in Section 4.

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

A Well-being Impact Assessments for the Council Tax increase is included in Appendix 5.

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

In addition to regular reports to the Corporate Governance Committee, the budget process has been considered by SLT, Cabinet Briefing, Group Leaders and Council Briefing

meetings. The School Budget Forum have been included in the proposals through-out the year. Trade Unions have been consulted through Local Joint Consultative Committee.

9. Chief Finance Officer Statement

9.1 The aim of the budget process is to ensure that the council delivers a balanced budget. The proposals set out in this report offer a balanced approach which takes into account the principles of the new budget process:

- Aim to recognise and remedy in year and forecast service pressures as much as possible in order to build in resilience.
- Ensure services are challenged to deliver efficient services, but to try and minimise the impact of proposals on services users and staff.
- Keep Council Tax increases as low as practicable.
- Limit the use of Cash which only delays the need to identify savings.
- Maintain funding for corporate priorities.

9.5 Due to the very late date for the Final Settlement it is recommended that Cabinet and Council delegate authority to the Head of Finance and Property in consultation with the Lead Member for Finance to adjust the use of cash included in the budget proposals by up to £500k. WG has indicated that there are unlikely to be any material changes, however it is sensible to have a contingency plan agreed beforehand.

9.4 If the proposals in this report are not accepted, alternative proposals must be submitted to balance the budget.

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

The budget process itself is a risk management measure with the aim of identifying, assessing and agreeing budget proposals in a planned and timely way. Failure to agree these proposals without viable alternatives will risk achieving a balanced budget for 2023/24.

11. Power to make the decision

Local authorities are required under Section 151 of the Local Government Act 1972 to make arrangements for the proper administration of their financial affairs.

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	2022/23 £'000	2023/24 £'000	2024/25 £'000	2025/26 £'000
Funding				
Revenue Support Grant & NNDR (RSG)	173,640	187,871	193,507	197,764
Council Tax	60,055	62,768	65,720	68,668
SSA / Budget Requirement	233,696	250,639	259,227	266,433
Use of Balances				
Total Funding	233,696	250,639	259,227	266,433
Expenditure				
Base Budget	216,819	233,696	250,640	265,590
Inflation / Pressures:				
Pay	3,000	3,269	4,000	1,019
Price - targeted		2,897	400	100
Price	250	150	150	150
CTRS	350	350	350	350
Fire Levy	321	535	100	100
Income Inflation	(120)		(250)	(250)
Social Services	3,127	8,187	2,000	1,000
Childrens Service	750	2,700	2,000	1,000
Other Service Pressures	500			
Covid Contingency	1,991	(1,000)		
CJCs	300	(200)		
School Transport		1,000		
Schools Inflation	3,769	3,936	4,000	2,000
Schools Demography Adjustment	606	310	700	700
Other known items:				
Investment in Priorities 1	81			
Investment in Priorities 2	1,200	500	500	700
Service Non-Strategic Pressures	1,111	1,282	1,000	1,500
Transfers into/out of Settlement	275			
New Responsibilities				
EFFICIENCIES / SAVINGS:				
Capital and Corporate Savings		(1,067)		
Pensions Triennial Review		(3,828)		
Service Efficiencies - 1%	(634)	(961)		
Service Savings - Projects		(300)		
Schools Efficiency Target		(816)		
Total Expenditure	233,696	250,640	265,590	273,959
Funding Shortfall / (Available)	0	0	6,362	7,526
Annual increase/(decrease) in shortfall	(0)	0	6,362	1,164
Key Assumptions				
Settlement %	9.20%	8.20%	3.00%	2.20%
Council Tax Increase % Band D	2.95%	3.80%	3.80%	3.80%

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NON-STRATEGIC PRESSURES

REF	SERVICE	TITLE	DETAILED DECSRIPTION	CUMULATIVE BUDGET AGREED 2023/24 £
C&C-P02	Communications and Customers	Blue Badge Support	20 hours - Libraries Grade 5 /37 hours - Grade 2 @ Contact Centre: originally £64K now £49K. Covered under slippage this year, but pressure for next year	49,000
C&C-P06	Communications and Customers	Youth Service	We have seen a significant increase in personal support and targeted 1 to 1 interventions with young people especially after Covid and an increase in more complex cases being referred to the service. To reduce pressure on the team's waiting list we would need an increase in staffing to reduce the current waiting list of 72 young people. 2X Full Time youth workers with all included costs including programme costs would be £84,000 per year (with recruitment April 23-June 24 would be an overall cost of £112,000) which could reduce the current waiting list by approx. 60 young people by the end of June 2024.	84,000
ECS-P01	Education and Children's Service	Sensory Service	Tri sensory service WCBC, DCC & FCC. FCC are host authority original cost £175k, increased to £194k	19,000
BIM-P01	Business Improvement and Modernisation	Internal Audit Structure	As Audit Wales have reduced their performance auditing work for DCC it is vital that we have an Internal Audit structure which can repond to this and maintain a lower level of input from Audit Wales . The team requires an additional Senior Auditor who is able to work independently and therefore enable the team to succeed in delivery.	8,700
BIM-P03	Business Improvement and Modernisation	Strategic Planning & Performance Team	1 FTE @ G9. With an increase in Corporate Plan themes from 5 to 9, there will be added work required for this team to provide strategic support to boards/groups, develop and monitor performance, write reports, etc.	17,581
LHR&D-P01	Legal, HR and Democratic Services	Electoral and Election Services	A re-structure of the existing unit to add sufficient capacity to sustainably support electoral and election services in Denbighshire.	34,302
LHR&D-P02	Legal, HR and Democratic Services	Legal services	Trainees have applied for and been successful in securing permanent positions that we have been struggling to fill. We wish to submit a pressure to continue with this strategy to recruit 2 further trainees. These are 2 year fixed term posts.	64,000
LHR&D-P03	Legal, HR and Democratic Services	HR	The HR software system, I-Trent has a cloud based module for onboarding which would make it easier for applicants and succesful candidates to self serve. This would make the process easier for managers and would relieve some oressure in the HRA team that currently has to provide significant support to the process.	23,000
F&P-P01	Finance and Property	Property: Building Maintenance Revenue Budgets.	Increased construction material and labour costs impacting on building maintenance budgets. Costs have been increasing at unprecedented rates since Coved/Brexit.	228,000
HES-P01	Highways and Environmental Services	Highways	Increased demand has out-stripped available resources in highways	196,312
HES-P02	Highways and Environmental Services	Streetscene	Increased demand has out-stripped available resources for public realm and grounds maintenance functions	110,258
HES-P03	Highways and Environmental Services	Waste	Increased demand has out-stripped available resources in the Waste and Recycling Service	58,359
HES-P04	Highways and Environmental Services	School Catering and Cleaning	Increased revenue pressures and demands on the service realting to rollout of Universal Primary Free School Meals programme	288,000
PPP-P07	Planning and Public Protection	Food Safety - EHO Officer (NB Last Years Bid accepted in principle)	Previously EU grant funded post - funding running out in 23/24	48,500
PPP-P08	Planning and Public Protection	Bodelwyddan Country Park (NB Last Years Bid accepted in principle)	Revenue capacity to manage the Park - cash used in 22/23	52,537
				1,281,549

