Dear Councillor

You are requested to attend a Meeting of the SAFEGUARDING, COMMUNITIES AND WELLBEING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE/CRIME AND DISORDER SCRUTINY COMMITTEE of Wrexham County Borough Council to be held in COUNCIL CHAMBER, GUILDHALL on THURSDAY, 6 OCTOBER 2016 at 10.00 am for the transaction of the business specified below.

Yours faithfully

Head of Corporate and Customer Services

WEBCASTING NOTICE

This meeting will be filmed for live and subsequent broadcast on the Council’s website or may be used for training purposes within the Council. The whole of the meeting will be filmed, except those items which are deemed to be exempt by virtue of Part 4 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended). The footage will be retained on the Council’s website for 6 months.

Generally the public seating areas are not filmed. However, by entering the Chamber you are consenting to being filmed and to the possible use of those images and any sound recordings for webcasting and/or training purposes. Parents or guardians accompanying a minor aged 16 years or younger are also deemed to have given consent to the possible capture of their image.

If you have any queries regarding this, please contact the Committee Manager on 292236.
A G E N D A

1 Apologies for absence

2 Declarations of personal interests, if any

3 Confirmation of Minutes
   To confirm as a correct record the Minutes of the Meeting held on 21 September 2016. (Pages 3 - 6)

4 Report of Task & Finish Group established to examine the problem of Unsafely Discarded Needles in Wrexham
   To consider the report of the Task and Finish Group - Unsafely Discarded Needles. (Pages 7 - 44)

5 Work Programme
   To consider the report of the Head of Finance (Pages 45 - 66)

6 Any other items which the Chair decides are urgent

TO: THE CHAIR AND MEMBERS OF THE SAFE GUARDING, COMMUNITIES AND WELLBEING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE/CRIME AND DISORDER SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Councillor William Baldwin (Vice-Chair) Councillor Colin Powell
   " I David Bithell, MBE             " John Pritchard
   " Terry Boland                    " Mrs J M B Roberts
   " Brian Cameron                  " J R Skelland
   " Krista Childs                  " Robert Walsh (Chair)
   " Terry Evans                    " Phil Wynn
   " Carole O'Toole MBE             "
20 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Terry Boland and J R Skelland.

21 **DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTERESTS, IF ANY**

There were no declarations of personal interest.

22 **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

The Minutes of the meetings held on 20 July 2016 and 26 July 2016 were submitted.

**AGREED** – That the Minutes of the meetings held on 20 July 2016 and 26 July 2016 be received and confirmed as a correct record.

**Matters Arising**

Safeguarding, Communities and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee - 20 July 2016

(i) **Minute No. 11 Play Sufficiency Assessment**: The Chair reported that he was still awaiting a response from the Lead Member for People – Youth Services and Anti-Poverty on the reasons for the delay in making a decision on the Play Sufficiency Pledge in accordance with the resolution of this Scrutiny Committee held on 11 May 2016.

(ii) **Minute No. 13 Adult Social Care Contract Monitoring**: The Head of Adult Social Care had provided Members with the further information requested at the meeting in relation to the number of staff turnover and those undergoing training within both the Domiciliary Care and Supported Living sectors. Several Members expressed concern on the apparent difficulty of service providers to retain staff within both
sectors and the possible affect this could have on future service delivery.

The Scrutiny Facilitator suggested that progress on staff retention could be raised when the next annual report on Adult Social Care Contract Monitoring was submitted to this Committee in July 2017. Alternatively, concerns on any related matters could be raised by the submission of a Topic Selection Form.

WORK PROGRAMME PLANNING

The Head of Finance submitted a report HF/85/16s to assist Members in agreeing a list of potential scrutiny topic areas for the next 12 months and possibly longer term.

The Scrutiny Facilitator (Suzanne Price) introduced the report and drew particular attention to relevant performance information, excerpts from the ‘Difficult Decisions’ consultation report; the list of topics considered by the Committee in the last 12 months and current work programme topics. Also, Members had previously been asked to submit Scrutiny Topic Selection Forms in respect of 2017/18 budget savings/reshaping proposals which would benefit from scrutiny by the end of August to enable the suggestions to be submitted to this meeting for consideration. No Scrutiny Topic Selection Forms have been received.

Members considered the information contained within the report and referred to the following matters in particular during the debate:

- Councillor Colin Powell commented that the budget proposal relating to the provision of Day Care Services (Adult Social Care) could be a potential topic for scrutiny and indicated his intent to submit a Scrutiny Topic Selection Form for consideration by this Committee. The Scrutiny Facilitator reminded Members that consideration of budget related items needed to be scheduled into the Work Programme by early December at the latest to enable any scrutiny recommendations to be included in the budget report to the Executive Board on 17 January 2017.
- Several Members commented upon an increase in anti-social behaviour within Wrexham Town Centre and expressed interest in the proposed Town Centre Action Plan as a future topic for this Scrutiny Committee. Members were reminded that the performance monitoring report of the Public Service Board - Partnership Delivery Board 3 was scheduled for consideration by this Scrutiny Committee in November 2016 and these matters could be raised and further information sought.
- With reference to para 4.6 of the report, Members noted the advice received from the Executive Director People and agreed that the proposed report on progress with the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act (SSWB Act) scheduled for October 2016 be cancelled as an All-Member Workshop had been arranged to consider the SSWB Act and its links with the Future Generations (Wales) Act for mid-November 2016.
- Members noted the advice received from the Executive Director Place and agreed that the proposed report on the North Wales Safer Communities Board – Review of Community Safety Resources, be removed from the Work Programme as this review has not been undertaken.
The report on the findings and recommendations of the Un safely Discarded Needles Task and Finish Group will be submitted to a special meeting of the Safeguarding, Communities and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee to be held on 6 October, 2016. This meeting will be webcast.

Concern was expressed that several All Member Information Reports requested by this Committee during the year have not been produced.

AGREED

(i) That the Work Programme attached at Appendix F to report HF/85/16, subject to the changes agreed at the meeting, be agreed.

(ii) That the meeting of the Safeguarding, Communities and Wellbeing Committee scheduled for 16 October 2016 be cancelled.

(iii) That the Committee are concerned that All Member Information reports requested by the Committee during the year have not been made available, and that the Chair and the Scrutiny Facilitator pursues the following outstanding reports:

- Cllr Hugh Jones, Lead Member for Communities and Partnerships – Agreement with North Wales Police (Police Community Support Officers).
- Head of Adult Social Care – Deprivation of Liberty Standards (DOLS).
- Head of Children’s Social Care – Early Years Development Childcare Partnership.
- Head of Adult Social Care – HMP Berwyn (Model of Care)
- Executive Director Place – Town Centre Action Plan.

Councillor Robert Walsh
Chair
1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

To consider the findings and recommendations of the Safeguarding, Communities & Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee's (SCWSC) Task & Finish Group established to examine the issues surrounding unsafely discarded needles in Wrexham.

2. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2.1 This report presents the findings and recommendations of the SCWSC Task & Finish Group established to examine the issues surrounding unsafely discarded needles. In order to make these recommendations in relation to policies, working practices and communications, we met with a range of key stakeholders, reviewed policy documents, strategies and guidelines, considered what constitutes drugs litter and who cleans what, and took evidence on what data is available about the problems currently being experienced in Wrexham.

2.2 Our examination of the Health Board’s Needle & Syringe Programme confirmed that the provision is aimed at increasing the number of people who have access to clean injecting equipment and at ensuring that the supply is not limited, i.e. it is no longer a ‘needle exchange’ programme.
2.3 Our examination of what constitutes drugs litter confirmed what many local councillors already know – drugs litter is not limited to unsafely discarded needles, but instead includes associated injecting equipment and materials associated with drug use, including human waste.

2.4 We looked at how reports of drug litter are made and who is involved in cleaning it up. We found that there is little data and while there are pockets of agencies working together, there is no co-ordinated multi-agency response to tackle the problem and ensure resolution of what is increasingly a large scale and repetitive problem in Wrexham on both private and public land.

2.5 A key document we considered was guidance issued in 2005 by the Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA). We support its findings in relationship to working in partnership as the key to the effective management and reduction of drug related litter. This is particularly relevant in the case of tackling drugs litter where agencies have interests that are seemingly at odds with one another – the local authority and communities want a reduction in drugs litter, the NSP is tasked with increasing the availability of needles and syringes.

2.6 We noted that over the years there have been several attempts to create various partnerships, working groups and action plans to tackle the problem. None has been successful in terms of satisfying local members’ and the public’s expectations as to what should be done. While there must be partnership working, there must be a single point of responsibility and accountability. The report identifies the Public Service Board’s ‘Partnership Delivery Board 3’ (PDB3), which fulfils the statutory function of the Community Safety Partnership, as the appropriate accountable body.

2.7 Our report reflects our findings that co-ordination through a single point of responsibility is the only way to achieve improvements in the current situation – that of less drug litter, cleared more quickly as well as contributing to the prevention agenda by informing opportunities for targeted intervention work. Agencies involved in the commissioning of substance misuse and harm reduction services must also further consider the wider impact on our communities. At the present time, the local authority and private individuals and our communities are left with the consequences with no accompanying resource to resolve them.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

The Safeguarding, Communities & Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee recommend:

3.1 That the Lead Member for Communities & Partnerships and PDB3 lobby Welsh Government regarding the need for Substance Misuse Strategies to
address the adverse community consequences of the NSP and related substance misuse services.

3.2 That the Public Service Board (PSB) in fulfilling its duties as the Community Safety Partnership agree that the partners and responsible authorities must work together to tackle drugs litter in the interests of all members of our communities (public and private land) and that the appropriate body to take responsibility for this is Partnership Delivery Board 3.

3.3 That PDB3 provide a single point of responsibility, co-ordination and accountability which takes account of the need for the following:

Incident Resolution & Customer Focus

- Agree a clear multi-agency response pathway for dealing with reports of drugs litter and encampments with timescales and responsible persons, which includes directing customers to available services and the use of services of specialist cleaning services as appropriate
- Ensure incidents are resolved
- Raise profile of how to report drugs litter (via Wrexham 298989) and the agreed response pathway with the public / local councillors / local businesses
- Provide feedback for customers (expected timescales, incidents resolved, etc.)

