

## FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

<b>Date of Meeting</b>	Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> May, 2023
<b>Report Subject</b>	Petitions Received at Council
<b>Report Author</b>	Chief Officer (Governance)

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

At County Council, Members are able to submit petitions on behalf of constituents. At the October 2018 meeting, it was agreed to prepare a report showing to which portfolio petitions had been assigned and what actions had been taken as a result of those petitions.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

1	That Council notes the report.
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## REPORT DETAILS

1.00	PETITIONS RECEIVED AT COUNTY COUNCIL
1.01	At County Council, Members are able to submit petitions on behalf of their constituents. At the October 2018 meeting, it was agreed to prepare a report showing who had submitted petitions, to which portfolio petitions had been assigned and what actions had been taken as a result of those petitions.
1.02	<p>During 2022/23, there have been eight petitions presented at Council. The details of the petitions are as follows: -</p> <p><u>26<sup>th</sup> July 2022</u> <b>Councillors submitting petition</b> – Councillors: Glyn Banks and Gina Maddison <b>Issue</b> – on behalf of residents in Glan-yr-afon regarding road safety concerns and thanked Streetscene officer Lee Shone for his involvement on this.</p> <p><b>Response from portfolio</b> A number of meetings have been held with local members and residents of Glan Yr Afon to develop active travel proposals in Glan-Yr-Afon. Utilising active travel core funding in 2022-2023, the Council will look to develop the measures identified (which have been led by the community). These works will involve design, feasibility and road safety audits, prior to a potential scheme bid for grant funding in 2023/24.</p> <p><u>26<sup>th</sup> July 2022</u> <b>Councillor submitting petition</b> – Councillor Gillian Brockley <b>Issue</b> – on behalf of local residents to oppose the Gladstone estate development on which she called upon the support of all Members.</p> <p><b>Response from portfolio</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. The petition raised a number of points (14) that were in common with objections already submitted to previous stages of the LDP process as well as to the Examination.</li><li>2. The team prepared a detailed document that showed for each of the 14 points, how and when each had previously been raised and also how responded to.</li><li>3. This document was sent to Cllr Gillian Brockley and Councillor Sam Swash in advance of a meeting to meet the Councillors to go through the petition points and the comprehensive response document.</li><li>4. The meeting took place on 28/09/2022 at Ty Dewi Sant and the follow up actions were agreed with the Members.</li><li>5. The information relating to action points was provided to the Members.</li></ol> <p><u>27<sup>th</sup> September 2022</u> <b>Councillor submitting petition</b> – Councillor Hilary McGuill <b>Issue</b> – on behalf of residents of the Heol Fammau and Moel Gron areas of Mynydd Isa. The residents had requested that urgent repairs be carried out because of the poor condition of the roads. This had been requested</p>

for quite some time and Councillor McGuill said that during a 60-year period the roads had only been patched and were now desperately in need of a proper resurfacing.

#### **Response from portfolio**

The Council have undertaken a technical assessment and engaged with suppliers to best identify the appropriate treatment for this road and the road is being assessed in accordance with the prioritisation matrix of identified sites, which is currently taking place.

The Council has a limited budget for resurfacing, and there are a number of A and B roads across the county that have been identified as requiring treatment. These roads perform an important role in regional travel, and it is essential that the small budget available to us is used to maintain their condition for traffic, based on their strategic importance to the overall council objectives. The funding available to the Council for highway resurfacing is limited and is inadequate compared to the overall backlog of repairs required across the network. Unfortunately, there is insufficient funding available to deal with the backlog of roads that require treatment, and we very much share the frustration around the condition of some roads, particular in urban housing estate roads, across the county.

A limited amount of budget has been allocated for machine patching works, and the area coordinator will consider these roads for possible inclusion in this programme, should they be suitable for this type of repair. This would mean that the worst areas would be cut out and re-laid, but similarly the resources and funding available to do this are also limited.

The grant funding schemes available via Welsh Government in relation to highways are for active travel and not for maintenance works, and therefore, at this time, we are not able to acquire any further budget beyond the limited resources currently available.

As soon as the exercise to identify roads for resurfacing and patching has been completed, the 2023/24 programmes will be published on our website and shared with the ward members.

Unfortunately, this petition and the intention behind it, does not allow us to depart from the established policy for highway asset maintenance and the need to ensure that we gain the maximum benefit from the limit funding available.

27<sup>th</sup> September 2022

**Councillor submitting petition** – Councillor David Coggins-Cogan

**Issue** – on behalf of the residents in his ward for the Council to urgently review the safety of the roads in his ward. An overview was given on the dangerous conditions encountered on these roads which had resulted in several deaths. There was also a lack of pavements and warning signs. In addition, the speed limit on that road was 60-mph. The Council was aware of the problems, and he pleaded for urgent action be taken.

