



MERTHYR TYDFIL  
County Borough Council  
Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol  
MERTHYR TUDFUL

## MINUTES OF MEETING

# **SCRUTINY : JOINT SCRUTINY** **COMMITTEE MEETING** **JOINT MEETING WITH AUDIT** **COMMITTEE**

**WEDNESDAY, 24TH FEBRUARY, 2016**

**PRESENT:** Councillor D Isaac (**In the Chair**)

Councillors H Barrett, R Braithwaite, S P Brown, B Carter, M Davies, A Jones, G Jones, G Lewis, B E Mansbridge, J McCarthy, K Moran, L Mytton, M O'Neill, D Roberts, S Slater, L E Smart, W R Smith, Raymond Thomas, Richard Thomas, C Tovey, C T Jones and T Chaplin

Councillors B Toomey, C Barry, D Jones, H R Jones and L Matthews – Cabinet Members

**Cooptees:**

Claire Brown, Alison Harris, Rosemary Lazell, Howard Jackson, Merryl Kay Jones, Anne Lillian Morgan and David Gibby

**Officers:**

Gareth Chapman (Chief Executive), Ellis Cooper (Corporate Director (Place and Transformation) - Deputy Chief Executive), Steve Jones (Head of Finance - Chief Finance Officer), Carys Kennedy (Head of Legal and Governance Services - Monitoring Officer), Mark Anderton (Head of Adult Services) and Gary Evans (Audit Manager)

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

ITEM NO.	AGENDA MATTER	DECISION
1076	Apologies for Absence	Apologies for absence were received from Councillor T C Lewis, Councillor P Williams, Councillor S Williams and Mr R Holdaway, Mr B Lewis and Mrs N Mahoney Co-opted Members.
1077	Declarations of Interest (including whipping declarations)	No Declarations of Interest were made.
1078	Budget Requirement 2016/17 to 2019/20 - Update	<p>Steve Jones referred to the 'Budget Requirement 2016/17 to 2019/20 – Update' report and made a Presentation to the Committee giving details on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduction and Objectives</li> <li>• Revisions to the Medium Term Financial Plan</li> <li>• Medium Term Financial Plan 2016/17 – 2019/20</li> <li>• Revised MTFP 2016/17 – 2019/20</li> <li>• Updated Provisional Settlement 2016/17</li> <li>• Welsh Local Government Settlement 2016-17</li> <li>• Updated MTFP 2016/17 – 2019/20</li> <li>• Recommendations – Cabinet 24 February 2016</li> <li>• Council Budget Strategy</li> <li>• Estimated Budget Reductions 2016/17</li> <li>• Customer Offering</li> <li>• Back Office Administrative Support / Strategic Support Services</li> <li>• Procurement</li> <li>• Income and Service Cost Recovery</li> <li>• Outcome Focused Redesign</li> <li>• Flexible Use of Capital Receipts</li> <li>• Delivery of the Change Management Programme for 2016/17</li> </ul> <p>Councillor G Lewis entered the Meeting at 3.37 pm and Councillor P Brown entered the Meeting at 3.42 pm.</p> <p>The following questions were then raised by the Committee and were responded to by the Leader and the Officers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Paragraph 5.4.3 of the report – Channel Shift – Could an explanation be given in relation to automation in the Contact Centre and the Interactive Voice Response</li> <li>• Could clarification be given regarding the Strategic Partner and the costs to the Authority</li> <li>• Paragraph 6.4 of the report – Fixed Asset Sales – An elaboration of future Sales was requested</li> <li>• Channel Shift – How much monetary investment is required</li> <li>• Joint Department Working – How confident are the Officers that the Departments that have come together are successful</li> <li>• Is there outsourcing to other Councils</li> <li>• Finance Generation – How soon can this be seen in</li> </ul>

		<p>the business plans and what is the target in terms of potential income</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Joint Procurement</li> <li>• Frequency of Joint Audit/Joint Scrutiny Committee Meetings</li> <li>• Paragraph 1.3 of the report – Explanation of the wording requested</li> </ul> <p><b>Resolved that:</b></p> <p>(a) The revised budget deficits of £4.079 million for 2016/17 and £20.302 million for 2016/17 to 2019/20 be noted</p> <p>(b) The ongoing progress with the change management work streams in addressing the projected budget deficit of £4.079 million for 2016/17 be considered and noted</p> <p>(c) The Minister for Public Services’ Direction in respect of flexibility in respect of utilisation of Capital Receipts be noted</p>
1079	Any Other Business deemed urgent by the Chair	The Chair advised that there was no business deemed urgent.