

Draft Council Plan 2021/22

Priority Name	Poverty
<b>Description/ Well-being Objective</b>	<b>Protecting people from poverty by supporting them to meet their basic needs</b>
<b>Income Poverty</b>  Definition: People on low income who are unable to meet day to day living costs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Families are supported to be financially resilient by:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Maximising the number of people signposted for support to facilitate longer term behavioural change</li> <li>b) Ensuring that take-up to benefit entitlements is maximised in a timely way by processing claims efficiently</li> <li>c) Maximising take up of the Discretionary Housing Payments scheme and other financial support</li> <li>d) Continuing to offer our community hub (Contact Centres) approach bringing access to a range of programmes, services and agencies together in one place</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Child Poverty</b>  Definition: Children who don't have access to adequate food, clothing, shelter and education to lead a healthy and active life	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The cost of sending children to school is reduced by:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Making the processes for claiming free school meals as simple and straightforward as possible to increase the percentage of take-up against entitlement</li> <li>b) Encouraging take-up of the free school breakfast for year 7 pupils eligible for free school meals</li> <li>c) Maximising the take-up of the school uniform grant</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Free access to books, ICT networks and devices and library services are maintained by:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Maintaining the network of six libraries in partnership with Aura</li> <li>b) Increasing online access for books by children and young people</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Food Poverty</b>  Definition: People who are not able to access food that meets their daily nutritional needs and requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Everyone in Flintshire has access to affordable, good fresh food by:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) The development of a "Well Fed at Home service" by March 2022</li> <li>b) The development and delivery of a "Hospital to Home" meals service by March 2022</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>c) The introduction of a transported and delivered food service “Mobile Meals” to those who are vulnerable by March 2022</li> </ul>
<p><b>Fuel Poverty</b></p> <p>Definition: Households that have higher than average fuel costs and meeting those costs will cause them to experience poverty.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reducing the risk of fuel poverty for residents by increasing the energy efficiency of all homes by increasing the energy efficiency of homes</li> <li>• Engaging, supporting and referring vulnerable households to reduce fuel poverty and improve health and wellbeing</li> </ul>
<p><b>Digital Poverty</b></p> <p>Definition: Inability to interact fully in a digital world</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support and enable access to the internet and devices to ensure people are not excluded from a digital world by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Supporting people to use appropriate digital technology through the Digital Champions Scheme</li> <li>b) Providing free of charge public access to the internet at Connects Centres and Aura library services</li> <li>c) Increasing uptake of access to devices through the Aura Library Loan Scheme</li> <li>d) Increasing take-up of ‘Learn my Way’ digital learning opportunities supported by Aura by Autumn 2021</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Support people to access information digitally by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Providing access to council services on the internet in a responsive way (information can be accessed using different devices)</li> <li>b) Promoting initiatives to help people to use digital technology now and in the future.</li> <li>c) Increasing access to information online to support people to retain their digital skills</li> <li>d) Promote the range of digital training and skill development provided by Coleg Cambria</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

<b>Priority Name</b>	<b>Affordable and Accessible Housing</b>
<b>Description/ Well-being Objective</b>	Housing in Flintshire meeting the needs of our residents and supporting safer communities
<b>Housing support and homeless prevention</b>  Definition: Offering support at the right time, so people can sustain their housing, prevent homelessness and live well	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Commission a wide range of housing related support that meets the needs of the people of Flintshire</li> <li>• Promoting housing support and homeless prevention services with our residents and partners</li> <li>• Ensure there is a multi-agency partnership approach to homeless prevention and develop a culture where homelessness is “everyone’s business”</li> <li>• When homelessness does occur, ensure that it is rare, brief and non-recurring</li> <li>• Develop and extend our Housing First and Rapid Rehousing approaches for those who do experience homelessness</li> <li>• Remodel the “emergency beds” Homeless Hub accommodation offer and service delivery</li> <li>• Explore opportunities to develop a young person’s homeless hub offering accommodation and support services</li> </ul>
<b>Housing Needs and Housing Options</b>  Definition: Empowering people to explore their housing options so they can access the right homes to meet their needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote the Single Access Route to Housing (SARTH), Common Housing Register, Affordable Housing Register and Housing Support Gateway within the community and with professionals</li> <li>• Develop self-service approaches that enable people to identify their own housing options through online support</li> <li>• Pilot a risk assessment process to identify pre tenancy support needs to reduce risk of tenancy failure</li> <li>• Review our sheltered housing stock to ensure that it continues to meet the need and aspirations of current and prospective tenants</li> <li>• Explore opportunities to develop a young person’s homeless hub offering accommodation and support services</li> </ul>
<b>Social Housing</b>  Definition: Working with housing partners to develop and invest in affordable housing, with modern methods of construction,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Working with housing association partners to build 142 new social housing properties and 32 additional affordable properties</li> <li>• Increasing Flintshire Council’s housing portfolio by building 50 social housing properties and 50 affordable properties for North East Wales (NEW) Homes</li> </ul>