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1% EFFICIENCY SAVINGS						
REF	SERVICE	TITLE	Description	Category	SAVING 2023/24 £	
C&C-E01	Communications and Customers	Library New Income Stream	New SLA with Grwp Llandrillo Menai for use of Library Buildings for community teaching	Fees and Charges	18,000	35,000
C&C-E02	Communications and Customers	Library Income Target increase	Work to improve income from hosting external events in Libraries	Fees and Charges	3,000	
C&C-E03	Communications and Customers	Design Income	Increase in fee income from services using the corporate Design and Print Framework	Fees and Charges	1,000	
C&C-E04	Communications and Customers	Tourism Savings	Reduce number of face-to-face Tourism Forums to one per year.	Service Change	5,000	
C&C-E05	Communications and Customers	Major Events Budget Savings	Reserve now held corporately with no annual contribution required	Technical Budget Reduction	2,000	
C&C-E06	Communications and Customers	Youth Service Savings	Reduce programme costs budget across the County	Service Change	6,000	
ECS-E01	Education and Children's Service	Childrens: Family Resource Centre relocation	Property savings from transferring services from the Familt Resource Centre at Bedford Street Rhyl to vacant space within the Oaktree Centre which is a more child focussed environment that also has the added benefit of parking and a reception area (which Bedford Street does not have) and will mitigate lone working & health and safety issues for the staff members.	Service Change	25,604	122,896
ECS-E02	Education and Children's Service	Childrens: Childcare costs review	Increase of Childcare Fees at the Oaktree which have not been reviewed since September 213 despite rapidly increasing costs. The fees will still be the lowest in the county and still include a hot meal. 34% of children are fully grant funded, with a further 16% part funded.	Fees and Charges	20,000	
ECS-E03	Education and Children's Service	Childrens: Budget reduction Direct Payments.	The budget has underspent over the last few years. This reduction is based on current spending requirements so the budget is no longer required. If provision increases in future years the service will submit a service pressure to cover the costs.	Technical Budget Reduction	20,000	
ECS-E04	Education and Children's Service	Education: Review of Service underspends	Budgets have been reviewed and small areas of underspend identified. In previous years these have been used to offset overspends - however pressures have now been recognised in the budget proposals	Technical Budget Reduction	57,292	
HES-E01	Highways and Environmental Services	Catering and Cleaning	Increased income from school catering and public convenience services	Fees and Charges	25,500	206,700
HES-E02	Highways and Environmental Services	Highways	Increased income from streetworks charges along with straffing restructure	Fees and Charges	26,000	
HES-E03	Highways and Environmental Services	Waste	Increased income from garden waste, bulky waste and trade waste services. Review of HRC waste treatment cost.	Fees and Charges	102,200	
HES-E04	Highways and Environmental Services	Streetscene	Increased income from Cemeteries and roundabout sponsorships	Fees and Charges	18,000	
HES-E05	Highways and Environmental Services	Street Lighting	Increased income from external work along with savings from reduction in service fleet requirements	Fees and Charges	20,000	
HES-E06	Highways and Environmental Services	Fleet and Service Improvement	Increased income from external customers	Fees and Charges	15,000	
LHR&D-E01	Legal, HR and Democratic Services	Legal Services income	Review of fees and charges for externally funded legal work	Fees and Charges	5,000	25,000
LHR&D-E02	Legal, HR and Democratic Services	Registrars Fee income	Review of discretionary fees and charges for registrars' services such as weddings etc.	Fees and Charges	5,000	
LHR&D-E03	Legal, HR and Democratic Services	Service Wide	Budget alignment exercise	Technical Budget Reduction	15,000	
PPP-E01	Planning and Public Protection	Increased parking tariffs	Increased tariffs at Loggerheads, Moel Famau and Llantysilio	Fees and Charges	50,000	103,000
PPP-E02	Planning and Public Protection	Plas Newydd - Admissions	Increased admission price for adults at Plas Newydd to £7	Fees and Charges	1,500	
PPP-E03	Planning and Public Protection	Price increases Plas Newydd shop and tea rooms	10% increase in pricing	Fees and Charges	7,500	
PPP-E04	Planning and Public Protection	Management Budget Efficiency	Savings already achieved in year	Technical Budget Reduction	14,000	
PPP-E05	Planning and Public Protection	Increased Building Control Fees	Income has increased through an increase in fees and also take up of the service	Fees and Charges	30,000	

REF	SERVICE	TITLE	Description	Category	SAVING 2023/24 £	
F&P-E01	Finance and Property	Efficiencies within Property	A number of small efficiencies already achieved in year - budget now held in management codes	Technical Budget Reduction	13,500	59,000
F&P-E02	Finance and Property	Finance Budget Re-alignment	Re-alignment following bringing in of Civica and changes to staffing arrangements due to retirements	Technical Budget Reduction	45,500	
CSS-E02	Community Support Services	Right Sizing Care and Support	Review existing packages of care through 'right-sizing' e.g. reducing the number of double-handed care calls and increasing our use of Micro-Providers and volunteers.	Service Change	327,717	382,717
CSS-E03	Community Support Services	Review of Telecare Charging	The monthly fee for Telecare has remained static for a number of years, a review of the costs and monthly charges will be completed, a rise from £15 to £17 per month for example will generate additional income of £55K	Fees and Charges	55,000	
BIM-E01	Business Improvement and Modernisation	Increase in daily recharge rate for Project Management	The daily recharge rate for Corporate Project Management has not increased in quite a number of years. It is proposed to increase the rate from £250 to £284 per day. This daily rate will support the team of 7 PMs plus the Lead Project Manager.	Fees and Charges	18,000	27,000
BIM-E02	Business Improvement and Modernisation	Increase charges for Archives services and materials	Increase the charges for have not been reviewed or increased for many years doing so now will yeild a relatively low sum.	Fees and Charges	1,800	
BIM-E03	Business Improvement and Modernisation	Shared Archives Service	Reduce budget in line with budget savings set by Flintshire for their contribution to the shared service. Likely to be achieved by reviewing current vacancies.	Service Change	7,200	
						961,313

Council Tax Sensitivity Analysis

2023/24	Increase %	Increase in Band D £	Proposed Band D £	Total Funding £000	Inc/Dec in Funding £000	
	0.00%	0.00	1,436.76	58,734	0	
	0.50%	7.18	1,443.94	59,028	294	
	1.00%	14.37	1,451.13	59,322	588	
	1.50%	21.55	1,458.31	59,616	882	
	2.00%	28.74	1,465.49	59,910	1,176	
	2.50%	35.92	1,472.68	60,204	1,470	
	2.75%	39.51	1,476.27	60,351	1,617	
2022/23 Increase	2.95%	42.38	1,479.14	60,468	1,734	-500
	3.00%	43.10	1,479.86	60,498	1,764	
	3.25%	46.69	1,483.45	60,645	1,911	
15 Year Average	3.31%	47.56	1,484.31	60,680	1,946	-288
	3.50%	50.29	1,487.04	60,792	2,058	
7 Year Average	3.77%	54.17	1,490.92	60,950	2,217	-18
Current Assumption	3.80%	54.60	1,491.35	60,968	2,234	
	4.00%	57.47	1,494.23	61,086	2,352	
2020/21 Increase	4.30%	61.78	1,498.54	61,262	2,528	294
4 Year Average	4.35%	62.50	1,499.26	61,291	2,558	323
	4.50%	64.65	1,501.41	61,380	2,646	
	5.00%	71.84	1,508.60	61,674	2,940	
	5.50%	79.02	1,515.78	61,968	3,234	
	6.00%	86.21	1,522.96	62,261	3,528	
2019/20 Increase	6.35%	91.23	1,527.99	62,467	3,733	1,499
	6.50%	93.39	1,530.15	62,555	3,822	
	7.00%	100.57	1,537.33	62,849	4,116	

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Council Tax Level for 2023/24: Well-being Impact Assessment Report

This report summarises the likely impact of the proposal on the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of Denbighshire, Wales and the world.

Assessment Number: 1139

Brief description: Proposal is to increase Council Tax by 3.8%

Date Completed: 11/01/2023 14:16:42 Version: 1

Completed by: Steve Gadd

Responsible Service: Finance and Property Services

Localities affected by the proposal: Whole County,

Who will be affected by the proposal? All residents who pay Council Tax

Was this impact assessment completed as a group? Yes

Summary and Conclusion

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

Score for the sustainability of the approach

3 out of 4 stars

Actual score : 33 / 36.

Summary for each Sustainable Development principle

Long term

Proposed increase is to ensure that the Council can continue to improve services and invest in people and infrastructure. The proposals form part of a medium term budget process to manage resources.

Prevention

The proposals include significant investment in zero Carbon and Biodiversity project. There is also significant investment in Social Care and Children's Services and Schools. The Council Tax Reduction Scheme helps ensure that those in most need are protected from the increase to Council Tax.

Integration

The increase form part of a balanced set of budget proposals that includes investment that support Corporate Priorities.

Collaboration

Full consultation of the overall proposals have taken place with Cabinet, Council, Budget Board, Staff Council, Unions, School Budget Forum, Governance and Audit Committee, Corporate Executive Team and the Senior Leadership Team.

Involvement

Full consultation has been undertaken this year with Cabinet, Council, SLT, Staff Council, Trade Unions, Group Leaders (and their Groups) and the School Budget Forum. Press releases have clearly shown the level of Council Tax proposed and highlighting how to access the full report prior to both Cabinet and Council meetings. A Communication plan with the public was agreed with the Communications Team in the Autumn to ensure that full involvement and consultation will take place next year.

Summary of impact

Well-being Goals	Overall Impact
A prosperous Denbighshire	Positive
A resilient Denbighshire	Positive
A healthier Denbighshire	Neutral
A more equal Denbighshire	Neutral
A Denbighshire of cohesive communities	Positive
A Denbighshire of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language	Neutral
A globally responsible Denbighshire	Positive

Main conclusions

The impacts are broadly positive. This is because the Council Tax rise proposed supports a budget that protects existing service levels and increases investment in social care, schools and in investment in key priorities such as highways and the environment. This year the proposed increase of 3.8% is below inflation and below the 4.35% average increase over the last 4 years. Clearly the

Council Tax Level for 2023/24

impact is the increased tax paid by residents. The main mitigation is that around 25% of tax payers receive financial support through the Council Tax Reduction Scheme. However, it is recognised that for some taxpayers, the proposed rise will create an additional financial burden, particularly for those with relatively fixed incomes or little disposable income.

The likely impact on Denbighshire, Wales and the world.

A prosperous Denbighshire

Overall Impact

Positive

Justification for impact

The budget process and the setting of Council Tax is an enabling activity which should allow services to develop proposals and services which will help achieve the Wellbeing goals. I believe the proposals for 2023/24 are a balanced package that allow for investment in services alongside ensuring that unavoidable pressures are funded. Hopefully this allows services to deliver on their plans.

