



Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol  
MERTHYR TUDFUL  
MERTHYR TYDFIL  
County Borough Council

## MINUTES OF MEETING

# SCRUTINY : REGENERATION AND PUBLIC PROTECTION MEETING

**TUESDAY, 15TH JANUARY, 2019**

**PRESENT:** Councillors J Amos (Chair)  
C J Barry (Vice-Chair)

Councillors M Colbran and G Lewis  
Councillor L Davies (Substitute Member)

**Cooptees:**

H Hopkins (Public), M Ellis (Youth Forum Representative) and  
H Powell (Public)

**Officers:**

S Jones (Head of Finance), A Owen (Chief Officer (Regeneration and Public Protection)), C Long (Economic Development & Strategic Tourism Manager), R Prosser (Town Centre Manager), P Lewis (Trading Standards and Licensing Manager), R Evans (Community Safety Officer) and M Purnell (Performance and Scrutiny Officer)

M Morgan (Democratic Services Officer)

ITEM NO.	AGENDA MATTER	DECISION
706	Apologies for Absence	Apologies for absence were received from Councillor P Brown and H Jackson Co-opted Member.  Councillor L Davies was present as a substitute Member.
707	Declarations of Interest	No Declarations of Interest were made.

	(including whipping declarations)	
708	Medium Term Financial Plan 2019-20 to 2022-23 - Additional Demands	<p>The Chair welcomed Steve Jones and Paul Lewis to the Meeting.</p> <p>Steve Jones then led the Committee through the 'Medium Term Financial Plan 2019/20 to 2022/23 – Additional Demands' 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"> <li>• Appendix 1 – Is this the only uplift</li> <li>• What are the new contract routes – Where is there demand</li> </ul> <p><b>Resolved that:</b></p> <p>The content of the report be noted.</p>
709	Continued development of the Town Centre - Evening Economy	<p>The Chair welcomed Alyn Owen, Chris Long and Rhian Prosser to the Meeting.</p> <p>Rhian Prosser then led the Committee through the 'Continued Development of the Town Centre – Evening Economy' 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"> <li>• Paragraph 5.2 – Purple Flag – Is the Authority applying this year</li> <li>• Paragraphs 5.3 and 6.1 – Merthyr After Dark Strategy – Is there reliance on other Businesses to provide activities</li> <li>• Restaurant provision – What is the timeframe</li> <li>• Perception of Visitors to the County Borough</li> <li>• Partnership working to provide skills training</li> <li>• Paragraph 5.5 – Explanation required in relation to 'Flexibility of the Licensing Act 2003 and the Gambling Act 2005'</li> <li>• Update requested on the new and existing Bus Station</li> <li>• Paragraph 4.3 – Update requested on Homelessness</li> </ul> <p><b>Resolved that:</b></p> <p>The content of the report be noted.</p> <p>Councillor C Barry left the Meeting at 3.15 pm.</p>
710	Substance Misuse - Development of the Drug Litter App	<p>The Chair welcomed Ryan Evans to the Meeting.</p> <p>Ryan Evans then made the following Presentation on Safer Communities Wales Merthyr Tydfil Community Safety Partnership Pilot to the Committee:</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is it – Safe Communities Wales is a mobile phone app and web based tool for recording drug litter</li> <li>• The issues</li> <li>• How big is the problem</li> <li>• Why is the App required</li> </ul> <p>The Committee then received a demonstration of the App on a mobile phone</p> <p>The User Guide also gave details of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Risk / Challenge</li> <li>• What various drug paraphernalia looks like</li> <li>• New psychoactive substances (NPS)</li> <li>• Heroin cookers</li> <li>• Used needles</li> <li>• Swabs / equipment</li> </ul> <p>The following questions were then raised by the Committee and were responded to by the Officers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How many people have access to the App</li> <li>• Explanation requested in relation to the red and green circles on the App</li> <li>• Who goes out and cleans up</li> <li>• Returns Policy</li> <li>• Where can a Sharps Box be sourced</li> <li>• Can volunteers use this</li> <li>• Where was this App developed</li> <li>• How does this differ from other Apps</li> <li>• Volume of Nitrous Oxide canisters collected</li> <li>• How can duplication of reporting be avoided</li> <li>• If the Pilot is successful can income be generated from the App</li> <li>• Cost associated with the App</li> </ul> <p>The Chair then Ryan Evans and Paul Lewis for the demonstration.</p>
711	Work Programme 2018/19	The Chair referred the Committee to the 'Work Programme' report and it was agreed by the Committee.
712	Scrutiny Referrals, Feedback and Follow Up Actions	The Chair advised that there was no update on this item.
713	Reflection and Evaluation of Meeting	The Chair and the Committee discussed in detail the issues that had been considered at the Meeting.
714	Any Other Business deemed urgent by the Chair	The Chair advised that there was no business deemed urgent.