



Your Council

News from Flintshire County Council



December Edition 2014

Tough decisions ahead for Council

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Back in August we began [the Big Budget Conversation](http://www.flintshire.gov.uk/en/PDFFiles/Your-Council/Big-Budget-Conversation-Summary-Report-September-2014-English.pdf) (<http://www.flintshire.gov.uk/en/PDFFiles/Your-Council/Big-Budget-Conversation-Summary-Report-September-2014-English.pdf>), over how best to cope with another round of likely cuts to Council budgets by Welsh Government. In the Conversation we set out how we were planning to balance the books to protect local services, and meet all of our obligations such as the statutory services we have a duty to provide.

At that time we were waiting on the announcement of the budget we will receive from Welsh Government for the 2015/16 financial year, remembering that Flintshire is reliant on Government grant for around 75% of our budget with only around 25% coming from Council Tax paid by local residents.

We have since had our Government grant confirmed for 2015/16 and, as you may have seen in the press, the outcome is a 3.4% reduction. When you add this reduction to all of the other cost pressures we have to meet, costs which are no longer met for us by Government as they once were, the total gap we have to bridge in our annual budget is in the order of £16.5 million. This is the biggest budget gap we have ever had, and it comes on the back of already having made £22 million of efficiencies in the past two years alone.

We have previously set out our commitments to find internal savings, by being as efficient as possible, to shield local services from budget cuts. We have significantly reduced our running costs including big reductions in the numbers of senior managers we employ and reductions in support services such as administration. We are continuing to search for internal savings but this task becomes harder each year as the options begin to run out.

In our draft budget for 2015/16 you will see some impacts on services, but nothing which we do not believe is manageable with public co-operation, with a big proportion of the savings again coming from internal changes such as restructuring services and reducing the size of the workforce.

We are inviting feedback on the budget proposals which do have some impact on the public. If you move on to the next section when you have read this introduction you can review the proposals and see how you can let us know what you think. All of the public feedback on the budget will be shared in January with our Overview and Scrutiny committees, made up of Councillors, who have the task of reviewing and challenging the budget.

In looking to the future the prospects for council budgets are not promising. As a Council we will have to go further with changing the ways we work and we will have to make difficult choices between local priorities and services. For the moment we are staying positive; Flintshire is a well run and high performing Council and we continue to make big strides in achieving our goals in priority areas such as housing, education, social care, management of the local environment, and growing the local economy.

There are no major service closure programmes in our budget proposals. We are in early discussion with town and community councils and local community organisations to explore the possibilities for local community ownership of community buildings and some very local services to ensure their protection for the future. By working together in this way we can ensure that local facilities and services which local communities value will indeed have a future.

We would welcome your feedback on the budget and ask for your support for the approach we are taking to best serve the communities of Flintshire.

Colin Everett, Chief Executive

Aaron Shotton, Leader

Budget proposals

Budget proposals

We are inviting feedback on the budget proposals which do have some impact on the public. In this section you can review the proposals and let us know what you think. All of the public feedback on the budget will be shared in January with our Overview and Scrutiny

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Corporate Resources

Corporate Resources Proposals

Category 1 – No direct public impact

Legal Services – Increase fees

Increasing income by £25,000

Increase fees recharged for entering into legal agreements with the Council to match other councils in Wales.

Legal services – Staffing Service Review

Saving £71,000

Combine existing teams under single manager. Collaboratively share work with Wrexham County Borough Council to increase skills and maximise resource.

Democratic Services - reduce budgets in line with historic spend

Saving £53,000

The budget for members' allowances is larger than required as the Council's Cabinet has fewer than the maximum number of members.

Legal Services Staffing - consolidate multi teams into a single team

Saving £24,000

Combine existing teams under one team leader. The resulting larger more resilient team will allow for an overall reduction in posts.

Reduction in management and staff costs

Saving £75,000

Delivery of a shared ICT service with Wrexham County Borough Council to increase skills and maximise resource.

Improve financial planning and monitoring processes

Savings £270,000

Review and modernise the corporate finance service by introducing IT software and automated processes. Implement a new Finance operating model and structure that better supports the organisation. Review key specialist finance functions. Maximise all available grant funding opportunities.

Improve the Human Resources and Organisational Development (HR&OD) service

Savings £115,000

Develop managers' self-sufficiency and re-define the relationship between HR, managers and roles and responsibilities. Review the HR & OD operating model and structure to better meet future needs. Roll-out next phase of Agile and Flexible Working to improve customer services and reduce costs. Introduce iTrent employee self-serve to schools to reduce manual administration processes and costs. Review First Aid training provision.

Building Maintenance

Saving £5,000

Reduce the specific maintenance budget for County Hall campus.

Overall Council Property Maintenance Budget

Saving £150,000

Review and rationalise property estate budgets and structures in line with a reducing portfolio of property assets.

Valuations and Estates – Lease Renewals

Increasing income by £23,000

Increases in rental income on new leases, renewal of leases, agricultural rents and grazing licences.

Estate management cost recovery

Increasing income by £5,000

Increased and more effective recovery from tenants of dilapidation costs on tenant vacation of our property assets.

Valuation and Estates – Office Management

Saving £2,000

Undertake a LEAN review of office processes drawing on best practice and increased use of technology.

Property Maintenance and Design – office running costs

Saving £4,000

Undertake a LEAN review of the office running costs, reducing accommodation space and service cost.

Property Maintenance and Design – Office Management

Saving £5,000

Undertake a LEAN review of the office running costs, reducing accommodation space and service cost.

Community & Enterprise Senior Management Restructure (will also be presented to Housing Overview and Scrutiny Committee)
Saving £100,000

Review the existing management structure achieving a reduction of 2 posts.

Revenues and benefits e billing / notifications

Saving £3,000

Saving postage costs as more people receive ebills

Revenues and Benefits - stopping sending remittance advice to Landlords

Saving £54,000

Savings in administration costs

Revenues and Benefits - Staff restructure

Saving £100,000

Reduction in posts to match staff costs to Department of Work and Pensions grant over 3 years.

Revenues and Benefits - In-house bailiff service

Increasing income by £100,000

Income target agreed by Cabinet summer 2014

Review Single Person Discount

Increasing income by £150,000

One off gain as customers who previously benefitted from a single person discount no longer qualify, and the Council receives additional income

Clwyd Theatr Cymru (will also be presented to Lifelong Learning Overview and Scrutiny Committee)

Saving and increased income £200,000

Reduce the number of shows per year from 8 to 6. Reduce staffing costs. Increase income.

