



MERTHYR TYDFIL  
County Borough Council  
Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol  
MERTHYR TUDFUL

## MINUTES OF MEETING

# **SCRUTINY : GOVERNANCE,** **PERFORMANCE, BUSINESS** **CHANGE AND CORPORATE** **SERVICES MEETING**

**TUESDAY, 1ST MARCH, 2016**

**PRESENT:** Councillor T Lewis (**In the Chair**)

Councillors D Isaac, G Jones, L Mytton, D Roberts, W R Smith  
and S Williams

Councillor P Williams – Cabinet Member

**Cooptees:**

Alison Harris, Anne Morgan and Tanya Skinner

**Officers:**

Gareth Chapman (Chief Executive), Ellis Cooper (Corporate  
Director (Place and Transformation) - Deputy Chief Executive),  
Lorraine Buck (Corporate Director (People and Performance) -  
Lead Director for Children and Young People) and Suzanne  
Davies (Service Manager Planning and Commissioning)

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

ITEM NO.	AGENDA MATTER	DECISION
1116	Apologies for Absence	Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Richard Thomas.

1117	Declarations of Interest (including whipping declarations)	No Declarations of Interest were made.
1118	Performance and Challenge against "Strategies on a Page"	<p>The Chair welcomed Councillor P Williams, Gareth Chapman, Ellis Cooper and Lorraine Buck to the Meeting.</p> <p>Councillor P Williams referred the Committee to the 'Performance and Challenge against 'Strategies on a Page'' report together with the appendices.</p> <p>The Chief Executive then referred to the seven key priorities in the Single Integrated Plan and the Corporate Plan and the four themes of Raising Standards, Improving Wellbeing, Economic Growth and Sustainable Development.</p> <p>The following questions were then raised by the Committee and were responded to in detail by Councillor P Williams and the Officers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is the funding in relation to the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act – Is there extra funding available</li> <li>• Paragraph 3.2 of the report – Details requested on the priorities and are the areas cross threaded – The importance of seeing the strategic picture and how the priorities are working across the Authority as well</li> </ul> <p>Councillor P Williams then referred to the former Chairs Group and suggested that this Group could meet informally to discuss the four themes.</p> <p>A Member stated that he would welcome this.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The seven key priorities – What is the time line for the new Corporate Plan – Will the key themes be continued – Has each theme been drilled down and how far have the Officers gone – What are the training and upskilling needs.</li> </ul> <p>Councillor L Mytton left the Meeting at 4.55 pm.</p> <p>The Chair then thanked the Officers for attending and the responses to the Committee.</p>
1119	Transition from Local Service Board to Public Services Board	<p>The Chair welcomed Suzanne Davies to the Meeting.</p> <p>Councillor P Williams led the Committee through 'The Transition from Local Service Board to Public Services Board' report.</p> <p>Councillor Williams also advised that there was scope for the Committee or Full Council to have a Workshop on this matter.</p> <p>The following questions were then raised by the Committee and were responded to in detail by Councillor Williams and</p>

		<p>the Officers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clarification was sought regarding the demise of the Local Service Board and the work being undertaken towards solving issues would these be carried on to the Public Service Board</li> <li>• A lot of Meeting would be convened to discuss the same topics – Would there be joint Meetings to find out what was going on overall</li> </ul> <p>Councillor P Williams referred to Paragraph 4.7 of the report and stated that Officers could look at a Regional Collaboration Board.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Was there sufficient time to get it all set up</li> </ul> <p>Councillor Williams then suggested that a Presentation could be made to Full Council on this matter.</p> <p><b>Resolved that:</b></p> <p>Scrutiny Committee Members consider and acknowledge:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Statutory requirements placed on Public Service Boards and its members under the new Act</li> <li>• The progress to date in relation to preparing for transition from Local Service Boards to Public Service Boards</li> <li>• The Regional approach being adopted in moving to a Cwm Taf Public Service Board from April 2016</li> </ul> <p>The Chair then thanked Councillor Williams and the Officers for attending and the update to the Committee.</p>
1120	Scrutiny Referrals, Feedback and Follow up Actions	<p>The Committee were advised that the following matters had been referred to the Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The report on ‘Child Sexual Exploitation – Rotherham MBC that had been considered at the Regeneration, Planning and Countryside Scrutiny Committee together with the ‘Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council Safeguarding Review Improvement Action Plan’.</li> </ul> <p>The Committee agreed that this issue go forward as part of the Work Programme.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Referral from the Neighbourhood Services and Public Protection Scrutiny Committee in relation to the attendance of Schools at a Carbon Management Seminar that had been held in February.</li> </ul> <p>The Committee agreed that this matter be referred to the Learning and LAESCYP Scrutiny Committee to be considered as part of the Committees Work Programme.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DFG’s and the COT’s Team and the lack of an</li> </ul>

		<p style="text-align: center;">Audit of Grants.</p> <p>The Committee agreed that the response following on from the Social Services Committee be forwarded to the Regeneration, Planning and Countryside Scrutiny Committee for its consideration</p>
1121	Reflection and Evaluation of Meeting	The Chair and the Committee reflected on the issues discussed in the Meeting.
1122	Forward Work Programme	The Chair referred the Committee to the 'Scrutiny Committee Work Programme' report and after consideration by the Committee the Work Programme was agreed.
1123	Any other business deemed urgent by the Chair	The Chair advised that there was no business deemed urgent.