<p>and a commitment towards carbon neutral</p> <p><b>Poverty</b></p> <p><b>Green and Environment</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure that Flintshire Council housing stock meets the Welsh Housing Quality Standard and achieves a minimum SAP energy efficiency rating of 65 <a href="#">Link</a></li> <li>• Develop plans for the de-carbonisation of Flintshire Council homes in line with Welsh Government guidance to ensure their thermal efficiency is optimized and the cost of heating homes are minimized <a href="#">Link</a> <a href="#">Link</a></li> <li>• Working with residents to ensure our communities are well managed, safe, and sustainable places to live <a href="#">LINK</a></li> <li>• Supporting our tenants to access technology and create sustainable digital communities</li> <li>• Listening to our tenants and working with them to improve our services, homes and communities</li> </ul>
<p><b>Private Rented Sector</b></p> <p>Definition: Supporting the private sector to raise standards in the management and condition of housing and promote tenancy sustainment in our communities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Engaging with private sector tenants, giving them a voice and responding to their needs</li> <li>• Working in partnership with landlords and private sector agents to better understand their needs</li> <li>• Develop a “landlord offer” that encourages landlords to work with the Council to raise standards of property management and condition of homes where needed</li> <li>• Improve access to private sector properties for those who are homeless, at risk of homeless and in housing need</li> <li>• Map all Houses of Multiple Occupation (HMO’s) across Flintshire to ensure legal minimum housing standards are met and to improve residents’ quality of life</li> </ul>
<p><b>Empty Properties</b></p> <p>Definition: Bringing empty homes back into use to enhance the local housing market and improve our local communities</p> <p><b>Economy</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bring empty homes back into use thorough the Empty Homes Loan</li> <li>• Explore opportunities to develop a project management service for non commercial landlords to encourage take up of the Empty Home Loan Scheme</li> <li>• Target problem empty homes in our communities and use enforcement powers where appropriate to improve our communities and increase housing supply</li> <li>• Explore opportunities to maximise housing and revitalize our towns through the redevelopment of the High Street <a href="#">Link</a></li> </ul>

<b>Priority Name</b>	<b>Green Society and Environment</b>
<b>Description/ Well-being Objective</b>	Limiting the impact of the Council’s services on the natural environment and supporting the wider communities of Flintshire to reduce their own carbon footprint.
<b>Carbon Neutrality</b>  Definition: A net carbon zero Council by 2030 and supporting wider decarbonisation actions across the County, making this central to Covid-19 recovery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Governance structure (Carbon Programme Board) in place by 30 September 2021</li> <li>• Net carbon zero action plan developed and approved by 31 March 2022</li> <li>• Gather information on annual Council greenhouse gas emissions to submit to Welsh Government and the Carbon Programme Board by 30 June each year</li> <li>• Review of procurement policy to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from suppliers agreed by 31 March 2022</li> <li>• Develop a policy for sustainable and long term energy usage in capital projects where this can be achieved</li> </ul>
<b>Fleet Strategy</b>  Definition: Reducing the environmental impact of our fleet by maximising the opportunities to utilise sustainable forms of transport across the Council’s fleet	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Journey Management and driver training: Ensure that all business journeys are subject to proper planning, and avoided wherever possible to minimise unnecessary mileage and environmental impact through use of remote meetings, home working, route optimisation, control of vehicle logs, capture corporate mileage figures etc.</li> <li>• Reduced ‘grey’ mileage through continued use of virtual meeting attendance and reduction in unnecessary journeys through the adoption of new ways of working</li> <li>• Conversion of authority’s fleet to electric and alternative fuels (hydrogen etc) where technically and economically feasible</li> </ul>
<b>Green Environment</b>  <b>Definition:</b> The promotion, good management and protection of our green spaces to deliver multiple benefits to the environment and our residents and visitors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Delivery of the Urban Tree and Woodland Plan</li> <li>• Enhancement of the natural environment through the delivery of the Section 6 Environment Act Wales biodiversity duty</li> <li>• Develop a strategy to improve biodiversity and carbon sequestration on the agricultural estate by 31 December 2021</li> </ul>