Further actions required

Negative impacts on services have been minimised this year. Social Care and School have been protected completely and only efficiencies of 1% requested from other services. A thorough process led by the Budget Board scrutinised all proposals.

Positive impacts identified:

A low carbon society

The budget proposals continue to invest in the Council's Zero Carbon 2030 targets

Quality communications, infrastructure and transport

Proposals include large investment in Highways infrastructure and flooding schemes

Economic development

Quality skills for the long term

Quality jobs for the long term

The proposals include significant investment in pay for our staff

Childcare

Negative impacts identified:

A low carbon society

High impact schemes such as highways and flood defences obviously increase Emissions, especially during the construction phase

Quality communications, infrastructure and transport

Economic development

Quality skills for the long term

Quality jobs for the long term

Childcare

A resilient Denbighshire

Overall Impact

Positive

Justification for impact

The budget process and the setting of Council Tax is an enabling activity which should allow services to develop proposals and services which will help achieve the Wellbeing goals. I believe the proposals for 2023/24 are a balanced package that allow for investment in services alongside ensuring that unavoidable pressures are funded. Hopefully this allows services to deliver on their plans.

Further actions required

Negative impacts on services have been minimised this year. Services were asked for efficiencies of 1%. A thorough process led by the Budget Board scrutinised all proposals. All services have seen a net increase in their budgets, especially in the priority areas of social care, schools, and education.

Positive impacts identified:

Biodiversity and the natural environment

Proposals continue the investment in Carbon Zero 2030 and Biodiversity target

Biodiversity in the built environment

Proposals continue the investment in Carbon Zero 2030 and Biodiversity target

Reducing waste, reusing and recycling

Proposals include additional resources for the waste service to help continue the excellent work in this area

Reduced energy/fuel consumption

Proposals continue the investment in Carbon Zero 2030 and Biodiversity target

People's awareness of the environment and biodiversity

Proposals continue the investment in Carbon Zero 2030 and Biodiversity target

Flood risk management

The budget continues to support large investment in flood defences

Negative impacts identified:

Biodiversity and the natural environment

Biodiversity in the built environment

Reducing waste, reusing and recycling

Reduced energy/fuel consumption

High impact schemes such as Highways and flood defences obviously increase energy consumption, especially during the construction phase

People's awareness of the environment and biodiversity

Flood risk management

A healthier Denbighshire

Overall Impact

Neutral

Justification for impact

The Budget supports the key services to help deliver a healthier Denbighshire.

Further actions required

Negative impacts on services have been minimised this year. Services were asked for efficiencies of 1%. A thorough process led by the Budget Board scrutinised all proposals. All services have seen a net increase in their budgets, especially in the priority areas of social care, schools, and education.

Positive impacts identified:

A social and physical environment that encourage and support health and well-being

Proposals include significant investment in social care.

Access to good quality, healthy food

People's emotional and mental well-being

Access to healthcare

Participation in leisure opportunities

Funding for DLL has been maintained at existing levels which will hopefully allow DLL to flourish.

Negative impacts identified:

A social and physical environment that encourage and support health and well-being

Access to good quality, healthy food

People's emotional and mental well-being

Access to healthcare

Participation in leisure opportunities

A more equal Denbighshire

Overall Impact

Neutral

Justification for impact

Whilst the Council Tax rise will increase the amount paid, it also allows the Council to increase funding to provision in key areas such as social care, waste services, children's services and schools and maintain service levels broadly. It also allows funding of a number of corporate priorities including carbon neutral targets, flood defence, schools and social care.

Further actions required

There will be an impact on the personal budgets of those who will not qualify for support: residents will pay more Council Tax - however there is support via the Council Tax reduction scheme for those who qualify for such support. The level of increase has been kept as low as practically possible while maintaining service levels to the public. Despite facing huge inflationary pressures the level of CT rise is much lower than inflation.

Positive impacts identified:

Improving the well-being of people with protected characteristics. The nine protected characteristics are: age; disability; gender reassignment; marriage or civil partnership; pregnancy and maternity; race; religion or belief; sex; and sexual orientation

People who suffer discrimination or disadvantage

People affected by socio-economic disadvantage and unequal outcomes

Budget also includes provision to increase spending on the Council Tax Reduction Scheme which helps protect vulnerable residents from Council Tax

Areas affected by socio-economic disadvantage

Negative impacts identified:

Improving the well-being of people with protected characteristics. The nine protected characteristics are: age; disability; gender reassignment; marriage or civil partnership; pregnancy and maternity; race; religion or belief; sex; and sexual orientation

People who suffer discrimination or disadvantage

People affected by socio-economic disadvantage and unequal outcomes

Any Council Tax increase will impact on residents budgets, however the most vulnerable are protected

Areas affected by socio-economic disadvantage

A Denbighshire of cohesive communities

Overall Impact

Positive

Justification for impact

The proposal to raise Council Tax supports a budget that protects front line services and protects the investment in new priority areas to enhance community resilience.

Further actions required

Residents will pay more Council Tax - however there is support via the Council Tax Reduction Scheme for those who qualify for such support. For those who do not qualify for Council Tax Reduction Scheme support, the Council works closely and proactively with Citizens Advice to provide help and support with personal budgeting to those residents who may require it. Flexible payment options are available over ten or twelve months.

Positive impacts identified:

Safe communities and individuals

Community participation and resilience

The attractiveness of the area

The funding for biodiversity projects should help with attractiveness of the area.

Connected communities

Continued large investment in Highways infrastructure will help ensure communities feel connected

Rural resilience

Highways investment is particularly aimed to help the quality of the rural network

Negative impacts identified:

Safe communities and individuals

Increase in Council Tax will impact individual's budgets. However there is help available for those who are eligible for Council Tax Reduction and help provided to those that may struggle to pay

Community participation and resilience

The attractiveness of the area

Connected communities

Rural resilience

A Denbighshire of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language

Overall Impact

Neutral

Justification for impact

The proposal to raise Council Tax supports a budget that helps to maintain services received by the public, including our Welsh Language services, commitments and ambitions.

Further actions required

No negative impacts identified. Further investment can be considered as part of the annual budget process going forward.

Positive impacts identified:

People using Welsh

The Council tax collection service and all correspondence is available through the medium of Welsh.

Promoting the Welsh language

Culture and heritage

Negative impacts identified:

People using Welsh

Promoting the Welsh language

Culture and heritage

A globally responsible Denbighshire

Overall Impact

Positive

Justification for impact

The proposal to raise Council Tax supports a budget that allows service levels to be broadly maintained in 2022/23 and so should not therefore adversely impact supply chains. Significant investment also included for reducing climate change and coping with its impact.

Further actions required

Residents will pay more Council Tax - however there is support via the Council Tax Reduction Scheme for those who qualify for such support. For those who do not qualify for Council Tax Reduction Scheme support, the Council works closely and proactively with Citizens Advice to provide help and support with personal budgeting to those residents who may require it. Flexible payment options are available over ten or twelve months.

Positive impacts identified:

Local, national, international supply chains

The proposal allows for service levels to be broadly maintained during 2023/24.

Human rights

Broader service provision in the local area or the region

It also allows funding of a number of corporate priorities including Carbon Neutral targets, Schools, Social Care and Flood defences

Reducing climate change

The budget continues the significant investment in trying to reduce climate change through the 2030 targets and also ensuring the Council is resilient to change which we already know is happening (eg flood defences)

Negative impacts identified:

Local, national, international supply chains

Human rights

Broader service provision in the local area or the region

Reducing climate change

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Report to	Cabinet
Date of meeting	24 th January 2023
Lead Member / Officer	Councillor Gwyneth Ellis, Lead Member for Finance, Performance and Strategic Assets / Steve Gadd, Head of Finance and Property
Report author	Steve Gadd, Head of Finance and Property
Title	Finance Report (December 2022/23)

1. What is the report about?

The report gives details of the council's revenue budget and savings as agreed for 2022/23. The report also provides a summary update of the Capital Plan as well as the Housing Revenue Account and Housing Capital Plan.

2. What is the reason for making this report?

The purpose of the report is to provide an update on the council's current financial position and confirm the agreed service budgets for 2022/23.

3. What are the Recommendations?

- 3.1 Members note the budgets set for 2022/23 and progress against the agreed strategy.
- 3.2 Members approve the plans to spend a capital grant (£1.107m) to implement a homelessness leasing scheme to achieve additional private rented sector properties as detailed in section 6.9 and Appendix 5.

4. Report details

The report provides a summary of the council's revenue budget for 2022/23 detailed in Appendix 1. The council's net revenue budget is £233.696m (£216.818m in 21/22). The position on service and corporate budgets is a forecast overspend of £2.305m (£2.189m

overspend last month). Services need to continually review expenditure and income in their areas to mitigate the impact of the overall budget overspend. The budget mitigation reserve will cover this level of overspend in the current year. Narrative around the current risks and assumptions underlying this assessment are outlined in Section 6 and Appendix 2.