Prevention/Intervention

- Establish links with key partners in order to collate qualitative and quantitative information and analyse this in respect of current ‘hotspots’ (Streetscene, volunteer groups, Contact Wrexham, Harm Reduction Service, North Wales Police, etc.)
- Share intelligence with key partners in order to direct resources and intervention as appropriate (drug litter clearance, outreach work, criminal prosecution, etc.)
- Monitor the effectiveness of intervention and provide feedback to partners and PDB3.

Accountability & Future Development

- Accountable to PDB3
- Develop the volunteer network and agree terms of engagement
- In accordance with the principles of ‘Together in Wrexham’, support and co-ordinate volunteers to bid for a Together In Wrexham Grant (up to £5k) to provide personal protective equipment
- Research streams of funding and support bids for future funding
3.4 That the Lead Member for Environment & Transport and Service Manager (Environment) engage in the development of a clear response pathway for drugs litter and agree:
   (i) to encourage reports of drugs litter to be made through Contact Wrexham;
   (ii) That Streetscene assists with the identification and reporting of developing hotspots to the response pathway, as outlined in 3.2, in order to support a multi agency response.

3.5 That PDB3 submits a bid to the Substance Misuse Area Planning Board for funding to address drugs litter in Wrexham.

3.6 That BCUHB agree to enter into discussions with PDB3 in relation to funding to address the effects of drug litter in Wrexham.

3.7 That BCUHB and Substance Misuse Area Planning Board:
   (i) increase the resource available for the Harm Reduction Service and review the allocation of the service across North Wales in recognition of the fact that Wrexham has the largest distribution of volume of needles and syringes supplied by the NSP;

   (ii) in the interests of offering the quality NSP intervention as advocated by NICE Guidelines, and to reducing NSP waste, commit to increasing the number of pharmacies which offer the ‘bespoke’ NSP service in place of those which offer the ‘standard’ service.

3.8 That the Lead Member for Communities & Partnerships, Lead Member for Environment & Transport, the Chair of the PSB, Chair of PDB3 and BCUHB (Director Mental Health & Learning Disabilities) consider the above recommendations and provide a response to this Committee for consideration at its February 2017 meeting.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

(i) To address the negative impact of drugs litter on communities in Wrexham as outlined in the report.
(ii) To restore public confidence in agencies responsible for community safety in Wrexham.
(iii) To support the Council’s People and Place priorities.

4. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Background to the Examination
4.1 The SCWSC established the Task & Finish Group in July 2015 following consideration of a Topic Selection Form submitted by Councillor Carole O’Toole in
relation to unsafely discarded used needles in Wrexham. The committee was asked to agree to an examination of members’ concerns related to what was felt to be an increasing problem, both in terms of the size and repetitive nature of the issues, and the failure of a co-ordinated approach to respond to the challenges being faced by Councillors and communities. Councillors Carole O’Toole (Chair), William Baldwin, Colin Powell, Steve Wilson and Phil Wynn were appointed as T&F members and met between November 2015 and September 2016.

In accordance with the protocol for T&F work, the SCWSC agreed the scope of the review as ‘To make recommendations in relation to policies, working practices and communications to reduce the volume of unsafely discarded needles and other drug paraphernalia found in public places.” (The scope is attached at Appendix 1.)

4.2 During the examination, we met with a range of stakeholders and representatives of organisations and services including the Council’s own services, Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board (BCUHB), the Substance Misuse Area Planning Board (SMAPB), North Wales Safer Communities Board (NWSCB), North Wales Police and local members. See paragraph 6 ‘Consultation’ for full details and ‘Background Documents’ for a list of the key policies and strategies we reviewed. In particular the Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) published guidance and good practice on tackling drug related litter in 2005. This guidance contains a series of recommendations for managing and reducing drug related litter and was a key document in helping shape our recommendations.

This paper is presented as follows:
   A. Needle & Syringe Programmes (NSP)
   B. What is drugs litter?
   C. What do Government and Health policies and guidance say about drugs litter?
   D. Examining the problem in Wrexham
   E. Who Cleans Up?
   F. NSP in Wrexham
   G. Conclusions & Recommendations

A. Needle & Syringe Programmes

4.3 The main aim of the needle and syringe programme (NSP) is to reduce the transmission of blood-borne viruses and other infections caused by sharing equipment, such as HIV, hepatitis B and C. Ensuring people who use drugs do not contract BBVs is one way of keeping them and their communities safe before and during their recovery. Preventing BBV transmission also has benefits for wider society, both in terms of reducing health harms, and reduced treatment costs. The National Institute of Clinical Excellence (NICE) Guidance on NSP (2014) recommendations to directors of public health and commissioners include:
Increasing the proportion of people who have more than 100% coverage (that is, the number who have more than 1 sterile needle and syringe available for every injection);

- The quantity of needles, syringes and other injecting equipment provided to service users should not be subject to a limit, but rather should meet their needs.

4.4 The North Wales NSP is commissioned by BCUHB and funded via BCUHB’s ‘ring-fenced’ substance misuse budget. (BCUHB 2016/17 budget is £5,104,210 for substance misuse services and £370,926 for NSP.)

NSP is available via Substance Misuse Offices, Outreach Harm Reduction Service (street outreach work, mobile unit and partner agencies) and approximately 80 community pharmacies across North Wales.

A broad range of needles, syringes, and other paraphernalia is made available free of charge with the aim of limiting the sharing and re-use of equipment. The return of used equipment is not a condition of supply, i.e. it is not a ‘needle exchange’ programme.

National guidance and commissioning policies state that providers of NSP should advocate and facilitate safe disposal of used equipment. Used needles and syringes are returned in sealed sharps boxes or placed in sharps bins by service users and agencies we spoke to confirmed that for this reason it is not possible to determine the number of needles returned.

The total number of needles supplied in North Wales in 2015/16 was 945,664. One quarter of these, some 254,453, were issued in Wrexham. A full comparative analysis of needles and syringes issued in North Wales is attached at Appendix 2.

B. What is drugs litter?

4.5 The Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA), in its October 2005 guidance “Tackling Drug Related Litter – Guidance and Good Practice” identifies drug related litter as including a range of materials, including syringes, foils, swabs, spoons, plastic bottles and cans. There is a wide range of materials that may be associated with drug use and found in areas that have been used for drug use, including discarded clothes, mattresses and other belongings, as well as faeces, vomit, urine, etc. and which service providers should be prepared to encounter and deal with when addressing these issues.

C. What do Government and Health policies and guidance say about drugs litter?
The Welsh Government’s 10 year strategy for tackling the harms associated with the misuse of alcohol, drugs and other substances in Wales ‘Working Together to reduce Harm – The Substance Misuse Strategy for Wales 2008-2018’. The foreword to this document includes the following:

‘...The misuse of drugs, alcohol or other substances is still one of the most devastating ways in which individuals can harm themselves, their families and the communities in which they live. We are determined to tackle it.’

‘... Locally we have established and empowered Community Safety Partnerships to tackle substance misuse in their areas, and we have supported them with massive increased in funding to commission services and tackle local problems.’

‘... But there is much more to be done. We must work harder to prevent substance misuse occurring, targeting our efforts towards those individuals and communities most at risk but also ensuring that we address the needs of the wider population.’

‘...We must also tackle the availability of illegal drugs...and the associated crime and anti-social behaviour. The needs to the substance misuser, their families and the wider community must be at the heart of everything we do.’

The Strategy has four action areas...the fourth of which is ‘Tackling availability and protecting individuals and communities via enforcement activity.’ The document makes many references to the effects of drug litter on communities, but with an emphasis on stemming the flow of the supply of illegal drugs. **There is no explicit reference to a tackling the practical problem of dealing with drug litter.**

We also considered the ‘Working Together to Reduce Harm Delivery Plan (2016-18)’ which was out for consultation during the review (Jan – Mar 2016). Once again, while there were references to the effect on communities of drugs litter, there were no specific actions or funding directed at this.

4.7 The **Substance Misuse Treatment Framework (SMTF) Service Framework for Needle and Syringe Programmes in Wales (2011)** states that the one of the aims of the NSP in Wales is to improve the health of local communities by preventing the spread of blood-borne viruses **and by reducing the rate of discarded used injecting equipment.** It says that there is no convincing evidence of any major unintended negative, although this is clearly from a service user/health perspective. It does also state that ‘...it is essential to engage with local stakeholders in the planning of NSP services and to maintain engagement over time to identify and address their concerns and promote the benefits of the services.’

4.8 The **National Institute of Clinical Excellence’s (NICE) Guidance on NSP (2014)** recommends that service users are provided with sharps bins and advice on
how to dispose of needles and syringes safely, and that staff are competent in terms of being able to provide advice about drugs and support services.

There is one reference to DEFRA’s Tackling Drug Litter 2005 document, stating that health and wellbeing board, directors of public health and commissioners should develop plans for needle and syringe disposal in line with the DEFRA document, however this is in relation to the provision and siting of sharps boxes.

D. Examining the problem in Wrexham

4.9 Members from a number of primarily town centre wards have long been concerned about the effect unsafely discarded needles and other drug related paraphernalia has not only on public health (including risk to individuals from ‘stick injuries’) but the wider and more pervasive effects on communities’ morale, public perception of crime and community safety in certain wards and more generally the impact of these which in reduced opportunities for both adults and children to make use of our parks and public spaces.

Such concerns have been widely reported in the local press and raised by members at various council fora. In Wrexham, there are ongoing issues with encampments which produce large amounts of associated drug litter, including human waste, creating no-go areas for the public, as well as many areas in the town centre and communities close to the town centre where drugs litter is regularly found.

Wrexham is the largest town in Wales, attracting visitors from a wide area to both its daytime and night time economy. The Council is investing in Wrexham as a destination with resources being invested to improve the offer to both residents and visitors alike. There is a need that the town is safe, attractive and pleasant in order to secure success. The reputation of the town is a key component of the success of the Council’s ‘Place’ priority; community safety concerns are a key component to the success of the Council’s ‘People’ priority.
Photographs from various public areas around the town are attached at Appendix 3. A selection is included below with commentary provided by local members.

