



## MINUTES OF MEETING

# **COMBINED GOVERNANCE & AUDIT COMMITTEE / JOINT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE MEETING**

**WEDNESDAY, 26TH JANUARY, 2022**

**PRESENT:** Councillors C T Jones (Chair)

Councillors T Skinner, D Roberts, G Lewis, J Amos, A Barry, B Carter, D Chaplin, M Colbran, J Davies, L Davies, K Gibbs, D Hughes, S Jago, K O'Neill, G Richards, D Sammon, W R Smith, I Thomas, S Thomas and C Tovey

**Cooptees:**

H Hopkins (Public), R Stone (Public) and G Williams (Public)

**Other Councillors In Attendance:**

L Mytton (Cabinet Member), G Thomas (Cabinet Member), C Davies (Cabinet Member), M Jones (Cabinet Member) and T Rogers (Cabinet Member)

**Officers:**

E Cooper (Chief Executive), S Jones (Head of Finance), A Owen (Deputy Chief Executive), L Curtis Jones (Chief Officer (Social Services)), F Donnelly (H R Manager), J Jones (Chief Officer Neighbourhood Services), C Dinham (Communications, Consultation and Engagement Manager), A Taylor (Head of Democratic Services), S Jablaoui (Performance and Scrutiny Officer Officer) and A Stephens (Cabinet Policy Officer)

**Outside Bodies:**

H Goddard (Audit Wales)

M Morgan (Democratic Services Officer)

ITEM NO.	AGENDA MATTER	DECISION
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**Technical Issues**

Technical Issues were experienced by some Committee Members.

611	Apologies for absence	Apologies for absence were received from Mr R Williams Lay Member.
612	Declarations of Interest	No Declarations of Interest were made.
613	Revenue Budget 2022/23 and Medium Term Financial Plan Update	<p>Steve Jones led the Committee in detail through the 'Revenue Budget 2022/23 and Medium Term Financial Plan Update' report and together with the Officers responded in detail to the following questions raised by the Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Request that information be presented to Members giving details of the effect of different percentages when consideration is being given to determining the Council Tax</li> <li>• Governance – Why is this Meeting being held so late in the process</li> <li>• Paragraph 1.4 – The quality of Services – Costs</li> <li>• Appendix 1 - Explanation requested on why Merthyr Tydfil is in this position in the Table</li> <li>• Is there consultation with other 151 Officers - Could Members be advised of the outcomes of these discussions</li> <li>• Reserves – If the figure includes reserves to be used in the next twelve months what figure has been factored in</li> <li>• Inflation forecast</li> <li>• What is the figure left when all monies have been allocated</li> <li>• Explanation of monies carried forward or are these monies allocated</li> <li>• Can different percentage Council Tax figures be agreed for this year, next year and the year after – e.g – 0% increase this year but then 3% and 4% in subsequent years - The need for all possible options to be put before Members</li> <li>• Appendix 4</li> <li>• Reference 1 – Commercial Income – Update requested on the acquisition of St Tydfil's Shopping Centre</li> <li>• Reference 6 – Details requested on income generated – Is there an investment analysis for this – Has anyone been recruited to this post</li> <li>• Reference 12 - Marsh House - Update requested on this project</li> <li>• Reference 13 – Llysfaen – Questions raised in relation to the pressures on Bed and Breakfast</li> </ul>

		<p>accommodation and the release of beds for tourism</p> <p>After further comments and debate by Members it was</p> <p><b>Resolved that:</b></p> <p>The content of the report be noted.</p>
614	Any Other Business deemed urgent by the Chair	The Chair advised that there was no business deemed urgent.

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