



Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol
MERTHYR TUDFUL
MERTHYR TYDFIL
County Borough Council

MINUTES OF MEETING

AUDIT MEETING

MONDAY, 13TH FEBRUARY, 2017

PRESENT: Councillor Richard Thomas (In the Chair)

Councillors: T Chaplin, M Davies, C T Jones, T Lewis,
B E Mansbridge and Raymond Thomas

Councillor B Toomey – Cabinet Member

Lay Member:

D Gibby

Officers:

Gareth Chapman (Chief Executive), Lisa Curtis Jones (Chief Officer (Social Services)), Gary Evans (Audit Manager), Mark Anderton (Head of Adult Services), Anthony Lewis (Head of School Planning Performance and Resource), Annabel Lloyd (Head of Children's Services), Louise Ballinger (Senior Auditor), Ewan McWilliams (Corporate Performance Manager), Ceri Dinham (Communications, Consultation and Engagement Manager) and Kerry O'Donovan (Corporate Risk and Equalities Manager)

Mair Morgan (Democratic Services Officer)

ITEM NO.	AGENDA MATTER	DECISION
811	Apologies for absence	Apologies for absence were received from Councillor H Barratt, Councillor G Lewis and Councillor P Williams Cabinet Member.
812	Declarations of Interest	No Declarations of Interest were made.
813	Update on Progress in Managing the Council's	The Chair welcomed Councillor B Toomey, Gareth Chapman, Lisa Curtis Jones, Mark Anderton, Annabel

	Corporate Risks for 2016-17	<p>Lloyd, Ewan McWilliams, Kerry O'Donovan and Ceri Dinham to the Meeting.</p> <p>The Chair referred the Committee to the 'Update on Progress in Managing the Council's Corporate Risks for 2016-17' report.</p> <p>Councillor Raymond Thomas left the Meeting at 2.10 pm and returned at 2.11 pm and also left the Meeting at 3.29 pm and returned at 3.35 pm.</p> <p>The following questions were raised by the Committee and were responded to in detail by the Officers:</p> <p>Risk No 2 – Safeguarding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appendix 1 – Current Controls – Governance Arrangements – How do the Audit Committee know and how can the Committee have assurances <p>Lisa Curtis Jones advised that a report could be brought to a future Committee Meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appendix 1 – Further Actions Required to Manage the Risk – Report to Council on Practice Review – What are Practice Reviews – What is the Timetable for further actions – Will Practice Reviews be brought to Council <p>Risk No 3 – Performance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Performance Board – Who are the lead members • Appendix 1 – Review the Service Improvement Framework to bring it in line with the Well- Being Duty – When will this come to Full Council <p>Risk No 6 - Reputation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appendix 1 – Current Controls – Reputation Management Action Plan – Who is the lead Officer and who do they report to • Residents Satisfaction Survey – When will the report be issued • Communication and Consultation Strategy – When will this be available • Reputation Management Action Plan – What is the response to this • Future Generations – Have the Youth Council been consulted <p>Resolved that:</p> <p>The update on progress in managing the Council's Corporate Risks for 2016-17 in relation to Safeguarding, Performance and Reputation be received.</p>
814	Schools Balances 2016-17	The Chair welcomed Anthony Lewis to the Meeting.

		<p>The Chair referred the Committee to the 'Schools Balances 2016-17' report and Appendices 2 and 3 were circulated to the Committee.</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"> • Afon Taf High School – Explanation requested regarding the schools budget • Paragraph 4.4 – Gellifaelog Primary – Further explanation requested • Appendix 3 – Risk Categories – Why are deficits predicted for a few years time <p>Resolved that:</p> <p>The contents of the report be noted.</p>
815	Wales Audit Office : Review of Corporate Safeguarding Arrangements	<p>The Chair referred the Committee to the 'Wales Audit Office: Review of Corporate Safeguarding Arrangements' report.</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"> • Title 1 Recommendation 4 – Members and Partners understand their safeguarding responsibilities – Safeguarding Training – Is it complete and has everyone referred to had training • Title 1 Recommendation 3 – Action – Explanation requested in relation to new starters and DBS checks • Paragraph 4.2 – .4 - DBS checks meeting the Statutory Requirements • Refresher training • Paragraph 4.2 - .6 - Are all Local Authorities using the same checks • DBS checks for School Governors <p>Resolved that:</p> <p>The progress made against the Corporate Safeguarding Action Plan be noted.</p>
816	Wales Audit Office Review: Supporting the Independence of Older People: Are Council's Doing Enough?	<p>Mark Anderton referred the Committee to the 'Wales Audit Office Review: Supporting the Independence of Older People: Are Council's Doing Enough' report.</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"> • How is Merthyr Tydfil doing in relation to placement post hospitalisation • What is the delay in an OT visiting someone at home • Title1 – Recommendation 3 – Action – Has the work been done • Why are the end dates April 2016 – Request made

		<p>for an update on figures to be presented to the Committee</p> <p>Resolved that:</p> <p>The progress made against the Wales Audit Office Action Plan be noted.</p>
817	Social Services Response to CCSIW Action Plan	<p>Lisa Curtis Jones and Annabel Lloyd referred the Committee to the 'Social Services response to CSSIW Action Plan report.</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"> • Paragraph 3.4 -3 – Have all Young Carers in the County Borough been identified • If identified as a Young Carer what support is available • Title 1 – Recommendation 1a – Are there capacity issues • Shared Lives Schemes – Explanation requested on this • How successful has the Department been in recruiting Foster Carers • Is there monitoring of Independent Providers • Integration of Health and Social Care Services for Older People with complex needs – Looked after Children – Who checks the Assessments • Time taken to complete an assessment <p>Resolved that:</p> <p>The progress made against the CSSIW Action Plan be noted.</p>
818	Any other business deemed urgent by the Chair	<p>The Chair advised that there was no business deemed urgent.</p>