Council Plan 2021/22

Priority Name	Poverty
Description/ Well-being Objective	**Protecting people from poverty by supporting them to meet their basic needs**

Income Poverty
 	
Definition:
People on low income who are unable to meet day to day living costs
	• Families are supported to be financially resilient by:
	  a) Maximising the number of people signposted for support to facilitate longer term behavioural change - by September 2021
	  b) Ensuring that take-up to benefit entitlements is maximised in a timely way by processing claims efficiently - by March 2022
	  c) Maximising take up of the Discretionary Housing Payments scheme and other financial support - by March 2022
	  d) Continuing to offer our community hub (Contact Centres) approach giving access to a range of programmes, services and agencies together in one place - by March 2022

Child Poverty
 	
Definition:
Children who do not have access to adequate food, clothing, shelter and education to lead a healthy and active life
	• The cost of sending children to school is reduced by:
	  a) Making the processes for claiming free school meals as easy as possible to increase the percentage of take-up against entitlement - by December 2021
	  b) Encouraging take-up of the free school breakfast for year 7 pupils eligible for free school meals - by September 2021
	  c) Maximising the take-up of the school uniform grant by June 2021
	
	• Free access to books, ICT networks, devices and library services are maintained by:
	  a) Maintaining the network of seven libraries in partnership with Aura - by March 2022
	  b) Increasing usage of online resources for children and young people - by March 2022
	
	• Children have access to play opportunities by:
	  a) Ensuring children have access to staffed open-access playwork projects in local communities - by March 2022
	  b) Ensuring children have access to well-maintained outdoor play areas which offer a varied and rich play environment - by March 2022

Food Poverty
 	
Definition:
People who are not able to access food that meets their daily nutritional needs and requirements
	• Everyone in Flintshire has access to affordable, good fresh food by:
	  a) Developing a "Well Fed at Home service" - by March 2022
	  b) Developing and delivering a "Hospital to Home" meals service - by March 2022
	  c) Introducing a transported and delivered food service "Mobile Meals" to those who are vulnerable - by March 2022

Fuel Poverty Definition: Households that have higher than average fuel costs and meeting those costs will cause them to experience poverty <mark>Affordable and accessible housing</mark> <mark>Personal and Community Well-being</mark>	• Reducing the risk of fuel poverty for residents by increasing the energy efficiency of homes - by March 2022 <mark>Linked to Affordable and accessible housing</mark> • Supporting and referring vulnerable households to reduce fuel poverty and improve health and wellbeing - by March 2022 <mark>Linked to Personal and Community Well-being</mark>

Digital Poverty
 	
Definition:
Limitations on easy access to the digital world due to prohibitive costs, skills and confidence, or network coverage
	• Supporting and enabling access to the internet and devices to ensure people are not excluded from a digital world by:
	  a) Supporting people to use appropriate digital technology through the Digital Champions Scheme - by March 2022
	  b) Providing free of charge public access to the internet at Connects Centres and Aura library services - by March 2022
	  c) Increasing loans of devices through the Aura Digital Access Scheme - by March 2022
	  d) Increasing take-up of digital learning opportunities supported by Aura - by October 2021
	
	• Supporting people to access information digitally by:
	  a) Providing access to council services on the internet in a responsive way (information can be accessed using different devices) - by December 2021
	  b) Promoting initiatives to help people to use digital technology - by December 2021
	  c) Increasing access to information online to support people to retain their digital skills - by December 2021
	  d) Promote the range of digital training and skill development provided by Coleg Cambria - by December 2021

Priority Name	**Affordable and Accessible Housing**
Description/ Well-being Objective	Housing in Flintshire meeting the needs of our residents and supporting safer communities
Housing support and homeless prevention Definition: Offering support to people to retain their housing and live well and avoiding homelessness	• Commissioning a wide range of housing related support that meets the needs of the people of Flintshire - by March 2022 • Promoting housing support and homeless prevention services with our residents and partners - by March 2022 • Ensuring a multi-agency partnership approach to homeless prevention and develop a culture where homelessness is "everyone's business" - by March 2022