**Rhos Cemetery – August 2016**

‘This was found in Rhos Cemetery this afternoon at a time when the children of our community are on school holidays and are very likely to come across this filth and could quite easily come to major harm as a consequence. My message to the health board is innocent people need to be protected...they deserve better than this. There were hundreds there. I could have picked up around 200 needles in two minutes and then there are the used condoms and human faeces that go with it. I am worried about children. They are out playing, they see these things lying around, and they are going to be curious. Then you have got the cemetery staff, just trying to get on with their jobs, cutting grass, with needles flying about everywhere.’
‘I regularly go out and pick up needles. Members of the public contact me - they complain and when they don’t get anywhere they contact me because they know I will shift them quickly. These are very public areas, open spaces, places where people walk their dogs and children are out playing. I also visit other sites more regularly – certain car parks, very public spaces in the town centre, along Holt Road, areas within communities that regularly experience problems, and I regularly find 30-40 needles on a daily basis. I have heard some say that Wrexham hasn’t got a problem, but I think they are walking around with their eyes closed. I see it, other councillors see it, the public sees it. In the worst affected areas, people in our communities, especially the most vulnerable like the elderly, young families, feel intimidated and harassed by the people causing the problems. And its not just at night – it’s in the middle of the day. Parents contact me because they know their children are out playing in these spaces and they are worried. If this isn’t a problem, then I don’t know what is. Not enough attention is being paid to the problems with drugs litter. The people of Wrexham don’t need to be living with this.’
When as a councillor you are faced with a group of people who camp out on public or private land in your ward, be they homeless or substance misusers of drugs or alcohol or both, or suffering with mental health issues, the very complex problems this causes can spiral out of control rapidly and create a hugely challenging situation which is quickly overwhelming to all those trying to deal with it.

The encampment becomes filled with unsafely discarded needles, drugs paraphernalia, all types of litter and human detritus very quickly and this needs to be dealt with on an almost daily basis. This is extremely difficult to arrange. Often the Council's Streetscene services are of necessity coping on a reactive basis. The sheer size of the problem means that sometimes a specialist cleaning service needs to be employed to clean up. This takes time and money to be arranged.

When the encampment straddles public and private land, the problems are exacerbated by questions of who does what, on whose land, and who pays. The result of these difficulties creates tension between the private landowner and the Council and a perception that the Council is not doing anything to deal with the crisis or to deal with it quickly. This perception is not true: the reality is that solutions are not easily or quickly found.
The people living rough and those who frequent the encampment have huge problems, are frequently traumatised individuals who lead chaotic lives. They need specialist help. They also have rights, as do the private landowners who own the land on which tents are pitched and discarded needles strewn, along with the residents living in the proximity of the camp and the public passing by it. Trying to protect the rights of and advocate on behalf of all these groups to everyone’s satisfaction can be a seemingly impossible task to the ward councillor.

Eventually the camp is taken apart and the disparate groups using it moved on by the Council or the Police. The councillor breathes a huge sigh of relief - but only to wait for the next time - for at the moment we simply move the problem onto another ward in the certain knowledge that the above scenario will occur again somewhere else. It just becomes another councillor’s problem.’

E. **Who Cleans Up?**

4.10 The local authority (‘Streetscene’) is responsible for cleansing on **public and council owned land**. Needles and drugs litter are found and collected routinely on planned Streetscene rounds and in response to reports received. The current Streetscene standard (agreed by Executive Board in April 2016) for the removal of sharps from public land is 24 hours/1 working day (12 hours for children’s play areas/amenity areas) Monday – Friday and at Duty Supervisors’ discretion at weekends based on health and safety risk. In reality these requests are dealt with as soon as possible and are prioritised according to location. We noted that not all Streetscene operatives have sharps bins.

Requests for Streetscene services come in via ‘Contact Wrexham’. Officers have access to adopted highways and footpaths mapping. It does not identify housing or education land and there can be delays in resolving jobs on land owned by other council departments.

4.11 Reports in relation to **private land** are more complex. Prior to April 2016, private landowners were offered an option of Streetscene delivering and collecting a sharps box for a fee. Environment Department and the Contact Centre have advised that private landowners who report drugs litter are now given advice as to how to safely dispose of the litter: wearing gloves and disposing of the needle in a biscuit tin or coffee canister into general waste. No further action is taken by WCBC.

Where private land is enclosed i.e. not accessible by the public or open to view it is the owner who is responsible. The Streetscene standards state that the Local Authority is not required to attend enclosed land or land not open to view, unless there is a Public Protection issue.
Environment Department have advised that the definitions of such land in the Clean Neighbourhoods Act are complex so any marginal cases are referred to the Area Supervisors to investigate.

Where land is private but accessible or open to view, such as open plan gardens or privately owned open spaces, Streetscene will investigate and attempt to contact the owner. If within 5 days Streetscene is unsuccessful in contacting the owner and / or, the needles are not cleared within 5 days Streetscene will refer these cases to Environmental Enforcement Officers.

4.12 The Local Authority Trading Company (LATC) are contracted to clean most Council buildings and areas such as the bus station, public toilets, market, etc. All staff has suitable equipment to deal with discarded needles and associated drug litter. LATC are equipped to carry out large scale cleansing and needle sweeps for local authority and private land and properties. Work of this nature requires two operatives and there are two elements to the fee – an hourly rate and a disposal fee. Appendix 4 gives indicative costs of such services. Work undertaken by LATC is invoiced and requires a point of authority to commission and pay for work to be undertaken.

4.13 All Housing Estate Offices have sharps bins and Estate Caretakers carry sharps bins with them.

4.14 The Association of Voluntary Organisations in Wales (AVOW) has a Substance Misuse Volunteer Coordinator for c. 40 volunteers, some of whom are ex service users and who engage in needle collection. The post-holder undertakes fortnightly walks around the town centre, engages with service users as to the location of discard sites, and responds to requests for collection from many sources, e.g. public, private landowners, local churches, etc. All needles go back to Ty Croeso for safe disposal. The Substance Misuse Area Planning Board provided £7k several years ago for personal protective equipment but no other funding or support is provided and it should be noted that the work outlined above is carried out in the Volunteer Co-ordinator’s own time.

4.15 BCUHB Harm Reduction Service is sometimes involved in clearing drugs litter when reports are made direct to them.

4.16 What data is available?
We contacted the following to ask about their views on the extent of the problem, what data they recorded, who they contacted to report problems and what service pathways they were aware of:

- WCBC (Streetscene, Housing Estate Offices, Housing Repairs, Assets & Economic Development, Local Authority Trading Company (LATC), Contact Wrexham)
- Pharmacies offering the Needle Syringe Programme service within the County Borough
Responses were received from all Council services, 14 Community Councils, Communities First, BCUHB Harm Reduction Service, North Wales Police, 3 Pharmacies, 1 Church, Probation Service and Ty Croeso.

We found that while many of the above reported that they cleared needles routinely, received referrals to deal with needles or made referrals (either to AVOW or Streetscene) evidence was anecdotal as generally no records are kept.

4.17 The only sources of data are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contact Wrexham (298989) - Streetscene</th>
<th>Reports on or near an adopted highway maintained by WCBC</th>
<th>Reports on unadopted land</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nov 14 – Oct 15 (12 months)</td>
<td>139</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov 15 – July 16 (9 months)</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

We discussed these figures with the Lead Member for Environment & Transport and the Streetscene Manager who commented as follows:

- The issue in Wrexham has grown considerably in recent months and demands on the service have grown
- These figures do not reflect requests for ‘unplanned’ jobs related to sharps as many more requests are made direct to Streetscene supervisors / operatives from local members, members of the public, etc.
- Streetscene operatives have local knowledge of problem areas, which is used to plan works, however no data is recorded and there are practical issues with asking operatives to do so
- Local authority focus is on council-owned land, but many issues arise on private land.

**BCUHB Harm Reduction Service** – compile a monthly report of reports they receive directly of drug litter along with their response (including outreach work and clearance) and outcomes. We examined a number of these reports and noted that a
typical report consisted of 5 or so instances across North Wales with the conclusion that this was not a well established point of access for reports of drug litter.

4.18 In comparison with other North Wales Authorities?
We contacted Community Safety Managers for the other 5 North Wales Authorities with a view to ascertaining the extent of the problem in their areas. Of those who responded (Gwynedd & Anglesey and Flintshire) there was a similar picture of anecdotal evidence with little to no supporting data. For example, in Flintshire the equivalent of the Contact Centre for 2015/16 was 22 reported incidents. The Group judged that such these figures would be subject to the same caveat in terms of the volume of unreported incidents as discussed above.

F. NSP in North Wales and Wrexham

4.19 945,664 needles and syringes were distributed by the NSP in North Wales in 2015/16. Wrexham has the highest total number of needles and syringes issued in North Wales with more than ¼ (26.9%) of total needles and syringes being issued in Wrexham, some 254,453, in 2015/16. (Appendix 2 offers a comparative analysis of needles and syringes issued in North Wales.)

NICE Guidance (2014) states that people who use the programmes are provided with sharps bins and advice on how to dispose of needles and syringes safely, that staff who distribute needles and syringes are aware of, encourage and can refer people to other healthcare services including drug treatment services.

4.20 Across North Wales, the NSP is available via six Substance Misuse Offices, Outreach Harm Reduction Service (street outreach work, mobile unit and partner agencies) and 80 Community Pharmacies via a Service Level Agreement with BCUHB. BCUHB assess pharmacies, taking into account a range of factors such as their location, how busy they are, staffing levels, storage space, etc. and a level of service provision is negotiated accordingly. Pharmacies can offer either a ‘standard’ service which involves the provision of a standard pack (15 needles and associated products) or a ‘bespoke’ NSP which provides service users with product and quantity according to individual requirements.

Across North Wales, 32 pharmacies (40%) offer the bespoke service. There are 3 multi-disciplinary harm reduction teams working across North Wales – each team has 2 harm reduction workers/nurses and a BBV nurse and is responsible for 2 counties regardless of population size and/or volume of needles distributed.

In Wrexham the NSP is delivered via 13 community pharmacies, the Harm Reduction Service (mobile unit and office at The Elms) and Ty Croeso. 4 pharmacies offer a ‘standard’ and 9 the ‘bespoke’. Mobile units and clinics offer bespoke services.
In 2013/14 75% (639,305) of the total needles and syringes in North Wales were issued by community pharmacies: in 2015/16 this had increased to 84% (795,725) of the total. This is a 24% increase during this period.

