

BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO COUNCIL

18 JULY 2018

REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

CARDIFF CAPITAL REGION CITY DEAL – JOINT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

1. Purpose of Report.

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to present to Council the proposal to establish a Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee for the Cardiff Capital Region City Deal (CCRCD).

2. Connection to Corporate Improvement Objectives / Other Corporate Priorities

- 2.1 The key improvement objectives identified in the Corporate Plan 2018-22 have been embodied in the Overview & Scrutiny Forward Work Programmes. The Corporate Improvement Objectives were adopted by Council on 1 March 2017 and formally set out the improvement objectives that the Council will seek to implement between 2018 and 2022. The Overview and Scrutiny Committees engage in review and development of plans, policy or strategies that support the Corporate Themes.

3. Background.

- 3.1 The Cardiff Capital Region Joint Working Agreement states that Councils shall work together to create and agree terms of reference for, to the extent permissible by law, a Joint Audit Committee and a Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee and how the same will be resourced and funded.
- 3.2 At its meeting held on the 20 November 2017, the Cardiff Capital Region City Deal (CCRCD) Joint Cabinet received a report detailing proposals for the establishment of a Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee (JOSC) to consider the CCRCD. This report also included a draft Terms of Reference for the Joint Committee. The purpose of the JOSC is to enable Members to be kept up to date with CCRCD developments. The draft Terms of Reference expands upon this outlining that one of its main functions would be to perform the overview and scrutiny function for the City Deal on behalf of the ten local authorities whilst not excluding a local authority's right to carry out its own individual scrutiny of any decision of the Regional Cabinet or City Deal.
- 3.3 The report proposed that one of the ten authorities host the CCRCD Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee and provide such dedicated support and advisers.

- 3.4 Following a proposal, it was subsequently determined by the Joint Cabinet that Bridgend County Borough Council would carry out the role of Host Authority.

4. Current Situation / Proposal

- 4.1 Attached at **Appendix A** is a brief paper that provides background and information on the origins of the proposal for a JOSC and how it would be established over the first year.
- 4.2 The Regional Joint Cabinet report and draft Terms of Reference are attached as **Appendix B** for information.
- 4.3 In accordance with Statutory Guidance issued under the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011, when establishing a JOSC, a report containing details of the proposal should be considered by each of the participating authorities' appropriate scrutiny committees (or sub-committees) before being endorsed by full Council.
- 4.4 The Regional Joint Cabinet report and draft Terms of Reference were presented to the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee at their meeting on 18 June 2018 prior to it being submitted to Council, both for endorsement and for the nomination of a non-executive Member to sit on the JOSC..
- 4.5 It is proposed that in deliberations over nominations to sit on the JOSC, consideration is given to potential skill sets of Members including any prior knowledge and experience of joint working or professional knowledge that relates to the City Deal itself which could potentially be of great value and assistance to the JOSC. Joint Scrutiny is often focused on decisions taken at a more strategic/ regional level and also necessitates considerable learning on the job as Members explore new and complex policy areas.

5. Effect upon Policy Framework and Procedure Rules

- 5.1 The work of the Overview & Scrutiny Committees relates to the review and development of plans, policy or strategy that form part of the Council's Policy Framework and consideration of plans, policy or strategy relating to the power to promote or improve economic, social or environmental wellbeing in the County Borough of Bridgend.
- 5.2 Any changes to the structure of the Scrutiny Committees and the procedures relating to them would require the Council's Constitution to be updated.

6. Equality Impact Assessment

- 6.1 There are no equality implications arising from this report.

7. Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 Assessment

- 7.1 The Act provides the basis for driving a different kind of public service in Wales, with 5 ways of working to guide how public services should work to

deliver for people. The following is a summary to show how the 5 ways of working to achieve the well-being goals have been used to formulate the recommendations within this report:

Long-term -	The approval of this report will assist in the establishment of a JOSC to monitor the CCRCD business plan
Prevention -	The JOSC Panel will monitor the CCRCD's business plans, objectives and priorities
Integration -	The report supports all the wellbeing objectives
Collaboration -	Consultation on the establishment of the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee has taken place with the 10 local authorities in the CCRCD programme.
Involvement -	The Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee will maintain a relationship with other local authorities involved in the CCRCD and with through effective partnership working and act as a critical friend to the CCRCD Joint Cabinet.

8. Financial Implications

- 8.1 As the Joint Cabinet report states, the 2017/18 Joint Cabinet Budget contains a contingency budget in the sum of £69,500, an element of which has been set aside to meet the cost developing the Joint Scrutiny Committee arrangements. Based on initial estimation's provided for the first year, it was agreed that an amount of £25,000 would be allocated to the host authority to carry out the Joint Scrutiny role. From 2018/19 the budget headings will be realigned to separately identify the pre-determined sum from the remaining contingency budget.
- 8.2 It is essential that the JOSC use the first year to develop a detailed and informed Forward Work Programme (FWP) which will not only focus their work but also assist greatly in determining the workload and needs for the future including the number of meetings and future budget required.

9. Recommendation

Council is recommended to:

- a) Consider the report and appendices and approve the establishment of a JOSC for the CCRCD;
- b) Identify and recommend to Council a non –executive Member to represent this Authority on the CCRCD JOSC , taking into consideration paragraph 4.5 of the report;
- c) Note that it will be a decision for each of the ten authorities if it wishes to establish the JOSC proposed.

Darren Mepham
Chief Executive

Contact Officer: Sarah Daniel
Scrutiny Officer

Telephone: 01656 643387
Email: scrutiny@bridgend.gov.uk

Postal Address: Democratic Services - Scrutiny
Bridgend County Borough Council,
Civic Offices,
Angel Street,
Bridgend,
CF31 4WB

Background Documents

Bridgend County Borough Council Constitution
Bridgend County Borough Council Corporate Improvement Plan 2013 -17