CCTV

Increase income by £10,000

Recovery of fee income from system users

Category 2 – Lower direct public impact

Close the personal answering service for main switchboard telephone calls

Saving £139,000

Replace with automated call menu options for efficient call handling

Cancellation of Council full page advert in BT phonebooks

Saving £8,000

The Council's website information has replaced this requirement

Withdraw registration service from outstations

Saving £30,000

Birth declarations to be transferred to Flintshire Connects Centres. Central registration service to be delivered from Llwynegryn Hall, Mold.

Revenues and Benefits - Removal of Post Office as payment option

Saving £35,000

The Post Office charges the Council for payments received on its behalf. Payments will be received at the Council's Connects centres

Revenues and Benefits - 2% surcharge on credit card payments

Increasing income by £25,000

To be applied to all credit card payments in line with standard practice

Introduce £1 flat charge for paper Council Tax bills

Increasing income by £60,000

Apply a £1 charge for each household electing to continue to receive paper Council Tax bills

Non payment of pensioner grant

Saving £200,000

Removal of top up for pensioners in receipt of partial council tax benefit

Decision not to top up Discretionary Housing Payment

Saving £68,000

Use Department of Work and Pensions allocation only. Reduction in financial support available to top up claimants benefit.

Environment

Environment Proposals

Category 1 - No direct public impact

Planning & Environment management restructure

Saving £295,000

Review the existing management structure to achieving a reduction of 5.5 posts.

Planning & Environment service review**Saving £253,000**

Review and change the way services are currently delivered achieving a reduction of nine posts.

Collaboration with Wrexham**Saving £24,000**

Share the post of Contaminated Land Officer with Wrexham County Borough Council to reduce costs and improve service.

Outsource specialist technical services**Saving £50,000**

To address ongoing reductions in grants and capital funding, review the direct employment of permanent specialist/technical engineering teams, retaining in-house expertise only where a permanent requirement is justified and viable. Future specialist requirements will be bought in through the private sector on an as and when basis. Estimated reduction of 10 to 15 posts.

Streetscene and Transport staffing review**Saving £125,000**

Implementing a new integrated staffing structure and relocating all employees to Alltami Depot to achieve an anticipated reduction of 20 - 25 posts.

Introduce non-generic streetscene roles**Saving £80,000**

A re-evaluation of the generic Streetscene operative role (the ability for all employees to work across all services e.g. recycling, street cleaning, etc. at a higher salary), has identified it unnecessary to apply across all services. Over the next three years as jobs become vacant they will be replaced with non-generic (service specific) roles on lower salaries.

Introduce 5 day working week during winter for non waste staff**Saving £30,000**

Introduce 5 day working week during winter for non waste staff with all other staff staying on current 6 day rotas

Regeneration – reduction in scale of service**Saving £45,000**

Review and change the way the service is currently delivered achieving a reduction in posts.

Regeneration - management restructure(*will also be presented to Housing Overview and Scrutiny Committee*)**Saving £22,000**

Review the existing management structure to achieve a reduction of 1 post.

Business Development – staffing restructure**Saving £25,000**

Review and change the way the service is current delivered achieving a reduction in posts.

Diagnostic proposals waste**Saving £50,000**

Engage a diagnostic partner to review all waste service operations and recommend improved efficiencies. Implementation of changes will be on a no win / no fee basis.

Diagnostic proposals Streetscene**Saving £50,000**

Engage a diagnostic partner to review all Streetscene service operations and recommend improved efficiencies. Implementation of changes will be on a no win / no fee basis.

Closure of Neighbourhood Wardens Greenfield Office**Saving £12,000**

Relocate service from Greenfield Business Park to County Hall and increase mobile and agile working to achieve savings in rent and utilities.

Increase in number of planning applications**Increasing income by £60,000**

Estimated increase in the volume of planning applications as the economy continues to recover. Welsh Government's 15% planning fee increase is factored in.

Reduce cost of newspaper advertising (planning and public protection)**Saving £10,000**

Review requirement to place public notices in local newspapers. Secondary legislation related to Welsh Government's Planning (Wales) Bill suggests a relaxation of this requirement.

Improving Development Management process**Saving £20,000**

Undertake a full LEAN review drawing on best practice and increasing use of technology.

Develop energy production at landfill**Increasing Income by £50,000**

Increase investment at Brookhill and Standard landfill sites to introduce PV panels to maximise production of electricity through gas turbines into the grid. Extending the energy source to Alltami Depot presents an opportunity to power Council's vehicle fleet.

Review of the Council's Vehicle Fleet**Saving £175,000**

The final phase of the Fleet Review was approved by Cabinet in September. This will outsource the service and reduce the overall number of vehicles required.

Transfer the cost of maintenance of bus shelters to Town & Community Councils**Saving £5,000**

Discuss with Town & Community Councils the transfer bus shelter maintenance costs.

Outsource Grass Cutting service**Saving £75,000**

Over the next three years, tender and market test against current in-house provision to reduce expensive hiring of specialist plant and equipment and the employment of supplementary agency staff to deliver the service.

Introduce seven day working across all Streetscene service areas**Saving £25,000**

Extending the current six day working week will achieve savings through more effective use of vehicles and plant.

Extend night working in the Streetscene Service**Saving £25,000**

Extend current shift working to include non-emergency work such as gully emptying and town centre sweeping during the evening and overnight. Savings achieved through more effective use of plant and equipment.

Remodel tourist information opportunities**Saving £16,000**

Closure of tourist information centre. Information service to be provided by Flintshire Connects and improved web site.

Reduce community environmental projects**Saving £9,000**

Reduce the budget for environmental projects delivered by the voluntary sector.

Category 2 – Lower direct public impact**Make Animal and Pest Control self-financing****Increasing Income by £30,000**

Incremental fee increases over the next three years, favourable with those charged by neighbouring councils and the private sector, to make the service self-financing. Specific consultation will take place on the proposed increases.

Make Licensing self-financing**Increasing Income by £20,000**

Incremental fee increases over the next three years, favourable with those charged by neighbouring councils, to make the service self-financing. Specific consultation will take place on the proposed increases.

Remove Out of Hours Dog Service**Saving £12,000**

Stop stand-by and callout allowances for stray dog collection at weekends and between 6.30pm and 10pm on weekdays. A non-statutory service with evidence that customers are content to deliver the dog to kennels or keep it overnight.

Increase in Planning fees**Increasing Income by £135,000**

Welsh Government's Planning (Wales) Bill seeks to introduce a 15% increase in all planning application fees. A conservative estimate based on recent annual levels of fee income.

Additional elements of charging for planning work**Increasing Income by £50,000**

Welsh Government's Planning (Wales) Bill proposes to increase activities planning fees can be charged for e.g. discharging of conditions. Estimated new income based on current volumes of work.

Pre planning advice**Increasing Income by £20,000**

Welsh Government's Planning (Wales) Bill will introduce a mandatory pre-application service, to be provided by Local Planning Authorities, and will set standard service charges across Wales.