Correspondingly there has been a reduction of 28% of needles and syringes issued by ‘other’ – substance misuse / harm reduction services: from 25% (208,281) of the total in 2013/14 to 16% (149,939) in 2015/16.”

**NSP in North Wales 2013/14 – 2015/16**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Total needles &amp; syringes issued</th>
<th>As a % of North Wales total</th>
<th>Number issued by pharmacies</th>
<th>% issued by pharmacies</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2013/14</td>
<td>639,305</td>
<td>26.9%</td>
<td>230,880</td>
<td>90.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014/15</td>
<td>719,325</td>
<td>22.1%</td>
<td>189,505</td>
<td>90%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015/16</td>
<td>795,725</td>
<td>17.2%</td>
<td>121,865</td>
<td>74.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wrexham</td>
<td>254,453</td>
<td>26.9%</td>
<td>230,880</td>
<td>90.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gwynedd</td>
<td>209,753</td>
<td>22.1%</td>
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<td>90%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Flintshire</td>
<td>163,022</td>
<td>17.2%</td>
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<td>Denbighshire</td>
<td>135,792</td>
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<td>Conwy</td>
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<td>78,975</td>
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<td>57,910</td>
<td>70.4%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>945,664</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
<td><strong>795,725</strong></td>
<td><strong>84.1%</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

In Wrexham, 90% of needles and syringes are issued by community pharmacies. – an increase of some 50,330 (28%) since 2013/14.

4.21 We considered that bespoke services offer more opportunity for contact and engagement with service users in terms of the opportunity to emphasise safe disposal facilities, as well as the opportunity to tailor make the service to match need as well as to avoid waste and reduce the volume of surplus injecting equipment in circulation. This is an important factor given the increase in the volume and proportion of NSP delivered by pharmacies. For example, as part of our enquiries we met with the Enforcement Officer for the town centre, who brought in a standard
pack that he had that morning seen disposed of (in this case in a town centre litter bin), the required equipment (in this case a pack of condoms) having been removed.

G. CONCLUSIONS

4.22 Working in partnership - The 2005 DEFRA document identifies working in partnership as the key to the effective management and reduction of drug related litter. It states that a wide range of agencies and organisations will come into contact with the issue and all will have some part to play in reducing the problem and its wider impacts. In the case of drug related litter, commissioning decisions related to substance misuse as well as interventions from a number of agencies that may effect change on the problem – the local authority, social workers, Harm Reduction and Substance Misuse services, Police, etc. However, as DEFRA reminds us, it is important to note that as with any partnership work, there will be barriers and difficulties encountered in making it work, in particular because in tackling the problem, each partner is likely to be driven by competing motivations and focused on their own objectives. This is particularly relevant in the case of tackling drugs litter – the local authority and communities want a reduction in drugs litter, the NSP is tasked with increasing the availability of needles and syringes.

4.23 We support the 2005 DEFRA Recommendation that states that where drug related litter is identified as a problem, agencies in an area should prepare one joint plan to tackle it, clearly identifying all relevant stakeholders signed up to specific roles.

We noted that over the years there have been several attempts to create various partnerships, working groups and action plans to tackle the problem. None has been successful in terms of satisfying local members’ and the publics’ expectations as to what should be done. While there must be partnership working, there must be a single point of responsibility and accountability.

4.24 ‘What we can’t measure we can’t manage’ – we consider that there is a fine line between the resource and effort required to obtain, record and analyse data seemingly for the sake of data collection, and doing the same in order to both effect change and measure whether actions undertaken deliver improvements.

DEFRA recommends that the reporting of discarded needles across all local agencies and departments needs to be coordinated in order to establish a true picture of the extent location and nature of the problem with repeat calls to the same locations being followed up with proactive design solutions and intervention / outreach.

4.25 There must be better use of data, used to direct a clear response pathway. Local knowledge held by individuals and agencies must be collected and analysed.
so that intelligence regarding current hotspots is shared with all relevant agencies in order to direct resources and interventions:

- a rapid and appropriate response to reports of drugs litter;
- providing substance misuse and harm reduction services with the opportunity to offer targeted interventions and outreach work to those individuals who persistently create drugs litter – prevention being the longer term and more financially sustainable solution;
- Criminal prosecution where appropriate.

Our view is that co-ordination through a single point of responsibility is the only way to achieve improvements in the current situation – that of less drug litter, cleared more quickly.

Cleaning up

4.26 On a practical level, what is clear to us, and as demonstrated by the photographic and anecdotal evidence contained in this report, is that the size and nature of the problems regularly being experienced in Wrexham are those which cannot be quickly responded to by Streetscene. There needs to be a willingness to employ specialist services, such as those provided by LATC, in order to deal quickly with problems that periodically arise.

While Streetscene standards have been agreed by the Executive Board, in terms of a ‘one Council’ response, some grey areas remain in relation to working practices between internal Council departments – e.g. land owned by different department, as well as how some of the more complex scenarios relating to private land, public risk and enforcement are dealt with.

Impact on individuals, local businesses and communities

4.27 While the issue of spending public money on private land may be a complex and contentious area, it is not only the local authority and public land which are the unwelcome recipients of drug litter. Private householders, landowners and local businesses are also adversely impacted in terms of their personal wellbeing and business – with the accompanying impact on our local areas and communities. The Anti-Social Behaviour Crime & Policing Act 2014 has scope to require landowners to take action to secure land or organise inspections and clear ups at their own expense using powers that can be enforced by Environment Department or Public Protection. While those who fail to address their responsibilities must be dealt with appropriately for those conscientious citizens who contact us for advice and assistance, there needs to be a clear response pathway available to them – community safety must take precedence.

DEFRA Guidance, when discussing the partners likely to be involved in managing and reducing drug related litter, states that enforcement is unlikely to be an appropriate response and that litter clearance should take precedence and our own
Public Protection Service has cautioned against situations when there may be a risk to the public by leaving drugs litter while investigations are carried out. This supports the principle of a fund for specialist cleaning as and when required.

The current working practice with the Volunteer Co-ordinator is extremely valuable in meeting a gap in provision for private individuals in terms of a service provided at no charge. However, there are concerns in relation to the sustainability of this arrangement long-term and we are concerned about the impact on Wrexham should this service cease. There is therefore a need to harness and support the voluntary sector and formalise links with them to ensure that this valuable service, which demonstrates a commitment to the well-being of our communities is placed on a more secure footing. This should include the provision (or facilitation) of funding for personal protective equipment and clear advice and information for the public on how to access these services.

Until the situation in Wrexham improves, we consider that a monthly budget should be available to employ such specialist services outlined in paragraphs 4.26 and 4.27 above. This needs to be co-ordinated, again by a single point of responsibility, focused on ensuring that the drugs litter is cleared. This report recommends that funding for this should be sought from the Substance Misuse Area Planning Board and the BCUHB.

Community / Customer Focus

4.28 Local councillors, members of the public and local businesses need access to better information about what options are available in terms of clearing drugs litter. While the Streetscene service does not hold a budget for works on private land, the local authority needs to give consideration as to how practical support can be provided for individuals who have been the victim of drugs litter, with links between all available services made, included in a response pathway and publicly available.

Taking Responsibility and Providing Accountability

4.29 DEFRA recommends working through the Community Safety Partnership (CSP), as CSPs have the duty to assess the level and nature of local crime, disorder and misuse of drugs problems and to implement a strategy for tackling them. CSPs include many of the partners who would be actively involved in the issue and have close links with local strategic partnerships which have responsibility for wider community wellbeing. Working through an existing partnership also avoids setting up a new one.

4.30 In Wrexham the statutory function and duties of the CSP are discharged by the Public Services Board (PSB) and the PSB’s Partnership Delivery Board 3 ‘Making Wrexham a place that’s safe and where everyone feels included’ focuses on those elements of the Plan which relate to the ‘crime and disorder function’. ‘Crime and Disorder functions’ are defined in legislation (section 6 of the Crime & Disorder Act 1998) as including (a) a strategy for the reduction of crime and disorder in the
area (including anti-social behaviour and other behaviour adversely affecting the local environment); and (b) a strategy for combatting the misuse of drugs, alcohol and other substances in the area. The local Authority, BCUHB and North Wales Police are all ‘responsible authorities’ (as defined in section 5 of the Crime & Disorder Act 1998) in relation to crime and disorder functions – they are responsible for crime and disorder strategies in relation to the local authority area and as such are all represented on PDB3.

We therefore consider that the appropriate body to make provision for a single point of accountability, to source external funding from the APB and BCUHB and to take responsibility for delivering the outcomes detailed above is the PSB via PDB3.

4.31 At the highest level, our view is that national policies, strategies and guidance while acknowledging the existence of problems suffered by communities as a result of drug litter, fail to take a practical account of unintended costs and consequences of cleaning it up. This is reflected in commissioning decisions at a local level, who understandably are focused on their own outcomes. (During our examination, Welsh Government consulted on its ‘Working Together to Reduce Harm – Delivery Plan 2016-18 and we provided a response to this document reflecting our concerns - see Appendix 5 – the final Plan will be available in the Autumn).

At the present time, the local authority and private individuals and our communities are left with the consequences with no accompanying resource to resolve them.

We therefore submit the following recommendations for the committee’s consideration:

1. That the Lead Member for Communities & Partnerships and PDB3 lobby Welsh Government regarding the need for Substance Misuse Strategies to address the adverse community consequences of the NSP and related substance misuse services.

2. That the Public Service Board (PSB) in fulfilling its duties as the Community Safety Partnership agree that the partners and responsible authorities must work together to tackle drugs litter in the interests of all members of our communities (public and private land) and that the appropriate body to take responsibility for this is Partnership Delivery Board 3.

3. That PDB3 provide a single point of responsibility, co-ordination and accountability which takes account of the need for the following: Incident Resolution & Customer Focus
• Agree a clear multi-agency response pathway for dealing with reports of drugs litter and encampments with timescales and responsible persons, which includes directing customers to available services and the use of services of specialist cleaning services as appropriate
• Ensure incidents are resolved
• Raise profile of how to report drugs litter (via Wrexham 298989) and the agreed response pathway with the public / local councillors / local businesses
• Provide feedback for customers (expected timescales, incidents resolved, etc.)

