



Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol
MERTHYR TUDFUL
MERTHYR TYDFIL
County Borough Council

MINUTES OF MEETING

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

TUESDAY, 31ST JANUARY, 2017

PRESENT: Councillor T Lewis (In the Chair)

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

Councillor H R Jones – Cabinet Member

Cooptees:

Anne Morgan and Tanya Skinner

Officers:

Mark Thomas (Head of Corporate Services), Suzanne Davies
(LSB and Partnerships Manager), Ewan McWilliams (Corporate
Performance Manager) and Dorothy Haines (Chief Officer
(Learning) - Chief Education Officer)

Outside Bodies:

Nicola Davies Cwm Taf University Health Board

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

ITEM NO.	AGENDA MATTER	DECISION
779	Apologies for Absence	Apologies for absence were received from Councillor G Jones and Councillor P Williams Cabinet Member.

780	Declarations of Interest (including whipping declarations)	No Declarations of Interest were made.
781	Public Services Board Scrutiny Committee	<p>Resolved that:</p> <p>The Draft Terms of Reference be accepted.</p>
782	Understanding our Communities: Draft Cwm Taf Wellbeing and Population Needs Assessments	<p>The Chair welcomed Nicola Davies Cwm Taf University Health Board, Mark Thomas, Suzanne Davies and Ewan McWilliams to the Meeting.</p> <p>Mark Thomas referred the Committee to the 'Understanding our Communities: Draft Cwm Taf Wellbeing and Population Needs Assessments' report and advised that comments on the Assessment had to be submitted by 7 February 2017.</p> <p>A Member then referred to the size of the document and the timescale for submitting comments and in response Mark Thomas and Nicola Davies gave details of the timescales in relation to the Wellbeing and Population Needs assessments.</p> <p>The Chair then recommended that a Task and Finish Group be convened to consider the assessments prior to the 7 February 2017.</p> <p>Nicola Davies then referred in detail to Appendix 1 – Understanding our Communities and together with Mark Thomas and Suzanne Davies responded in detail to the following questions raised by the Panel:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultation and Engagement – What plans are there for the public to get engaged • How have the Councillors been involved in the engagement process so far • How far has the Health Board worked with other Health Boards in relation to the Wellbeing assessment • Problems faced in Merthyr Tydfil and Wales by budget cuts – How can paying private Companies be justified to facilitate this type of work – Is there value for money <p>A Member then referred to Paragraph 2.1 - Recommendations and recommended that recommendation 2.2 and 2.3 be not accepted.</p> <p>Resolved that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) The issues set out in Appendix 1 be noted (b) That a Task and Finish Group be convened to consider the assessments and to submit comments prior to the 7 February 2017 and that this Group comprise the same Members as the Cwm Taf Public Service Board Joint Overview Scrutiny Committee namely Councillor H Barrett, Councillor D Isaac, Councillor T Lewis, Councillor D Roberts and Councillor W R Smith and that a deputy be

		nominated for Councillor H Barret due to his current absence.
783	Estyn Inspection Follow Up and LEA Preparedness	<p>The Chair welcomed Councillor H R Jones Cabinet Member and Dorothy Haines to the Meeting.</p> <p>Dorothy Haines then referred the Committee to the 'Estyn Inspection Follow Up and LEA Preparedness' report and responded in detail to the following questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paragraph 7.2 of the report – Discussion with Heads on Strategies • Appendix 3 – Judgements and Targets – How realistic are adequate to good – Will the targets be met • Attendance – Comparison with other Local Authorities • Whilst in special measures the LEA, Schools, Central South Consortium, Politicians etc all worked together to ensure that outcomes improved – Now that the Authority is out of special measures can assurances be given that the Authority has not taken its foot off the pedal • Are Learners given the opportunity to get involved in the self-evaluation process • Attendance figures at the end of term • Partnership working – The need to engage with third sector organisations • Unauthorised absences – Children of Service Personnel and Public Service employees <p>Councillor L Mytton left the Meeting at 5.30 pm.</p> <p>Councillor Richard Thomas left the Meeting at 5.48 pm.</p> <p>Resolved that:</p> <p>The content of the report be noted.</p>
784	Scrutiny Referrals, Feedback and Follow up Actions	The Chair advised that there was no update on this item.
785	Reflection and Evaluation of Meeting	The Chair and the Committee reflected on the items that had been discussed at the Meeting.
786	Scrutiny Work Programme	The Chair advised that he would discuss the Work Programme with the Scrutiny Manager.
787	Any other business deemed urgent by the Chair	The Chair advised that there was no business deemed urgent.