Removing the waste containers delivery service**Saving £150,000**

Stop the home delivery of replacement waste containers e.g. recycling boxes, food bags, food caddies, etc. Replacements to be collected from Household Recycling Centres, Flintshire Connects Centres or Housing Offices. Exceptions to this will be for people receiving assisted collections and for the delivery of wheelie bins.

Introduce a charge for emptying second garden waste bins**Saving £50,000**

Each household will be provided with a collection of the garden waste bin on a fortnightly basis March - October. There will be a charge for those residents requiring a second garden waste bin to be emptied. The charge will be annually applied and will apply for every additional bin

Introduce 7 day working and no Christmas collection catch up**Saving £50,000**

Saturday waste collections will be extended and Sunday collections introduced in some areas. Collections on Christmas and Easter Bank Holidays will not be provided and the additional waste will be collected at the next collection. (food waste excepted)

Review charging for bulky waste collections**Saving £25,000**

Review current charges and consider applying a charge for existing free of charge collection service received by some residents

Remove the Trade Waste collection service**Saving £50,000**

Stop the delivery of the Trade Waste collection service and signpost businesses to local commercial supplies.

Replace Deeside Shuttle Service with a non subsidised bus service**Saving £50,000**

Due to the level of demand a non-subsidised, defined route can replace the existing service. Savings will be achieved by a reduction in administration staffing costs.

Review all subsidised bus services**Saving £75,000**

Remove current subsidised bus services and work with Town & Community Councils and local communities to deliver local community based travel arrangements.

Remove real time information at bus stops**Saving £20,000**

Remove the real time information system from bus shelters.

Closure of the Information Service at Mold Bus Station**Saving £30,000**

Closure of the information service currently provided in Mold Bus Station

Reduced Street Lighting Resource**Saving £50,000**

Relaxing the current three day response standard for repairing street lighting, with the exception of vulnerable areas e.g. sheltered housing, will reduce the number of people and vehicles needed to deliver the service.

Introduce part night street lighting**Saving £20,000**

Subject to risk assessment street lights will be turned off in all residential areas between 12am and 5am.

Remove second grass cut for highway verges**Saving £30,000**

Reduce current standard of two cuts a year to one with the exception of visibility splays which will retain two cuts.

Review of Public Toilets**Saving £30,000**

Implement the final phase of the service rationalisation. Discussions will take place with Town and Community Councils to take over the running of the facilities.

Rationalise street cleaning and enforcement**Saving £150,000**

Consider reducing or removing altogether the environmental enforcement teams and retain the current high standard of the reactive street cleaning service or reduce the current standard of street cleaning taking stronger enforcement action through a zero tolerance approach to litter.

Car Parking Charges**Increasing Income by £400,000**

Revise the Car Parking Strategy introducing parking charges to all Town Centre car parks in Flintshire. Specific consultation on the introduction of charges will take place through Town and Community Councils.

Review winter maintenance in Council car parks**Saving £50,000**

Salting in periods of snow or prolonged icy conditions following a risk assessment.

Review highway winter maintenance standards**Saving £100,000**

Review of current standards whilst protecting the Council's statutory requirements.

Category 3 – Higher direct public impact

Rationalise the County's Household Recycling Centres (HRCs)

Saving £400,000

With eight HRCs, operated by Council employees, Flintshire has the highest number across Wales. Reduce the number of sites to four at locations that best optimise resident access. Contract their management of the facilities or introduce incentivised contracts to maximise recycling at the sites. Social Enterprise opportunities will be considered.

Suspend garden waste collections November to February

Saving £25,000

Stop garden waste collections from November to February when limited garden waste is presented for collection. Black bin collections will continue to be collected fortnightly during this period.

Remove the existing policy of returning for non-presented waste containers

Saving £75,000

Stop return visits to pick up bins not left out for collection. Crews to check and 'sign off' street by street that all bins presented have been emptied. Residents will be able to take their waste to HRC sites for disposal.

Housing

Housing Proposals

Category 1 – No direct public impact

Welfare Rights Team Review

Saving £20,000

Consider model of service delivery to safeguard provision of Welfare rights service and deliver savings.

Housing Register and Allocations Project

Increasing income by £30,000

Charge Registered Social Landlords for single allocation policy

Community Support Services – management restructure

Saving £40,000

Review the existing management structure achieving a reduction of 1 post

Community Centres

Increasing income by £48,000

Charge Housing Revenue Account for Council tenant usage of community centres

Housing Benefit from leasing

Increasing income by £40,000

Maximising Housing Benefit income to cover staffing and other costs.

Housing Training

Increasing Income by £5,000

Charging for providing training to external organisations

Community & Enterprise Senior Management Restructure *(will also be presented to Corporate Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee)*

Saving £100,000

Review the existing management structure achieving a reduction of 2 posts.

Regeneration - management restructure *(will also be presented to Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee)*

Saving £22,000

Review the existing management structure to achieve a reduction of 1 post.

Category 2 – Lower direct public impact

Community based accommodation support service

Saving £30,000

Reduction of 3 posts over 3 years. Service supplemented by volunteers providing good neighbour service

Response service for older people (Telecare)

Saving £20,000

Charging for the out of hours personal response service

Telecare Charging

Increasing income by £200,000

Charging Council tenants for the community alarm service. (All other tenures currently charged)

Bed and Breakfast Charging**Increasing income by £10,000**

Charging £15 per week to partially offset service deficit

Lifelong Learning

Lifelong Learning Proposals

Category 1 – No direct public impact**Cognitive Ability Testing (CATS)****Saving £30,000**

Stop CATS testing. Rely on national testing data and Fischer Family trust Predictors.

Governors Clerk and legal fees**Saving £12,000**

Reduce ongoing costs and budget requirement

Governor Training**Saving £3,000**

Work with other neighbouring councils to deliver training.

Subscriptions**Saving £5,000**

Reduce ongoing costs and budget requirement

Staffing reduction**Saving £12,000**

Reduce staffing for project support

Primary & Early Years Education**Saving £317,000**

Maximise use of Early Entitlement Foundation Phase grant funding

14-19 and continuing education**Saving £20,000**

Rationalise the Council's Service Level Agreements with Clwyd Theatr Cymru

Inclusion Service - Autism Support**Saving £60,000**

Review the delivery of the service, deleting current vacant advisor role.

English as an Additional Language/Gypsy Traveller Support**Saving £45,000**

Review of the service, deleting current vacant post.

Young People's Counselling Service**Saving £40,000**

Delete current vacant post reducing the number of counsellors to 3.5.

Inclusion Welfare Service**Saving £40,000**

Delete current vacant post, reducing the current number of posts to 8.5

Pupil Referral/Behaviour Support Service**Saving £50,000**

Review the service with a view to procuring an external commercial service for children and young people with behaviour, social, emotional difficulties

Youth Justice Service**Saving £50,000**

Review the education link role. Potential to offer the service in a different way.

