



MERTHYR TYDFIL
County Borough Council
Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol
MERTHYR TUDFUL

MINUTES OF MEETING

SCRUTINY : LEARNING AND LAESCYP MEETING

MONDAY, 7TH SEPTEMBER, 2015

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

Councillors S Williams, M Davies, G Lewis, K Moran and C Tovey

Councillor P Williams and Councillor H R Jones – Cabinet Members

Cooptees:

Alan Rees

Officers:

Dorothy Haines (Chief Officer (Learning) - Chief Education Officer), Jo Colsey (Head of School Improvement) and Anthony Lewis (Head of School Planning and Improvement)

Outside Bodies:

Councillor Chris Elmore Chair Joint Committee Central South Consortium

Hannah Woodhouse Managing Director Central South Consortium

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

ITEM NO.	AGENDA MATTER	DECISION
322	Apologies for absence	Apologies for absence were received from Councillor S Slater and Mrs M Harris Co-opted Member.

323	Declarations of Interest (including whipping declarations)	<p>Councillor K Moran Declared her Interest in Item Five – School Budgets as she is a Governor at Afon Taf High School.</p> <p>Councillor S Williams Declared his Interest in Item Five – School Budgets as he is a Governor at Pant Primary School.</p> <p>The Chair advised that all Members who were School Governors had received Dispensation.</p>
-----	--	---

Agenda

The Chair advised that Item Five would be considered first and that Items Three and Four would be considered together.

324	Central South Consortium - to meet with the Managing Director and Chair of the Joint Committee	<p>The Chair welcomed Hannah Woodhouse Managing Director Central South Consortium, Councillor Chris Elmore Chair of the Joint Committee Central South Consortium, Councillor H R Jones and Councillor P Williams to the Meeting.</p> <p>Hannah Woodhouse referred the Committee to the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Central South Consortium Report • Discussion Paper • Central South Wales Challenge Brochure • Central South Consortium Business Plan 2015/16 <p>Councillor Elmore then gave details of the Model that was followed by the Consortium and referred to Accountability and Quality Assurance.</p> <p>The Committee then raised the following questions on the Presentation and were responded to in detail by Hannah Woodhouse, Councillor Elmore and Dorothy Haines:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awareness of the role of the Consortium • Three Year Business Plan • Digital Learning Process • Schools from where the Challenge Advisors came from. • Human Resources and Governor Support across the area • Service Level Agreements • Relationship with the Schools in the County Borough • Value for Money • Ideas – Boys, Free School Meals • Practices and Procedures being put in place across the Consortium <p>The Chair then thanked Councillor Elmore and Hannah Woodhouse for the Presentation and for attending the</p>
-----	--	---

		<p>Meeting.</p> <p>Mr A Rees left the Meeting at 5.25 pm.</p>
325	Central South Consortium Report	This report was considered as part of Item Three.
326	School Budgets - An update	<p>The Chair welcomed Anthony Lewis to the Meeting.</p> <p>Anthony Lewis referred to the School Budget Report and led the Committee in detail through the report.</p> <p>The Committee then raised the following questions on the report and were responded to in detail by the Cabinet Member and the Officers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The number of Schools • Chair of Governors / Chair of Finance • Surplus / Deficit Cyfarthfa High School • Financial position Afon Taf High School • Annual School Budget Allocation – Utility Costs – Monitoring of Costs • Sanctions that can be applied • Accuracy of Financial information being given to Schools • School Formulas <p>The Chair also advised that when the Audit review had been completed in relation to Afon Taf High School that after consideration by the Audit Committee that the review also be brought to this Committee.</p> <p>The Chair then thanked Anthony Lewis for attending the Meeting.</p>
327	Scrutiny Referrals, Feedback and Follow up Actions	The Chair advised that there was no update in relation to this item.
328	Reflection and Evaluation of Meeting	The Chair and Committee reflected in detail on the issues that had been discussed at the Meeting.
329	Forward Work Programme	The Committee considered and agreed the Forward Work Programme.
330	Any other business deemed urgent by the Chair	The Chair advised that there was no business deemed urgent.