The 2022/23 budget required service savings and efficiencies of £0.754m to be identified and agreed as detailed below:

- Fees and Charges inflated in line with agreed Fees and Charges policy (£0.120m).
- Operational efficiencies (£0.634m) mostly identified by services throughout the year and within Head Service delegated responsibility in consultation with Lead Members.
- No savings were requested from Community Support Services or Schools.

The operational savings and fees and charges increases are assumed to have been achieved.

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

Effective management of the council's revenue and capital budgets and delivery of the agreed budget strategy underpins activity in all areas, including corporate priorities.

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

Significant service narratives explaining variances and risks are detailed in Appendix 2, however the following should also be noted:

6.1 Impact of Corona Virus and Inflation - We continue to claim for eligible Free School Meals direct payments. A contingency of £1.9m was agreed as part of the budget for 22/23 to fund any ongoing impact of the pandemic which cannot be claimed from WG this year, and in recognition of the increases in inflation at the time the budget was set. Whilst the risk due to Covid has diminished considerably, the inflationary risk has increased largely due to the war in Ukraine. The position will continue to be monitored closely over the coming months.

6.2 Corporate Budgets – It is estimated that corporate contingencies amounting to £1.036m can be released; which includes £700k of the contingency detailed in 6.1 and

£230k due to travel savings from new ways of working. Details relating to other risks are still being analysed:

- Pay settlements for 2022/23 – pay awards have been agreed for local government services employees, Chief Officers and Chief Executives and funds have been vired to services to fund the increase. Although ‘final offers’ have been made, the pay settlement for teachers has yet to be agreed.
- Call on contingencies relating to energy and other inflationary pressures (see 6.1)

These will be monitored closely over the coming months.

6.3 Education and Children’s Service – The current outturn prediction is £2.819m overspend (previously £2.423m). Although an additional pressure of £750k was accepted as part of the agreed budget for 2022/23 this remains an area of concern. The majority of the pressure (£2.642m) relate to residential and independent fostering placements, which have either commenced this financial year or are now projected to continue longer than previously predicted. The increase this month relates to new residential placements. The Education service overspend (£177k) is due to Out-of-County income budget pressure of £742k offset by grant maximisation and small efficiencies across the service. The Out-of-County income budget is overspent due to a reduction in number of pupils from other Councils attending DCC facilities.

6.4 Community Support Service – Although an additional pressure of £3.127m was included in the budget for 2022/23 this service area remains a high risk area. The current outturn prediction is £2.287m (previously £2.287m) due to an overall pressure of £4.7m, in high cost placements (£3.1m) and homelessness service (£1.6m), netted off by fully utilising a cash reserve (£2.4m) (see Appendix 2 for further details).

6.5 Schools - The budget agreed by Council for 2022/23 included a total net additional investment (excluding increases in Welsh Government grants) in schools delegated budgets of just over £4.4m. The latest projection for school balances to be carried forward into 2023/24 is a net credit balance of £5.991m, which represents a decrease of £6.457m on the balances brought forward into 2022/23 of £12.448m. The movement is as expected as the movement last year largely related to the receipt of one-off funding and one-off savings relating to schools being closed for much of the year and, in particular, a number of large grants were received at the end of March. The grants are now projected to be

spent this financial year on the catch-up and Covid recovery programme in schools. There is a small underspend of £58k on non-delegated school budgets.

6.6 The Housing Revenue Account (HRA). The latest revenue position assumes a decrease in balances at year end of £488k compared to £4k at the time the budget was approved. This decrease relates to a reduction in estimated rental income. HRA balances are therefore forecast to be £1.568m at the end of the year. The HRA Capital budget of £26m is largely allocated between planned improvements to existing housing stock (£15m) and new build developments and acquisitions (£11m).

6.7 Treasury Management – At the end of November, the council’s borrowing totalled £247.058m at an average rate of 4.05%. Investment balances were £10.6m at an average rate of 2.23%.

6.8 A summary of the council’s **Capital Plan** is enclosed as Appendix 3. The approved Capital Plan for 22/23 is £53.9m with expenditure to date of £21.8m. Appendix 4 provides an update on the major projects included in the overall Capital Plan. The Capital Plan contingency was increased by £1.676m to £2.176m (up from the £0.500m agreed in February) due to carrying forward the unhypothecated element of a capital grant received from WG in March. After allocations to the Waste Project and the Levelling Up Scheme, the contingency level at £764k will help mitigate the risks to the overall programme of the impact of inflation on capital costs.

6.9 The Budget Board has reviewed and support a business case for spending a £1.107m capital grant from Welsh Government. The proposal is to implement a homelessness leasing scheme for property owners to achieve additional private rented sector properties. The proposals are detailed in Appendix 5 and recommended in 3.2.

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

A Well-being Impact Assessments for the Council Tax rise was presented to Council on 25 January 2022.

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

In addition to regular reports to the Corporate Governance Committee, the budget process has been considered by SLT, Cabinet Briefing, Group Leaders and Council Briefing

meetings. The School Budget Forum have been included in the proposals through-out the year. Trade Unions have been consulted through Local Joint Consultative Committee. The Covid pandemic has continued to impact on the level of consultation and engagement with the public, however plans are in place to engage early with all stakeholders during the budget process for 2023/24.

9. Chief Finance Officer Statement

As noted in section 6, the substantial specific pressures and level of overspend across services is a grave concern in the current year and for the medium term. Significant investment has gone into these specific service areas in recent years and it is expected that that need will continue. Initial pressures have already been included in the Medium Term Financial Plan and these will be kept under review, while the pressure for these services will need to be closely monitored and reviewed in the coming months. All services need to review expenditure and income in their areas to mitigate these budget overspends. After action by services to achieve savings in-year, the budget mitigation reserve will cover this level of overspend. These issues, along with inflationary pressures across all services, are becoming increasingly hard to finance as our funding fails to keep up with inflationary, service and demographic pressures.

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

This remains a very challenging financial period and there is still uncertainty around the ongoing inflationary increases, Brexit and the financial strategy of the UK government in dealing with the long term financial impact on the public finances of the response to Covid, the cost of living crisis and recent announcements about tax policy. Although the financial outlook looks uncertain a robust 3/5 year budget process to help meet the challenges ahead has recently been approved by SLT, CET, Cabinet and scrutinised by the Governance and Audit Committee. The significant budget pressure in-year will reduce the level of reserves held by the Council and this will be taken into review during the budget process.

11. Power to make the decision

Local authorities are required under Section 151 of the Local Government Act 1972 to make arrangements for the proper administration of their financial affairs.

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Appendix 1

DENBIGHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL REVENUE BUDGET 2022/23

Dec-22	Net Budget	Budget 2022/23			Projected Outturn							Variance
	2021/22	Expenditure	Income	Net	Expenditure	Income	Net	Expenditure	Income	Net	Net	Previous Report
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	%	£'000
Communities and Customers	3,263	4,336	-850	3,486	5,787	-2,490	3,297	1,451	-1,640	-189	-5.42%	-187
Education and Children's Service	17,802	35,113	-15,989	19,124	33,057	-11,114	21,943	-2,056	4,875	2,819	14.74%	2,423
Business Improvement and Modernisation	4,593	6,813	-1,450	5,363	6,774	-1,751	5,023	-39	-301	-340	-6.34%	-339
Legal, HR and Democratic Services	2,364	4,333	-1,632	2,701	4,210	-1,740	2,470	-123	-108	-231	-8.55%	-139
Finance and Property	5,744	10,791	-4,640	6,151	10,736	-4,817	5,919	-55	-177	-232	-3.77%	-167
Highways and Environmental Services	15,730	29,895	-12,297	17,598	27,493	-9,945	17,548	-2,402	2,352	-50	-0.28%	93
Planning and Public Protection	9,562	18,057	-7,311	10,746	20,122	-8,611	11,511	2,065	-1,300	765	7.12%	742
Community Support Services	39,854	64,616	-20,399	44,217	65,173	-18,669	46,504	557	1,730	2,287	5.17%	2,287
Leisure - Retained Budgets	3,255	3,402	0	3,402	3,414	0	3,414	12	0	12	0.35%	12
Total Services	102,167	177,356	-64,568	112,788	176,766	-59,137	117,629	-590	5,431	4,841	4.29%	4,725
Corporate	18,474	47,193	-29,271	17,922	46,309	-29,423	16,886	-884	-152	-1,036	-5.78%	-1,036
Precincts & Levies	5,060	5,381	0	5,381	5,381	0	5,381	0	0	0	0.00%	0
Capital Financing	15,176	15,956	0	15,956	14,456	0	14,456	-1,500	0	-1,500	-9.40%	-1,500
Total Corporate	38,710	68,530	-29,271	39,259	66,146	-29,423	36,723	-2,384	-152	-2,536	-6.46%	-2,536
Council Services & Corporate Budget	140,877	245,886	-93,839	152,047	242,912	-88,560	154,352	-2,974	5,279	2,305	1.52%	2,189
Schools & Non-delegated School Budgets	75,941	91,349	-9,700	81,649	97,274	-9,246	88,028	5,925	454	6,379	7.81%	6,379
Total Council Budget	216,818	337,235	-103,539	233,696	340,186	-97,806	242,380	2,951	5,733	8,684	3.72%	8,568
Housing Revenue Account	653	17,585	-17,581	4	17,568	-17,080	488	-17	501	484		190