	• Ensuring when homelessness does occur it is rare, brief and non-recurring - by March 2022 • Developing and extending our Housing First and Rapid Rehousing approaches for those who do experience homelessness - by March 2022 • Remodelling the "emergency beds" Homeless Hub accommodation offer and service delivery - by March 2022 • Exploring opportunities to develop a young person's homeless hub offering accommodation and support services - by March 2022
Housing Needs and Housing Options Definition: Helping people to explore their housing options so they can access the right homes to meet their needs Poverty	• Promoting the Single Access Route to Housing (SARTH), Common Housing Register, Affordable Housing Register and Housing Support Gateway within the community and with professionals - by March 2022 • Developing self-service approaches that enable people to identify their own housing options through online support - by March 2022 • Piloting a risk assessment process to identify pre tenancy support needs to reduce risk of tenancy failure - by March 2022 Linked to Poverty • Reviewing our sheltered housing stock to ensure that it continues to meet the needs of current and prospective tenants - by September 2021
Social Housing Definition: Working with housing partners to develop and invest in affordable housing - with modern methods of construction, and a commitment towards carbon neutral Poverty Green and Environment	• Working with housing association partners to build new social housing properties and additional affordable properties - by September 2021 • Increasing the Council's housing portfolio by building social housing properties and affordable properties for North East Wales (NEW) Homes - by September 2021 • Ensuring that the Council's housing stock meets the Welsh Housing Quality Standard and achieves a minimum SAP energy efficiency rating of 65 - by December 2021 Linked to Green and Environment • Developing plans for the de-carbonisation of Council homes in line with Welsh Government guidance to ensure their thermal efficiency is optimised and the cost of heating homes are minimised - by March 2022 Linked to Green and Environment, Linked to Poverty • Working with residents to ensure our communities are well managed, safe, and sustainable places to live - by March 2022 Linked to Green and Environment • Supporting our tenants to access technology and create sustainable digital communities - by December 2021 Linked to Poverty • Listening to our tenants and working with them to improve our services, homes and communities - by March 2022
Private Rented Sector Definition: Supporting the private sector to raise standards	• Engaging with private sector tenants, giving them a voice and responding to their needs - by March 2022 • Working in partnership with landlords and private sector agents to better understand their needs - by March 2022

in the management and condition of housing and promote tenancy sustainment in our communities	• Developing a "landlord offer" that encourages landlords to work with the Council to raise standards of property management and condition of homes where needed - by March 2022 • Improving access to private sector properties for those who are homeless, at risk of homeless and in housing need - by March 2022 • Mapping Houses of Multiple Occupation (HMO's) across Flintshire to ensure legal minimum housing standards are met and to improve residents' quality of life - by March 2022
Empty Properties Definition: Bringing empty homes back into use to enhance the local housing market and improve our local communities Economy	• Bringing empty homes back into use thorough the Empty Homes Loan - by March 2022 • Exploring opportunities to develop a project management service for non-commercial landlords to encourage take up of the Empty Home Loan Scheme - by March 2022 • Targeting 'problem' empty homes in our communities and using enforcement powers where appropriate to improve our communities and increase housing supply - by March 2022 • Exploring opportunities to maximise housing and revitalise our towns through the redevelopment of the High Street - by March 2022 Linked to Economy
Priority Name	**Green Society and Environment**
Description/ Well-being Objective	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.
Carbon Neutrality Definition: A net carbon zero Council by 2030 and supporting wider decarbonisation actions across the County, making this central to Covid-19 recovery	• Putting a Governance structure (Carbon Programme Board) in place - by September 2021 • Developing a net carbon zero action plan and be approved - by March 2022 • Gathering information on annual Council greenhouse gas emissions to submit to Welsh Government and the Carbon Programme Board - by June 2021 • Reviewing the procurement policy to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from suppliers - by March 2022 • Developing a policy for sustainable and long term energy usage in capital projects where this can be achieved - by December 2021
Fleet Strategy Definition: Reducing the environmental impact of our fleet	• Ensuring all business journeys are subject to proper planning and optimisation - by March 2022 • Reducing employee owned vehicle business mileage through continued use of virtual meeting attendance and reduction in unnecessary journeys - by March 2022 • Converting the authority's fleet to electric and alternative fuels (hydrogen etc) - by March 2022
Green Environment **Definition:**	• Delivering an increase in canopy cover as part of the Urban Tree and Woodland Plan - by March 2022