Learning inclusion service**Saving £60,000**

Review and rationalise business processes.

Facility Management Nant Mawr Satellite**Saving £17,000**

Relocate caretaking and cleaning staff to County Hall Mold

Fair Access to extra curricular activities**Saving £157,000**

As a result of schools receiving an increase in Pupil Deprivation Grant, the responsibility for meeting the costs of remissions (the costs of extra curricular activities for those who are least able to pay for them) to be transferred to schools who have the flexibility to deploy grant and other funding to meet learner needs.

School Uniform Allowance**Saving £19,000**

Reduce school uniform allowance in line with statutory requirements.

Mobile Classrooms**Saving £44,000**

Costs of providing mobile classrooms has reduced.

PE Equipment School Inspection Service**Saving £15,000**

Recharge cost of the PE inspection contract to schools

21st Century Schools**Saving £4,000**

Reduction in overall School Organisation Review Budget

Youth Justice Service**Saving £28,000**

Reduction in staffing levels.

Youth Services**Saving £91,000**

Reduce staffing in line with Youth Service Strategy. Increase voluntary sector involvement.

Withdraw the Schools Library Service**Saving £189,000**

No longer viable due to partner councils withdrawing from the service.

Rationalisation of resource units for pupils with complex additional learning needs**Saving £90,000**

Rationalisation of resource units where the requirement for the service has reduced or no longer exists.

Sports Development - PE in School**Saving £17,000**

Remove the grant provided to schools to cover the costs of releasing teachers attending County sporting events.

Library Headquarters**Saving £30,000**

Re-location of library headquarters from County Hall campus to Deeside Leisure Centre

Library Staffing Reduction**Saving £68,000**

Reduce the staffing levels by one library manager and one library assistant

Leisure Services - tariff increase**Increase income by £45,000**

3.5% increase across all activities. Some higher increases for clubs and organisations in line with neighbouring areas. Below 3.5% increases for some health related activities.

Reduction in climbing/high ropes programme**Saving £29,000**

Withdraw bookings for ad hoc sessions. Introduce group only bookings of 10 or more.

Deeside Leisure Centre Security**Saving £32,000**

Install access control and reduce the reliance on week day and day time security

Ice skate regrinding service**Saving £6,000**

Let empty shop space to local commercial trader for regrinding for both public and hire skates

Staffing Reduction**Saving £49,000**

Reduce the number of Leisure Facility Managers from four to three

Clwyd Theatr Cymru (will also be presented to Corporate Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee)

Saving and increased income £200,000

Reduce the number of shows per year from 8 to 6. Reduce staffing costs. Increase income.

Catering Services

Saving £187,000

Increase income by £105,000

Review existing catering service delivered to all Council owned buildings (including schools). Implement modern and efficient ways of working, minimising waste and increasing electronic delivery of the service. Increase take up for school meals with effective management of payment collection.

Cleaning - Different model of delivery

Saving £21,000

Review existing cleaning service for all Council owned buildings to identify more efficient and effective ways of working.

Security County Hall

Saving £116,000

Review security service operations and streamline.

Category 2 – Lower direct public impact

Music Service

Saving £61,000

Remodel service to move to 'full cost recovery'. Reducing cost and increasing income.

Public Libraries

Saving £49,000

Reduce overall opening hours from 414.5 per week to 347.5. Replace caretaking provision with cleaning service.

Mobile Library services

Saving £26,000

Combine the housebound service and delivery service.

Sports Development - Let's Walk Cymru

Saving £15,000

Withdraw promotion and administration support for walking routes.

Nofio Clwyd - removal of evening sessions

Saving £110,000

Withdraw support for the Flintshire swimming performance scheme and replace these evening sessions with additional swimming lessons

Saltney Sports Centre - Saturday closure

Saving £4,000

Responding to reduced demand now that Saltney FC has its own changing facility.

Social and Health Care

Social and Health Care proposals

Category 1 – No direct public impact

Consult on the potential to commission provision currently provided by In House Supported Living houses

Saving £25,000

Develop criteria to identify Supported Living projects that may have the potential to be effectively delivered by the independent sector. Indicative savings will be subject to specific consultations to determine the actual number of projects.

Develop a 'progression' model to support people to live as independently as possible

Saving £250,000

Maximise technology (telecare), provide enabling support to build autonomy and personal resilience, maximise direct payments, capture young people during 'transitional' arrangements to improve quality of life, appropriately reducing support packages and the cost of support.

Renegotiate joint funding with Health

Saving £394,000

Maximise use of the renegotiated Continuing Health Care fund awarded by Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board.

Review approach to mental health services and disability services

Saving £60,000

Review and change the way services are currently delivered achieving the deletion of 1 management post and merging office premises to save rent.

Reduce management posts: Disability Services

Saving £50,000

Delete Team Manager post and merge Team Manager arrangements for learning disability and physical disability services

Savings in Family Support

Saving £64,000

Delete vacant Senior Practitioner post and reduce budget for non critical statutory provision

Service redesign in children's services

Saving £18,000

Realign staffing structure and reduce 1 Team Manager post.

Rationalise financial assessment team

Saving £40,000

Bring together Financial Assessment and Receivership to achieve workforce efficiencies

Remodel delivery of Family Information Service

Saving £15,000

Identify alternative approaches/partnerships to deliver the service

More targeted approach family group meetings and alternative delivery model

Saving £5,000

Clearer targeting and exploration of how further savings can be achieved through establishing an alternative service model e.g. outsourcing to private/third sector or the creation of a social enterprise

Commissioning budgets in Children's Services

Saving £17,000

Reduce commissioning budget for external development support for the service

Review commissioning with Action for Children

Saving £75,000

Bring together contracts with Action for Children negotiating a reduction of 10% for the Arosfa and Family Project contracts and ending the funding for the summer play scheme and the therapeutic service

Managing the childcare market

Saving £18,000

Renegotiate the level of service commissioned from early years child care providers/organisations (voluntary sector) with support for those parents with greatest/critical need

Review expenditure for critical statutory provision in Children's Services

Saving £66,000

Reduce budgets that are not aligned to critical statutory provision

Commissioning Hub savings

Saving £3,000

Deliver efficiencies in the funding arrangements for, and outcomes delivered by, the Regional Commissioning Hub

Optimise grants for change management

Saving £40,000

Make better use of regional money and the potential of European grants to support the strategic change agenda

Remove recharge for Library Headquarters

Saving £0 – an internal recharge resulting in a saving for the service but not for the Council

Relocate Social Services Workforce Development team from Library Headquarters with a view to co-location with Corporate Training

Social services - review in-house catering contracts

Saving £50,000

Undertake market comparison to ensure the Council's in-house catering contracts remain competitive.