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Appendix 2 - Service Variance Narrative

Service	Variance Last Month £000	Variance This Month £000	Change £000	Description
Communities and Customers	-187	-189	-2	Underspend due to vacancy management and use of reserves
Education and Children's Service	2,423	2,819	396	See body of report for summary. Overspend due to children's social care placements and a reduction in level of out-of-county education income netted off by grants maximisation and in-year efficiencies across the services. Increase this month due to two new residential placements. All residential and fostering placements have been costed to realistic timescales however no allowance has been made for any further placements throughout the year.
Business Improvement and Modernisation	-339	-340	-1	Underspend due to small efficiencies and vacancy management
Legal, HR and Democratic Services	-139	-231	-92	Underspend due to small efficiencies and further vacancy management
Finance and Property	-167	-232	-65	Underspend due to small efficiencies and further vacancy management
Highways, Facilities and Environmental Services	93	-50	-143	A budget pressure due to increasing costs for major projects, street lighting, depot maintenance and staffing is netted off by planned in-year small efficiencies, reduced use of agency staff and vacancy management. The reduction in the projection this month relate to increased waste income from third parties resulting in a budget saving.
Planning and Public Protection	742	765	23	The overspend relates to School Transport costs and further reduced planning income this month netted off by vacancy management and in-year small efficiencies and use of reserves. Although a £500k pressure was approved as part of the 22/23 budget process for school transport and the service is utilising a cash reserve in-year, the service is projecting an overspend.
Community Support Services	2,287	2,287	0	See body of report for summary. The £2.3m overspend is due to an overall pressure of £4.7m, in high cost placements in Specialist Services (£3.1m) and homelessness (£1.6m), netted off by use of reserves (£2.4m). The homelessness overspend is due to higher rates and lengthier stays at accommodation.
Leisure - ADM	12	12	0	The overspend relates to minor variances.
Corporate & Miscellaneous	-1,036	-1,036	0	Release of contingency and savings realised from new ways of working. See body of report for details
Precepts & Levies	0	0	0	See body of report for details
Capital Financing	-1,500	-1,500	0	Reduced capital financing costs in-year due to delayed expenditure on some capital projects. The position on capital financing is very much related to progress on capital projects and variances do not fully crystallise until the final outturn is known. Whilst in previous years any underspend on this budget has been carried forward to help support the capital programme, with the level of overspend currently being reported it is unlikely that this will be possible this year.
Council Services & Corporate Budget	2,189	2,305	116	

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Denbighshire County Council - Capital Plan 2022/23
Position to end DECEMBER 2022

APPENDIX 3

Capital Expenditure

Total Estimated Payments - Other

Total Estimated Payments - Major Projects:

Housing Improvement Grants

Highways Maintenance

East Rhyl Coastal Defence Scheme

Rhyl Queens Market Redevelopment

Waste Service Remodelling

Contingency

Total

Capital Financing

External Funding

Receipts and Reserves

Prudential Borrowing

Unallocated Funding

Total Capital Financing

	2021/22 OUTTURN POSITION £000s	2022/23 ORIGINAL ESTIMATE £000s	2022/23 LATEST ESTIMATE £000s
	21,254	23,771	35,899
	1,210	1,200	1,565
	4,109	4,710	5,495
	5,137	3,575	480
	1,682	3,493	3,985
	2,152	11,428	5,731
		500	764
	35,544	48,677	53,919
	20,482	19,399	34,904
	5,223	7,944	5,102
	9,839	21,334	13,913
	0	0	0
	35,544	48,677	53,919

Note: 2022-23 Original Estimate is the position as approved by Council on 22nd February 2022

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Appendix 4 - Major Capital Projects Update – December 2022

Rhyl Queens Market Redevelopment	
Total Budget	£13.242m
Expenditure to date	£7.713m
Estimated remaining spend in 22/23	£2.700m
Future Years estimated spend	£2.829m
Funding	WG £8.060m DCC Asbestos £0.272m. DCC £4.910m
Narrative:	
<p>Construction commenced on Monday 15 August by Wynne Construction and is scheduled to finish July 2023.</p> <p>The procurement of an operator has stalled due to no tender submissions being received. A decision was made by the Project Board to go back out to the market. Aiming to go-live again January 18th.</p>	
Forecast In Year Expenditure 22/23	£4.225m

Waste Service Re-modelling	
Total Budget	£20.699m
Expenditure to date	£7.012m
Estimated remaining spend in 22/23	£4.339m
Future Years estimated spend	£9.348m
Funding	WG £11.132m, DCC £9.567m
Narrative:	
<p>A number of work streams are being taken forward including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work is now underway on Phase 2 of the construction of the new waste transfer station (WTS) at the Colomendy Industrial Estate in Denbigh. It is anticipated works will be complete by autumn 2023. The precise dates for roll out of the new service from the new WTS to be confirmed in due course and is dependent on issue of a permit to operate the WTS from NRW. • Specification and procurement of the new fleet required to support the new model has been completed with delivery of this new fleet anticipated to commence ahead of the roll out of the new service to allow for commissioning and training on the new fleet before it goes operational. • Procurement of the new containers required for the new collections model are ongoing, with the main order for the trolley boxes for the recycle awarded in October 2022. Further procurement of remaining containers required will continue during 2023. • A number of mobilisation and communication activities are ongoing to prepare for the service change and include developing the new collection routes; planning for any staffing changes/requirements and ongoing engagement and communication with stakeholders and residents. 	
Forecast In Year Expenditure 22/23	£5.811m

STRATEGIC INVESTMENT GROUP

BUSINESS CASE – CAPITAL INVESTMENT

This Business Case provides justification for undertaking a project. The completed form will be reviewed by the Strategic Investment Group who will make a recommendation to Council whether the bid should be approved and included within the Capital Plan. All sections should be completed and evidence of costs will need to be supplied.

For details of Strategic Investment Group meetings and deadlines for the submission of this form, please contact Richard Humphreys, Capital & Technical Finance Team on ext 6144.

Project Name:	Homelessness Wales PRS Leasing Scheme
Project Reference:	
Project Manager:	Nigel Jones – Service Manager CSS Business Support
Workstream/Programme:	Homelessness Prevention

Head of Service/Project Sponsor	Ann Lloyd	Lead member:	Councillor Rhys Thomas
Service:	CSS – Business Support	LM Portfolio:	Housing and Communities
Form completed by:	Nigel Jones	Date:	July 2022
Service Accountant:		Date:	

PROJECT TYPE

Please categorise your project type. Mark **one** box only.

SMALL <input type="checkbox"/>	MEDIUM <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	LARGE <input type="checkbox"/>
---------------------------------------	---	---------------------------------------

DECISION SOUGHT FROM SIG:	To approve the scheme allowing the drawdown of capital and revenue funding from Welsh Government.
----------------------------------	---

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Highlights the key points in the Business Case to include:-

- what the project will achieve / important benefits

- estimated costs
- how the project will be funded

Welsh Government have developed a leasing scheme offer for property owners interested in Leasing Scheme Wales (LSW). This scheme is intended to complement and act as a resource for local authority homelessness teams seeking to move households on from temporary accommodation. Tenants housed will be provided with a high-level of support to help maintain their tenancy. LSW is intended to benefit tenants, property owners and local authorities

The project will aim to achieve additional private rented sector properties, with a target of 80 properties to be leased from Landlords to the council during the first 5 years and the subsequent years managing the portfolio.

The costs are variable due to the variability of the lease lengths and sizes of properties acquired, as property size determines rental value, the scheme allows for 10% management fee to be deducted from the rental payments to the Landlord for repairs and maintenance purposes.

The project has one additional post to administer the scheme which is funded from the Housing Support Grant.

This application is being submitted due to the size of the grant, the application is NOT looking for any additional funding from DCC, the grant is fully supported and approved by Welsh Government.

BUSINESS OPTIONS

Analysis and reasoned recommendation for the base business options of: do nothing / do the minimal or do something.

You must include an environmentally enhanced (net carbon zero/ecologically positive compatible) option. If your project is a business development project, then this may not be relevant.

Option 1:		Do nothing – maintain the existing situation			
Please provide brief details:					
Please mark with an X how this option compares with the preferred option in terms of Cost, Time, Quality and Benefits:					
Costs	Costs more	x	Time	Takes longer to deliver	x
	Costs the same			Takes the same to deliver	
	Costs less			Is quicker to deliver	
Quality	Improves the quality		Benefits	Improves benefits	
	Is the same quality			No impact on benefits	
	Is a lower quality	x		Worsens benefits	x
What is the main reason this option has not been selected?					
Currently there are 230 people in temporary emergency accommodation, there is a shortage of suitable move on properties for these Citizens. The temporary accommodation cost to DCC are in excess of £2.5m per annum, leasing 80 properties could save the revenue spend by £1.6m per annum.					