The promotion, good management and protection of our green spaces to deliver multiple benefits to the environment and our residents and visitors	• Enhancing the natural environment through the delivery of the Section 6 Environment Act Wales biodiversity duty - by March 2022 • Developing a strategy to improve biodiversity and carbon sequestration on the agricultural estate - by December 2021
Renewable Energy Definition: The promotion and support of renewable energy opportunities across the Council Estate and wider communities. Economy	• Assessing the feasibility of renewable energy and land assets and link to wider carbon ambitions - by September 2021 • Agreeing appropriate investment strategy for future renewable energy developments - by March 2022 Linked to Economy
Active and Sustainable Travel Options Definition: Provide opportunities for increasing levels of walking and cycling (active travel) and enable access to other alternative and sustainable methods of travel Economy Personal and Community Well-being	• Promoting the use of public transport through the further development of the Council's core bus network - by March 2022 Linked to Economy • Promoting active travel and further develop the Council's cycleway network - by March 2022 Linked to Personal and Community Well-being • Promoting multi modal transport journeys and the development of strategic transport hubs - by March 2022 Linked to Economy • Developing the County's electric car charging network - by March 2022 • Developing the County's walking and cycling network - by March 2022 Linked to Personal and Community Well-being
Circular Economy Definition: Support and promote the Welsh Government's strategy to create a sustainable, circular economy in Flintshire Poverty Personal and Community Well-being	• Achieving Welsh Government recycling targets - by March 2022 • Developing and extending the Standard Yard Waste & Recycling Transfer Station - by March 2022 • Developing and extending the Greenfield Composting Facility and Waste Transfer Station - by December 2021 • Supporting and promoting the development of a Re-Use and Repair Café within the County - by June 2021 Linked to Poverty, Linked to Personal and Community Well-being, Linked to Education and Skills • Promoting the option to reuse and repair unwanted items at Household Recycling Centres by partnering with local Charities - by

	December 2021 Linked to Poverty, Linked to Personal and Community Well-being, Linked to Education and Skills
Education and Skills Economy	• Working in partnership, actively support and engage with community led groups by developing environmental and recycling initiatives - by March 2022 Linked to Poverty, Linked to Personal and Community Well-being, Linked to Education and Skills • Support local businesses in their efforts to reduce their carbon footprint and become more resource efficient - by March 2022 Linked to Economy • Phasing out single-use plastic within the Council - by March 2022
Priority Name	**Economy**
Description/ Well-being Objective	**Enabling a sustainable economic recovery**
Town Centre Regeneration Definition: Regenerate and re-invent our town centres Personal and Community Well-being Affordable and accessible housing	• Monitoring the health and vitality of town centres to support effective management and business investment decisions - by March 2022 • Promoting town centre, hospitality and tourism businesses to help with their post-Covid recovery - by September 2021 Linked to Personal and Community Well-being • Encouraging and support investment in town centre properties especially to facilitate more sustainable uses - by March 2022 Linked to Affordable and accessible housing • Improving the environment in town centres - by March 2022 • Supporting the growth of community enterprises in town centre locations - by March 2022
Business Definition: Enable business continuity and encourage appropriate investment Green Society and Environment	• Engaging small businesses and improve support packages available to them - by March 2022 • Supporting post-Covid recovery of the County's street and indoor markets - by September 2021 • Supporting growth of the local and regional food and drink business sector through marketing and collaborative projects - by September 2021 • Supporting recovery of the tourism and hospitality sectors and rebuild confidence in the industry - by September 2021 • Increasing the scale and impact of the social business sector - by March 2022 • Supporting local businesses in their efforts to reduce their carbon footprint and become more resource efficient - by March 2022 Linked to Green Society and Environment
Transport and digital infrastructure Definition: Ensure that the transport and digital networks	• Completing the connection of all eligible public buildings through the Local Full Fibre Network Project - by March 2022 Linked to Poverty • Starting delivery of the local plans within the North Wales Growth Deal for digital infrastructure - by December 2021 Linked to Poverty • Connecting further rural communities to improved digital infrastructure - by March 2022 Linked to Poverty

