



Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol
MERTHYR TUDFUL
MERTHYR TYDFIL
County Borough Council

MINUTES OF MEETING

SCRUTINY : **NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES** **AND PUBLIC PROTECTION** **MEETING**

MONDAY, 30TH JANUARY, 2017

PRESENT: Councillor D Roberts (In the Chair)

Councillors J McCarthy, S Slater, W R Smith and
Raymond Thomas

Cooptees:
(none)

Officers:
Cherylee Evans (Chief Officer (Neighbourhood Services)),
Steve Peters (Head of Public Protection and Housing), Lisa
Emerson (Asset Management Principal Officer), Paul Davies
(Waste Management), Paul Jones (Environmental Cleansing
and Enforcement Manager), Jemma Rough (Environmental
Health Officer) and Sian Lyons (Performance and Risk Support
Officer)

Howard Jones (Scrutiny Officer), Michelle Hemmings
(Democratic Services Officer) and Karen Vokes (Democratic
Services Officer)

ITEM NO.	AGENDA MATTER	DECISION
769	Apologies for absence	Apologies for absence received from Councillor Howard Barrett and Robert Holdaway (Co-optee).

770	Declarations of Interest (including whipping declarations)	No declarations of interest were made.
771	Performance Report – Corporate Plan Priority Area 7 - A Sustainable Environment	<p>Sian Lyons gave a brief introduction and advised that any questions regarding this report would be answered by the appropriate officers.</p> <p>Cherylee Evans took the Committee through the report in relation to the Corporate Plan Priority Area 7 – A Sustainable Environment and in particular referred to Section 4.0 Where We Were and Section 6.0 Where We Are Now and advised this clearly shows the scale of improvement made within waste management particularly within recycling.</p> <p>The following questions were then raised by the Committee and were responded to in detail by the Officers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why are the litter bins at Penywern Pond not emptied. • Why are two different departments picking up rubbish. • Flytipping cleared within five working days, is this just on Council land. • Can signs be put up advising 'Not Council Land' and specified in future Council reports. • Is 5% of municipal waste sent to landfill by March 2018 a realistic figure. • How is 100% of flytipping incidents cleared within five working days going to be maintained. • Are you proactive in looking for fly-tipping, or are you reliant on members of the public reporting cases. • Clarification on cleaning A470, A465 and hotspot areas. • Do we have funding for extra cameras. • How many times does an area need to be cleaned to become a hotspot. • How many hotspots do we have. • How many cameras do we have and do they need to be covert. • Can signs be put up warning of cameras. <p>RESOLVED that:</p> <p>The judgements and evaluations be noted.</p> <p>FURTHER RESOLVED that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • List of hotspots identified within the County Borough to be circulated to Members of the Committee. • Potential funding be considered for additional cameras to cover hotspots. • Consideration of a business case for additional signage.

772	Performance Report – Community Safety	<p>Steve Peters took the Committee through the Report and gave an update, particular reference was made to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The requirement that by March 2017 50%, and March 2018 100%, of public bodies (including Local Government staff) are aware of the Violence against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (Wales) Act 2015 and the requirement to undertake the training framework. Training is available via the NHS Portal. • At 5.0 date of 30 September 2016 is an error. The correct date is 31 December 2016. <p>Steve Peters provided advice and guidance to the following questions from the Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are there adequate resources to comply with the timescales of the Act. • How many times has the drug litter and the multi agency meeting been cancelled. • What can we do to ensure these meetings take place. • Do other agencies feed their complaints into this multi agency meeting. • Who do we contact to request an update on the strategic priorities that fall within the remit of the Community Safety Partnership (CSP) in Cwm Taf. <p>RESOLVED that:</p> <p>The judgements and evaluations be noted.</p> <p>FURTHER RESOLVED that:</p> <p>A letter be sent to Peter Vaughan outlining the importance of Police attendance and continuity of officers at the multi agency meetings.</p>
773	Performance Report – Public Protection Service	<p>Steve Peters took the Committee through the report in detail. Particular reference was made to 6.8 which had resulted in a £360 fine and £280 costs being awarded. This decision was well received by taxi drivers.</p> <p>Councillor Bill Smith praised the Trading Standards Department for the quarterly report that they produce.</p> <p>The following questions were raised by the Committee and responded to by Steve Peters.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How often are taxi licence checks carried out. • How do we address the issue of speeding taxis. • Due to limited budgets/manpower are people getting away with things. • Is information/intelligence passed onto others partners such as the Police. • How many businesses with zero rating have been closed down.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is the average amount of time between trading starting and inspection. • Are timescales putting the public at risk. • Where are we with Rent Smart Wales. <p>RESOLVED that:</p> <p>The judgements and evaluations be noted.</p> <p>FURTHER RESOLVED that:</p> <p>As there was justification to employ a temporary environmental health officer, put forward a business case to employ a person on a permanent basis.</p>
774	Performance Report – Corporate Property and Estates	<p>The Chair welcomed Lisa Emerson and Paul Manley to the meeting.</p> <p>Cherylee Evans took Committee through the report and made particular reference to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Energy Management and the significant issues facing the authority. <p>The following questions were raised by the Committee and answered in detail by the officers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In line with UK Government policy, where are we with selling land within the area. • What are the main issues with energy management and how are they being resolved. • Is there a problem with the regeneration department not working in partnership. • Does British Gas have to be our provider and, if not, is there a plan to move suppliers. <p>RESOLVED that:</p> <p>The judgements and evaluations be noted.</p>
775	Scrutiny Referrals, Feedback and Follow up Actions	<p>The Chair advised that at the last meeting a referral was made to the Learning and LAESCYP Scrutiny Committee regarding the Kerbcraft Scheme. Dorothy Haines has provided the following response:-</p> <p>Schools are informed by the Road Safety Officer and the Education Department of support available for road safety. Schools experiencing difficulty are contacted directly and advised to put the appropriate programmes in place. It is not within the remit of the Education Department to enforce the extension of the scheme, as schools choose if this programme meets their needs.</p> <p>Advice to the Road Safety Officer is to contact schools offering a meeting to discuss the programme, identify barriers and make changes for more schools to access the programme.</p> <p>Therefore, following the referral action has been taken.</p>

776	Reflection and Evaluation of Meeting	The Chair and the Committee reflected in detail on the issues that had been considered at the meeting.
777	Scrutiny Work Programme	<p>The Chair went through the report.</p> <p>RESOLVED that:</p> <p>Committee Members are happy with the content of the report.</p>
778	Any other business deemed urgent by the Chair	The Chair advised that there was no business deemed urgent.