



MERTHYR TYDFIL
County Borough Council
Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol
MERTHYR TUDFUL

MINUTES OF MEETING

SCRUTINY : SCHOOLS MEETING

MONDAY, 23RD MARCH, 2015

PRESENT: Councillor L Mytton (**In the Chair**)

Councillors S Williams, D Davies, M Davies, G Lewis and C Tovey

Cooptees:

David Lewis and Alan Rees

Officers:

Richard Parry (Consultant for School Improvement), Lorraine Buck (Corporate Director (People and Performance)) and Ewan McWilliams (Corporate Performance Manager)

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

ITEM NO.	AGENDA MATTER	DECISION
1150	Apologies for absence	Apologies for absence were received from Councillor K Moran and Mrs T Bradley and Mrs M Harris Co-opted Members.
1151	Declarations of Interest (including whipping declarations)	No Declarations of Interest were made.
1152	Corporate Plan Performance Report, Quarter 3 update	The Chair welcomed Ewan McWilliams and Lorraine Buck to the Meeting.

		<p>Ewan McWilliams referred to the Corporate Plan Performance Report Quarter 3 Update and referred the Committee in detail to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Priority Area 1 – Raising Standards of Attainment • Priority Area 2 – Employability • Priority Area 3 – Economic Development • Priority Area 4 – Active Lifestyles • Priority Area 5 – Promoting Independence • Priority Area 6 - Meeting the Needs of Vulnerable Children • Priority Area 7 – A Sustainable Environment <p>Questions were then raised by the Committee in relation to Priority Area 1 and were answered in detail by Lorraine Buck and Ewan McWilliams.</p> <p>Another question was raised in relation to Priority Area 7 in relation to Energy Efficiency in Schools and the Chair advised that she would take this matter forward.</p> <p>Resolved that:</p> <p>The update on progress against delivery of the Corporate Plan and Outcome Agreement be noted.</p>
1153	Defining Success for 2017 - Performance	<p>The Chair welcomed Richard Parry to the Meeting.</p> <p>Richard Parry referred the Committee to the Defining Success for 2017 – Performance report and made a Presentation on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chief Executive’s Aspirations • Where we were – March 2013 • Baseline • What we did – March 2014 • Progress, Impact, External Regulators and Lessons Learnt from Process • Where we are now – March 2015 • Progress, Impact, External Regulators and Lessons Learnt • Where we want to be – March 2016 • Progress and Impact <p>Questions were then raised by the Committee in relation to service areas and cross cutting issues.</p> <p>Detailed responses were also given by Richard Parry and Ewan McWilliams to the questions raised by the Committee.</p> <p>The Chair then thanked Ewan McWilliams for attending the Meeting.</p>

1154	A Review and Evaluation of Member Scrutiny 2014-15	<p>Richard Parry referred to the Review and Evaluation of Member Scrutiny 2014-15 report and led the Committee in detail through the eight recommendations that had been agreed for the Work Programme Development and Scrutiny Processes for 2014/15.</p> <p>Resolved that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Progress during 2014/15 in terms of the quality and effectiveness of the Scrutiny and Audit processes be noted (b) The recommendations identified in Appendix 1 of the report be agreed and implemented (c) The key areas for improvement in Appendix 3 of the report be agreed and followed up
1155	Preparation of Scrutiny Work Programme for 2015/16	<p>The Chair referred to the Preparation of Scrutiny Work Programme – 2015/16 report.</p> <p>Resolved that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The contents of the report be noted • A Task and Finish Group be set up to progress a draft work programme for 2015/16 and that this Group reports back to the Committee by the end of May/ early June • That the Committee be advised of the date for this Task and Finish Group and Committee Members be invited to attend or if unable to do so to contribute to the Group Meeting via e-mail correspondence
1156	Scrutiny Training & Development with the Centre for Public Scrutiny (CfPS)	<p>The Chair referred the Committee to the Scrutiny Training and Development with the Centre for Public Scrutiny report.</p> <p>Resolved that:</p> <p>The report be noted.</p>
1157	Scrutiny Referrals, Feedback and Follow up Actions	The Chair updated the Committee in relation to this item.
1158	Reflection and Evaluation of Meeting	The Chair and the Committee reflected on the issues that had been considered at the Meeting.
1159	Forward Work Programme	The Committee considered and agreed the Forward Work Programme.
1160	Any other business deemed urgent by the Chair	The Chair advised that there was no business deemed urgent.