**Prevention/Intervention**
• Establish links with key partners in order to collate qualitative and quantitative information and analyse this in respect of current ‘hotspots’ (Streetscene, volunteer groups, Contact Wrexham, Harm Reduction Service, North Wales Police, etc.)
• Share intelligence with key partners in order to direct resources and intervention as appropriate (drug litter clearance, outreach work, criminal prosecution, etc.)
• Monitor the effectiveness of intervention and provide feedback to partners and PDB3.

**Accountability & Future Development**
• Accountable to PDB3
• Develop the volunteer network and agree terms of engagement
• In accordance with the principles of ‘Together in Wrexham’, support and co-ordinate volunteers to bid for a Together In Wrexham Grant (up to £5k) to provide personal protective equipment
• Research streams of funding and support bids for future funding

4. That the Lead Member for Environment & Transport and Service Manager (Environment) engage in the development of a clear response pathway for drugs litter and agree:
   (i) to encourage reports of drugs litter to be made through Contact Wrexham;
   (ii) That Streetscene assists with the identification and reporting of developing hotspots to the response pathway, as outlined in 3.2, in order to support a multi agency response.

5. That PDB3 submits a bid to the Substance Misuse Area Planning Board for funding to address drugs litter in Wrexham.

6. That BCUHB agree to enter into discussions with PDB3 in relation to funding to address drug litter in Wrexham.
7. That BCUHB and Substance Misuse Area Planning Board:
   (i) increase the resource available for the Harm Reduction Service and review the allocation of the service across North Wales in recognition of the fact that Wrexham has the largest distribution of volume of needles and syringes supplied by the NSP;

   (ii) in the interests of offering the quality NSP intervention as advocated by NICE Guidelines, and to reducing NSP waste, commit to increasing the number of pharmacies which offer the ‘bespoke’ NSP service in place of those which offer the ‘standard’ service.

8. That the Lead Member for Communities & Partnerships, Lead Member for Environment & Transport, the Chair of the PSB, Chair of PDB3 and BCUHB (Director Mental Health & Learning Disabilities) consider the above recommendations and provide a response to this Committee for consideration at its February 2017 meeting.

5. IMPLICATIONS

5.1 Policy Framework – The issues discussed in this report, and the accompanying recommendations have a direct effect on the delivery of ‘Our Wrexham Plan’, in particular the following Council Plan Outcome Priorities:
   PE3 People feel and are, safe and secure
   E1 People want to live, work, visit and invest here

5.2 Budget – The report recommends that PDB3 take responsibility for providing a single point of co-ordination and accountability and there may be staffing and hence budget implications for this role. While the problems with drugs litter continue unchecked, there is pressure on the Council’s services – be they Streetscene, Housing Voids, etc. The report also recommends that when required, specialist cleaning services should be used to tackle the scale and nature of the problem. When these problems occur on Council-owned land, these costs will fall to the Council. Indicative costs of these services are included in Appendix 4. The report recommends that PDB3 enter into discussions with BCUHB and the APB in relation to funds to address drugs litter on both public and private land.

5.3 Legal – In Wrexham, the statutory function of the Community Safety Partnership is fulfilled by the Public Service Board through its Partnership Delivery Board 3.

The PSB partners have made a ‘commitment to co-operate’ with the Council’s scrutiny committees and a protocol for scrutiny of the PSB (and its predecessor the LSB) has been in place since 2009. In accordance with the protocol and requirements of the Well Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act a scrutiny committee may require PSB or one or more of the members of the Board as the committee may specify, to attend the scrutiny committee and provide it with explanations of such matters as it may specify.
In addition, the SCWSC acts as the Council’s crime and disorder scrutiny committee. A separate protocol for scrutiny of PDB3 is in place (revised 2015). Crime and disorder scrutiny powers are defined in legislation and relate to the power to review and scrutinise those strategies which the responsible authorities are required to formulate and implement in accordance with Section 6 of the Crime & Disorder Act 1998.

5.4 **Staffing** – The report recommends that data in relation to the extent of the problem should be collated and analysed. This will require qualitative and/or quantitative information to be collated and analysed. The extent and nature of this engagement needs to be negotiated and developed as part of the response pathway. The report recommends that PDB3 address the issue of funding with the APB and BCUHB.

5.5 **Equality/Human Rights** - A screening of the proposals in this report has been carried out. No adverse effects on protected characteristic populations have been identified at this stage. A summary of the EIA is attached at Appendix 5. To view the full EIA (ref FIN/EIA00061/2016) please see [http://vmwinsqld/equalityisalive/Menu.aspx](http://vmwinsqld/equalityisalive/Menu.aspx) If recommendations are agreed and actioned, further EIAs may be necessary.

5.6 **Risks** – Failure to take action in addressing the problems caused by drugs litter in our communities will lead to ongoing public dissatisfaction and seriously impede the ability of the Council to deliver its priorities as outlined in para 5.1.

6. **CONSULTATION**

6.1 The Task & Finish Group has consulted with representatives of the following agencies, services and organisations during the preparation of this report:

- Association of Voluntary Organisations in Wales (Volunteer Co-ordinator)
- BCUHB
- BCUHB Harm Reduction Service
- BCUHB Substance Misuse Service
- North Wales Police
- Partnership Delivery Board 3
- Public Service Board
- Substance Misuse Area Planning Board
- WCBC Lead Members Communities & Partnerships
- WCBC Lead Member Environment & Transport
- WCBC Environment Department (Streetscene)
- WCBC Public Protection
- WCBC Corporate & Customer Services (Contact Wrexham)

The report and it recommendations were shared with these parties prior to the report being finalised. We considered all comments received - amended the report where clarity was required, where there were factual inaccuracies or where our view was that the comments added to the report – and have fed back our response to all those who offered comment.
All consultees have been provided with details of the arrangements of this scrutiny committee meeting should they wish to attend.

6.2 Those parties to whom the recommendations refer - the Lead Members for Communities & Partnerships and Environment & Transport, the Chair of PDB3, Chair of the PSB and the BCUHB (Executive Director Mental Health & Learning Disabilities) - have been invited to provide their comments and to attend the meeting.

The Lead Member for Environment & Transport has commented as follows:

“I am concerned about recommendation 3.4. I am quite happy to promote reporting incidents of drugs litter to the contact centre as we do this anyway, however we need a clear protocol in place so that we are not just seen as passing from one department to another, with clear timescales linked to the Streetscene standards agreed by the Executive Board. Due to budget costs we are unable to move away from the current standards. I am also concerned that this issue will be passed to the Environment Department with no additional budget or resource.”

7. EVALUATION OF OPTIONS – Failure to take action in addressing the problems caused by drugs litter in our communities will lead to ongoing public dissatisfaction and seriously impede the ability of the Council to deliver its priorities as outlined in para 5.1.

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<th>BACKGROUND PAPERS</th>
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<th>WEBSITE INFO.</th>
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<td>NICE Needle &amp; Syringe Programmes (Public Health Guideline 26 March 2014)</td>
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<td><a href="https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ph52">https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ph52</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Harm Reduction Service Annual Report 2015/16</td>
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Appendix 1 – Scope of the Review agreed by SCWSC in July 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scoping Document – Discarded Needles Task &amp; Finish</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Objectives / desired outcomes</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• To make recommendations in relation to policies, working practices and communications to reduce the volume of unsafely discarded needles and other drug paraphernalia in public places.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Recommendations will be considered by the Safeguarding, Communities &amp; Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee. SCWSC recommendations may then be directed to the appropriate decision-making bodies.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Timescales / Time restraints</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• There are no external time sensitivities or constraints.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• The initial scope suggests that the Task &amp; Finish Group will run from November 2015 until May 2016.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Define scope – what is included?</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Reviewing policies and working practices of local authority and other external agencies for needle provision, collection and clearing of unsafely discarded needles and other drug paraphernalia.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Review of extent of problem (measures / data / anecdotal evidence)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Identifying key issues</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Identifying measures</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Define scope – what is not included?</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Reducing substance misuse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• BCUHB policy of needle provision</td>
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## COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF NEEDLES & SYRINGES ISSUED OVER 4 YEARS

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<td>Community Pharmacies</td>
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<td>Wrexham</td>
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<tr>
<td>A&amp;E</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ysbyty Gwynedd</td>
<td>1,500</td>
<td>375</td>
<td>2,250</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL needles/ syringes issued per year</strong></td>
<td><strong>945,664</strong></td>
<td><strong>857,264</strong></td>
<td><strong>847,586</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The above has been sourced from the Harm Reduction Service Annual Report 2015/16
Appendix 3 – Miscellaneous evidence

Grosvenor Road
Appendix 4 – Local Authority Trading Company (LATC)

There are two elements to LATC fees – an hourly rate and a cost to dispose (at cost). Health and safety issues related to this type of work mean 2 crew are needed. £110 per tonne of general waster and c.£15 per sharps bin (15-30 needles).

Indicative charges for clearance works:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Charge</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Needle sweep and removal of all waste (*up to one hour)</td>
<td>£50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subsequent hours (per man hour)*</td>
<td>£21.85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General waste (per kilogram)</td>
<td>£0.10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*PLUS waste disposal charges

For example, work undertaken on council owned land adjacent to Capel Y Groes in the town centre in March 2016 cost in the region of £350 for 2 operatives for a full day plus waste disposal.
Appendix 5
‘Working Together to Reduce harm Delivery Plan (2016-18) - Consultation Response
To view the Consultation Document:
http://gov.wales/consultations/healthsocialcare/working-together/?status=closed&lang=en

Dear Ms Lewis

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to the consultation on the document entitled "Working Together to Reduce Harm Delivery Plan [2016-18]".

This submission is from a Task and Finish Group set up by the Safeguarding Communities and Well Being Scrutiny Committee of Wrexham County Borough Council to look very specifically at the problems created by unsafely discarded used needles. For your information, we include an extract from our scoping document.

In order to inform the debate we have read several Policy documents (including NICE NSP Guidelines and the Working Together to Reduce Harm Strategy) and have spoken with different representatives from various agencies working with drug [and alcohol] addictions and in the field of harm reduction generally. While the Group acknowledges the value and success of the Needle and Syringe Provision in terms of public health, it has concluded that the policy documents and strategies do not acknowledge or address the unwelcome consequences of this success – that of unsafely discarded used needles, drug litter or drug paraphernalia in our communities, particularly as it affects open public spaces. In Wrexham, some 190,000 needles were distributed last year, with the burden of safe disposal of those needles not ‘exchanged’ falling on our communities and on other agencies. The Working Group has already identified that this is a very serious omission that needs to be addressed going forward.