#### **Response from portfolio**

A formal response was provided to Councillor Coggins-Cogan following receipt of the petition last year, which included a proposed course of

action. A meeting was held with the community council working group in November 2022 to share initial scheme proposals; however, neither Councillor Coggins-Cogan nor Councillor Davis-Cooke (the other local member) were able to attend. Several attempts have been made to reconvene a meeting with local members to no avail. Given the inability to arrange a suitable meeting, scheme drawings have been sent to local members requesting comment; however, no comments have been received to date.

An initial accident remedial scheme at the junction of Cadole Road has been designed following the recent fatal accident and has been shared with North Wales Police. Junction improvement works are proposed to commence in May 2023; however, wider scheme improvements will be subject to future availability of Welsh Government grant funding and successful bids.

24<sup>th</sup> January 2023

**Councillor submitting petition** – Councillor David Hughes  
**Issue** – a petition on Save the Llanfynydd footbridge.

**Response from portfolio**

Flintshire County Council is very supportive of this, and an officer has met with the Community Council, and we are attempting to find a solution so that the bridge can be transferred to the Community Council.

24<sup>th</sup> January 2023

**Councillor submitting petition** – Councillor Bill Crease  
**Issue** – on behalf of Connah's Quay Angling Club to exclude dogs from the fishing platform access paths within the fenced area at 'The Rosie', Wepre Park.

**Response from portfolio**

The Access and Natural Environment Manager has written to the Angling Club to inform them that Officers had considered the petition and will request the Environment & Economy Overview and Scrutiny Committee to consider an amendment to the PSPO at their May meeting to prohibit dogs from the fenced area at the Rosie. Should the Environment & Economy Overview and Scrutiny Committee agree that the ban should be considered it will then be put to a public consultation, likely to be held in the summer. The results of the consultation will inform Cabinet on their decision to include the amendment or not.

24<sup>th</sup> January 2023

**Councillors submitting petition** – Councillors: Glyn Banks and Gina Maddison  
**Issue** – on behalf of the residents of Gronant regarding concerns on a proposed new housing development at Gronant Institute.

**Response from portfolio**

The Chief Officer (Planning, Environment and Economy) wrote to the petition's author, acknowledged receipt, and advised that the contents of the petition would be taken into account by the case officer who was assessing planning application FUL/000004/23. Should the case officer need more information, he will contact the petition's organiser directly.

24<sup>th</sup> January 2023

**Councillors submitting petition** – Councillors: Glyn Banks and Gina Maddison

**Issue** – on behalf of the residents of Gronant Ward regarding provision of suitable disabled access to a residential property.

**Response from portfolio**

The Service Manager Housing Assets contacted the Local Councillors (Cllr and arranged a site visit to the tenant's home. The Housing Manager was also asked to attend from a housing/ tenancy perspective.

We held honest and open conversations about the works the tenant had undertaken without permission and we also discussed the best option would be relocation. However, the tenant advised that this would not be an option.

Thankfully, during the visit, it was apparent that the Council could offer a hardstanding that could be used as a drop off point and not as a driveway. The hardstanding would not be compliant with DDA regulation, and we would need to utilise HRA and Streetscene land to access the frontage of the tenant's home.

The Service Manager Housing Assets is in the process of liaising with colleagues in Streetscene over a vehicle access crossing (dropped kerbs) and have advised the tenant that they are hopeful of providing a solution that may assist them with accessing their property more easily.

Further works will also be undertaken to the full complex and other areas to assist with alleviating some of the parking concerns and access for emergency vehicles.

<b>2.00</b>	<b>RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS</b>
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2.01	Not applicable for this update report.
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<b>3.00</b>	<b>CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED / CARRIED OUT</b>
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3.01	Not applicable
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<b>4.00</b>	<b>RISK MANAGEMENT</b>
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4.01	Not applicable for this update report.
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<b>5.00</b>	<b>APPENDICES</b>
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5.01	None.
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<b>6.00</b>	<b>LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS</b>
6.01	<p>None.</p> <p><b>Contact Officer:</b> Steven Goodrum, Head of Democratic Services  <b>Telephone:</b> 01352 702320  <b>E-mail:</b> <a href="mailto:steven.goodrum@flintshire.gov.uk">steven.goodrum@flintshire.gov.uk</a></p>

<b>7.00</b>	<b>GLOSSARY OF TERMS</b>
7.01	None.