



MERTHYR TYDFIL  
County Borough Council  
Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol  
MERTHYR TUDFUL

## MINUTES OF MEETING

# SCRUTINY : SOCIAL SERVICES & SOCIAL REGENERATION MEETING

**TUESDAY, 24TH MARCH, 2015**

**PRESENT:** Councillor W R Smith (In the Chair)

Councillors D Davies, T Lewis, B E Mansbridge and J McCarthy

**Officers:**

Carys Kennedy (Head of Legal and Democratic Services), Sue Hughes (Assistant Director of Social Regeneration), Richard Parry (Consultant for School Improvement), Mark Anderton (Head of Adult Social Services), Joe Rhys-Jones (LAC), Mark Thomas (Assistant Director - Chief Executive's), Ewan McWilliams (Corporate Performance Manager) and Angharad Hobson (Performance Support and Development Officer)

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

ITEM NO.	AGENDA MATTER	DECISION
1161	Apologies for absence	Apologies for absence were received from Councillor R Braithwaite, Councillor L Mytton and Mr C Brazier Co-opted Member.
1162	Declarations of Interest (including whipping declarations)	No Declarations of Interest were made.
1163	Corporate Plan Performance Report,	The Chair welcomed Mark Thomas, Ewan McWilliams, Carys Kennedy, Sue Hughes, Mark Anderton, Joe Rhys

	Quarter 3 update	<p>Jones and Angharad Hobson to the Meeting.</p> <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"> <li>• Priority Area 1 – Raising Standards of Attainment</li> <li>• Priority Area 2 – Employability</li> <li>• Priority Area 3 – Economic Development</li> <li>• Priority Area 4 – Active Lifestyles</li> <li>• Priority Area 5 – Promoting Independence</li> <li>• Priority Area 6 – Meeting the Needs of Vulnerable Children</li> <li>• Priority Area 7 – A Sustainable Environment</li> </ul> <p>Questions were then raised by the Committee in relation to the Priority areas and were answered in detail by the appropriate Officer.</p> <p>Questions were also raised in relation to cross cutting services and the Chair advised that he would take these matters forward.</p> <p><b>Resolved that:</b></p> <p>The update on progress against delivery of the Corporate Plan and Outcome Agreement be noted.</p>
1164	Progress update following CSSIW inspection of Safeguarding and Care Planning for L.A.C. and Care Leavers	<p>Joe Rhys Jones referred to the Update on Progress of Action Plan Following CSSIW Inspection of Safeguarding and Care Planning for Looked After Children and Care Leavers report and led the Committee in detail through the report.</p> <p>Questions were then raised by the Committee and were answered in detail by Joe Rhys Jones and Sue Hughes.</p> <p><b>Resolved that:</b></p> <p>The contents of the report be noted.</p>
1165	Estyn monitoring visit feedback (March 2015)	<p><b>Resolved that:</b></p> <p>This item be deferred.</p>
1166	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"> <li>• Chief Executive's Aspirations</li> <li>• Performance across Wales 2010 to 2013</li> <li>• Where we were – March 2013</li> <li>• Baseline</li> <li>• What we did – March 2014</li> <li>• Progress, Impact, External Regulators and Lessons Learnt from Process</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Where we are now – March 2015</li> <li>• Progress, Impact, External Regulators and Lessons Learnt</li> <li>• Where we want to be – March 2016</li> <li>• Progress and Impact</li> </ul> <p>Questions were then raised by the Committee in relation to the Presentation and were answered in detail by Richard Parry.</p> <p>The Chair then thanked Richard Parry for the update to the Committee.</p> <p>Councillor B E Mansbridge left the Meeting at 5.00 pm.</p>
1167	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><b>Resolved that:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Progress during 2014/15 in terms of the quality and effectiveness of the Scrutiny and Audit processes be noted</li> <li>(b) The recommendations identified in Appendix 1 of the report be agreed and implemented</li> <li>(c) The key areas for improvement in Appendix 3 of the report be agreed and followed up</li> </ul>
1168	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><b>Resolved that:</b></p> <p>The report be noted.</p>
1169	Preparation of Scrutiny Work Programme for 2015/16	<p>The Chair referred to the Preparation of Scrutiny Work Programme – 2015/16 report.</p> <p><b>Resolved that:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) The contents of the report be noted</li> <li>(b) 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</li> <li>(c) This Task and Finish Group comprise Councillor W R Smith, Councillor D Davies and Councillor T C Lewis</li> </ul>
1170	Scrutiny Referrals, Feedback and Follow up Actions	<p>The Chair updated the Committee in relation to this item.</p>
1171	Meeting commencement time	<p>The Committee agreed that in future Pre-Meetings be held prior to the commencement of the Committee Meeting and</p>

		that the Committee start time be amended to 3.00 pm.
1172	Reflection and Evaluation of Meeting	The Chair and the Committee reflected on the issues that had been considered at the Meeting.
1173	Forward Work Programme	The Committee considered and agreed the Forward Work Programme.
1174	Any other business deemed urgent by the Chair	The Chair advised that there was no business deemed urgent.