One of the recommendations of the Working Group will be that all policy papers and strategic and operational plans at whatever level, concerned with harm reduction, must include consideration of the problems of drug related litter in public arenas, residential areas and our wider communities. The aim will be that the notion of harm reduction in the widest sense will be extended to include non service users as well as service users. This intends a significant extension of focus, but in terms of inclusivity, safer, healthier environments and a reduction in community tension, could result in change for the better for society at large including service users.

The following specific comments are not necessarily linked to specific key actions in the consultation document but as reflections on incorporating the above into the wider deliberation attendant on an analysis of Harm Reduction Delivery Plans.

CONTEXT
Page 4 para 4 lines 2 and 3
Reference to “all groups who may be affected by substance misuse.”

We hope for a greater awareness of the negative impact that unsafely discarded used needles has on all members of communities and the affect this has on the health, wellbeing and safety of our communities and wider community cohesion in
terms of the impact of living in drug paraphernalia infested areas on non service-user residents and families.

OUTCOME 1 – People are able to make informed choices in order to prevent and reduce the harm associated with substance misuse

Could more attention be given to the need for all agencies involved in working with drug users to place far greater emphasis on the importance of safe disposal of used needles and the wider impact for the general population of drug litter being left in the public arena? This suggestion envisages an action point which starts to place some responsibility on the drug user for their place in wider society. It requires an action point which may result in the need for a greater emphasis on education programmes for service users specifically about disposal of drug litter. We are aware of the enormity of this task.

OUTCOME 4 – Individuals and communities are effectively engaged in the planning and delivery of their local substance misuse services

Additional Action Points
There should be a duty on those responsible for commissioning the services to address the unintended consequences, i.e. unsafe disposal of needles/syringes/drug litter in communities. This should include a duty to work with those agencies to whom the responsibility for collecting and disposing of drug related litter on public land falls, and with representatives of those communities affected. This could and should include assisting with resources, collating of data to assess the extent of the problem and taking responsibility for securing improvement.

WG / APB to task a specific agency with the responsibility for the above. Such a Group should include representation from service users.

WG / APB to ensure that service users are included in this work to take part in discussions about how to encourage greater ownership of this problem by service users.

ANNEXE A
In this section we would hope to add some substance misuse outcomes which reflect the ideas we are trying to promote about reducing drug litter in non drug using communities with a view to promoting the aims of the Well being of Future Generations Wales Act 2015. Our aims would foster more cohesive communities and a healthier Wales, e.g. add a bullet point 3 in box 5 ‘A Wales of Cohesive Communities’

· reduce the amount of drug related paraphernalia in communities and public spaces.

We look forward to hearing your response to our views.

On behalf of Councillor Carole O’Toole, Chair of the Safeguarding, Communities & Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee, Wrexham County Borough Council.
GLOSSARY

APB - Area Planning Board for Substance Misuse –
APBs were established in 2010 by Welsh Government as part of the new arrangements to deliver the Welsh Government Substance Misuse Strategy ‘Working Together to Reduce Harm’. The APBs were intended to provide a regional framework, to:

- Strengthen partnership working and strategic leadership in the delivery of the substance misuse strategy; and,
- Enhance and improve the key functions of planning, commissioning and performance management.

APBs replace the previous County based system of Substance Misuse Action Teams in North Wales. It is a partnership body responsible for supporting the planning, commissioning and performance management of substance misuse services at a regional level. From 2013, all Substance Misuse Action Fund monies are allocated direct to the APBs.

APBs bring together representatives of the responsible authorities and organisations who share the responsibility of developing, delivering, and improving, efficient and effective substance misuse services across regions. In North Wales, the APB comprises the following partners:

- 6 x Local Authorities
- BCUHB
- Welsh Council for Voluntary Action
- North Wales Police
- Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner
- Probation Service
- Welsh Government
- Welsh Government Regional Advisor for substance misuse

CSP - Community Safety Partnerships Crime and Disorder Act 1998 established ‘responsible authorities’ in relation to the responsibility to develop crime and disorder strategies in relation to the local authority’s area. In Wrexham these are:

- North Wales Police
- WCBC
- Wales Probation Service (North Wales Area)
- Community Rehabilitation Company (Wales)
- North Wales Fire & Rescue
- BCUHB

CSPs must formulate and implement the following strategies:
(a) A strategy for the reduction of crime and disorder in the area (including anti-social behaviour and other behaviour adversely affecting the local environment); and
(b) A strategy for combatting the misuse of drugs, alcohol and other substances in the area; and
(c) A strategy for the reduction of re-offending in the area.

**HRS - Harm Reduction Service**
Employed by BCUHB, funded by the Area Planning Board. The Service prioritises NSP and provides a wide range of injecting equipment alongside a variety of different sized sharps bins to promote safe disposal. The service provides an outreach service specifically targeted at hard to reach drug users: those how are often the most chaotic and least motivated to access services and seek help. The service works in local authorities across the whole of North Wales with the aim of reducing harms associated with substance misuse to drug users, friends, families and communities. The service operates from a mobile unit which is equipped as a clinic as well as from offices and buildings from key partner agencies.

**NSP - Needle Syringe Programmes** aim to reduce the transmission of blood-borne viruses and other infections (such as HIV, hepatitis B and C) caused by sharing equipment.

**NWSCB - North Wales Safer Communities Board** – established in 2012. Its aim is to provide strategic direction for the exercise of the Community Safety and Youth Justice functions across the region.

**PSB – Public Service Board** – The Well Being of Future generations Act (2015) replaced Local Service Boards with PSBs with effect from April 2016. Wrexham PSB is a statutory public body consisting of a number of specified and invited public bodies that operate within the area of Wrexham County Borough. The PSB must improve the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being in its area.

**PDB3 - Partnership Delivery Board 3.** In Wrexham, the statutory function and duties of the CSP are discharged by the PSB. The PSB’s ‘Our Wrexham Plan’ includes a priority for the reduction of crime and disorder and PDB3 focuses on the delivery of those elements of the Plan which relate to the crime and disorder function.

**Ty Croeso**
The Ty Croeso, opened in 2013, is a purpose built premises located on Grosvenor Road in Wrexham. The building is owned by the Wallich Homeless charity which provides supported accommodation for homeless individuals. The project has been funded though the Welsh Government’s Substance Misuse Capital Grant, following a successful bid from Wrexham’s community Safety Partnership’s Substance Misuse Action Team. Clients can access services at the centre including breakfast clubs,
drop-in services, advice and information and support groups work. Structured
treatment from nurses and health professionals are also at the centre eliminating the
need for clients to access different services at different sites.

The Elms – Community Drug and Alcohol Services
Appendix 5

Summary Of Report of Task & Finish Group established to examine the issue of unsafely discarded needles in Wrexham

Please note, this is a summary of the assessment. Refer to the full text.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department:</th>
<th>Finance</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reference:</td>
<td>FIN/EIA00061/2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Responsible Officer:</td>
<td>Mark Owen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Job Title:</td>
<td>Head of Finance</td>
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<tr>
<th>Positive Impacts</th>
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<td><strong>Impact</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Poverty</td>
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<tr>
<td>Age Adults</td>
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<tr>
<td>Age CYP</td>
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<tr>
<td>Poverty</td>
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</table>
1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

To assist the Committee in considering and agreeing its work programme for the coming year.

2. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2.1 The report contains the proposed work programme for the coming 12 months with changes agreed at the September meeting indicated by bold type. A Topic Selection Form relating to Adult Social Care (Day Care) is attached for the committee’s consideration.

3. RECOMMENDATION

3.1 Members consider the Work Programme attached at Appendix 3.
3.2 Members consider the Topic Selection Form at Appendix 2.

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION

To enable the Committee to develop an outcome-focused work programme for the next 12 months and beyond
4. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

4.1 At its September meeting, the Committee reviewed its current work programme. The work programme has been updated and the revised work programme is attached at Appendix 3 for consideration.

4.2 At the September meeting, the committee resolved the following: This committee expresses concern that All Member Information Reports requested by the Committee have not been produced and asks the Chair and the Scrutiny Facilitator to pursue these on the Committee’s behalf.’ The following All Member Information Reports remain outstanding:

- Cllr Hugh Jones, Lead Member for Communities & Partnerships – Agreement with North Wales Police (Police Community Support Officers)
- Head of Adult Social Care – Deprivation of Liberty Standards (DOLS)
- Head of Children’s Social Care – Early Years Development Childcare Partnership
- Head of Adult Social Care – HMP Berwyn (Model of Care)
- Executive Director Place – Town Centre Action Plan

The Chair of the Committee has contacted the appropriate officers and Lead Members and a verbal update will be provided at the meeting.

4.3 Councillor Colin Powell has submitted a Topic Selection Form relating to scrutiny of the 2017/18 budget proposal relating to the provision of Day Care Services (Adult Social Care). This is attached at Appendix 2 for the committee’s consideration. The Form has been shared with the Lead Member for Health & Adult Social Care and the Head of Adult Social Care and their comment has been included. The Committee is asked to consider the Form and indicate whether it wishes to include the item on its work programme. The committee should note that it would need to be scheduled for consideration by early December at the latest to enable any scrutiny recommendations to be included in the Lead Member’s report to the Executive Board on 13th December. The committee is asked to note that an additional meeting of the committee will need to be convened to consider this item.

5. IMPLICATIONS

5.1 Policy Framework - The terms of reference of this committee are aligned to the Council’s strategic themes of People and Place as set out in the Council Plan, hence any scrutiny topics identified will contribute to the Council’s priority outcomes outlined in Appendix 1.

5.2 Budget - There are no budget implications arising from this report.

5.3 Legal - There are no legal implications arising from this report.
5.4 **Staffing** - There are no staffing issues arising out of the report, but Officer resource will be required to support the preparation of information for Scrutiny Committee consideration.

5.5 **Equality/Human Rights** - This report provides information to inform a work programme and the Equality Manager has confirmed that the programme does not require an equality impact assessment as it merely sets out a timetable.

5.6 **Risks** - Not applicable for a work programme planning report.

