



MERTHYR TYDFIL
County Borough Council
Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol
MERTHYR TUDFUL

MINUTES OF MEETING

SCRUTINY : SOCIAL SERVICES & SOCIAL REGENERATION MEETING

TUESDAY, 7TH OCTOBER, 2014

PRESENT: Councillor W R Smith (In the Chair)

Councillors R Braithwaite, T Lewis, B E Mansbridge and
J McCarthy

Councillor B Carter – Cabinet Member – Social Services and
Social Regeneration

Councillor L Matthews – Cabinet Member – Transformational
Change

Co-optees:

Christopher Brazier

Officers:

Gary Thomas (Transformation Manager), Suzanne Griffiths
(Director of Social Services), Sue Hughes (Assistant Director
Social Regeneration), Joe Rhys-Jones (LAC), Lisa Curtis Jones
(Head of Children's Services), Richard Parry (Consultant for
School Improvement), Paul Phillpott (Business Change
Manager) and Andrew Mogford (Strategic Business Analyst)

Howard Jones (Scrutiny Manager) and Mair Morgan (Scrutiny /
Democratic Services Officer)

ITEM NO.	AGENDA MATTER	DECISION
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Welcome

The Chair welcomed Councillor J McCarthy to his first Scrutiny Committee Meeting.

478	Apologies for absence	Apologies for absence were received from Councillor D Davies and Councillor L Mytton.
479	Declarations of Interest (including whipping declarations)	No Declarations of Interest were made.
480	Consideration of Agenda items	The Committee considered in detail the items on the agenda.
481	Defining Success For 2017	<p>Richard Parry referred the Committee to the Discussion Paper on Defining Success for 2017 and gave the apologies of the Chief Executive and the Leader for their absence from the Meeting.</p> <p>Richard Parry then gave details to the Committee in relation to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Shared Vision • <i>The Challenge</i> • What does success look like for the Council after three years • What are the challenges for the Council over the next three years • Where are we now • <i>Top Performing</i> • Ambitious, Prioritise, Accountability, Ownership, Expectations • <i>Sustainability</i> • Whole Organisation, Transformation, Challenges, Invest in Staff • <i>Reputation</i> • Leadership, Brand, Communication • What are we going to look like • In three years time what the Council will have <p>Richard Parry then referred the Committee to the Discussion Document questionnaire in relation to;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Challenge • The Focus of Success • Performance • Sustainability • Reputation <p>Questions were then raised by the Committee on the Discussion Paper and were answered in detail by Richard Parry and Gary Thomas.</p>

482	Transformational Change Programme	<p>The Chair welcomed Councillor L Matthews Cabinet Member for Transformational Change, Gary Thomas, Paul Phillpott and Andrew Mogford to the Meeting.</p> <p>Councillor Matthews advised the Committee of the process that was being undertaken by the Transformational Change Programme.</p> <p>Gary Thomas then referred to the Transformation Programme Background and the projects that were being managed at the moment.</p> <p>He also gave details of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Transformation Programme Board</i> • Role of the Board • Board Members • Frequency of Meetings • Reporting – Who, When, How • Actions and Monitoring • <i>Transformation Steering Group</i> • Aim of the Steering Group • Steering Group Members • Frequency of Meetings • Reporting – Who, When, How • Actions and Monitoring <p>Andrew Mogford then referred to the Transformation Programme and gave details of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Progress to date • <i>Overall Summary</i> • Number of Projects by Status • Target Savings by Status • Overall Summary • Social Services and Social Regeneration Summary • <i>Programme Summary</i> • Common Risks / Issues • Overspends and Slippage • Next Steps <p>Paul Phillpott then gave details to the Committee in relation to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Corporate Spine and the impact on Services <p>Questions were then raised by the Committee on the Transformation Programme and were answered in detail by Councillor Matthews, Gary Thomas, Andrew Mogford and Paul Phillpott.</p> <p>The Chair then thanked Councillor Matthews together with the Officers for the Presentation and update to the Committee.</p>
483	Looked After Children Quarterly Report	<p>The Chair welcomed Councillor B Carter, Suzanne Griffiths, Lisa Curtis Jones and Jo Rees Jones to the Meeting.</p>

		<p>Suzanne Griffiths referred the Committee to the Looked After Children Quarterly report that had been considered by Cabinet.</p> <p>Lisa Curtis Jones then led the Committee in detail through the report and together with Councillor Carter, Suzanne Griffiths and Jo Rhys Jones responded in detail to the questions raised by the Committee.</p> <p>The Chair then thanked Councillor Carter and the Officers for attending and the update to the Committee.</p>
484	Task & Finish Group Update - Learning for Life	<p>The Chair referred the Committee to the draft Task and Finish report on Learning for Life – Basic Skills and referred to the link with Social Services and Education and advised that the report had also been considered by the Schools Scrutiny Committee held the previous day.</p> <p>He also suggested that a joint Meeting be held with the Chair and Vice Chair of the Social Services and Schools Scrutiny Committees together with the appropriate Officers in six months.</p> <p>The Committee then agreed that the joint Meeting be convened at the appropriate time and that the Task and Finish report be submitted to Cabinet.</p>
485	Scrutiny and Audit Chairs Liaison Group Update	<p>The Chair updated the Committee in relation to the Liaison Group Meeting.</p>
486	Forward Work Programme	<p>The Committee considered and agreed the Forward Work Programme.</p> <p>The Chair and the Committee then reflected on the issues that had been raised at the Meeting and as a Committee completed the Defining Success for 2017 questionnaire.</p>
487	Any other business deemed urgent by the Chair	<p>The Chair advised that there was no business deemed urgent.</p>