Social services – review in-house grounds maintenance contracts

Saving £6,000

Undertake market comparison to ensure that the Council's in-house grounds maintenance contracts remain competitive.

Category 2 – Lower direct public impact

Review eligibility criteria for day care

Saving £20,000

Review the criteria for day care provision targeting more specialist provision e.g. younger adults with dementia and to support carers. Specific consultations will be undertaken as part of this review.

Review the number of sites where In-House day care is provided

Saving £130,000

Develop activity/support within Extra Care facilities, develop links and short term support for people to access universal and community day activity, review the Melrose Centre, increase use of direct payments.

Review and revise eligibility criteria for respite

Saving £150,000

Introduce a personalised approach to respite by applying new criteria based on individual need with a guiding principal that ensures carers receive enabling support in their critical role. Applicable to all client groups/ages.

Review the number of sites where In-House short term care is provided

Saving £75,000

Review Orchard Way. Short term care to be provided from 2 remaining sites with the level care based on individual need with a guiding principal that ensures carers receive 'just enough' support in their critical role. This approach will reduce overall short term care provision.

Develop means testing approach for minor adaptations

Saving £100,000

Remodel in partnership with Care and Repair who will undertake the work and, based on ability to pay, charge for the cost of the adaptation

Implement thresholds for supplying minor Occupational Therapy (OT) equipment

Saving £29,000

Apply fair access to care for OT services signposting people with requirements for minor equipment (i.e. under £30) to local commercial retailers

Reduce expenditure at Ysgol Plas Bron Dyffryn (YPBD)

Saving £12,000

Provide alternative support to families to minimise the need for overnight stays at YPBD. Renegotiate the cost of service provision with Denbighshire

Regional approach to advocacy

Saving £53,000

Recommission existing National Youth Advocacy Service (advocacy for children and young people) through an alternative provider in consultation with regional partners. Explore potential for bringing together advocacy arrangements for adults

Children's Services review and realignment of funding to voluntary sector

Saving £203,000

Achieve a year on year 10% reduction to be closely aligned to direct service priorities and delivery. Seek new service models to reach a broader range of the population and include current core funding agreements. Develop a strategic partnership with Action for Children, serving early notice on some existing Mental Health contracts and review Flintshire's Carers strategy.

Increase charges for domiciliary services

Increasing income by £100,000

In line with Welsh Government's charging policy, increase the maximum weekly charge for domiciliary services to £60 based on individual financial assessment

Budget proposals - your feedback

Budget proposals - your feedback

Thank you for taking the time to read about the proposals Councillors will need to consider when setting the Council's Budget for 2015/16.

Any feedback you may provide about how you think the Council can make the proposals work will be considered and debated by the Council's Overview & Scrutiny Committees in January.

Open to the public, the meetings will be held on:

- Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee - Thursday 22 January 2015 10am
- Housing Overview & Scrutiny Committee - Friday 23 January 2015 at 10am
- Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee - Friday 23 January 2015 at 2pm
- Social & Healthcare Overview & Scrutiny Committee - Monday 26 January 2015 at 10am
- Lifelong Learning Overview & Scrutiny Committee - Monday 26 January 2015 at 2pm

Agendas will be published on the Council's website seven days before the date of the meeting.

A final decision on the budget proposals will be made by the full County Council in February.

The closing date for your feedback is Sunday 11 January 2015.

[Click here](https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/FCCBudget2) (https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/FCCBudget2), to provide your feedback.

Council news

Annual Performance Report

Details of Flintshire County Council's performance during 2013-14 are available with the publication of the Council's Annual Performance Report.

The report reviews the Council's progress against the priorities set out in the Improvement Plan and summarises the achievements of the organisation. [You can see the summary here.](http://www.flintshire.gov.uk/en/PDFFiles/Policy-and-Performance/Annual-Performance-Report---Executive-Summary-(English).pdf) ([http://www.flintshire.gov.uk/en/PDFFiles/Policy-and-Performance/Annual-Performance-Report---Executive-Summary-\(English\).pdf](http://www.flintshire.gov.uk/en/PDFFiles/Policy-and-Performance/Annual-Performance-Report---Executive-Summary-(English).pdf))

Last year the Council:

Assisted residents in managing £7.27m debt, and securing £2.35m additional income

Reduced occupational therapy waiting lists with over 90 per cent of people feeling their "needs had been fully met"

Achieved the highest overall satisfaction rate with education by a Local Authority (Source: National Survey for Wales 2013/14)

Resurfaced 22.6km of roads and redressed a further 23.7km

Supported the creation of 838 new jobs within Deeside Enterprise Zone

Established a property management company North East Wales Homes to fund further development of affordable housing

Supported more than 100 people to secure employment through jobs and employability clubs in six of the most deprived wards in the area

Co-located the first team of Social Workers, Occupational Therapists and District Nurses within Holywell Community Hospital

Councillor Aaron Shotton, Leader of the Council, said: "The Council has proved to be a high performing organisation, setting targets and meeting the priorities stated in the Improvement Plan. As the Council improves year on year it means services for residents are constantly improving."

White Ribbon Campaign 2014



Flintshire County Council has become the first Local Authority in North Wales to receive the White Ribbon Town Award for Councils. The award recognises the Authority's commitment to ending violence against women, and also its support of the international White Ribbon Campaign.

This year's White Ribbon Day was on Tuesday 25 November.

Flintshire supports a highly valued network of local support for victims of abuse, leads regional work in North Wales on the Welsh 10,000 Safer Lives Campaign, which shares the aims of the White Ribbon Campaign, and last year adopted a proactive employment policy to support any employees who might be at risk of abuse in the home.

In recognition of this work, a certificate and plaque has been presented to Councillor Bernie Attridge, Deputy Leader and a White Ribbon Campaign Ambassador, by Carl Sargeant (AM), who is also Minister for Natural Resources.

Councillor Bernie Attridge, Deputy Leader of Flintshire County Council, said:

"As the White Ribbon Campaign Ambassador for Flintshire, it is an honour to receive this award on behalf of the Council. Flintshire fully supports the campaign and, through our actions, we have shown that we are committed to preventing domestic abuse."

Colin Everett, Chief Executive of Flintshire County Council, said:

"I am proud that the Council has been recognised in this way. Our councillors and Council employees are all advocates in the community. By wearing the white ribbon with pride we can make a difference to helping others think and act with personal responsibility."

Housing Award success



Pictured from front left to right are Cllr Bernie Attridge, Cllr Helen Brown, Colin Everett (Chief Executive FCC), (front) Cllr Glenys Diskin JP (Chair of Flintshire County Council), Clare Budden (Chief Officer Community and Enterprise) with members of the Housing Team.

