

CORPORATE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - MONDAY, 16 DECEMBER 2024

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CORPORATE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE HELD HYBRID IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER - CIVIC OFFICES, ANGEL STREET, BRIDGEND, CF31 4WB ON MONDAY, 16 DECEMBER 2024 AT 10:00

Present

Councillor A W Ulberini-Williams – Chairperson for the Meeting

JPD Blundell

RM Granville

GH Haines

Present Virtually

HJ David
T Thomas

S J Griffiths
AJ Williams

M L Hughes
E D Winstanley

RL Penhale-Thomas

Apologies for Absence

F D Bletsoe

Councillor John Spanswick, Leader and Councillor Melanie Evans, Cabinet Member for Resources (Job Share)

Invitees

Councillor Jane Gebbie
Councillor Hywel Williams
Councillor Martyn Jones
Councillor Eugene Caparros
Councillor Neelo Farr
Councillor Paul Davies

Deputy Leader / Cabinet Member Social Services, Health and Wellbeing
Cabinet Member for Finance and Performance
Cabinet Member for Education and Youth Services
Cabinet Member for Resources (Job Share)
Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Economic Development and Housing
Cabinet Member for Communities

Mark Shepherd
Carys Lord
Lindsay Harvey
Claire Marchant

Chief Executive
Chief Officer – Finance, Housing and Change
Corporate Director - Education, Early Years & Young People
Corporate Director - Social Services and Wellbeing

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Janine Nightingale
Kelly Watson

Corporate Director - Communities
Chief Officer Legal and Regulatory Services, HR & Corporate Policy

Alex Rawlin
Kate Pask
Martin Morgans
Paul Miles

Corporate Policy and Performance Manager
Corporate Performance Manager
Head of Partnership Services
Group Manager – Human Resources and Organisational Development

Officers:

Meryl Lawrence
Jessica McLellan
Stephen Griffiths

Senior Democratic Services Officer - Scrutiny
Scrutiny Officer
Democratic Services Officer - Committees

Declarations of Interest

Cllr Elaine Winstanley – item 4 – Personal - WBO 4 - as a governor of Ysgol Y Ferch O'r Sger and Afon-Y-Felin Primary School and WBO 7 - as an employee of AWEN cultural trust who manage the Grand Pavilion, Maesteg Town Hall and libraries.

Cllr Richard Granville – item 4 – Personal – has an interest in Afon-Y-Felin Primary School.

136. Approval of Minutes

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| Decision Made | <u>RESOLVED:</u> That the minutes of meetings of the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee dated 24 October 2024 be approved as a true and accurate record. |
| Date Decision Made | 16 December 2024 |

137. Quarter 2 Performance 2024/2025

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| Decision Made | <p><u>RESOLVED:</u></p> <p>Following consideration of the report and detailed discussion with a Cabinet Member and Senior Officers, the Committee made the following recommendations and requests for additional information:</p> <p><u>Recommendations</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The Committee welcomed the commitment from the Chief Executive, Corporate Directors and Officers that the number and focus of Wellbeing Objectives would be reviewed and that there would be an exercise to determine the most important Performance Indicators/Commitments, those which should remain and whether any should be removed or amended. The Committee recommended that in order to provide measurable assurances, the narratives contained in the dashboard should provide more detail, including, for example, any specific funding, progress on projects or initiatives.2. The Committee recommended that for future in-year Performance Reports, an asterisk or some other marker be added to any Performance Indicator that is identified to be deleted after the annual meeting of full Council.3. The Committee recommended that consideration should be given to the timeliness of scheduling future Performance Report, highlighting that the Committee was being asked to consider the Authority's Quarter 2 Performance almost at the end of Quarter 3.4. The Committee recommended that following the appointment of a new Chief Executive, their view of how they envisage future Performance reporting, be sought.5. The Committee considered that the performance of Disabled Facilities Grants (DFG) represented a corporate risk and recommended the following for future reporting of DFGs:<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. The reporting target show data attributed to legacy cases and data attributed to new applications separately, as well as showing the amalgamated data already contained in performance reports.b. That the target of 210 days be revisited and consideration given to a less aspirational and more achievable and measurable on a quarterly basis. |
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| | <p>6. The Committee recommended that meetings be convened between local Members and specialist Officers, on a 6 or 12 monthly basis, to discuss, understand and feed into major projects and strategies relevant to the area/ward that they represent.</p> <p>7. The Committee recommended that the recommendations from Practice Reviews (now known as Single Unified Safeguarding Reviews) undertaken by Cwm Taf Morgannwg Safeguarding Board be included on the Regulatory Tracker which is reported to Governance and Audit Committee for monitoring.</p> <p><u>Additional Information</u></p> <p>8. In relation to the retendering exercise being undertaken for the redevelopment of Porthcawl Pavilion, the Committee requested a response from the Corporate Director for Communities and the Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Economic Development and Housing in relation to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. whether the reasons for the unsuccessful first contract have been properly analysed and lessons learned; b. whether the retendering exercise is ongoing and, if so, when is it anticipated it will be complete; and c. whether they are confident that the situation will not arise again. <p>9. The Committee requested an information report detailing the uptake of Flying Start support, the progress of the rollout of the programme to other areas including detail of why they have been chosen and an update on the current and new settings.</p> |
| Date Decision Made | 16 December 2024 |

138. Forward Work Programme Update

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| Decision Made | <p><u>RESOLVED:</u></p> <p>Following consideration of the report the Committee approved its Forward Work Programme (FWP) in Appendix A subject to the inclusion of the recommendations below, noted the FWPs for the Subject Overview and Scrutiny Committees in Appendix C, D and E, and noted the Recommendations Monitoring Action Sheet to track responses to the Committee’s Recommendations made at previous meetings in Appendix B:</p> |
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| | <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The Committee discussed the Council's response to the recent storm, Darragh, expressing concern about the increasing pattern of storms hitting the UK and recommended that the Subject Overview and Scrutiny Committee 3 request a report to explore the Council's preparedness to respond to storms and adverse weather, preventative measures against foreseeable damage and the impact of adverse weather and any fallout (e.g. loss of power) on vulnerable residents The Committee recommended that the report should have invitees from Communities and Social Services.2. The Committee expressed grave concerns regarding the performance of Disabled Facilities Grants and considered that it represented a significant corporate risk to the Council. The Committee therefore recommended that Disabled Facilities Grants be added to the Committee's Forward Work Programme as soon as possible. The Committee agreed that the scheduling of the Item would be discussed between Scrutiny Chairs with Scrutiny Officers. |
| Date Decision Made | 16 December 2024 |

139. Urgent Items

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| Decision Made | None. |
| Date Decision Made | 16 December 2024 |

To observe further debate that took place on the above items, please click this [link](#)

The meeting closed at 12:48.