

EDUCATION, YOUTH & CULTURE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Date of Meeting	Thursday 18 th March, 2021
Report Subject	Recovery Strategy Update
Cabinet Member	Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Education
Report Author	Chief Officer (Education and Youth)
Type of Report	Strategic

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Council has developed a corporate Recovery Strategy for the pandemic emergency situation which was endorsed at a special Cabinet meeting on 15 September.

Cabinet requested each of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees to support recovery in their respective portfolio areas, and specifically to have oversight of:-

1. The portfolio risk register(s) and the risk mitigation actions, both live and planned;
2. The objectives for recovery for the portfolio(s);
3. The immediate strategic priorities for recovery for the portfolio(s) extracted from the draft Council Plan for 2020/21; and
4. The set of revised performance indicator targets for the portfolio(s) for 2020/21.

The above were considered by the Committee at its meeting on 5th November, 2020.

This report provides the Committee with an update on the portfolio risk register and risk mitigation actions (shown at Appendix 1 and 2). The Portfolio is currently in a steady state with very little movement in the risks and mitigations since the November report.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1	That the Committee review the latest updated risk register and risk mitigation actions within the Education & Youth portfolio.
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REPORT DETAILS

1.00	EMERGENCY RECOVERY
1.01	<p>The Council is developing a corporate Recovery Strategy for the pandemic emergency situation. The Strategy covers:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The chronology of the emergency response phase and transition to recovery 2. The handover arrangements or recovery 3. Organisational recovery of the corporate organisation 4. Community recovery of the communities we serve 5. Strategic priorities and performance for the remainder of 2020/21 6. The roles the Council will play in regional recovery 7. The democratic governance of recovery
1.02	<p>The development of the Recovery Strategy has been led by the Chief Executive and Leader and overseen by a cross-party Member Recovery Board. The Board, which is an advisory sub-committee of Cabinet, has completed its work and has stood down. The Board has met seven times in quick succession and has received multiple reports and presentations. Cabinet endorsed the Recovery Strategy at a special meeting on 15 September.</p>
1.03	<p>Cabinet will be inviting each of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees to support recovery in their respective portfolio areas, and specifically to have oversight of:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The portfolio risk register(s) and the risk mitigation actions both live and planned; 2. The objectives for recovery for the portfolio(s);
1.04	<p>The latest version of the risk register (Appendix 1) and table of risk mitigations (Appendix 2) for the Corporate Services portfolio are attached.</p> <p>The portfolio is in a steady state with six risks reduced (EY4, EY13, EY14, EY16, EY20, EY33) . One risk has increased (EY07).</p>
1.05	<p>An update on the recovery objectives for the service portfolio for this Committee is shown below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To repurpose schools including funded settings back to the provision of statutory education: Schools continue to operate successfully within their Covid-19 secure arrangements. Where positive cases of Covid-19 are identified and cohorts required to isolate, schools continue to provide learning via a variety of digital platforms. • To meet statutory requirements for Youth Service, Youth Justice and Youth Homelessness Prevention Services: All statutory requirements for Youth Service, Youth Justice and Homelessness Prevention continue to be delivered as outlined in the

Recovery Update Report from November 2020.

A recent report to Cabinet and Scrutiny on the further development of Flintshire's Youth Services has been approved and a period of consultation with service users and strategic partners will now begin. This will inform the development of a new delivery plan for Youth Services for 2021-24.

- **To meet statutory National Standards for Youth Justice**
The National Standards for Youth Justice continue to be met and the work of the service is regularly reviewed and assured by the Youth Justice Executive Board.
- **To ensure young people reintegrate back into education, health and substance misuse services.**
Officers from range of Education and Health Services continue to engage with schools to provide appropriate support for pupils and families who require assistance.
- **To deliver targeted interventions and support to children, families and schools.**
The adaptations to the work of Inclusion & Progression services to allow them to work both remotely and directly within schools, e.g. Education Welfare, English as an Additional Language/Gypsy Traveller, Sensory, and Counselling are working well. This enables learners, families and schools to receive the support they need. Services continue to explore alternative and innovative approaches to secure engagement.
- **To comply with the statutory duties under the Special Education Needs (SEN) Code of Practice for Wales**
There remain a number of challenges around the completion of detailed assessments for pupils with Additional Learning Needs in the current climate but services are working flexibly and creatively to try and address these and ensure that the Council's statutory duties under the Code continue to be met.
- **To re-open North East Wales Archives, Hawarden, to the public (formerly Flintshire Record Office)**
The Archive will continue to open to the public for two days a week for the foreseeable future. This is sufficient to meet current demand and ensure the service can be delivered safely within its Covid-19 arrangements. Services users are responding positively to the improved website and greater access to more digital content.
- **To support staff to have a positive pathway to return to the work place**
All staff within the Portfolio continue to have regular team meetings and 1-1 catch up with their Managers which supports their wellbeing as well as their work streams.

2.00	RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS
2.01	There are no specific resource implications from this report.

3.00	CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED / CARRIED OUT
3.01	None specific as this report is based on documented response and recovery work.

4.00	RISK MANAGEMENT
4.01	This report specifically covers emergency situation risk management.

5.00	APPENDICES
5.01	Appendix 1 – Updated Education & Youth Recovery Risk Register Appendix 2 – Updated Education & Youth Risk Mitigation Actions

6.00	LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS
6.01	None.

7.00	CONTACT OFFICER DETAILS
7.01	Contact Officer: Claire Homard Telephone: 01352 704601 E-mail: Claire.homard@flintshire.gov.uk