North East Wales (NEW) Homes, Flintshire Council's affordable housing company, has won a prestigious Welsh Housing Award.

Flintshire won the New Idea of the Year award for being the first authority in Wales to set up its own housing company. It beat stiff competition from three other projects at the awards, which are organised by the Chartered Institute of Housing.

Designed to respond to the challenges experienced by residents in accessing affordable housing, NEW Homes has been set up by the Council to increase the housing options available to local residents. It offers a number of tailored housing management services which are designed to increase the quantity and quality of affordable housing across the county.

In addition to renting out its own properties, NEW Homes runs a range of offers for landlords which all include a 'tenant ready' service. The company is offering a fully managed letting and property management service and also a unique offer for home owners over 55 to lease their properties to the company and access suitable council accommodation.

Councillor Bernie Attridge, Deputy Leader and Chairman of NEW Homes said:

"I am absolutely delighted that Flintshire has been recognised nationally for our innovative work in tackling the issues of affordable housing for our residents. NEW Homes was established to provide a new alternative, affordable, housing offer for local people, who either can't afford high private landlords rents, and/ or don't qualify for a Council house. The company's success in our first year is extremely pleasing."

Councillor Helen Brown, Cabinet Member for Housing said:

"We are very proud to have won this award. NEW Homes is an innovative solution to the problems faced by many households who can't afford market rents but don't qualify for council housing and we are pleased that the idea has been recognised at the highest professional level."

The team received their award at a ceremony on Friday 21 November at The Vale Resort, Vale of Glamorgan.

Find out more about the company and the services offered by visiting the NEW Homes website <http://www.northeastwaleshomes.co.uk/> (<http://www.northeastwaleshomes.co.uk/>) or calling NEW Homes on 01352 701400.

Ysgol Tŷ Ffynnon - new Shotton school opens



Photo caption L-R: Cllr Aaron Shotton Leader of Flintshire County Council and artist Cefyn Burgess with pupils from Years 1 and 2.

A new school has celebrated a new term with some fantastic artwork created by the pupils and a local artist in residence.

Pupils from the new £6.4m development, Ysgol Tŷ Ffynnon in Shotton which opened its doors at the beginning of September had the opportunity to work alongside professional textile artist Cefyn Burgess.

The junior children designed and created material collages representing stories inspired from the tales and folklore of 'Taliesin' which was the name of the original junior school on the site that was knocked down to make way for the new building. The infants shared their special memories of Shotton and of their Infant School

The Leader of the Council, Chair of School Governors and council officers visited the school to see the artwork and take a look at the new building in action.

The modern school replaces Shotton Infants and Taliesin Junior School and accommodates 245 primary and 30 nursery pupils and has been designed to Welsh Government 21st century school standards by Flintshire County Council's Property and Design Consultancy staff.



L-R: Artist Cefyn Burgess, John Prichard-Taylor Read Construction Holdings Ltd, Claire Homard Flintshire County Council, Ian Budd Chief Officer Education and Youth, Cllr Aaron Shotton, Leader of Flintshire County Council, Trefor Lloyd Roberts Flintshire County Council, John Donnelly, Chair of Governors and Helen Hughes Headteacher with school pupils.

The school was funded jointly by Flintshire County Council and the Welsh Government and was built by Read Construction Holdings Ltd of Brymbo.

Headteacher Helen Hughes said: "The pupils have worked really hard to create these lovely pieces of art which greet visitors in the reception area of our new school. The subject of folk tales of 'Taliesin' and 'Shotton' links the history of the area and the two schools in the new building together."

Councillor Aaron Shotton, Leader of the Council said: "Despite times of austerity we're very proud to deliver this new school. It's a fantastic building and an inspiring space for pupils to learn. Artist Cefyn Burgess has created some wonderful art with the pupils who were pleased to show us their work and their new school."

The artist residency has been part funded by the Arts Council of Wales and Flintshire County Council and coordinated by the Arts, Culture & Events Section of Flintshire County Council.

Flint redevelopment plans



Plans for the proposed redevelopment of the maisonette sites in Flint have been displayed at a public event held in the town recently.

Flintshire County Council hosted a public event at the Old Court House, Flint to show the local community a virtual walk-through of how the town could look and feel after redevelopment.

The proposals are based on the Flint Masterplan that was finalised in 2012 and the feedback from earlier consultation events. Stakeholders including local residents and businesses gave their views on the town's strengths and challenges that included the poor physical appearance of the maisonettes and the need to ensure that areas of the town are better connected.

The proposals, which can be viewed [here](http://www.flintshire.gov.uk/en/Business/Strategic-Housing-and-Regeneration-Programme/Flint-Masterplan.aspx) (<http://www.flintshire.gov.uk/en/Business/Strategic-Housing-and-Regeneration-Programme/Flint-Masterplan.aspx>), were presented as a 3D model on a large screen that showed the proposed layout of new houses, roads, public spaces and key buildings.

The proposals aim to develop Flint as a viable and attractive town that better serves the needs of the existing community and also has the ability to attract people from outside the town.

Roads re-surfaced

During the past year Flintshire County Council has again been making great efforts to improve the quality of the County Highway Network and once again the efforts have been nationally recognised, as the County's A and B roads were recorded as being in the best condition, when compared to all other Councils in Wales.

During the year numerous contracts have been awarded to improve the network, funded from either Welsh Government grants and the Council's own funding sources.

Over £2m has been spent on resurfacing roads and almost 50 roads or sections of road will have been resurfaced before the end of the current programme. A further 30 roads have been treated at a cost of almost £0.5m by a surface treatment, which is particularly effective in rural areas, to extend the life of a road and ensure the safety of road users. Extensive patching programmes have also ensured that those roads that were not in need of full resurfacing were also repaired.

A scheme of footway improvement has also seen the worst of the Council's footways being repaired and renovated to a high standard.

Councillor Bernie Attridge, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Environment said:

"The level of investment in the network, both by the Council and Welsh Government, highlights the importance of a safe and well maintained road infrastructure to the local economy. The high standard of highway maintenance is something we are very proud of and benefits every resident and visitor to the County."

Holywell Learning Campus



Building work for the new primary and secondary schools in Holywell, which will be co-located on the site of the existing High School, is due to begin in the New Year.

Planning permission was granted earlier this year and Galliford Try are the contractors selected to build the flagship £30 million development on land at the top of the existing school field.

One new primary school will replace Ysgol Perth y Terfyn Infants and Ysgol y Fron Junior school and will cater for learners up to the age of 11. This will be on the same site as the new facility for Holywell High School, which will be built to provide for the education of 11 to 16 year olds.

The new schools are due to be open from September 2016 with the existing facilities remaining in use until that time to ensure no disruption for learners.

