



MERTHYR TYDFIL
County Borough Council
Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol
MERTHYR TUDFUL

MINUTES OF MEETING

SCRUTINY : REGENERATION, PLANNING AND COUNTRYSIDE MEETING

TUESDAY, 15TH DECEMBER, 2015

PRESENT: Councillor G Jones (In the Chair)

Councillors H Barrett, S P Brown, K Moran and M O'Neill

Officers:

Judith Jones (Head of Planning) and Justin Waite (Planning Policy Officer)

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

| ITEM NO. | AGENDA MATTER | DECISION |
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| 825 | Apologies for Absence | Apologies for absence were received from Councillor E C Galsworthy and Councillor P Williams Deputy Leader. |
| 826 | Declarations of Interest (including whipping declarations) | No Declarations of Interest were made. |
| 827 | The Merthyr Tydfil Local Development Plan 2006-2021 and Associated Annual Monitoring Report | The Chair welcomed Judith Jones and Justin Waite to the Meeting. Justine Waite referred to the 'Merthyr Tydfil Local Development Plan 2006-2021 and Associated Annual Monitoring Report' and led the Members through the report in detail. |

The following questions were then raised by the Committee and were responded to in detail by the Officers:

- Paragraph 4.2.3 of the report – Are you able to measure the effect of the Local Development Plan in reducing the levels of out migration in the County Borough
- Is it the same for net in migration and what is the role of Planning to bring people in to the County Borough
- In relation to National Statistics is the National Consensus of any help
- With reference to the expense and costs of producing the Local Development Plan could costs be reduced
- Could training be given to Councillors to enable contribution on certain points within their areas together with getting the community involved as Councillors were asked to contribute
- What are the processes involved in relation to community engagement and what was the level of feedback that was received
- Paragraph 4.4.7 of the report – Was there any feedback , is it an independent examination, is it a one off examination when the plan is produced or is it a regular occurrence and how often does it take place
- Paragraphs 4.5.1 and 4.5.2 of the report – New employment floor space built in the primary growth area and number of new homes built in the primary growth area – will these figures be revised
- Will there be a new Plan or what was originally decided
- Have targets been missed and will not achieving the targets have any effect on the Councils vision
- Will the Plan be put before Council and how will the Council review its vision
- With regard to preparing a revised Local Development Plan what are the costs
- Paragraph 4.6.2 of the report – Land in the ownership of the Council – How will the vision be fulfilled
- Paragraphs 4.12.4 and 4.12.5 of the report reference is made to Local Government

reorganisation and joint Local Development Plans as means of reducing the cost of Local Development Plan preparation –If there is an amalgamation what impact would this have on the revision of the Local Development Plan – Would there be an impact on enhanced growth strategy – Are any other Local Authorities in Wales working together in respect of joint Local Development Plans

- What effect could there be on Policy if there is an amalgamation
- If there is an amalgamation of Council's would a new Local Development Plan have to be developed
- With regard to up-skilling of staff in order to undertake more work in house as a way of reducing the cost of Local Development Plan preparation is there capacity and capability in the Department
- Is there money available for training
- In terms of day to day duties required for Planning Applications does working on the Local Development Plan impinge on the amount of time available to spend on Applications
- What is the length of time taken between receipt of an Application and the Decision on Planning Applications
- Can the figure be given for the money generated by the Department and what is the income target
- How much has been received from Community Infrastructure Levy receipts
- Has consideration been made in the Local Development Plan in relation to the duelling of the A465
- With regard to the Annual Monitoring Report how does the Welsh Government respond to the Annual report
- Can any response received from Welsh Government be included in the Committee Work Programme
- A Member stated that it would be helpful for all Councillors to receive a copy of the Annual Monitoring Report
- Does the Local Development Plan take into account the priorities as set out in the Single Integrated Plan
- Can an explanation be given of what happens

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| | | <p>between now and 2021 – Is the Local Development Plan reviewed and how is it reported</p> <p>The Chair then thanked Judith Jones and Justin Waite for attending and the update to the Committee.</p> |
| 828 | Scrutiny Referrals, Feedback and Follow Up Actions | <p>The Chair advised that he had raised the following issues at the last Governance, Performance, Business Change and Corporate Services Committee Meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing Department links with the COT Team • Lack of Internal Audit on the Housing Department |
| 829 | Reflection and Evaluation of Meeting | The Chair and the Committee reflected in detail on the issues that had been raised and discussed at the Meeting. |
| 830 | Work Programme | The Committee considered and agreed the Forward Work Programme. |
| 831 | Any Other Business deemed urgent by the Chair | The Chair advised that there were no items deemed urgent. |