



MERTHYR TYDFIL  
County Borough Council  
Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol  
MERTHYR TUDFUL

## MINUTES OF MEETING

# CABINET MEETING

**WEDNESDAY, 3RD DECEMBER, 2014**

**PRESENT:** Councillor B Toomey (In the Chair)

Councillors P Williams, C J Barry, B Carter, D Jones, H R Jones and L A Matthews

### **Officers**

Gareth Chapman (Chief Executive), Ellis Cooper (Corporate Director of Customer Services), Carys Kennedy (Head of Legal and Democratic Services), Steve Jones (Chief Finance Officer), Gary Thomas (Transformation Manager), Lisa Jones (Interim HR Manager), Lisa Curtis Jones (Head of Children's Services), Dorothy Haines (Head of School Improvement), Ewan McWilliams (Corporate Performance Manager) and Ceri Dinham (Senior Communications Officer)

Karen Vokes (Democratic Services Officer)

ITEM NO.	AGENDA MATTER	DECISION
750	Apologies for absence	No apologies for absence as all Members were present.
751	Declarations of Interest	No declarations of interest were made.
752	Corporate Plan Performance Report - Mid Year Update	<p>Councillor P Williams advised of an amendment to paragraph 2.11 of the report - it should read "the possibility of the closure of some leisure facilities.....".</p> <p><b>RESOLVED that:</b></p> <p>The update on progress against delivery of the Corporate Plan and Outcome Agreement be approved.</p>

		Cabinet Members follow up with respective Heads of Service performance issues, especially in relation to delivery of the Outcome Agreement.
753	Award of Community Transport Grant	<p><b>RESOLVED that:</b></p> <p>The following be awarded 10% of the BSSG (£14,993) to support community transport on a pro rata basis to last year's allocation:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Aberfan and Merthyr Vale Youth Community Project - £9,296</li> <li>2. Cancer Aid - £4,048</li> <li>3. Accessible Caring Transport - £1,649</li> </ol>
754	Service and Budget Review Process	<p><b>RESOLVED that:</b></p> <p>The contents of the report be noted.</p>
755	Commercial Space Hire in the Town Centre	<p><b>RESOLVED that:</b></p> <p>The following recommendations be agreed as amended:</p> <p>The contents of the report be noted and the proposed commercial space hire for the town centre be implemented immediately.</p> <p>The policy be reviewed in 6 months by Cabinet.</p>
756	Introduction of £1 all day Saturday Parking	<p><b>RESOLVED that:</b></p> <p>The £1 charge for all day Saturday parking be introduced accordingly.</p>
757	Social Services and Wellbeing Act: Implementation	<p>Its was noted that recommendation 8.2 referred to the Merthyr Tydfil Transformation Programme in paragraph 3.4 of the report. This should read Paragraph 3.5.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED that:</b></p> <p>The implications of the "Social Services and Wellbeing Act" be noted and the plan for a further report as outlined in paragraph 4.3 be agreed.</p> <p>The proposals to utilise Welsh Government funding to progress the implementation programme be approved, including the proposal to link this with the Merthyr Tydfil Transformation Programme as outlined in paragraph 3.5.</p> <p>The creation of regional governance arrangements in accordance with Welsh Government requirements be supported.</p> <p>Delegated authority be given to the Leader of the Council and the Chief Executive to nominate member and officer involvement in the local governance structures when these are clarified.</p>

		<p>The establishment of a Merthyr Tydfil officer group to work with the Transformation Manager and project support to undertake the necessary work for the Merthyr Tydfil part of the needs assessment and plan be agreed.</p>
758	<p>National Model for Regional School Improvement Working in Wales - Central South Consortium</p>	<p><b>RESOLVED that:</b></p> <p>To enable the Council to continue to meet the Welsh Government expectation around collaborative regional education provision, the update on the Joint Education Service outlined in this report be noted.</p> <p>Delegate authority for the Chief Education Officer, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Education, S151 officer and Head of Legal to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• agree the terms of the proposed New Agreement and specific Merthyr annex to the business plan and conclude the same;</li> <li>• deal with any further variations to the new agreement, once concluded, that may be proposed from time to time, provided that such variations are within budget and the overall principles of the joint service; and</li> <li>• that subject to the conclusion of the New Agreement the Leader (or his delegated nominee) be appointed as the council's representative on the Central South Consortium Joint Education Committee.</li> </ul>
759	<p>Basic Skills Strategy</p>	<p><b>RESOLVED that:</b></p> <p>The Local authority will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• identify and provide targeted support for schools with greater need;</li> <li>• provide training for staff new to the authority or refresher training in RWI, Freshstart, RWI One-to-one tutoring and Big Maths;</li> <li>• facilitate a Basic Skills Strategy Task and Finish group to inform the strategy going forward;</li> <li>• provide guidance and training on improving the quality of teaching and the leadership of teaching;</li> <li>• continue to provide and broker guidance and training on teaching reading and writing and mathematics as requested;</li> <li>• continue to facilitate the implementation and evaluation of the Basic Skills Strategy; and</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• provide comparative information for schools based on pupil outcomes and provision.</li> </ul> <p>Schools will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• continue to ensure tracking is robust and measures progress as well as attainment;</li> <li>• ensure the baseline data for pupils on intervention programmes is accurate and comprehensive in order to enable the evaluation of the strategy;</li> <li>• share and develop best practice across schools; and</li> <li>• agree targets for improvements in pupil outcomes for 2014/2015 with the Schools Forum.</li> </ul>
760	Fixed Penalty Notices for Unauthorised Absences from Schools	<p><b>RESOLVED that:</b></p> <p>The report be received.</p>

## **CLOSED SESSION**

### **Exempt**

***In order for the following to be considered in private, it is suggested that the public be excluded from the meeting on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 12, 14 and 16 under Part 4 of Schedule 12A of Section 100 (A) (4) of the Local Government Act 1972.***

761	Judicial Review - Funded Nursing Care	<p><b>RESOLVED that:</b></p> <p>The contents of the report be noted.</p> <p>The Council's participation in the consortium referred to be approved.</p> <p>Funding be agreed as outlined in the report.</p>
762	Request for Early Pension Release	<p><b>RESOLVED that:</b></p> <p>Voluntary release of the pension benefits be paid by the RCT Pension Fund, with actuarial reductions applied so that there is no cost payable to the Authority.</p>
763	Project Riverside	<p><b>RESOLVED that:</b></p> <p>The expenditure as outlined in the report be approved.</p> <p>The submission of an application for grant monies, as outlined in the report, be approved.</p>

764	Former Labour Exchange, Pontmorlais	<b>RESOLVED that:</b> The recommendation, as outlined in the report, be approved.
-----	-------------------------------------	--

**RE-OPENED SESSION**

765	Any Other Business Deemed Urgent by the Chair	The Leader advised that as a result of matters arising from the Service and Budget Service Review Process, a special Cabinet Meeting has been convened for Friday, 19 <sup>th</sup> December 2014 at 10.00 am.
-----	---	--