<p><b>Renewable Energy</b></p> <p>Definition: The promotion and support of renewable energy opportunities across the Council Estate and wider communities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assess feasibility of renewable energy and land assets and link to wider carbon ambitions by 30 September 2021</li> <li>• Determine appropriate investment strategy for future renewable energy developments by 31 March 2022</li> </ul>
<p><b>Active and Sustainable Travel Options</b></p> <p>Definition: Provide opportunities for increasing levels of walking and cycling (active travel) and enable access to other alternative and sustainable methods of travel</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote the use of public transport through the further development of the Council's core bus network</li> <li>• Promote active travel and further develop the Council's cycleway network</li> <li>• Promotion of multi modal transport journeys and the development of strategic transport hubs</li> <li>• Development of the County's electric car charging network</li> <li>• Development of the Council's walking and cycling network</li> </ul>
<p><b>Circular Economy</b></p> <p>Definition: Support and promote the Welsh Government's strategy to create a sustainable, circular economy in Flintshire</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Achievement of Welsh Government recycling targets</li> <li>• Development and extension of the Standard Yard Waste &amp; Recycling Transfer Station by investing in infrastructure to enable future growth and capacity in terms of increasing the volume and quality of recyclable materials processed and reducing material contamination, thereby maximising potential income for recyclable materials for the Authority</li> <li>• Development and extension of the Greenfield Composting Facility and Waste Transfer Station to future proof the site for increased garden waste tonnages and explore the potential to offer the facility as a regional garden waste composting solution and re-use collection point from our Household Recycling Centres</li> <li>• Support and promote the development of Re-Use and Repair Cafés within the County and encourage charities to adopt our Household Recycling Centres in order to re-use and recover products and materials</li> <li>• Through partnership working, actively support and engage with community led groups by developing initiatives such as plastic free/zero waste</li> </ul>

	<p>communities, environmental projects and re-use and recycling initiatives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support local businesses in their efforts to reduce their carbon footprint and become more resource efficient</li> <li>• Phase out single-use plastic within the Council</li> </ul>
--	--

Priority Name	Economy
Description/ Well-being Objective	Enabling a sustainable economic recovery
<p><b>Town Centre Regeneration</b></p> <p>Definition: Regenerate and re-invent our town centres</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monitor the health and vitality of town centres to support effective management and business investment decisions.</li> <li>• Promote town centre, hospitality and tourism businesses to help with their post-Covid recovery.</li> <li>• Encourage and support investment in town centre properties especially to facilitate more sustainable uses.</li> <li>• Improve the environment in town centres.</li> <li>• Support the growth of community enterprises in town centre locations.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Business</b></p> <p>Definition: Enable business continuity and encourage appropriate investment</p> <p style="background-color: #55a868; color: white; padding: 2px;"><b>Green Society and Environment</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Engage small businesses and improve support packages available to them.</li> <li>• Support the post-Covid recovery of Flintshire's street and indoor markets.</li> <li>• Support the growth of the local and regional food and drink business sector through marketing and collaborative projects.</li> <li>• Support the recovery of the tourism and hospitality sectors and rebuild confidence in the industry.</li> <li>• Increase the scale and impact of the social business sector.</li> <li>• Support local businesses in their efforts to reduce their carbon footprint and become more resource efficient</li> </ul> <p style="background-color: #55a868; color: white; padding: 2px;"><b>Link</b></p>
<p><b>Transport and digital infrastructure</b></p> <p>Definition: Ensure that the transport and digital networks</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complete the connection of all eligible public buildings through the Local Full Fibre Network Project.</li> <li>• Start the delivery of the Flintshire elements of the North Wales Growth Deal investment in digital infrastructure.</li> <li>• Connect further rural communities to improved digital infrastructure.</li> </ul>

