



Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol  
MERTHYR TUDFUL  
MERTHYR TYDFIL  
County Borough Council

## MINUTES OF MEETING

# **SCRUTINY : REGENERATION,** **PUBLIC PROTECTION AND** **HOUSING MEETING**

**TUESDAY, 25TH JANUARY, 2022**

**PRESENT:** Councillors L Davies (Chair)  
G Lewis (Vice-Chair)

Councillors M Colbran, K Gibbs, K O'Neill and S Thomas

**Cooptees:**

H Hopkins (Public Appointment) and A Millar (Youth Forum Representative)

**Other Councillors in Attendance:**

G Thomas (Cabinet Member)

**Officers:**

A Owen (Deputy Chief Executive), C Long (Economic Development & Strategic Tourism Manager), M Purnell (Performance and Scrutiny Officer) and D Ryan-Newton (Community Services Officer)

M Morgan (Democratic Services Officer)

| ITEM NO. | AGENDA MATTER         | DECISION  |
|----------|-----------------------|---|
| 604      | Apologies for Absence | No apologies for absence were received as all Members were present. |

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| 605 | Declarations of Interest (including whipping declarations)                 | Councillor L Davies Declared his Interest in Item 3 – Issues and Implications Arising as a Result of the End of European Funding – CRF Application as he works for Merthyr Tydfil Leisure Trust but the project had not yet started .  |
| 606 | Issues and Implications Arising as a Result of the End of European Funding | <p>The Chair referred the Committee to the ‘Issues and Implications Arising as a Result of the End of European Funding’ report and welcomed Councillor G Thomas Cabinet Member, Alyn Owen, Chris Long and Deb Ryan-Newton to the Meeting.</p> <p>The Officers then led the Committee in detail through the report and together with Councillor G Thomas responded in detail to the following questions raised by the Committee:</p> <p><i>ESF Funded Programmes</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Paragraph 5.1 – Update requested on the impact to date – Over what timescale are the Programmes – Proposed that a start date for the Programmes be given – Is there any analysis on the Programmes to ensure best value and to look at this going forward – The need for understanding of the Programmes to be able to understand the data – To include Communications as a lot of people have been helped – Is there an achievement gap – To cross reference with the RTI – Qualifications / Apprenticeships / Jobs – An impact Assessment Report to give a base line of where we actually are in relation to this</li> <li>• Paragraph 5.3 – Support Staff – Is this the case, will these jobs be lost – Explanation of where these jobs sit in the tables in the report – The need for forward planning as these are experienced staff</li> <li>• Paragraph 5.1 / 5.4 – Will the projects continue – If not what will replace them – Clarification requested on this</li> <li>• CRF Levelling up – What does shared prosperity look like – What is different – Tight deadlines – Is an extension being discussed</li> <li>• Explanation requested on the Community Ownership Fund</li> <li>• Employability Programmes – Will staff be lost – Communities for Work / DWP – Will EU Funding be received</li> <li>• Is there feedback in relation to liaison with Local Government and Central Government – Will the Welsh Government provide some Programmes to compete with UK Programmes</li> <li>• Could the third Sector fill part of the gap – Is there a level of support in relation to Governance and Funding</li> <li>• Paragraph 5.10 – Has a response been received</li> </ul> <p>The Chair then thanked Councillor G Thomas and the Officers for attending and the update and detailed responses to the Committee on the questions raised.</p> |

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| 607 | Committee Work Programme 2021-2022                 | The Chair referred the Committee to the Committee Forward Work Programme 2021/2022 and the Committee agreed the Work Programme.                            |
| 608 | Scrutiny Referrals, Feedback and Follow Up Actions | No Scrutiny referrals, feedback of follow up actions were received.  |
| 609 | Reflection and Evaluation of Meeting               | The Chair and the Committee reflected in detail on the issues that had been discussed at the Meeting.  |
| 610 | Any Other Business deemed urgent by the Chair      | The Chair advised that this was the last Meeting for Maria Purnell as Scrutiny Support Officer and thanked Maria Purnell for her support of the Committee. |