○

Option 2:	Environmentally enhanced option				
Please provide brief details:					
To build new homes					
Please mark with an X how this option compares with the preferred option in terms of Cost, Time, Quality and Benefits:					
Costs	Costs more	x	Time	Takes longer to deliver	x
	Costs the same			Takes the same to deliver	
	Costs less			Is quicker to deliver	
Quality	Improves the quality	x	Benefits	Improves benefits	x
	Is the same quality			No impact on benefits	
	Is a lower quality			Worsens benefits	
What is the main reason this option has not been selected?					
To build 80 Homes would be a direct cost to the council, it would also take a considerable time to develop, this option is however part of the Local Development Plan, other options are required to support the homelessness situation.					

Option 3:	•				
Please provide brief details:					
Please mark with an X how this option compares with the preferred option in terms of Cost, Time, Quality and Benefits:					
Costs	Costs more		Time	Takes longer to deliver	
	Costs the same			Takes the same to deliver	
	Costs less	x		Is quicker to deliver	x
Quality	Improves the quality	x	Benefits	Improves benefits	x
	Is the same quality			No impact on benefits	
	Is a lower quality			Worsens benefits	
What is the main reason this option has not been selected?					

EXPECTED BENEFITS

The benefits that the project will deliver expressed in measurable terms against the situation as it exists prior to the project. Remember to capture co-benefits (the added benefits we get from this action/project as well as the direct benefits it will realise).

The project will immediately create more housing options for the homeless in Denbighshire, it comes with the added revenue and Capital grants from Welsh Government to facilitate delivering the target of 80 homes across 5 years.

EXPECTED DIS-BENEFITS

Outcomes perceived as negative by one or more stakeholders

TIMESCALE

Over which the project will run (summary of the Project Plan) and the period over which the benefits will be realised

Date	Milestone
2022 - 23	Projection of 4 homes brought into lease
2023 - 24	Projection of 8 homes brought into lease, totalling 12
2024 - 25	Projection of 20 homes brought into lease, totalling 32
2025 - 26	Projection of 16 homes brought into lease, totalling 48
2026 - 27	Projection of 32 homes brought into lease, totalling 80

CAPITAL COSTS – BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

**COMPLETE ALL THREE TABLES BELOW FOR BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS
LEAVE BLANK/DELETE SECTION FOR CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS**

The capital cost of a project is an important consideration in terms of whether or not it should proceed. Note that even some Business Development Projects may have a requirement for capital costs, for example to fund the acquisition of new ICT hardware or undertaking alterations to buildings.

- Any costs relating to ICT infrastructure and equipment should have been provided by ICT department
- Any costs that relate to construction should have been provided by Design & Development or Building Services

Please provide details of any capital funding that has already been spent on the project:	
Enter details of cost element below:	Total
Feasibility (surveys, market research, etc)	
Client side project management	
OTHER (please enter)	
OTHER (please enter)	
TOTAL	0

Please provide details of the capital funding requirement (not including amount already spent):				
Enter details of cost element below:	2022/23	2023/24	Future Years	All Years Total
Feasibility (surveys, market research, etc)				
Client side project management				
ICT infrastructure and hardware				
Building alterations				
Design Team Fees (architects, QS, etc)				
Furniture				
Other professional support (legal, etc)				
Marketing/Consultation				
External Project Support (gateway review, etc)				
OTHER - Repairs and Damages (10 years)	4,900	14,700	687,225	706,825
OTHER -,Renovation Grant (1 st 5 years)	20,000	40,000	340,000	400,000
OTHER (please enter)				

OTHER (please enter)				
TOTAL	24,900	54,700	1,027,225	1,106,825

Please provide details of proposed capital funding sources					
Enter details of funding source	Status:	2022/23	2023/24	Future Years	TOTAL
Welsh Government	Approved	24,900	54,700	1,027,225	1,106,825
TOTAL		24,900	54,700	1,027,225	1,106,825

NOTE: For funding status, please only use the following categories:

- **Approved** – written approval for the funding exists
- **Applied** – no written approval exists but an application has been made
- **Approached** – initial approach to or by funding body has been made but no application submitted
- **None** – no contact or approach has been made to or by the funding body

CAPITAL COSTS – CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

COMPLETE ALL THREE TABLES BELOW FOR CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS
LEAVE BLANK/DELETE SECTION FOR BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

The capital cost of a project is an important consideration in terms of whether or not it should proceed.

- Any costs relating to ICT infrastructure and equipment should have been provided by ICT department.
- Any costs that relate to construction should have been provided by Design & Development or Building Services.

Please provide details of any capital funding that has already been spent on the project:	
Enter details of cost element below:	Total
Feasibility (surveys, market research, etc)	
Client side project management	
OTHER (please enter)	
OTHER (please enter)	
TOTAL	

Please provide details of the capital funding requirement (not including amount already spent):				
Enter details of cost element below:	2022/23	2023/24	Future Years	All Years Total
Feasibility (surveys, market research, etc)				
Client side project management				
Land/property acquisition				
Land preparation/remediation				
Demolition and/or site security				
Construction, refurbishment or maintenance				
BREEAM rating of "Excellent"				
Security measures (CCTV, door entry, etc)				
Fire prevention measures (sprinklers, etc)				
External landscaping and other works				
Land/property acquisition				
Highways work				
ICT infrastructure and hardware				
Fixtures & fittings				
Furniture				
Planning/Building Regulation Costs				
Design Team Fees (architects, QS, etc)				
Legal Costs and Fees				
Marketing/Consultation				
External Project Support (eg gateway review)				
OTHER (please enter)				
OTHER (please enter)				
OTHER (please enter)				
OTHER (please enter)				
TOTAL				

Please provide details of proposed capital funding sources					
Enter details of funding source	Status:	2022/23	2023/24	Future Years	TOTAL
TOTAL					

REVENUE COST IMPACT
TO BE COMPLETED FOR ALL PROJECTS

In considering whether a project should be developed due regard should be made to the potential impact on revenue budgets.

If the activity will result in a requirement for additional revenue funding, please provide details below:			
What is the impact of this project in terms of the <u>annual</u> revenue requirement for:	Existing Revenue Budget	Post-project Revenue Budget	Increase/Decrease
staff costs (salaries and associated)	36,000		
energy costs (heating, lighting, ICT, etc)	0		
property maintenance and servicing costs	47,000 plus capital grant		
other property related costs (rental, insurance, etc)			
ongoing ICT costs (licences, etc)	0		
mileage of Denbighshire fleet vehicles			
mileage for business travel by Denbighshire employees using their personal vehicles	1500		
OTHER (please enter)			
OTHER (please enter)			
OVERALL REVENUE REQUIREMENT			

Please provide brief details of the revenue impact of this project:

- *Where revenue savings are forecast, you should detail what is proposed for the saving (e.g. reduction of an existing revenue budget, re-allocation of revenue to alternative services area, etc)*
- *Where revenue increases are forecast, you should provide details of how the revenue shortfall will be addressed. In this instance you should also append a three year surplus/deficit forecast.*

- *Details of any one-off revenue cost requirements that may be required post-project implementation (e.g. recruitment, redundancies, etc). DO NOT include any costs detailed in the capital section of this Business Case*

During the lease period repairs and maintenance are DCC responsibility however we will have the capital allowance within the scheme and the 10% management fee to cover such costs. In theory if we had 80 2 bedroom properties signed up by year 5 the management fee would be £47k p a plus the grant of £98k per annum for all repairs and maintenance, if all 80 where on 5 year leases then that is a maintenance allowance of £9k per property over the 5 year period which is highly unlikely across all 80 properties.

WHOLE LIFE COST

NOTE: THIS SECTION IS CURRENTLY IN DEVELOPMENT AND FURTHER GUIDANCE ISSUED IN DUE COURSE. OFFICERS DO NOT NEED TO COMPLETE THIS SECTION AT THIS STAGE UNLESS THEY HAVE UNDERTAKEN A WHOLE LIFE COSTING EXERCISE ALREADY INDEPENDENTLY WITHIN THEIR PROJECT.

Please provide brief details of the whole life cost impact of this project over a 20-year period. This should be completed for the preferred business option as well as for the environmentally enhanced business option if it is not selected as the preferred option:

- *[guidance to follow]*
- *[guidance to follow]*
- *[guidance to follow]*

PROJECT MANAGEMENT

Please provide details of proposed project management – Establishment of Project Board etc

NOT REQUIRED, SCHEME WILL BE A CORE BUSINESS FUNCTION.

STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS / HEALTH & SAFETY

This section should identify how the activity will help Denbighshire meet any of its statutory requirements. Please include any Health & Safety Issues that the activity will address in this section. Please leave blank if not applicable.

The scheme helps DCC meet its statutory obligations of part 2 of the Housing (Wales) Act 2014, in relation to duties requiring the Local authority to assist citizens presenting as homeless to find suitable permanent accommodation.