<p>facilitate and support recovery and growth</p> <p><b>Green Society and Environment</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop and deliver transport infrastructure improvements as part of North Wales Metro programme and the Council's Integrated Transport Strategy.</li> <li>• Ensure Flintshire strategic transport priorities are well-represented in the Regional Transport Plan from the forthcoming Corporate Joint Committee development.</li> </ul> <p><a href="#">Link</a></p>
<p><b>LDP Targets</b></p> <p>Definition: Achieve LDP policy objectives for growth, protection and enhancement</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure timely adoption of the LDP once Inspector's Report received</li> <li>• Monitor overall Plan performance via the Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) and submit to Welsh Government</li> <li>• Maintain and update the LDP housing Trajectory in line with planning decisions made</li> <li>• Make decisions at Planning Committee in line with the adopted LDP</li> <li>• Reference the LDP growth strategy in early work on a North Wales Strategic Development Plan (SDP)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Spending money for the benefit of Flintshire</b></p> <p>Definition: Grow our local economic vitality through social value commitments and procurement strategy</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encourage and support commissioners and suppliers to generate additional well being outcomes.</li> <li>• Increase the ability and confidence of local businesses to supply the public sector.</li> <li>• Collate and celebrate the achievement of strategic well being outcomes.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Reducing worklessness</b></p> <p>Definition: Work with our partners to support individuals to gain employment</p> <p><b>Poverty</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Co-ordinate a multi-agency approach to support businesses to recruit staff from disadvantaged groups</li> </ul> <p><a href="#">Link</a></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deliver mentoring and wider support programmes to assist disadvantaged people to re-engage with the labour market. <a href="#">Link</a></li> </ul>

Priority Name	Personal and Community Well-being
<b>Description/ Well-being Objective</b>	Supporting people in need to live as well as they can
<p><b>Independent Living</b></p> <p>Definition: People will be supported to live as independently as possible through the right type of support, when they need it.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide an additional 32 placements at Marleyfield House Care Home to support older people, with a focus on independence.</li> <li>• Develop and extend our approach to Micro Care so there are more Providers supporting more people in their own homes</li> <li>• Increase the number of people who are able to make their own care arrangements through a Direct Payment</li> <li>• Ensure services for families with children aged 0-7 are better integrated through the 'Early Years Pathfinder' project</li> </ul>
<p><b>Safeguarding</b></p> <p>Definition: Implement and promote the new safeguarding procedures so our employees understand how they can help safeguard people in the community</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop and relaunch our corporate e-learning package to reflect the new safeguarding procedures. This will include extending access to the safeguarding e-learning module to key partners</li> <li>• Promote the 'duty to report' so our employees understand their responsibility to report safeguarding concerns</li> <li>• Implement an 'active offer' of advocacy support for people involved in the safeguarding process</li> </ul>
<p><b>Direct Provision to support people closer to home</b></p> <p>Definition: The services we provide so people can access the support they need in their local community</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Set up a registered Children's Home to help avoid the need for residential placements outside Flintshire</li> <li>• Grow our in-house homecare service to support more people to live at home</li> <li>• Grow our in house fostering service to support more looked after children</li> <li>• Extend Croes Atti Care Home for older people, with a focus on dementia care.</li> <li>• Develop the services we offer to provide respite for families with disabled children</li> </ul>
<p><b>Local Dementia Strategy</b></p> <p>Definition: Continuing to improve the lives of people living with dementia in Flintshire</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work with registered Care homes providers and health partners to develop more long term nursing care placements for people who have dementia.</li> <li>• Develop a Flintshire Dementia strategy that sets a shared vision, and action, for the next phase of developing good dementia support for individuals, families, carers and communities</li> </ul>

<p><b>A well-connected, safe and clean local environment.</b></p> <p>Definition: Resilient communities where people feel connected and safe</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protect residents and our environment from pollution and other public health and safety hazards by achieving the Streetscene Standard</li> <li>• Keep our local communities clean and safe through engagement, education and environmental enforcement</li> <li>• Work with local communities to inform a long term vision and delivery plan for using the Flexible Funding Grant programme to achieve positive outcomes for people</li> </ul>