The proposed new three storey secondary school will have 600 places and the single storey primary school will have 315 places. Primary children and secondary age students will be educated in the latest state of the art accommodation with all modern IT facilities to assist with learning.

Details of the proposals, including a 3D virtual tour, can be found on the Council website [here](#)

(<http://www.flintshire.gov.uk/en/Resident/Schools/Related/Holywell-School-Planning-Application---Approved.aspx>).

(<http://www.flintshire.gov.uk/en/Resident/Schools/Related/Holywell-School-Planning-Application---Approved.aspx>)



Councillor Chris Bithell, Flintshire County Council's Cabinet Member for Education, said:

"This exciting new learning campus in Holywell will be a wonderful modern new facility for children, young people and the wider community. These schemes form part of Flintshire's planned investment in their schools under Welsh Government's 21st Century Schools and Education Programme."

Meanwhile, in connection with this project, a Meet the Buyer event took place recently at Coleg Cambria on the Deeside campus. Galliford Try and Wynne Construction, who are building the Post 16 Hub at Coleg Cambria, hosted the event to encourage local sub-contractors to register their interest in the projects as part of the Welsh Government's £200m Schools and Public Buildings Contractor Framework for North Wales. The Framework is a joint project funded by the Welsh Government's Department for Education and Skills, led by Denbighshire County Council on behalf of the six North Wales local authorities.

Talacre cycleway opening



The new Talacre to Ffynongroew cycleway was officially opened by the Deputy Minister for Farming and Food, Rebecca Evans AM and Leader of the Council, Cllr Aaron Shotton on Thursday 2 October.

Members of the Clocktower Day Centre promoted the importance of exercise and health by riding bikes along the new shared use cycleway which forms part of a continuous cycling link from the north of Mostyn through into Ffynongroew and onto Talacre then continuing along National Cycle Network 5 into Prestatyn.

The majority of the cycleway follows the line of the existing All Wales Coastal Path between the A548 in Tan Lan to the junction with Station Road in Talacre, with a section going around the point of Ayr Colliery. It is part of the 'Linking Flintshire's Communities' project which started in 2011.

Deputy Minister for Farming and Food, Rebecca Evans said: "This new cycleway has been made possible in part thanks to investment from the Welsh Government. It is always a pleasure to see our Rural Development Plan funding in action, making a positive difference in rural communities like Talacre. The Talacre to Ffynongroew cycleway will benefit local people, encouraging them to become more active as well as helping to attract more walkers, cyclists and visitors to our coastline."

Councillor Aaron Shotton, Leader of Flintshire County Council said "I am delighted to open the cycleway alongside the Deputy Minister. This project has been delivered as part of the Linking Flintshire's Communities programme which aims to enhance, develop and promote a series of footpaths, cyclepaths and bridleways to link communities in rural Flintshire. Residents and visitors can now enjoy cycling as well as walking along the County's coast and countryside."



The project has received approximately £715,000 of funding by the Welsh Government and the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development. Other funding has been provided through the Regional Transport Fund, the Local Transport Fund and Flintshire County Council and is in the region of £500,000.

Success at Flintshire Business Week 2014



Photo caption 1: L-R Paul Hildreth, University College London, Clare Budden, Flintshire County Council's Chief Officer Community and Enterprise, Cllr Derek Butler Cabinet Member for Economic Development, Lord Barry Jones, President of Flintshire Business Week.

Flintshire Business Week 2014 has been hailed a success for the eighth year running, with 18 well attended events and workshops proving that Flintshire is an established place to do business.

Highlights this year included Tuesday's official opening with Mark Berrisford-Smith, Chief Economist from HSBC giving a talk entitled State of the Nation; Airbus celebrating 75 years in Broughton; a social enterprise conference at Coleg Cambria and networking events on Friday between Flintshire and Wrexham businesses.

The business exhibition sponsored by Westbridge Furniture Designs was the largest of its kind in North Wales with over 70 stands showcasing companies and services from across the region. Workshops and seminars covered supply chain and marketing with 160 people attending the MDA Innovation Business seminar.

FBW 2014 ended with the ever popular Flintshire Business Awards, backed by AGS Security of Mold, which took place at Soughton Hall on Friday 17 October.

Councillor Derek Butler, Cabinet Member for Economic Development said:

"Flintshire Business Week has once again brought hundreds of businesses together with the unique and successful partnership between the public and private sector. We've had some fantastic events and seminars and on behalf of the Council, I want to thank sincerely all of our sponsors and partners who work so hard with the Council's Business team to make this event possible."

Flintshire Business Week 2014 ran from 7 - 17 October: <http://www.flintshirebusinessweek.co.uk/> (<http://www.flintshirebusinessweek.co.uk/>)

Details about the Flintshire Business Awards can be found at <http://www.flintshirebusinessawards.co.uk/> (<http://www.flintshirebusinessawards.co.uk/>)

Christmas cards



Flintshire Record Office has produced a set of four Christmas cards based on the 1950s pantomime covers which form part of the Dennis Griffiths Collection held in the Record Office.

Alderman Dennis Griffiths JP, wrote, produced and directed over 27 pantomimes for the Buckley Amateur Pantomime Company from 1935 to 1959 which attracted large audiences from North Wales and beyond and which raised many thousands of pounds for charity. Donations from the Company were largely responsible for the purchase in 1944 of Hawkesbury House as a community centre for the people of Buckley.

Councillor Chris Bithell, Cabinet Member for Education, said:

'Alderman Griffiths was a man of many talents, He was a founder member of the Drama Council for Wales and was a producer for the Buckley Drama Circle for more than 25 years. He was also the first president of the Flintshire Drama Association.

'During an active public life, Alderman Griffiths served as a member of the Court of the University of Wales, was on the governing body of Bangor Normal College, Vice Chairman of the Welsh Joint Education Committee and, at one time, Chairman of the Liberal Party in Wales. The cards the Record Office have produced are a tribute to a man who was a highly respected pillar of the community. I remember as a child going to his pantomimes and it is very fitting to remember him and his contribution in this way and especially at this time of the year.'

The cards, which come in a set of four (one of each design) can be purchased for £2 from the Record Office, which is situated on Rectory Lane, Hawarden. They are also available from the shop at Clwyd Theatr Cymru and from Buckley Library. Alternatively, if you can't get to these outlets and wish to purchase a set, please ring the office on 01244 532364 and pay by card or cheque— a small postage surcharge will apply.

Memory café launched at extra care scheme



A memory café has been officially launched by the Mayor of Mold, Cllr Carol Heycocks, at Llys Jasmine extra care scheme in Mold.

The memory café is a joint initiative between Wales & West Housing, Flintshire County Council Social Services, North East Wales Carers Information Service, Alzheimer's Society and Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board.

