



Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol
MERTHYR TUDFUL
MERTHYR TYDFIL
County Borough Council

MINUTES OF MEETING

SCRUTINY : GOVERNANCE, PERFORMANCE, BUSINESS CHANGE AND CORPORATE SERVICES MEETING

TUESDAY, 26TH NOVEMBER, 2019

PRESENT: Councillors: T Skinner (Chair)
G Lewis (Vice-Chair)

Councillors: J Amos, H R Jones, D Sammon, W R Smith and
C T Jones

Cooptees:

J Beard (Public) and C Payne (Public)

Other Councillors in Attendance:

G Thomas (Cabinet Member)

Officers:

A Owen (Interim Deputy Chief Executive), C Long (Economic
Development & Strategic Tourism Manager), D Ryan-Newton
(Community Services Officer), F Donnelly (H R Manager),
J Sellwood (Central Library), J Sellwood (Leisure, Culture and
Sports Development Manager) and M Purnell (Performance and
Scrutiny Officer)

M Morgan (Democratic Services Officer)

ITEM NO.	AGENDA MATTER	DECISION
528	Apologies for Absence	No apologies for absence were received as all Members were Present.

529	Declarations of Interest (including whipping declarations)	No Declarations of Interest were made.
530	Welsh Public Library Standards Update Report	<p>The Chair welcomed Jane Sellwood to the Meeting and referred to the 'Welsh National Library Standards Update' report and the recommendations as contained within the report.</p> <p>Jane Sellwood the led the Committee in detail through the report and responded in detail to the following questions raised by the Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Executive Summary – Formal Training Sessions - Who is in receipt of these sessions and what is the format • Overall Staffing Levels – Is this a Professional Librarian Post – What is the impact of having one less qualified Librarian in the Service • Q1-13 – How are volunteers appointed – How are they sought and what do volunteers do • Details on the 'Mobile – Home Links Delivery Service' • Paragraph 3.4 – Details requested on staff, qualifications, staff vacancies, salaries and recruitment • National situation in relation to recruitment of Librarians • Volunteer hours • Details requested in relation to increased usage of facilities e.g in relation to the roll out of Universal Credit • What income generating work does the Service do • Costs of the building etc – Sustainability • Paragraph 5 – Future Direction – What are the future plans in relation to: schools and volunteers • Links with other agencies in relation to volunteers • Paragraph 2.2 – Quality Indicators with targets – Clarification requested <p>The Chair then thanked Jane Sellwood for the update to the Committee and referred to the question of sustainability and recommended that an invitation be extended to Jane Sellwood for a further update to the Committee in twelve months.</p> <p>Resolved that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) The information on feedback received from Welsh Government be received (b) The update report be accepted (c) Jane Selwood be invited to attend a Meeting in twelve months time to update the Committee.
531	Working Life	<p>The Chair welcomed Councillor G Thomas, Alyn Owen, Chris Long and Deb Ryan-Newton to the Meeting.</p> <p>The Officers then referred in detail to the 'Working Life'</p>

		<p>report and responded in detail to the following questions raised by the Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Duplication with Cynon Taf • Building Apprenticeships • Tourism – Visitor numbers – Location signage for the Tourist Information Centre • Paragraph 4.4 – Clarification sought in relation to Post 16 education qualifications – How do the Officers engage with the College - Explanation requested in relation to what the plans are • Paragraph 5.5 – Strategic Economic Regeneration and Tourism Board – Who are the Members – Who do they report to - What is the remit of the Board • The need for building skills – Apprenticeships • Is there any extra funding for Bus Shelters throughout the County Borough <p>(Chris Long advised that a report could be brought back to Committee when the Mapping exercise had been concluded) (This matter could be considered by the Neighbourhood Services, Planning and Countryside Scrutiny Committee if more appropriate)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of business births • Duplication of work with Cwm Taf – As a result of the work undertaken is there more synergy and is it more streamlined <p>Councillor G Thomas also updated the Committee in relation to 'Working Life'.</p> <p>Jeff Beard and Clare Payne left the Meeting at 5.10 pm.</p> <p>Councillor J Amos and Councillor H R Jones left the Meeting at 5.25 pm.</p>
532	Work Programme 2019-20	<p>The Chair referred the Committee to the 'Work Programme 2019/20' report and updated the Committee in relation to a Meeting where the work programme had been refocused and outlined in detail the amendments to the programme for the January Meeting.</p> <p>The Chair also advised that the item on the Leisure Trust would be considered as part of a Workshop and not as a Committee agenda item and outlined in detail the format for this Workshop.</p>
533	Scrutiny Referrals, Feedback and Follow up Actions	<p>Maria Purnell updated the Committee in relation to items for the January Committee Meeting.</p>
534	Reflection and Evaluation of Meeting	<p>The Chair and the Committee reflected on the issues that had been considered at the Meeting.</p>
535	Any other business deemed urgent by the Chair	<p>The Chair advised that there was no business deemed urgent.</p>