6. **CONSULTATION**
6.1 Not applicable

7. **EVALUATION OF OPTIONS**
7.1 Not applicable

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Background Papers</th>
<th>LOCATION / WEBSITE INFO.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>of Reference – 26 March 2014</td>
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<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>?Cld=174&amp;MId=3114</td>
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</table>
The Committee is aligned with the Council’s Corporate Priorities of PLACE and PEOPLE.

The terms of reference of this Committee as set out in the Council’s constitution are as follows:-

“To ensure that the people of Wrexham feel safe and secure with sustainable, attractive settlements, neighbourhoods, buildings and spaces. To ensure that vulnerable children and adults are safeguarded and have good health and wellbeing. To fulfil the function of the Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Committee in accordance with Section 19(1) of the Police and Justice Act 2006 and to ensure that the people of Wrexham feel safe and secure”

The following are the key priority outcomes from the Council Plan 2013-17.

PEOPLE

Priority 2 - Children & Young People are Safeguarded

Priority 3 - People feel and are safe and secure

Priority 4 - All People are enabled to make healthy choices

Priority 5 - All vulnerable older people are safe, and have optimal health, independence and well-being

PLACE

Priority 3 – Communities with sustainable, attractive settlements, neighbourhoods, buildings and spaces
## REQUEST FOR TOPIC TO BE CONSIDERED BY SCRUTINY

### Title of report – Older people’s day services

#### Purpose of Report
To seek clarification of budget proposals to end council run Older People’s Day Services.

Identification of current areas of provision and wider impacts of facilities ongoing viability.

Capacity of external providers to deliver cost effective high quality services in keeping with CSSIW expectations.

Identification of Contract Specifications which outline minimum expectations regarding quality of provision.

#### Expected Outcomes
Members to gain understanding of current provision and changes expected to realise savings.

Members to contribute to setting standards expected within externally commissioned services.

Members to gain understanding of areas of non-provision.

Members to gain understanding of current and developing concerns over the viability and standards within externally commissioned adult social care provision.

Members to identify potential gaps in service provision and consider the impact to current and future service users.

#### Value of bringing to Scrutiny
Members to gain understanding of proposals prior to considering the 17/18 budget

Members to contribute to service standards and expectations

Members to give consideration to gaps in service areas

#### Information Required
Current service outline.

Expected service outline.

What differences anticipated.

Minimum standards expected via external regulation

Standards expected via commissioned services.

Status of current service providers and steps anticipated to build up capacity within external providers.

Equality Impact Assessment

#### Suggested Officer / Lead Member attendance
Councillor Joan Lowe, Lead Member for Health & Adult Social Care

Charlotte Walton, Head of Adult Social Care

#### External involvement and benefit

The Lead Member has confirmed that a report on the outcome of the

<table>
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<th>Request for topic to be considered by Scrutiny</th>
<th>Old</th>
<th>ers people’s day services</th>
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<td><strong>Purpose of Report</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>To seek clarification of budget proposals to end council run Older People’s Day Services.</td>
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<td>Capacity of external providers to deliver cost effective high quality services in keeping with CSSIW expectations.</td>
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<td>Identification of Contract Specifications which outline minimum expectations regarding quality of provision.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Expected Outcomes</strong></td>
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<td>Members to gain understanding of current provision and changes expected to realise savings.</td>
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<td>Members to identify potential gaps in service provision and consider the impact to current and future service users.</td>
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<td><strong>Value of bringing to Scrutiny</strong></td>
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<td>Members to contribute to service standards and expectations</td>
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<td>Members to give consideration to gaps in service areas</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Information Required</strong></td>
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<td>Current service outline.</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Expected service outline.</td>
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<td>What differences anticipated.</td>
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<td>Standards expected via commissioned services.</td>
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<td>Status of current service providers and steps anticipated to build up capacity within external providers.</td>
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<td>Equality Impact Assessment</td>
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<td><strong>Suggested Officer / Lead Member attendance</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Charlotte Walton, Head of Adult Social Care</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>External involvement and benefit</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>The Lead Member has confirmed that a report on the outcome of the</td>
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</table>
Consultation will be considered at the Executive Board meeting of December 13th. The consultation will commence on 3rd October and end on 16th November. The Lead Member is supportive of the request for pre-decision scrutiny of this report should the committee accept the Topic Selection Form.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Submitted by:</th>
<th>Councillor Colin Powell</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Date:</td>
<td>22 September 2016</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This Scrutiny topic request is supported by the following Members (optional).

1. ___________________________(print)_____________________(signature)
2. ___________________________(print)_____________________(signature)
3. ___________________________(print)_____________________(signature)
4. ___________________________(print)_____________________(signature)

Please tick all that apply and ensure that you have provided the necessary supporting detail.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Please tick</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Referral from other Committee / Council / external body or partnership</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 Committee steer / recommendation for Lead Member or Head of Department (not proceeding to Executive Board or Council at this stage)</td>
<td>√</td>
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<tr>
<td>Committee steer / recommendation for Executive Board / Council (please provide date of Executive Board / Council meeting)</td>
<td>√</td>
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<tr>
<td>Information Only</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Official Consultation Document (e.g. proposed Government Legislation / Guidance)</td>
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<tr>
<td>4 Does the issue involve public dissatisfaction with Council’s performance? :- NO</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Insert relevant Council Priority Outcomes number(s) which are listed overleaf:- PEOPLE 8. All older and vulnerable people are safe and have optimal health, independence and well-being</td>
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<tr>
<td>5 Has the issue been considered in the last 12 months by any other Member Forum? Please specify:- No</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Please specify which meeting of the Scrutiny Committee you wish to submit the report to and why:- Safeguarding Communities and Well-being Scrutiny because it fits their remit. The issue would need to be considered prior to the Executive Board’s consideration of the Lead Member’s report in December and its consideration of the 17/18 budget proposals in January.</td>
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</table>
COUNCIL STRATEGIC THEMES AND PRIORITY OUTCOMES

ECONOMY
Creating a vibrant, diverse and inclusive economy

Outcomes:-
1. People want to live, work, learn, visit and invest here
2. Businesses can locate and grow here
3. People can prosper as individuals and in their communities

PEOPLE
Raising aspirations, creating confidence and promoting opportunity

Outcomes:-
4. All children and young people have positive aspirations, learn and achieve their potential
5. Children and young people are safeguarded
6. People feel, and are, safe and secure
7. All people are enabled to make healthy choices
8. All older and vulnerable people are safe and have optimal health, independence and well-being
9. Welsh Language and culture is promoted and supported

PLACE
Investing in attractive, safe and inclusive communities

Outcomes:-
10. Homes that meets people’s needs and aspirations
11. An environmentally responsible place
12. Communities with sustainable and attractive settlements, neighbourhoods, buildings and spaces
13. Well connected communities

ORGANISATION
Striving for excellence

Outcomes:-
14. Engaged and satisfied customers
15. Creating the conditions for success
Please note that the forward work programme is a ‘live’ document and subject to change at short notice.

The information in this work programme is subject to agreement at the meeting on 6 October 2016.

The order in which items are listed at this stage may not reflect the order they subsequently appear on the agenda / are dealt with at the scrutiny meeting. Please note that for items marked as ‘part 2’ it is recommended that the press and public be excluded from the meeting during its consideration in accordance with the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).

Please note: Workshops are not open to the general public.

For general enquiries relating to the Council’s scrutiny function, including this committee’s work programme, please contact

Suzanne Price, Scrutiny Facilitator, Scrutiny Team on 29179.

For administrative arrangements such as enquiries relating to report dispatch dates, venue layouts, setting up of presentations, etc., please contact Ken Bickerton, Committee Officer, Committee and Member Services on 292242.