facilitate and support recovery and growth **Poverty** Green Society and Environment	• Developing and delivering transport infrastructure improvements as part of North Wales Metro programme and the Council's Integrated Transport Strategy - by March 2022 Linked to Green Society and Environment • Ensuring Flintshire strategic transport priorities are well-represented in the Regional Transport Plan from the forthcoming Corporate Joint Committee development - by March 2022 Linked to Green Society and Environment
Local Development Plan (LDP) Targets Definition: Achieve LDP policy objectives for growth, protection and enhancement	• Ensuring timely adoption of the LDP once Inspector's Report received - by December 2021 • Monitoring overall Plan performance via the Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) and submit to Welsh Government - by March 2022 • Maintaining and update the LDP housing trajectory in line with planning decisions made - by March 2022 • Making decisions at Planning Committee in line with the adopted LDP - by March 2022 • Referencing the LDP growth strategy in early work on a North Wales Strategic Development Plan (SDP) - by March 2022
Spending money for the benefit of Flintshire Definition: Grow our local economic vitality through social value commitments and procurement strategy	• Encouraging and supporting commissioners and suppliers to generate additional well-being outcomes - by March 2022 • Increasing the ability and confidence of local businesses to supply the public sector - by March 2022 • Reporting of the strategic well-being outcomes across the Council in place by September 2021
Reducing worklessness Definition: Work with our partners to support individuals to gain employment Poverty	• Co-ordinating a multi-agency approach to support businesses to recruit people from disadvantaged groups - by September 2021 Linked to Poverty • Delivering mentoring and wider support programmes to assist disadvantaged people to re-engage with the labour market - by March 2022 Linked to Poverty
Priority Name	**Personal and Community Well-being**
Description/ Well-being Objective	Supporting people in need to live as well as they can
Independent Living Definition: People will be supported to live as independently as possible through the	• Providing additional placements at Marleyfield House Care Home to support older people - by June 2021 • Developing and extend our approach to Micro Care supporting more people in their own homes - by March 2022 • Increasing the number of people who are able to make their own care arrangements through a Direct Payment - by March 2022

right type of support, when they need it.	• Ensuring services for families with children aged 0-7 are better integrated through the 'Early Years Pathfinder' project - by March 2022
Safeguarding Definition: Implement and promote the new safeguarding procedures so our employees understand how they can help safeguard people in the community	• Developing and relaunching 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 - by March 2022 • Promoting the 'duty to report' so our employees understand their responsibility to report safeguarding concerns - by March 2022 • Implementing an 'active offer' of advocacy support for people involved in the safeguarding process - by March 2022
Direct Provision to support people closer to home Definition: The services we provide so people can access the support they need in their local community	• Setting up a registered Children's Home to help avoid the need for residential placements outside Flintshire - by March 2022 • Growing our in-house homecare service to support more people to live at home - by March 2022 • Growing our in-house fostering service to support more looked after children - by March 2022 • Extending Croes Atti Care Home for older people, with a focus on dementia care; complete the planning phase - by March 2022 • Developing the services we offer to provide respite for families with disabled children - by September 2021
Local Dementia Strategy Definition: Continuing to improve the lives of people living with dementia in Flintshire	• Working with registered Care homes providers and health partners to develop more long term nursing care placements for people who have dementia - by March 2022 • Developing 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 - by March 2022
A well-connected, safe and clean local environment. Definition: Resilient communities where people feel connected and safe Green Society and Environment	• Protecting residents and our environment from pollution and other public health and safety hazards by achieving the Streetscene Standard - by March 2022 • Keeping our local communities clean and safe through engagement, education and environmental enforcement - by March 2022 Linked to Green Society and Environment • Working 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 - by October 2021

