



MERTHYR TYDFIL
County Borough Council
Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol
MERTHYR TUDFUL

MINUTES OF MEETING

SCRUTINY : **NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES** **AND PUBLIC PROTECTION** **MEETING**

MONDAY, 22ND JUNE, 2015

PRESENT: Councillor D Roberts (In the Chair)

Councillors H Barrett, S Slater, J McCarthy and W R Smith

Cooptees:

Robert Holdaway

Officers:

Cherylee Evans (Chief Officer (Neighbourhood Services)),
Steve Peters (Head of Public Protection) and Julian Pike
(Housing and Community Safety Manager)

Howard Jones (Scrutiny Officer) and Matthew Phillips
(Democratic Services Officer)

ITEM NO.	AGENDA MATTER	DECISION
100	Apologies for absence	Apologies for absence received from Councillor L Smart.
101	Declarations of Interest (including whipping declarations)	No declarations of interest were made.
102	Energy Efficiency Awareness Raising -	Councillor David Jones introduced the Energy Efficiency report to the committee before introducing Paul Manley who

		<p>provided a presentation in relation to Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council Carbon Management Review. He explained in detail the Carbon Management status report, Quantitative data analysis, recommendations and the barriers to progress.</p> <p>Officers provided advice and background information in relation to the following questions from the committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Merthyr leisure centre energy efficiency levels • How will the new Energy Officer post be funded and what is the timescale for putting a person in post • How often can the committee receive progress updates • What typical behavioural and attitude changes are needed in the Authority • Does the Authority provide portable appliances for staff • Due to the lack of an Energy Policy and Carbon Management Plan are the Authority going to wait until the start of the next financial year to start implementing the changes needed • The possibility of siting of solar panels on authority buildings such as schools • When will a priorities list be available for Scrutiny to challenge <p>The Chair thanked Paul Manley for attending the meeting and providing such an informative presentation.</p>
103	Corporate Plan Performance Report - Quarter 4 (Year End Update)	<p>The Chair welcomed Ewan McWilliams who provided the committee with a presentation on the Corporate Plan Performance Report Quarter 4 (Year End Update) in which he gave an overview of the judgements that have been reported.</p> <p>Officers provided advice and background information in relation to the following questions from the committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What reasons were given by the Primary schools for not sending children for the National Curriculum swimming lessons, and can these schools be identified • Why is the authority charging charity groups that are cleaning highways and land to dispose of the rubbish collected • Are the issues we currently have with weeds

		<p>included in the outcomes related to street and highway cleanliness</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where are we as an authority in relation to highway weed spraying <p>Resolved that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The update on progress against delivery of the Corporate Plan and Outcome Agreement be noted. • Scrutiny members follow up the respective Heads of Service performance issues, especially in relation to delivery of the Outcome Agreement.
104	Crime and Disorder Committee Awareness Raising	<p>The Chair welcomed Julian Pike to the Committee to provide a presentation on Community Safety within Merthyr Tydfil. Prior to the presentation the previous portfolio member Councillor Chris Barry provided a brief explanation of the portfolio change and the risks and challenges involved in providing community safety within the Borough.</p> <p>Officers provided advice and background information in relation to the following questions from the committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing of offenders in the local community, is it possible for Councillors to be made aware of this if and when it is happening • Does the local authority have the ability to check call logs in relation to calls to 101 and 999 for antisocial behaviour • Is there anything that can be done in relation to the number of stores being given alcohol licences by our Licensing Committee in light of the alcohol issues we are blighted with locally • Substance misuse – Who is responsible for the Needle exchange, is it a free for all or an exchange as there is a huge issue in certain areas of drug paraphernalia being dumped • Can the Licensing Committee look at the laws in relation to saturation of licenced premises • Would ‘trolling’ be covered in Community Cohesion • Due to the lack of funding would it be possible to get all the community groups working together, and how can we re-assure the public that support is out there • When will the questions on the what next slide be

		<p>answered</p> <p>The Chair thanked Julian Pike for the very informative presentation to the committee and informed him that the Committee would like an update at the next meeting on 27 July in relation to the needle exchange programmes and the risks, challenges and what next as highlighted in the presentation.</p>
105	Scrutiny Referrals, Feedback and Follow up Actions	<p>The Chair advised that there was no update in relation to the Scrutiny and Audit Chairs Liaison Group and no referrals have been received.</p> <p>The Chair advised that he attended a service challenge meeting on Friday 15 May in relation to public protection covering community safety and housing and provided the committee with an update.</p>
106	Reflection and Evaluation of Meeting	The Chair and Committee reflected on the issues that had been considered at the Meeting.
107	Forward Work Programme	The committee agreed additions and deletions which are to be updated by the Scrutiny Manager for the next meeting.
108	Any other business deemed urgent by the Chair	The Chair advised that there was no business deemed urgent.