

## FLINT - SETTLEMENT SERVICE AUDIT

### Settlement Commentary

Flint is a key town within Flintshire benefiting from a large town centre which serves Flint and surrounding rural villages including Bagillt, Flint Mountain, and Northop. The town benefits from Flint Railway Station which affords access to Chester, Manchester, Liverpool and London amongst other places. Flint is well served by bus services both along the coast road to Prestatyn, Holywell, Deeside and Chester and inland to Mold and Wrexham. Within Flint there are significant employment opportunities at Castle Industrial Estate, Aber Park and within the town centre. The town benefits from 3 high schools (Flint High, Maes Hyfryd & St. Richard Gwyn) as well as 4 primary schools and local daycare (public and private facilities). Flint Pavillion provides opportunity for swimming, sports and fitness and has indoor and outdoor facilities at Flint High. As a settlement Flint has an excellent standard of service provision given the relatively small size of its population.

	<b>Settlement No. of Dwellings</b>
2000 UDP Baseline Figure	4,890
2014 Housing Land Study	5,085

	<b>Settlement Population</b>
2001 Census	11,937
2011 Census	12,078

### Summary of Recorded Service Provision

The survey work was undertaken in November 2014 and has since been updated to take account of new information or feedback from Members / Town and Community Councils.

<b>Education Facilities</b>		Primary school	Yes, Cornist Primary, Gwynedd Primary, Croes Atti Welsh Speaking Primary, St Marys RC Primary, Ysgol Pen Coch Additional Needs Primary	Secondary school	Yes, Flint High School, Richard Gwyn RC High School, Maes Hyfryd, Additional Needs Secondary
Pre-School / Nursery Provision	Yes, Trelawney Towers, school nurseries and others.			College	Yes, Joint 6th Form (SRG & FHS)

Other Education Facility	Yes, Various - eg Air Training Corps, Scouts, within the Library (Welsh Language), in the Town Hall	Civic offices / facility	Yes, FCC Connex with Job Centre and Police Station on Chapel Street	Supermarket	Yes, Sainsburys Flint Retail Park /Farmfoods Flint Retail Park /Asda Flint Retail Park / Aldi A548 /Iceland Church Street
<b>Leisure &amp; Recreation Facilities</b>		Library	Yes, Church Street / Coleshill Street	Non-food retail units	Yes, many in town centre and on retail park
Indoor leisure centre / sports facility	Yes, Flint Pavillion Leisure Centre with indoor and outdoor community facilities at Flint High School	Hospital	No, hospital now vacant/derelict – but there are plans for a Health Centre	Convenience shop	Yes, many including a Tesco Express and 4 dedicated Eastern European small convenience markets and at the “Top Shops” Local Centre
Swimming pool	Yes, Flint Pavillion pool	Doctors surgery	Yes, The Laurels	Other shops	Yes, Wide range of shops, services and other commercial enterprises in town centre and on Retail Park and at the “Top Shops” Local Centre
Formal outdoor sports facility	Yes, Albert Avenue Football Pitches, Marsh Lane Football Pitch, Swinchairst Brook Bowling Greens	Dentist surgery	Yes, Church Street Dental Surgery, Halkyn Street Dental Surgery	Café / Take away	Yes, Various take aways and cafes in and around town centre and on Retail Park and at the “Top Shops” Local Centre
Formal outdoor play facility /area	Yes, Several Play Areas across the Town the most important of these is at Cornist Park. / Swinchairst Brook Playing Field / The Coast / Gwynedd Hill Standing Stones & Playing Field / SRG Playing Fields / The Pandy Country Park	Pharmacy	Yes, Boots the Chemist on Church Street / Superdrug on Church Street / Pharmacy in Sainsburys	Bank/Building Society	Yes, TSB Chester Road / Barclays Church Street / HSBC Church Street
<b>Community &amp; Health</b>		Place of worship	Yes, Croes Atti Church – Vacant /St. Marys Church Street / St. Marys RC Coleshill Street / Northop Road – Vacant / Chapel on Chapel Street / Church corner of Coleshill Street and Northop Road		
Community centre / hall	Yes, St.Marys Social Club and Church Hall	<b>Retail &amp; Commercial Related</b>			

Free Standing of a Bank - Cashpoint	Yes, Several – Church Street x2; Chester Road x3; Flint Retail Park x1	Petrol Filling Station	Yes, Shell PFS with Shop on Chester Road / Northop Road PFS with Shop on Northop Road / Chester Road PFS with Spar	Rail station	Yes, Frequent Service to Chester (every 30 mins). Wider Service available to North Wales (Holyhead) and to London (every hour).
Public house / club / restaurant	Yes, The George and Dragon Church Street / The Ship Chester Road / The Dee Inn Chester Road / The Swan Hotel Chester Road / The Tradesmans Inn Chester Road / The Yacht Chester Road / The Harp, Prince of Wales Ave / The Mill Tavern, Northop Road / St. Marys Social Club / British Legion Social Club	<b>Employment</b>		Bus station / stop	Yes, various
		Employment	Yes, Aber Road Industrial Estate / Manor Road Industrial Estate / Castle Park Industrial Estate / Town Centre / Retail Park / SCA Papermill / Relatively convenient access to Deeside Industrial Park (Deeside Shuttle)	Bus service frequency	Lots - far too many mention here
Post office	Yes, Church Street			Cycle route	Yes, Access to Wales Coastal Path / Access to National Cycle Route No.5 / Access to local cycle routes – formal and informal
Post box	Yes, various	<b>Transport</b>		Access to main highway network	"Yes, Access to A548 to Prestatyn and to DIP & Chester / Access to Connahs Quay & Access to Mold

## Broadband Provision

According to the latest OFCOM data (2013) Flint post codes (where data is available) have a median average broadband range of 4.1 – 23.8 mega bytes per second with most postcodes at around 8-15 mbps. Clearly broadband provision in Flint is mixed with the majority of the settlement having less than good broadband provision. Broadband provision is important even for a town like this because of the impacts of slow speeds upon the ability of businesses to operate within the area and to provide investment and local employment.

## Other Comments

Flint Town is currently experiencing significant redevelopment, regeneration and investment mainly centred around three key projects – the demolition of the Lea and Castle maisonettes; the construction of a new medical centre which will part replace the existing clinic on Prince of Wales Avenue and the former cottage hospital (now closed); and the rationalisation of public facilities with the creation of the Flintshire Connects and the relocation of the police station into County Offices.

## Previous Surveys of Service Provision

Flint has a town centre and supporting local centres with many services and facilities. There have been many surveys of Flint, and services and facilities have changed considerably within the town since 2000. Generally speaking the town centre has expanded considerably over the last 15 years to the benefit of the town eg Aldi, Asda, Mcdonalds, and arrival of Sainsburys in the former Focus DIY unit in 2008. In 2013 the Cottage Hospital closed which resulted in the loss of local bedspace and medical facilities. In 2013 the Ambulance Station closed, this has since been converted for a vehicle hire company. In 2014 Natwest Bank closed as part of National Service changes.

## Mapping Service Provision

It is considered that Flint benefits from an excellent range of services and facilities, some of these services are illustrated diagrammatically on the map overleaf.