CARBON MANAGEMENT IMPACT

Please consult with Council's Principal Energy Manager (robert.jones@denbighshire.gov.uk) and the Council's Climate and Ecological Change Programme Manager (helen.vaughan-evans@denbighshire.gov.uk) before completing this section.

Denbighshire has committed to reducing its carbon emissions from buildings and fleet by at least 15% by 2022, for the Council to be net carbon zero by 2030 (buildings, fleet, waste, business travel, staff commuting, street lighting) and for the Council to reduce its supply chain emissions by 35% by 2030.

The Business Case requires you to make a forecast for the anticipated carbon emissions impact of the project.

Annual Forecasts:	Annual (current)	Carbon (kgCO ₂ e)	Annual (Post Project)	Carbon (kgCO ₂ e)	Carbon Variance	Comments
Money spent on external goods and services (UNIT= £)						N/A
Energy consumption in buildings: (UNIT = kWh)						All properties will consume normal domestic energy levels, these will be the responsibility of the Tenants not DCC
Energy consumption in Street Lighting: (UNIT = kWh)						N/A
Fuel consumption of Denbighshire Fleet vehicles: (UNIT = litres/ kWh)						Project Officers will be required to carry out on site surveys however mileage is dependent on levels of activity and location of properties which is difficult to determine at present
Mileage of Business Travel (personal vehicles): (UNIT = miles travelled)						As above
Mileage of Staff Commute: (UNIT = miles travelled)						As above
Tonnes of waste produced: (UNIT = tonnes)						N/A
One off Forecasts:			Project cost (£)	Carbon (kgCO ₂ e)		Comments
Money spent on external goods and services						N/A

Annual Forecasts:	Annual (current)	Carbon (kgCO ₂ e)	Annual (Post Project)	Carbon (kgCO ₂ e)	Carbon Variance	Comments
(UNIT= £)						
TOTAL CARBON EMISSIONS						N/A

Annual Forecasts:	Current	Carbon Absorption (kgCO ₂ e)	Post Project	Carbon Absorption (kgCO ₂ e)	Carbon Absorption Variance	Comments
Hectare of Grassland (UNIT=ha)						N/A
Hectares of Forestland (UNIT=ha)						N/A
TOTAL CARBON ABSORPTION						N/A

Please highlight the appropriate cell depending on whether on balance this project helps, hinders or is neutral to the Council's goal to become net carbon zero by 2030 (reducing carbon emissions and increasing carbon absorption).

Net Carbon Zero Council Summary	HELPS	HINDERS	NEUTRAL

Please provide brief details of the carbon impact of this project, and detail specific actions that will be taken to reduce carbon emissions. If carbon emissions are expected to increase as a result of this project, please provide details of proposed actions to compensate for this increase in other areas of the Service's activity and/or via tree planting/land management for the benefit of carbon sequestration.

The scheme does have a grant for bringing properties into good state of repair, the guidance allows the grant application to bring properties into energy efficiency "C".
 If Lease grants include boiler renewal, then consideration will be given to ensure the most up to date energy efficient units are installed.
 Installation of alternative energy such as solar panels has been explored, however, the grant does not extend to such desirable options.
 Wherever and whenever possible staff mileage will be carried in in fleet electric vehicles.

Climate Change Lead Officer statement:

Please provide a statement from the Climate Change Lead Officer. Contact Helen Vaughan-Evans on climatechange@denbighshire.gov.uk.

Supplied by: Jane Hodgson **Date:** 04/07/2022

BIODIVERSITY IMPACT

Please consult with Denbighshire's Biodiversity Lead Officer before completing this section. Contact Joel Walley on joel.walley@denbighshire.gov.uk.

The Council has a statutory duty to ensure compliance and enforcement of the Habitats Regulations (as amended in 2017). Furthermore, the Environment (Wales) Act, 2016 requires the Council to maintain and enhance biodiversity, and promote the resilience of ecosystems. At this pre-feasibility stage, please determine the anticipated impact of the project on biodiversity, and proposed measures to ensure the project results in an overall biodiversity enhancement.

Please mark a cross in the appropriate box.

Will this project impact on a habitat that supports living organisms (plant or animal), or involve physical works to property or Land?	Yes		No	x
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If you have answered yes to the above question, please complete all the following biodiversity sections. If answered no, please leave blank

IMPACTS ON BIODIVERSITY		Yes		No	x
Has an ecological appraisal or survey of the site or proposals taken place?					
Cofnod eMapper Link:	N/A				
Please provide brief summary of survey findings, or provide a copy of the ecological report for review:					
N/A					

Please provide brief details of how the project will avoid harm to biodiversity.

- The project does not alter any biodiversity state neither harm nor enhance as it is using existing properties but repurposing them from Private dwellings to leased properties to the council.

Please provide brief details of how the project will mitigate and compensate for any harm to biodiversity.

- The project does not alter any biodiversity state neither harm nor enhance as it is using existing properties but repurposing them from Private dwellings to leased properties to the council.

Please provide brief details of how the project will enhance biodiversity and restore ecosystem resilience.

The project does not alter any biodiversity state neither harm nor enhance as it is using existing properties but repurposing them from Private dwellings to leased properties to the council.

Please highlight the appropriate cell depending on whether on balance this project helps, hinders or is neutral to the Council's goal to become ecologically positive by 2030 (increasing the species richness of land).

Ecologically Positive Council Summary	HELPS	HINDERS	NEUTRAL
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Ecology Officer summary:

Please provide a statement from the Biodiversity Lead Officer. Contact Joel Walley on joel.walley@denbighshire.gov.uk.

The project has no impact on biodiversity, and does not appear to represent an opportunity for biodiversity enhancement. I therefore have no objections, concerns, or recommendations.

Name: Joel Walley **Date:** 06/07/2022

MAJOR RISKS TO THE PROJECT

A summary of the key risks associated with the project together with the likely impact and plans should they occur is provided below:

Title	Inherent Risk	Mitigating Action	Residual Risk
	•	•	
	•	•	
	•	•	

Likelihood	A - Almost Certain					
	B - Highly Likely					
	C - Probable					
	D - Possible					
	E - Rare					
		5 - Very Low	4 - Low	3 - Medium	2 - High	1 - Very High
		Impact				

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Please list any supporting documents that accompany this Business Case

ANNUAL CAPITAL BIDS – BLOCK ALLOCATIONS

Please provide details of expenditure and commitments for allocations received in the current financial year.

COUNTY LANDLORD STATEMENT

Please provide a statement from the County Landlord and where applicable the recommendation of the Asset Management Group. Contact Tom Booty on tom.booty@denbighshire.gov.uk.

The proposals don't impact on DCC owned assets but the principle of increasing accommodation to alleviate homelessness is supported. It is noted that grant funding is available for initial improvements to properties and for ongoing maintenance. However, individual grants are limited (£5K per dwelling & £25K for empty properties) and awarded to the property owners to complete the works. Initial property selection needs to consider condition carefully as any shortfall in required works is unfunded (and presumably would fall to the property owner to supplement). Inadequate or poorly renovated properties could lead to increased ongoing maintenance and management cost during the term of the lease, particularly towards the end of the tenancy/lease agreement. Works required to voids will also need to be factored in to post renovation costs.

David Lorey 8th December 2022

CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER STATEMENT

Please provide a statement from the Chief Finance Officer. Contact Steve Gadd on steve.gadd@denbighshire.gov.uk.

Supplied by: **Date:**

VERIFICATION:

Project Manager:	Nigel Jones		
Project Sponsor:	Ann Lloyd		
Name:		Position:	
Signature:		Date:	

For use by Finance:

Result of S.I.G. Review	
Date of Meeting	
Approval	
Code	

Housing Support Programme Strategy: Well-being Impact Assessment Report

This report summarises the likely impact of the proposal on the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of Denbighshire, Wales and the world.

Assessment Number: 997

Brief description: A requirement from Welsh Government to develop a new Housing Support Programme Strategy

Date Completed: 12/01/2023 11:29:09 Version: 1

Completed by: Nigel Jones

Responsible Service: Community Support Services

Localities affected by the proposal: Whole County,

Who will be affected by the proposal? Homeless Citizens, Homelessness Services, Community Housing, partners and support providers.

Was this impact assessment completed as a group? No

Summary and Conclusion

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

Score for the sustainability of the approach

3 out of 4 stars

Actual score : 33 / 36.

Summary for each Sustainable Development principle

Long term

The strategy is based upon "ending Homelessness in Wales" it is written under Welsh Government guidance, it deals directly with Citizens who find themselves in this position. The strategy includes an action plan to deliver the program, the plan includes implementation of Rapid Rehousing Plans with specific projects to bring on board more properties to support the homelessness presentations within Denbighshire. One such project being the Private Rented Sector Leasing Scheme.

Prevention

The very nature of homelessness often comes with a high level of personal resilience for the citizens it just needs channelling in a positive way. The preventative work is designed to prevent reliance on public services and give Citizens the choice and control at an earlier stage of their experience. The action plan specifically utilising in a sustainable way existing properties and repurposes their use for homelessness through projects such as Leasing Scheme Wales.