<b>Priority Name</b>	<b>Education and Skills</b>
<b>Description/ Well-being Objective</b>	Enabling and Supporting Learning Communities
<p><b>Educational Engagement and Achievement</b></p> <p>Definition: Providing diverse learning opportunities to support educational achievement in schools and communities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain support for the rollout of the revised curriculum for pupils from 3-16 which better prepares them for their future lives and employment</li> <li>• Continue to support the raising of standards at all key stages to enable onward learner progression</li> <li>• Continue to improve attendance and reduce exclusions to maximise educational achievement</li> <li>• Continue to broaden the offer of alternative education opportunities to support learner engagement</li> </ul>
<p><b>Digital Learning Opportunities</b></p> <p>Definition: Supporting education engagement and achievement through proactive use of accessible digital media</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support schools and wider education services to increase their digital offer for children and young people.</li> <li>• Develop a new delivery plan for Integrated Youth Services with a greater focus on digital engagement to increase participation</li> <li>• Increase the range of digital material hosted on the North East Wales Archive website and other digital services to encourage greater participation with the service</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to support learners who are ‘digitally disadvantaged’ to access IT devices to promote equity and engagement</li> <li>• Delivery of ‘Learn My Way Free’ IT courses in all Libraries from April 2021</li> <li>• From January 2021 provide in partnership with Adult Community Learning informal community training for groups of 6 people in Flint Library to access Zoom and other online learning platforms</li> <li>• Arts Council Funded partnership with Gladstone Library and visual artist to provide digital art workshops based on collections at Gladstone Library</li> </ul>
<p><b>Learning Environments</b></p> <p>Definition: Creating aspirational and flexible learning environments</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide high quality learning environments through the Council’s capital investment programme and WG grant funding streams</li> <li>• Progress the North East Wales Archive funding bid through the Stage 1 Heritage Horizons Award of the National Heritage Lottery Fund</li> <li>• Increase usage of community spaces in re-developed Flint Library and Wellbeing Hub by 15%</li> </ul>
<p><b>Learning Community Networks</b></p> <p>Definition: Supporting our learning communities to engage and achieve through extensive partnership working unpinned by common safeguarding practices</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complete the contractual arrangements for the North East Wales Archive between Flintshire CC and Denbighshire CC to provide a sustainable and resilient service</li> <li>• Establish a sub-regional partnership for the delivery of Adult Community Learning with Wrexham CBC to maximise opportunities for participants and providers</li> <li>• Develop a Delivery Plan for Adult Community Learning with new partners to increase engagement and improve skills within local communities</li> <li>• Work with Adult Community Learning and Flintshire Learning Recovery &amp; Wellbeing Network Partners to share best practice and maximise opportunities for learning within the community. Opportunities to be available in all Aura libraries from Summer 2021.</li> <li>• Work in partnership with Open University Wales to support and signpost library users to OpenLearn courses and subsequent learning pathways.</li> </ul>

	<p>OpenLearn Champions in each library from October 2020.</p>
<p><b>Specialist Educational Provision</b></p> <p>Definition: Extending local capacity to support learners with additional learning needs (ALN)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to embed the implementation plan to deliver a new statutory approach for supporting children and young people with learning needs from 0-25 years</li> <li>• Complete the build project for Plas Derwen (Pupil Referral Unit) to transform the delivery of this specialist service</li> <li>• Increase the capacity of Plas Derwen staff to delivery more outreach work to share their expertise across the schools workforce</li> <li>• Develop a long term strategy to ensure sufficient and appropriate capacity to support learners with a range of additional educational needs that maximises local expertise and financial resources</li> </ul>
<p><b><u>Welsh Education Strategic Plan (WESP)</u></b></p> <p>Definition: Working with schools and partners to support the Welsh Government’s strategy to enable one million Welsh speakers by 2050</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase the capacity and take up of Welsh medium education to achieve Welsh Government targets</li> <li>• Further Improve the Welsh language skills of staff in schools to more effectively support learners and the delivery of the curriculum</li> <li>• Continue to improve pupils’ standards of Welsh in all schools to encourage greater bilingualism</li> <li>• Extend the range of youth services which can be delivered bilingually to encourage young people to retain and use their Welsh language skills into early adulthood</li> <li>• Maintain Welsh Government Quality Indicator for Welsh Language resources in Aura libraries</li> </ul>