The café is aimed at people with memory loss (diagnosed or undiagnosed) living in Flintshire and their carers. They meet every other Thursday at 1.30-3.30pm in Llys Jasmine, Mold. It is a place to get free support and advice but also socialise and participate in organised activities and receive talks from health care professionals.

Councillor Christine Jones, Flintshire County Council's Cabinet Member for Social Services, said: "The memory café is a great idea and a great way of getting people living with dementia and their carers together socially as well as providing professional help and advice. It's all part of the partnership working that has made Llys Jasmine such a fantastic scheme."

Anne Hinchey, Chief Executive of Wales & West Housing, said: "I am delighted that the memory café is taking place at Llys Jasmine, our award-winning extra care scheme, and that it is so well supported and attended by members of the local community as well as our residents. This is the result of an excellent relationship with our partners including the Alzheimer's Society and Flintshire County Council."

Anaerobic digestion plant begins turning food waste into renewable energy



Wales' largest anaerobic digestion (AD) plant, powered by food waste from three North Wales counties, has begun generating renewable electricity.

Anaerobic digestion specialist Biogen has successfully completed commissioning of the plant which will process an impressive 22,500 tonnes of food waste every year, at the Waen, near St Asaph.

Biogen Waen will process the food waste collected weekly from Conwy, Denbighshire and Flintshire, generating 1MW of green energy, enough to power 2,000 homes.

As well as generating renewable energy, the plant will also produce a biofertiliser as part of the process, which will be supplied for use on nearby farmland.

Construction work on the plant, which is located on the site of a former abattoir, began in 2012, taking just over a year to complete.

The anaerobic digestion plants will help councils prevent food waste from being lost at landfill, as well as helping Wales and the UK reach its target of producing 15 per cent of electricity from renewable sources by 2020.

Cllr Kevin Jones, Cabinet Member for Waste Strategy, Public Protection and Leisure said,

"Flintshire residents can be justifiably proud of their efforts to recycle their food waste in the quantities currently being collected by our waste teams. The new treatment process provides a clear benefit, both to the local community and the wider environment. I would encourage every resident to recycle their food waste into the future to further reduce the amount of waste material sent to landfill and increase the amount of renewable and sustainable energy produced by the process."

Streamlined access to community health and social care

A new service making it easier for people over 18 to access community health and social care in Flintshire will be launched next Spring.

Flintshire County Council, the Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board and the voluntary sector have joined forces to provide coordinated access to community health and social care services and information. Residents will be able to get in touch by using one telephone number to contact a team of co-located health and social care staff.

Called the Single Point of Access, it will provide an integrated and streamlined route to community health and social care services. It will also provide professionals with a means of sharing information and providing better coordinated services.

The needs of the caller will be identified from the initial enquiry, making sure they are signposted to other services in the local community or directed to the correct service. It will also enable people to access the wide variety of support available in their own communities.

It will be one of six across the county council areas in North Wales and is being funded regionally by the Welsh Government's Regional Collaboration Fund.

Councillor Christine Jones, Flintshire's Cabinet Member for Social Services said: "This new way of working will mean our service users will initially be able to contact one number rather than a number of organisations which can be confusing and time consuming.

"I am delighted that we will be able to offer people a seamless service, working together with our health and voluntary sector partners to make sure people get the right information from the right service and at the right time."

Christmas Council services

Christmas Waste Collections




Flintshire County Council
Waste and Recycling Team
wish you all a Happy Christmas

Normal Collection		Revised Collection	
Monday	Dec 22	Unchanged	Black Bin, Food & Recycling
Tuesday	Dec 23	Unchanged	Black Bin, Food & Recycling
Wednesday	Dec 24	Unchanged	Black Bin, Food & Recycling
Thursday	Dec 25	Saturday Dec 27	FOOD WASTE ONLY
Friday	Dec 26	Saturday Dec 27	FOOD WASTE ONLY
Saturday	Dec 27	Sunday Dec 28	FOOD WASTE ONLY
Monday	Dec 29	Unchanged	FOOD WASTE ONLY
Tuesday	Dec 30	Unchanged	FOOD WASTE ONLY
Wednesday	Dec 31	Unchanged	FOOD WASTE ONLY
Thursday	Jan 01	Friday Jan 02	Black Bin, Food & Recycling
Friday	Jan 02	Saturday Jan 03	Black Bin, Food & Recycling
Saturday	Jan 03	Sunday Jan 04	Black Bin, Food & Recycling

PLEASE NOTE

Brown bin collections will be disrupted during the Christmas period, please refer to your calendar.

Normal collections will resume week commencing Monday 5th January 2015; please refer to your calendar.

For further information please visit our website:
www.flintshire.gov.uk
 or call 01352 701234

Recycling Parks:
 All Household Waste Recycling Centres will be open daily from 9am until 5pm
 Closed only on Christmas Day
 Christmas trees can be taken to any of the 8 Household Waste Recycling Centres after Christmas

We would like to say a big 'Thank You' to all of our residents for your continued support for the service.

Your efforts have resulted in the Council being able to recycle more than half of all the waste produced and send less to landfill.

Did you know ...
 5,100 tonnes of food waste was diverted away from landfill!
 7,300 tonnes of paper was recycled into newsprint
 4,200 tonnes of glass was recycled into new bottles and jars
 Over 22 and a half million plastic bottles were recycled.



Council offices, markets and Connects opening times



Council offices will close at 5pm on Wednesday 24 December and will reopen on Monday 29 December. Offices will also be closed on Thursday 1 January.

The Christmas opening hours for each Flintshire Connects Centre are listed below (please note all Connects Centres will be closed Christmas Day, Boxing Day, Saturday 27 December and New Year's Day);

Connah's Quay and Holywell

Monday 22 December to Wednesday 24 December	8.30am to 5pm
Monday 29 December to Wednesday 31 December	8.30am to 5pm
Friday 2 January	8.30am to 5pm

Flint

Monday 22 December to Tuesday 23 December	8.30am to 6pm
Wednesday 24 December	8.30am to 5pm
Monday 29 December to Tuesday 30 December	8.30am to 6pm
Wednesday 31 December	8.30am to 5pm
Friday 2 January	8.30am to 6pm

Please note these times are for Connects only; the library in Connah's Quay is closed on Christmas Eve through to New Years Day and reopens on Friday 2 January.

For Council services in an emergency the out of hours contact numbers are Highways 01352 701234, Housing & Property 0845 373 3665; Social Services: 0845 053 3116.

You can also use our website for information and to contact us on www.flintshire.gov.uk

Flintshire Markets over Christmas

Wednesday 24 December	Mold Market
Thursday 25 December	Holywell and Connah's Quay Markets cancelled
Friday 26 December	Flint Market cancelled
Saturday 27 December	Mold Market
Wednesday 31 December	Mold Market
Thursday 01 January	Holywell and Connah's Quay Markets cancelled