Integration

The strategy supports corporate priorities, Housing, Connected Communities, Resilient Communities, Environment, and Young People and can be demonstrated within the strategy 7 priorities: rapid rehousing, prevention services, securing accommodation, strengthening Multi-disciplinary services, community based support, sustainable accommodation, and tenancy support.

Collaboration

The Strategy clearly focusses on collaboration and whilst the core homelessness service in a statutory provision ending homelessness is not a unilateral approach, Collaboration from partners is key in understanding the issues faced and what solutions all partners can provide, eg. specialist substance misuse workers from the Local Health Board and integrating them into the team to provide timely and effective interventions to support individuals faced with homelessness.

Involvement

The strategy is based upon the long term goal of ending homelessness, through involvement, collaboration, and integration of in house services, support providers, citizens, partners such as the Health Board, prisons/probation services and community based support, all looking to provide preventative programmes to alleviating homelessness, public engagement is key to the strategy.

Summary of impact

Well-being Goals	Overall Impact
A prosperous Denbighshire	Positive
A resilient Denbighshire	Neutral
A healthier Denbighshire	Positive
A more equal Denbighshire	Positive
A Denbighshire of cohesive communities	Positive
A Denbighshire of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language	Positive
A globally responsible Denbighshire	Positive

Main conclusions

The wellbeing impact assessment clearly demonstrates that the Housing Support Programme Strategy and its function to end homelessness has a positive affect across all areas of the well being goals, the short term goals are key to the sustainability of the long term goals. The strategic priorities provide equality, diversity and respect to vulnerable Citizens faced with the prospect or are homeless.

The likely impact on Denbighshire, Wales and the world.

A prosperous Denbighshire

Overall Impact

Positive

Justification for impact

Ending homelessness will contribute to the prosperity of Citizens, their families, communities, and less reliance on public services, the utilisation of Welsh Government Grant funding such as the Leasing scheme Wales supports the positive impact of the strategy.

Further actions required

Ensuring that a robust implementation and monitoring plan is place

Positive impacts identified:

A low carbon society

New builds or renovations of existing accommodation will be considered for low carbon efficiency

Quality communications, infrastructure and transport

Communications and pathway infrastructure are to be strengthened

Economic development

Ending homelessness will have immediate economic benefit for individuals and the county as a whole

Quality skills for the long term

Honing the skills of Homeless individuals is key to the long term sustainability of the strategy

Quality jobs for the long term

As part of the process of ending homelessness

Childcare

[TEXT HERE]

Negative impacts identified:

A low carbon society

[TEXT HERE]

Quality communications, infrastructure and transport

[TEXT HERE]

Economic development

[TEXT HERE]

Quality skills for the long term

[TEXT HERE]

Quality jobs for the long term

[TEXT HERE]

Childcare

[TEXT HERE]

A resilient Denbighshire

Overall Impact

Neutral

Justification for impact

There may be some residual impacts of the operational elements of the strategy, however the strategy does not directly influence these areas

Further actions required

Capture any residual impacts that may occur and ensure that these are included in the design of future services

Positive impacts identified:

Biodiversity and the natural environment

[TEXT HERE]

Biodiversity in the built environment

[TEXT HERE]

Reducing waste, reusing and recycling

[TEXT HERE]

Reduced energy/fuel consumption

[TEXT HERE]

People's awareness of the environment and biodiversity

[TEXT HERE]

Flood risk management

[TEXT HERE]

Negative impacts identified:

Biodiversity and the natural environment

[TEXT HERE]

Biodiversity in the built environment

[TEXT HERE]

Reducing waste, reusing and recycling

[TEXT HERE]

Reduced energy/fuel consumption

[TEXT HERE]

People's awareness of the environment and biodiversity

[TEXT HERE]

Flood risk management

[TEXT HERE]

A healthier Denbighshire

Overall Impact

Positive

Justification for impact

Ending homelessness will improve the lives of Citizens faced with it, from an emotional, psychological, health and well being perspective

Further actions required

Ensuring that a robust implementation and monitoring plan is place, also keep reviewing the service model and strengthen any identified gaps in provision.

Positive impacts identified:

A social and physical environment that encourage and support health and well-being

Ending homelessness and the multi disciplinary approach will support health and wellbeing of the citizens

Access to good quality, healthy food

This will be part of the operational plan to encourage and develop overall life skills

People's emotional and mental well-being

Direct access to Counselling and Social work

Access to healthcare

Direct access to Mental Health and substance misuse services

Participation in leisure opportunities

Community based support will facilitate leisure activities

Negative impacts identified:

A social and physical environment that encourage and support health and well-being

[TEXT HERE]

Access to good quality, healthy food

[TEXT HERE]

People's emotional and mental well-being

[TEXT HERE]

Access to healthcare

[TEXT HERE]

Participation in leisure opportunities

[TEXT HERE]

A more equal Denbighshire

Overall Impact

Positive

Justification for impact

Homeless people are affected by socio economic disadvantage and all too often discriminated and areas such as Rhyl are often labelled in the same manner, ending homelessness will directly and positively affect such disadvantage.

Further actions required

Ensuring that a robust implementation and monitoring plan is place, also keep reviewing the service model and strengthen any identified gaps in provision.

Positive impacts identified:

Improving the well-being of people with protected characteristics. The nine protected characteristics are: age; disability; gender reassignment; marriage or civil partnership; pregnancy and maternity; race; religion or belief; sex; and sexual orientation

[TEXT HERE]

People who suffer discrimination or disadvantage

Homeless persons are discriminated against

People affected by socio-economic disadvantage and unequal outcomes

Homeless persons are affected directly by socio-economic disadvantage.

Areas affected by socio-economic disadvantage

Large concentration of homelessness does create socio economic disadvantage wider than the individuals

Negative impacts identified:

Improving the well-being of people with protected characteristics. The nine protected characteristics are: age; disability; gender reassignment; marriage or civil partnership; pregnancy and maternity; race; religion or belief; sex; and sexual orientation

[TEXT HERE]

People who suffer discrimination or disadvantage

[TEXT HERE]

People affected by socio-economic disadvantage and unequal outcomes

[TEXT HERE]

Areas affected by socio-economic disadvantage

[TEXT HERE]

A Denbighshire of cohesive communities

Overall Impact

Positive

Justification for impact

Ending homelessness will bring communities together, making a safer and more resilient society

Further actions required

Ensuring that a robust implementation and monitoring plan is place, also keep reviewing the service

model and strengthen any identified gaps in provision.

Positive impacts identified:

Safe communities and individuals

[TEXT HERE]

Community participation and resilience

[TEXT HERE]

The attractiveness of the area

[TEXT HERE]

Connected communities

[TEXT HERE]

Rural resilience

[TEXT HERE]

Negative impacts identified:

Safe communities and individuals

[TEXT HERE]

Community participation and resilience

[TEXT HERE]

The attractiveness of the area

[TEXT HERE]

Connected communities

[TEXT HERE]

Rural resilience

[TEXT HERE]

A Denbighshire of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language

Overall Impact

Positive

Justification for impact

The strategy utilises the cultural heritage of Denbighshire by recognising the value of existing services both public and community based, all cultural beliefs are respected in the plan to end homelessness.

Further actions required

Ensuring that a robust implementation and monitoring plan is place, also keep reviewing the service model and strengthen any identified gaps in provision.

Positive impacts identified:

People using Welsh

[TEXT HERE]

Promoting the Welsh language

[TEXT HERE]

Culture and heritage

[TEXT HERE]

Negative impacts identified:

People using Welsh

[TEXT HERE]

Promoting the Welsh language

[TEXT HERE]

Culture and heritage

[TEXT HERE]

A globally responsible Denbighshire

Overall Impact

Positive

Justification for impact

The Strategy will undoubtedly have a positive affect on the Human rights of individuals, the aim is to protect and respect these in all that is done to tackle homelessness

Further actions required

Ensuring that a robust implementation and monitoring plan is place, also keep reviewing the service model and strengthen any identified gaps in provision.

Positive impacts identified:

Local, national, international supply chains

[TEXT HERE]

Human rights

[TEXT HERE]

Broader service provision in the local area or the region

[TEXT HERE]

Reducing climate change

[TEXT HERE]

Negative impacts identified:

Local, national, international supply chains

[TEXT HERE]

Human rights

[TEXT HERE]

Broader service provision in the local area or the region

[TEXT HERE]

Reducing climate change

[TEXT HERE]

Cabinet Forward Work Plan

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

Cabinet Forward Work Plan

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

Cabinet Forward Work Plan

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

Cabinet Forward Work Plan

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

FUTURE ITEMS

21 Nov	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		Cllr Gwyneth Ellis Lead Officer – Nicola Kneale Report Author – Emma Horan
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Cabinet Forward Work Plan

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>21 February</i>	<i>7 February</i>	<i>28 March</i>	<i>14 March</i>	<i>25 April</i>	<i>11 April</i>

Updated 17/01/2023 – KEJ

Cabinet Forward Work Programme.doc

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