Priority Name	Education and Skills
Description/ Well-being Objective	Enabling and Supporting Learning Communities
Educational Engagement and Achievement Definition: Providing diverse learning opportunities to support educational achievement in schools and communities	• Maintaining support for the rollout of the revised curriculum for pupils from 3-16 which better prepares them for their future lives and employment - by March 2022 • Continuing to support the raising of standards at all key stages to enable onward learner progression - by March 2022 • Continuing to improve attendance and reduce exclusions to maximise educational achievement - by March 2022 • Continuing to broaden the offer of alternative education opportunities to support learner engagement - by March 2022
Digital Learning Opportunities Definition: Supporting education engagement and achievement through proactive use of accessible digital media Poverty Personal and Community Well-being	• Supporting schools and wider education services to increase their digital offer for children and young people - by March 2022 • Developing a new delivery plan for Integrated Youth Services with a greater focus on digital engagement to increase participation - by March 2022 • Increasing the range of digital material hosted on the North East Wales Archive website and other digital services to encourage greater participation with the service - by March 2022 • Continuing to support learners who are 'digitally disadvantaged' to access IT devices to promote equity and engagement - by March 2022 Linked to Poverty • Increasing take-up of digital learning opportunities supported by Aura - by March 2022 Linked to Poverty • Providing community training for online learning platforms in a partnership with Aura and Adult Community Learning - by March 2022 • Providing digital art workshops based on collections at Gladstone Library, in an Arts Council Funded partnership with Gladstone Library and visual artist - by March 2022 Linked to Personal and Community Well-being
Learning Environments Definition: Creating aspirational and flexible learning environments	• Providing high quality learning environments through the Council's capital investment programme and Welsh Government grant funding streams - by March 2022 • Progressing the North East Wales Archive funding bid through the Stage 1 Heritage Horizons Award of the National Heritage Lottery Fund - by March 2022 • Increasing usage of community spaces in re-developed Flint Library and Wellbeing Hub - by March 2022
Learning Community Networks	• Completing the contractual arrangements for the North East Wales Archive between Flintshire County Council and Denbighshire

Definition: Supporting our learning communities to engage and achieve through extensive partnership working unpinned by common safeguarding practices ==Personal and Community Well-being==	County Council to provide a sustainable and resilient service - by March 2022 • Establishing a sub-regional partnership for the delivery of Adult Community Learning with Wrexham County Borough Council to maximise opportunities for participants and providers - by March 2022 • Developing a Delivery Plan for Adult Community Learning with new partners to increase engagement and improve skills within local communities - by March 2022 ==Linked to Personal and Community Well-being== • Working with Adult Community Learning and Flintshire Learning Recovery & Wellbeing Network Partners to share best practice and maximise opportunities for learning within the community with opportunities to be available in all Aura libraries - by March 2022 • Working in partnership with Open University Wales to support and signpost library users to Open Learn courses and subsequent learning pathways with Open Learn Champions in each library - by March 2022
Specialist Educational Provision Definition: Extending local capacity to support learners with additional learning needs (ALN)	• Continuing to embed the implementation plan to deliver a new statutory approach for supporting children and young people with learning needs from 0-25 years - by March 2022 • Completing the build project for Plas Derwen (Pupil Referral Unit) to transform the delivery of this specialist service - by March 2022 • Increasing the capacity of Plas Derwen staff to delivery more outreach work to share their expertise across the schools workforce - by March 2022 • Developing 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 - by March 2022
<u>**Welsh Education Strategic Plan (WESP)**</u> Definition: Working with schools and partners to support the Welsh Government's strategy to enable one million Welsh speakers by 2050	• Increasing the capacity and take up of Welsh medium education to achieve Welsh Government targets - by March 2022 • Improving the Welsh language skills of staff in schools to more effectively support learners and the delivery of the curriculum - by March 2022 • Continuing to improve pupils' standards of Welsh in all schools to encourage greater bilingualism - by March 2022 • Extending 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 - by March 2022 • Maintaining Welsh Government Quality Indicator for Welsh Language resources in Aura libraries - by March 2022