

CORPORATE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - MONDAY, 9 SEPTEMBER 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, 9 SEPTEMBER 2024 AT 10:00

Present

Councillor JPD Blundell – Chairperson

HJ David

RM Granville

E D Winstanley

Present Virtually

M L Hughes  
RL Penhale-Thomas

T Thomas

A Williams

AJ Williams

Apologies for Absence

F D Bletsoe, S J Griffiths and GH Haines

Invitees:

Councillor John Spanswick  
Councillor Jane Gebbie  
Councillor Hywel Williams  
Councillor Eugene Caparros  
Councillor Paul Davies  
Councillor Melanie Jayne Evans  
Councillor Neelo Farr

Leader  
Deputy Leader/ Cabinet Member Social Services, Health and Wellbeing  
Cabinet Member for Finance and Performance  
Cabinet Member for Resources (Job Share)  
Cabinet Member for Climate Change and the Environment  
Cabinet Member for Resources (Job Share)  
Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Economic Development and Housing

Claire Marchant  
Jackie Davies  
David Wright  
Sophie Moore  
Debbie Morgan

Corporate Director - Social Services and Wellbeing  
Head of Adult Social Care  
Family Support Services Manager  
Group Manager - Prevention and Wellbeing  
Group Manager - Business Strategy, Performance & Improvement

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**Officers:**

Kelly Watson  
Rachel Keepins  
Lucy Beard  
Stephen Griffiths

Chief Officer - Legal & Regulatory Services, HR & Corporate Policy  
Democratic Services Manager  
Scrutiny Officer  
Interim Scrutiny Officer/ Democratic Services Officer - Committees

**Declarations of Interest**

Councillor E D Winstanley – Item 5 – Personal - An employee of Awen Cultural Trust.

**124. Appointment of a Chairperson**

Decision Made	<b><u>RESOLVED:</u></b> Councillor JPD Blundell was appointed as Chairperson for the meeting.
Date Decision Made	9 September 2024

**125. Verbal Presentation by Cabinet Members of an Overview of their Strategic Direction and Priorities for the Coming Year**

Decision Made	<b><u>RESOLVED:</u></b> The Committee noted the verbal statement from the Leader regarding Cabinet’s strategic direction and priorities for the coming year.
Date Decision Made	9 September 2024

**126. Information Report - Corporate Plan Targets 2024/25**

Decision Made	<p><u>RESOLVED:</u></p> <p>The Committee noted the report and made the following recommendation:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. The Committee <b>recommended</b> that any changes to the Corporate Plan, Targets or Priorities after the draft Plan had been scrutinised, should be reported to the Committee for consideration. In addition, Members agreed to send any queries about the report to the Scrutiny team to take forward with Officers.</li></ol>
Date Decision Made	9 September 2024

**127. Director of Social Services Annual Report 2023/24**

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><b>General Recommendations</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>2. The Committee <b>recommended</b> that all reports submitted to the Committee should include a strengthened and enhanced focus on the financial implications of service proposals and developments.</li></ol> <p><b>Additional Information</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>3. A number of projects had been funded by the Shared Prosperity Fund and the Committee <b>requested</b> more detailed information, including the amount of funding that had been received and the potential impact on those areas within the social services part of the budget for pathways towards employment, education and training.</li><li>4. The Committee <b>requested</b> that the Community Resource Team Package of Care Delays (PoCD) report, to be considered by Subject Overview and Scrutiny Committee 2 on 23 September 2024, be circulated to Members of the Committee.</li></ol>
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	<p>5. The Committee <b>requested</b> that the Recovery Plan considered by the Social Services Improvement Board be circulated to Members of the Committee.</p> <p>6. Members discussed daytime opportunities for residents with learning disabilities and the prospect for using grants to support a new model for their delivery and the committee <b>requested</b> that the Review of Daytime Opportunities be reported to a future meeting of Subject Overview and Scrutiny Committee 2.</p>
Date Decision Made	9 September 2024

**128. Scrutiny Annual Report 2022/23 & 2023/24**

Decision Made	<p><b><u>RESOLVED:</u></b></p> <p>Following consideration of the report the Committee made the following comment and recommendations:</p> <p><b>Comment</b></p> <p>7. The Committee expressed concern about the number of call-ins reported in the Annual Report and strongly supported the priority highlighted for a focus on pre-decision Scrutiny going forward ahead of any major decisions to Cabinet. It was acknowledged that Forward Work Programme planning, and communication is paramount for this to succeed.</p> <p><b>Recommendations</b></p> <p>8. The Committee <b>recommended</b> that where reports cover issues that cross service boundaries, consideration is given to communicating with all Scrutiny Members regarding this so that they have the opportunity to engage via their fellow members sitting on the Committee and/or observe the meeting.</p> <p>9. The Committee <b>recommended</b> that the Annual Report should include comparative data on the number of call ins in previous years.</p> <p>10. The Committee <b>recommended</b> that consideration be given to ensuring that more external representatives are invited to attend scrutiny meetings.</p>
Date Decision Made	9 September 2024

**129. Forward Work Programme Update**

Decision Made	<u>RESOLVED:</u>  Following consideration of the report the Committee made the following recommendations:  11. The Committee <b>recommended</b> that consideration be given to the arrangements for the Scrutiny Committee meetings in January 2025 to consider the Medium-Term Financial Strategy 2025-26 - 2028-29, to ensure that Members are able to direct their questions to the appropriate Committee to contribute fully and avoid duplication.
Date Decision Made	9 September 2024

**130. Urgent Items**

Decision Made	None
Date Decision Made	9 September 2024

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

The meeting closed at 12:46.