

Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr Bridgend County Borough Council



Swyddfeydd Dinesig, Stryd yr Angel, Pen-y-bont, CF31 4WB / Civic Offices, Angel Street, Bridgend, CF31 4WB

*Rydym yn croesawu gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg.
Rhowch wybod i ni os mai Cymraeg yw eich
dewis iaith.*

*We welcome correspondence in Welsh. Please
let us know if your language choice is Welsh.*



Gwasanaethau Gweithredol a Phartneriaethol / Operational and Partnership Services

Deialu uniongyrchol / Direct line /: 01656
643148/643147

Gofynnwch am / Ask for: Mrs Julie Ellams

Ein cyf / Our ref:

Eich cyf / Your ref:

Dyddiad/Date: Thursday, 25 January 2018

Dear Councillor,

COUNCIL

A meeting of the Council will be held in the Council Chamber - Civic Offices Angel Street Bridgend CF31 4WB on **Wednesday, 31 January 2018 at 15:00.**

AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence
To receive apologies for absence from Members.
2. Declarations of Interest
To receive declarations of personal and prejudicial interest from Members/Officers in accordance with the Members' Code of Conduct adopted by Council from 1 September 2008.
3. Approval of Minutes 5 - 24
To receive for approval the minutes of 20/12/2017
4. To receive announcements from:
(i) Mayor (or person presiding)
(ii) Members of the Cabinet
(iii) Chief Executive
5. To receive the report of the Leader
6. School Modernisation Programme Band B 25 - 30
7. Redevelopment of Maesteg Town Hall 31 - 36
8. Departure Planning Application 37 - 56
9. Annual Improvement Report 2016-17 - Bridgend County Borough Council 57 - 92
10. Council Tax Reduction Scheme 93 - 100
11. To receive the following questions to the Cabinet

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Question to the Cabinet Member Communities from Councillor Tim Thomas

Over the duration of the next medium term financial plan, what will this Council do to ensure that people living with disabilities are fully able to access roads, streets and highways that they use on a day to day basis within their community?

Question to the Cabinet Member Social Services and Early Help from Councillor Altaf Hussain

According to the Royal College of Emergency Medicine Wales, Accident and Emergency Departments in Welsh Hospitals are like battlefields. Welsh Government blames flu outbreak, increase in calls over the Christmas and New Year Norovirus. Dr Robin Roop, Vice President of RCEM Wales said for the staff an emergency department feels like a battlefield, patient safety is compromised, this is unsafe, undignified and distressing for patients and their relatives. Several Health Boards across Wales have had to postpone operations because of the winter pressures. ABMU cancelled most routine planned surgeries. Health Secretary Wales has apologised to the patients whose surgeries are being cancelled.

This means that more patients especially elderly will be admitted through Accident and Emergency with Flu, Respiratory problems, falls etc. Some of these patients will be discharged soon.

Are we well equipped with regards to the Social Care for these discharged patients at Council Level and will the Cabinet member assure the chamber that there will be no bed block syndrome in our hospitals because of delays in social care?

12. Notice of Motion

Notice of Motion proposed by Councillor T Beedle

Council Tax Exemption For Care Leavers

Cuts to working age benefits, proliferation of zero hours contracts and the increase in sub-standard rented housing mean our vulnerable young people are not given the same life chances previous generations were at the same age.

The Children's Commissioner for Wales, Sally Holland, said in her Hidden Ambitions report that young people leaving care should be given priority in work by the Welsh Government to see what can be done to make council tax fairer, the Children's Commissioner for Wales also reported that many care leavers have to survive on as little as £8 a day, with council tax their biggest outgoing cost after rent.

This Council notes:

- how young people have been unjustly targeted through the Government's welfare reforms such as the Government's "Youth Obligation", aimed at those aged 18-21 denying them automatic access to Housing Benefit from April 2017. This has inevitably resulted in increased demand for council services,
- that it has the power to introduce exemptions for council tax for certain groups under Section 13A of the Local Government Finance Act 1992
- that last year (2016/17) 1 young person left the care of Bridgend County Borough Council and began the difficult transition out of care and into adulthood.

This Council believes that:

- there is more that can be done, at relatively little cost to the council taxpayer, to support care leavers to manage their money during this transition
- to ensure that the transition from care to adult life is as smooth as possible, and to mitigate the chances of care leavers falling into debt as they begin to manage their own finances, they should be exempt from paying council tax until they are 25.

This Council, resolves:

- To use the council's powers to exempt all care leavers in the County Borough of Bridgend from council tax up to the age of 25.
- That the Leader write to the Welsh Minister for Children and Social Care, urging him to introduce a national exemption for care leavers from council tax up to the age of 25.

13. Urgent Items

To consider any item(s) of business in respect of which notice has been given in accordance with Part 4 (paragraph 4) of the Council Procedure Rules and which the person presiding at the meeting is of the opinion should by reason of special circumstances be transacted at the meeting as a matter of urgency.

14. Exclusion of the Public

The following item is not for publication as it contains exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 14 and 16 of Part 4 and Paragraph 21 of Part 5, Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) (Wales) Order 2007.

If following the application of the public interest test Cabinet resolves pursuant to the Act to consider this item in private, the public will be excluded from the meeting during such consideration.

15. Redundancy and Early Retirement Packages Carrying Costs in Excess of £100,000 101 - 104

Yours faithfully

P A Jolley

Corporate Director Operational and Partnership Services

Councillors:

S Aspey
SE Baldwin
TH Beedle
JPD Blundell
NA Burnett
MC Clarke
N Clarke
RJ Collins
HJ David
P Davies
PA Davies
SK Dendy
DK Edwards

Councillors

A Hussain
RM James
B Jones
M Jones
MJ Kearn
DRW Lewis
JE Lewis
JR McCarthy
DG Owen
D Patel
RL Penhale-Thomas
AA Pucella
JC Radcliffe

Councillors

JC Spanswick
RME Stirman
G Thomas
T Thomas
JH Tildesley MBE
E Venables
SR Vidal
MC Voisey
LM Walters
KJ Watts
CA Webster
DBF White
PJ White

J Gebbie
T Giffard
RM Granville
CA Green
DG Howells

KL Rowlands
B Sedgebeer
RMI Shaw
CE Smith
SG Smith

A Williams
AJ Williams
HM Williams
JE Williams
RE Young