



Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol
MERTHYR TUDFUL
MERTHYR TYDFIL
County Borough Council

MINUTES OF MEETING

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

TUESDAY, 8TH NOVEMBER, 2016

PRESENT: Councillor T Lewis (In the Chair)

Councillors D Isaac, B Carter, L Mytton, D Roberts, W R Smith,
S Williams and Richard Thomas

Councillor P Williams - Cabinet

Officers:

Ewan McWilliams (Corporate Performance Manager), Alexandra
Beckham (Child Protection) and Andrew Mogford (Strategic
Business Analyst)

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

ITEM NO.	AGENDA MATTER	DECISION
488	Apologies for Absence	Apologies for absence were received from Councillor G Jones and Tanya Skinner Co-opted Member.
489	Declarations of Interest (including whipping declarations)	No Declarations of Interest were made.

490	Child Exploitation Safeguarding Plan Sexual (CSE) Action	<p>The Chair welcomed Alex Beckham to the Meeting.</p> <p>The Committee were referred to the 'Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) Safeguarding Action Plan' report.</p> <p>A Member advised that this report had also been considered by the Social Services Scrutiny Committee where there had been considerable debate.</p> <p>Councillor L Mytton entered the Meeting at 4.37 pm.</p> <p>The following questions were then raised on the report and were responded to by the Officers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action Plan – Paragraph 2.3 – How do we know that there is an effective transition process in place – Who says that it is effective – How do we know people are not falling through the net • Paragraph 4.1 –Who sits on the Corporate Safeguarding Reference Group and who do they report to – Is there anyone from the Drug and Alcohol abuse team on the Panel • How confident are the Officers that self-assessment is working properly <p>Resolved that:</p> <p>The Scrutiny comments on the recommendations that are outstanding and ongoing actions are remitted to Corporate Safeguarding Reference Group in order for effective monitoring and reporting to Scrutiny in a regular basis.</p>
491	Performance Report - Business Change	<p>The Chair welcomed Andrew Mogford to the Meeting.</p> <p>Andrew Mogford led the Committee through the 'Performance Report: Organisational Support – Business Change Strategy'.</p> <p>The following questions were raised by the Committee and were responded to in detail by Councillor P Williams and the Officers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are PriceWaterhouseCoopers still involved in Business Change • Are we satisfied that we had value for money from the engagement with PriceWaterhouseCoopers • Will the Councillors have sight of comparison figures that showed value for money <p>Councillor P Williams advised that he would come back to the Committee on this matter</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paragraph 6.1 – Business Change Strategy – How robust is the judgement and who has challenged on the judgement • Corporate Strategies – Who else challenges – How often are they updated – When will Scrutiny have an update of Strategies on a page • Paragraph 3.3 – Business Change – Is there a live

		<p>action plan that reflects what is going on across the Authority at any given time – If yes is Scrutiny able to access this</p> <p>Andrew Mogford advised that he would come back to the Committee on this matter.</p> <p>Resolved that:</p> <p>The judgements and evaluations be noted.</p>
492	<p>Performance Report (Corporate Plan) Preparation for the Wellbeing Duty, Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015</p>	<p>The Chair welcomed Ewan McWilliams to the Meeting.</p> <p>Ewan McWilliams referred the Committee to the 'Performance Report – Corporate Plan – Preparation for the Wellbeing Duty, Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015'.</p> <p>Councillor P Williams also referred to the Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.</p> <p>The following questions were then raised by the Committee and were responded to by Councillor P Williams and the Officers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How do the Officers perceive the levels of consultation being undertaken • What mechanisms are in place • Difficulties for Officers and Councillors • How to get face to face contact • The practicality of the Act • What training will be provided • How effective is the Cwm Taf Hub – Do we have any feedback – Is there a cost • What is the cost to engage with everyone – Is it sustainable – Who will be undertaking the core work <p>Resolved that:</p> <p>The preparation for the Wellbeing Duty be noted.</p>
493	<p>Task and Finish Group Update - Use of External Debt Recovery Companies</p>	<p>The Chair referred the Committee to the 'Use of External Debt Recovery Companies' report together with a leaflet that had been produced by the Authority giving advice in relation to paying Council Tax.</p> <p>Resolved that:</p> <p>(a) The content of the report be noted (b) A copy of the report be provided to the Portfolio Member for Governance and Corporate Services and to the Chief Executive for information</p>
494	<p>Scrutiny Referrals, Feedback and Follow up Actions</p>	<p>There was no update on this item.</p>

495	Reflection and Evaluation of Meeting	The Chair and the Committee reflected on the issues that had been discussed at the Meeting.
496	Scrutiny Work Programme 2016-17	The Committee considered and agreed the Committee Work Programme.
497	Any other business deemed urgent by the Chair	The Chair advised that there was no business deemed urgent.