



Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol
MERTHYR TUDFUL
MERTHYR TYDFIL
County Borough Council

MINUTES OF MEETING

SCRUTINY : JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING JOINT MEETING WITH AUDIT

WEDNESDAY, 27TH JANUARY, 2021

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

Councillors H Barrett, B Carter, M Colbran, J Davies, L Davies, K Gibbs, S Jago, C T Jones, D Jones, M Jones, G Richards, T Rogers, D Sammon, W R Smith, S Thomas, I Thomas and J Thomas

Cooptees:

C Brown (Parent Governor - Primary), H Hopkins (Public Appointed), J Beard (Public Appointed), M Ellis (Youth Forum Representative), T Butler (Youth Forum Representative) and C Gwynne (MTBWYF)

Other Councillors In Attendance:

L Mytton (Cabinet Member), A Barry (Cabinet Member), C Davies (Cabinet Member), D Hughes (Cabinet Member) and G Thomas (Cabinet Member)

Officers:

C Kennedy (Head of Legal and Governance Services - Monitoring Officer), E Cooper (Interim Chief Executive), S Jones (Head of Finance), J Jones (Chief Officer Neighbourhood Services), L Curtis Jones (Chief Officer (Social Services)), A Owen (Interim Deputy Chief Executive), S Walker (Chief Education Officer), F Donnelly (H R Manager), C Dinham (Communications, Consultation and Engagement Manager), A Mogford (Head of Corporate Services), G Edwards (Central

Services Manager), C Long (Economic Development & Strategic Tourism Manager) and M Thomas (Head of Regional Audit Service)

Outside Bodies:

H Goddard (Audit Wales) and I Phillips (Audit Wales)

M Morgan* (Democratic Services Officer) and M Edmunds (Democratic Services Officer)

ITEM NO.	AGENDA MATTER	DECISION
338	Apologies for Absence	Apologies for absence were received from Councillor D Isaac and I Cathrew and J McCarthy Co-opted Members.
339	Declarations of Interest (including whipping declarations)	No Declarations of Interest were made.
340	Revenue Budget 2021/22	<p>Steve Jones led the Committee in detail through the 'Revenue Budget 2021/22' report and together with the Officers responded in detail to the following questions raised by the Committee on the report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paragraph 5.19 – Free School Meals Entitlement – When will this information be available – What are the costs • Council Tax Bad Debt Provision – Is this still the same figure • Pay Award – How much savings does 2% equate to • Paragraph 3.1 – Teachers Pay Award – Is this Ring Fenced • Appendix 4: • Ref 5 – Explanation requested in relation to 'seeding' • Ref 17 – Clarification requested why no monies allocated in 2021/22 and explanation of the 2022/23 and 2023/24 figures • Ref 51 – Details requested in relation to Gully Sucker Waste • Ref 3 – What is the impact on school budgets – Involvement of the Governing Body • Ref 21 – Explanation requested in relation to the projected placement figures and overspend on the Residential Budget • Ref 47 – Explanation requested in relation to the reduction – Is there any indication of an increase • Ref 46 – What is meant by 'Treatment' – Is there likely to be extra costs to bring the recycle rate up • Ref 15 – Is this the full cost of the Service • Explanation requested on the role of the new staff member • Ref 73 – What degree of certainty is there to claim back from Welsh Government • Ref 41 – Increase in costs – Has discussion taken

		<p>place to bring back in house and what would be the costs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ref 33 – Has the South Wales PCC indicated if they would contribute for the function • Ref 70 – Explanation of the effect on the Budget if Council Tax increases less than 4.99% • Appendix 6: • Have Risk Assessments been carried out • Ref 31 – Has consultation been undertaken and to hear the views of the public <p>The following comments were also raised by the Members on the report in relation to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fleet Savings • Grounds Maintenance Tractor • Household Waste Recycling Centres - The cost of Fly-tipping, Usage by residents after 5.00pm, The risk of reduced hours, Breakdown of figures for closure 1 day a week and reduced opening hours during summer months <p>Councillor B Carter entered the Meeting at 5.14 pm.</p>
341	Any Other Business deemed urgent by the Chair	The Chair advised that there was no business deemed urgent.