All Meetings start at 4.00pm in the Guildhall, Wrexham, unless otherwise stated.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date of meeting</th>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Purpose of Report</th>
<th>Reason for Consideration</th>
<th>Lead Member / Contact Officer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 6th October 10am</td>
<td>Report of Unsafely Discarded Needles Task &amp; Finish Group</td>
<td>To report the findings and recommendations of the Task &amp; Finish Group for the Committee's consideration</td>
<td>Task &amp; Finish Report</td>
<td>Councillor Carole O'Toole</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 November</td>
<td>Public Service Board Partnership Delivery Board 3 – ‘Wrexham is a place that's safe and where everyone feels included’.</td>
<td>Performance monitoring of the delivery plan. To fulfil the statutory requirement to perform the functions of a crime and disorder scrutiny committee in order to review and / or scrutinise decisions in connection with the discharge of crime and disorder functions (as defined by section 6 of the Crime &amp; Disorder Act 1998) by Responsible Authorities (as defined by section 5 of the Crime &amp; Disorder Act 1998) Crime &amp; Disorder Committee last met 15 March 16. Agreed 6 month monitoring of outcomes. (Date TBC)</td>
<td>Pre decision scrutiny / Performance Monitoring / Crime &amp; Disorder Scrutiny</td>
<td>Chair of PDB3 – Executive Director Place &amp; Economy (Lee Robinson)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Date of meeting</td>
<td>Subject</td>
<td>Purpose of Report</td>
<td>Reason for Consideration</td>
<td>Lead Member / Contact Officer</td>
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<td>PCSOs – use of volunteers</td>
<td>Following the decision of the Executive Board (January 16) in relation to funding arrangements for Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs), and the commitment of NWP to work with the Council to develop a strong network of volunteers to mitigate the impact of the reduced numbers – a report to consider progress. Full detail is contained in the Topic Selection Form considered at the March meeting of the committee.</td>
<td>Post decision scrutiny</td>
<td>Lead Member Communities &amp; Partnerships (Cllr Hugh Jones; Strategic Director (Lee Robinson); North Wales Police</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21 December</td>
<td>Annual Adult Protection Report</td>
<td>To consider the annual report, including statistics on the performance of the safeguarding service. To include performance information on the indicators reported to 16th December 2015 (AP1-11)</td>
<td>Performance Monitoring</td>
<td>Lead Member Health &amp; Adult Social Care (Cllr Joan Lowe); Head of Adult Social Care (Charlotte Walton)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Children’s Services Departmental Monitoring</td>
<td>To consider performance information for indicators agreed at the ESWSC meeting of 22 November 2012 DECEMBER (Quarter 2) and JUNE (Quarter 4 / Year End)</td>
<td>Performance Monitoring</td>
<td>Lead Member Children’s Services &amp; Education (Cllr Michael Williams); Head of Children’s Social Care (Susan Evans); Lead Member Health &amp; Adult Social Care (Cllr Joan Lowe); Head of Adult Social Care (Charlotte Walton)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date of meeting</td>
<td>Subject</td>
<td>Purpose of Report</td>
<td>Reason for Consideration</td>
<td>Lead Member / Contact Officer</td>
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<td>18 January (TBC)</td>
<td>Meeting with Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board (BCUHB)</td>
<td>Focus on An update on the implementation of the Special Measures programme An update on Community and Primary Care facilities, managing the Primary Care Estate and GP services in Wrexham Consideration of the Plans in relation to the primary care estate and recruitment</td>
<td>External / Partnership Scrutiny</td>
<td>PDB1 Chair Lead Member Health &amp; Adult Social Care (Cllr Joan Lowe); Lead Member Children’s Services &amp; Education (Cllr Michael Williams)</td>
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<tr>
<td>15 February</td>
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<td>15 March</td>
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<td>19 April</td>
<td>Play Sufficiency Assessment 2016 – Progress with Action Plan</td>
<td>Following the Executive Board’s agreement of the Play Sufficiency Assessment and Action Plan to Welsh Government (May 2016), to consider a 12 month progress report against the Action Plan and a progress update against the committee’s recommendations of 20th April 2016</td>
<td>Post decision scrutiny</td>
<td>Lead Member Youth Services and Anti-Poverty (Cllr R Prince); Head of Education (John Davies)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date of meeting</td>
<td>Subject</td>
<td>Purpose of Report</td>
<td>Reason for Consideration</td>
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<td>21 June</td>
<td>Annual Council Reporting Framework</td>
<td>To consider the draft report as prepared by the Director of Social Services prior to consideration by Executive Board. The report includes performance for the previous year as well as the improvement priorities / Business Plan for the forthcoming year.</td>
<td>Pre decision scrutiny / Performance Monitoring</td>
<td>Lead Member Children’s Services &amp; Education (Cllr Michael Williams); Head of Children’s Social Care (Susan Evans); Lead Member Health &amp; Adult Social Care (Cllr Joan Lowe); Head of Adult Social Care (Charlotte Walton)</td>
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<td>Social Services Complaints and Compliments Annual Report</td>
<td>The Director of Social Services is required to produce an Annual Report (in accordance with Social Services Complaints Procedure (Wales) Regulations 2014). The report highlights the numbers, reasons, themes and lessons learned from complaints during the year.</td>
<td>Performance Monitoring</td>
<td>Lead Member Children’s Services &amp; Education (Cllr Michael Williams); Head of Children’s Social Care (Susan Evans); Lead Member Health &amp; Adult Social Care (Cllr Joan Lowe); Head of Adult Social Care (Charlotte Walton)</td>
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<td>19 July (TBC)</td>
<td>PCSOs 12 month review of new arrangements</td>
<td>To consider a 12 month review of the effectiveness of the PCSO working arrangements following the Executive Board decision of 12 January 2016</td>
<td>Post decision scrutiny</td>
<td>Executive Director Place &amp; Economy (Lee Robinson); Lead Member Communities &amp; Partnerships (Cllr Hugh Jones)</td>
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<td>Children's Social Care – Departmental Service Activity &amp; Performance</td>
<td>To consider performance information for indicators agreed at the SCWSC meeting of 15 June 2016</td>
<td>Performance Monitoring</td>
<td>Lead Member Children’s Services &amp; Education (Cllr Michael Williams); Head of Children’s Social Care (Susan Evans); Head of Adult Social Care (Charlotte Walton)</td>
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<td><strong>Adult Social Care – Contract Monitoring</strong></td>
<td>To consider the contract monitoring framework and qualitative data from service users and their families in relation to the services provided by domiciliary and residential / nursing care and an update on service developments. To include training data (% and numbers) including staff turnover and those undergoing training. Feedback from staff in relation to the new Ethical Care Charter following the review being undertaken in August 17 An account of the rationale for any providers not inspected within a 12 month period.</td>
<td>Post decision scrutiny</td>
<td>Lead Member Health &amp; Adult Social Care (Cllr Joan Lowe); Head of Adult Social Care (Charlotte Walton)</td>
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### POSSIBLE FUTURE ITEMS / ITEMS TO BE SCHEDULED

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<tr>
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### REGULAR ITEMS

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Annual Council Reporting Framework</td>
<td>13 December 2012 (reaffirmed September 2015)</td>
<td>To consider the draft report as prepared by the Director of Social Services prior to consideration by Executive Board. The report includes performance for the previous year as well as the improvement priorities / Business Plan for the forthcoming year – JUNE</td>
<td>Pre decision scrutiny / Performance Monitoring</td>
<td>Lead Member Children’s Services &amp; Education (Cllr Michael Williams); Head of Children’s Social Care (Susan Evans); Lead Member Health &amp; Adult Social Care (Cllr Joan Lowe); Head of Adult Social Care (Charlotte Walton)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Services Complaints and Compliments Annual Report</td>
<td>17 June 2015 (reaffirmed September 2015)</td>
<td>The Director of Social Services is required to produce an Annual Report (in accordance with Social Services Complaints Procedure (Wales) Regulations 2014). The report highlights the numbers, reasons, themes and lessons learned from complaints during the year - JUNE</td>
<td>Performance Monitoring</td>
<td>Lead Member Children’s Services &amp; Education (Cllr Michael Williams); Head of Children’s Social Care (Susan Evans); Lead Member Health &amp; Adult Social Care (Cllr Joan Lowe); Head of Adult Social Care (Charlotte Walton)</td>
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<td>Annual Adult Protection Report</td>
<td>19 September 2013 (reaffirmed September 2015)</td>
<td>Following the scrutiny workshop held on 19 November, to consider the annual report, including statistics on the performance of the safeguarding service. DECEMBER To include performance information on the indicators reported to 16th December 2015 (AP1-11) Information relating to the size of the cohort relating to elderly referrals (and as a % of the overall population)</td>
<td>Performance Monitoring</td>
<td>Lead Member Health &amp; Adult Social Care (Cllr Joan Lowe); Head of Adult Social Care (Charlotte Walton)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children’s Social Care – Departmental Service Activity &amp; Performance</td>
<td>13 December 2012</td>
<td>To consider performance information for indicators agreed at the ESWSC meeting of 22 November 2012 DECEMBER (Quarter 2) and JUNE (Quarter 4 / Year End)</td>
<td>Performance Monitoring</td>
<td>Lead Member Children’s Services &amp; Education (Cllr Michael Williams); Head of Children’s Social Care (Susan Evans); Head of Adult Social Care (Charlotte Walton)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult Social Care Contract Monitoring</td>
<td>September 2015</td>
<td>To consider the contract monitoring framework and qualitative data from service users and their families in relation to the services provided by domiciliary and residential / nursing care and an update on service developments.</td>
<td>Performance monitoring</td>
<td>Lead Member Health &amp; Adult Social Care (Cllr Joan Lowe); Head of Adult Social Care (Charlotte Walton)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Local Service Board</td>
<td>September</td>
<td>Performance monitoring of the delivery</td>
<td>Pre decision</td>
<td>Chair of PDB3 –</td>
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| **Partnership Delivery Board 3 – ‘Wrexham is a place that’s safe and where everyone feels included’.** | 2015                     | To fulfil the statutory requirement to perform the functions of a crime and disorder scrutiny committee in order to review and / or scrutinise decisions in connection with the discharge of crime and disorder functions (as defined by section 6 of the Crime & Disorder Act 1998) by Responsible Authorities (as defined by section 5 of the Crime & Disorder Act 1998)  
Crime & Disorder Committee last met 15 March 16. Agreed 6 month monitoring of outcomes. (Date TBC) | scrutiny / Performance Monitoring / Crime & Disorder Scrutiny | Executive Director Place & Economy (Lee Robinson)            |
| **Meeting with Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board (BCUHB)**     | September 2015           | 6 monthly meetings ((JANUARY / JULY) July meeting to include performance of Local Service Board Partnership Delivery Board 1 ‘Wrexham is a place where people can live independently and are healthy’  
PDB1 2017 report to include a further update on CAMHS, with particular emphasis on Autism Spectrum Disorder services. | External / Partnership Scrutiny                               | PDB1 Chair Lead Member Health & Adult Social Care (Clr Joan Lowe); Lead Member Children’s Services & Education (Clr Michael Williams) |
## WORKSHOPS / OTHER TO BE SCHEDULED

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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board</td>
<td>July 2016</td>
<td>To receive information on the wider strategic plans for healthcare provision across North Wales. The committee has contacted BCUHB to request dates (September 16)</td>
<td>Suzanne Price (Scrutiny Facilitator)</td>
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## All Member INFORMATION REPORTS Recommended by Committee

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<tr>
<td>Agreement with North Wales Police – Police Community Support Officers</td>
<td>January 2016</td>
<td>To provide Members with details of the final agreement with North Wales Police</td>
<td>Cllr Hugh Jones, Lead Member Communities and Partnerships</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deprivation of Liberty Standards (DOLS)</td>
<td>15 March 2016</td>
<td>To provide Members with an understanding of the implications of the Cheshire West Judgement regarding DOLS on the Authority’s staffing, budget and risk.</td>
<td>Mark Jones, Head of Service PSNI &amp; Mental Health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Early Years development Childcare Partnership</td>
<td>15 March 2016</td>
<td>To address the issues raised in the Topic Selection Form submitted to the March meeting of the Committee, specifically to enable Members to understand the purpose and role of the Partnership in implementing the recommendations of the Childcare Sufficiency Assessment. Understand purpose of EYDCP</td>
<td>Head of Children’s Social Care</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HMP Berwyn – Model of Care</td>
<td>11 May 2016</td>
<td>To provide members with details of the final arrangements in respect of the model of care for social services at HMP Berwyn</td>
<td>Mark Jones, Head of Service PSNI &amp; Mental Health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Town Centre Problems - Action Plan</td>
<td>11 May 2016</td>
<td>To provide members with a copy of the final action plan once it is agreed</td>
<td>Lee Robinson, Executive Director</td>
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