

**COFNOD O BENDERFYNIAD WEDI'I DDIRPRWYO GAN SWYDDOG**  
**RECORD OF DELEGATED OFFICER DECISION**

**Penderfyniad Allweddol | Key Decision** ✓

**PWNC | SUBJECT: Town Centre WiFi**

**DIBEN YR ADRODDIAD | PURPOSE OF THE REPORT:**

The purpose of this report is to seek approval for the proposed implementation of free to use public access WiFi at Town Centres within Rhondda Cynon Taf.

**PENDERFYNIAD WEDI'I DDIRPRWYO | DELEGATED DECISION:**

It is agreed to :

- (i) Approve the proposals for the implementation of free to use public access WiFi to designated Rhondda Cynon Taf Town Centres.



**Llofnod y Prif Swyddog**  
Chief Officer Signature

**B DAVIES**

**Enw (priflythrennau)**  
Name (Print Name)

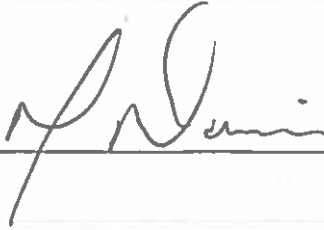
**8-4-19.**

**Dyddiad**  
Date

**Mae'r penderfyniad yn cael ei wneud yn unol ag Adran 15 o Ddeddf Llywodraeth Leol 2000 (Swyddogaethau'r Corff Gweithredol) ac yn y cylch gorchwyl sy wedi'i nodi yn Adran 5 o Ran 3 o Gyfansoddiad y Cyngor.**

The decision is taken in accordance with Section 15 of the Local Government Act, 2000 (Executive Functions) and in the terms set out in Section 5 of Part 3 of the Council's Constitution.

**YMGYNGHORI | CONSULTATION**



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**LLOFNOD YR AELOD YMGYNGHOROL O'R CABINET  
CONSULTEE CABINET MEMBER SIGNATURE**

08/04/2019.  
**DYDDIAD | DATE**

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**LLOFNOD SWYDDOG YMGYNGHOROL  
CONSULTEE OFFICER SIGNATURE**

**DYDDIAD | DATE**

**RHEOLAU'R WEITHDREFN GALW-I-MEWN | CALL IN PROCEDURE RULES.**

**A YW'R PENDERFYNIAD YN UN BRYD A HEB FOD YN DESTUN PROSES GALW-I-MEWN GAN Y PWYLLGOR TROSOLWG A CHRAFFU?:**  
**IS THE DECISION DEEMED URGENT AND NOT SUBJECT TO CALL-IN BY THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE:**

**YDY | YES      NAC YDY | NO✓**

**Rheswm dros fod yn fater brys | Reason for Urgency:**

.....  
***Os yw'n cael ei ystyried yn fater brys - llofnod y Maer/Dirprwy Faer/Pennaeth y Gwasanaeth Cyflogedig yn cadarnhau cytundeb fod y penderfyniad arfaethedig yn rhesymol yn yr holl amgylchiadau iddo gael ei drin fel mater brys, yn unol â rheol gweithdrefn trosolwg a chraffu 17.2:***

***If deemed urgent - signature of Mayor or Deputy Mayor or Head of Paid Service confirming agreement that the proposed decision is reasonable in all the circumstances for it being treated as a matter of urgency, in accordance with the overview and scrutiny procedure rule 17.2:***

.....  
**(Maer | Mayor)**

.....  
**(Dyddiad | Date)**

**DS - Os yw hwn yn benderfyniad sy'n cael ei ail-ystyried yna does dim modd galw'r penderfyniad i mewn a bydd y penderfyniad yn dod i rym o'r dyddiad mae'r penderfyniad wedi'i lofnodi.**

**NB - If this is a reconsidered decision then the decision Cannot be Called In and the decision will take effect from the date the decision is signed.**

**AT DDEFNYDD Y SWYDDFA YN UNIG | FOR OFFICE USE ONLY**

**DYDDIADAU CYHOEDDI A GWEITHREDU | PUBLICATION & IMPLEMENTATION DATES**

**CYHOEDDI | PUBLICATION**

**Cyhoeddi ar Wefan y Cyngor | Publication on the Councils Website:-**

8<sup>th</sup> April 2019.

**DYDDIAD | DATE**

**GWEITHREDU'R PENDERFYNIAD | IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECISION**

**Nodwch: Fydd y penderfyniad hwn ddim yn dod i rym nac yn cael ei weithredu'n llawn nes cyn pen 3 diwrnod gwaith ar ôl ei gyhoeddi. Nod hyn yw ei alluogi i gael ei "Alw i Mewn" yn unol â Rheol 17.1, Rheolau Gweithdrefn Trosolwg a Chraffu.**

**Note: This decision will not come into force and may not be implemented until the expiry of 3 clear working days after its publication to enable it to be the subject to the Call-In Procedure in Rule 17.1 of the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules.**

**Yn amodol ar y drefn "Galw i Mewn", caiff y penderfyniad ei roi ar waith ar / Subject to Call In the implementation date will be**

12<sup>th</sup> April 2019.

**DYDDIAD / DATE**

**WEDI'I GYMERADWYO I'W GYHOEDDI: ✓ | APPROVED FOR PUBLICATION :✓**

**Rhagor o wybodaeth | Further Information:**

<b>Cyfadran   Directorate:</b>	<b>Finance &amp; Digital</b>
<b>Enw'r Person Cyswllt   Contact Name:</b>	<b>Tim Jones</b>
<b>Swydd   Designation:</b>	<b>Head of ICT</b>
<b>Rhif Ffôn   Telephone Number:</b>	<b>01443 562271</b>



## KEY DELEGATED DECISION

8<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2019

### TOWN CENTRE WiFi

#### REPORT OF: DIRECTOR OF FINANCE AND DIGITAL SERVICES IN DISCUSSION WITH THE RELEVANT PORTFOLIO HOLDER (CLLR NORRIS)

Author: Tim Jones (01443) 562271

#### 1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek approval for the proposed implementation of free to use public access WiFi at Town Centres within Rhondda Cynon Taf.

#### 2. RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 It is recommended to:

- i. Agree the proposals as set out in section 5 for the implementation of free to use public access WiFi in designated Town Centres in Rhondda Cynon Taf.

#### 3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 To ensure the Council is well placed to take maximum advantage of a continually expanding digital world, Cabinet agreed the Council's Digital Strategy at its meeting on 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2017. The Strategy aims to deliver transformational change across the five strategic digital strands of resident, skills, workplace, visitor and business, with the intended outcomes aligned to the Council's own Corporate Plan priorities and, at an all Wales level, support the Welsh Government's "Delivering a Digital Wales" strategy.

- 3.2 The Digital Strategy ambition includes the statement:

*"We want to achieve real gain for our residents, learners, visitors and businesses. Our vision is for Rhondda Cynon Taf Council to be a leader, an organisation who uses digital to help transform our communities. We believe that we can exploit digital opportunities to improve the quality of life for people within our County"*

- 3.3 The Strategy recognises the need to develop a digital infrastructure that underpins our digital ambition and supports improvement to connectivity, with a stated commitment to deliver public access WiFi to our town centres.

#### **4. BENEFITS OF TOWN CENTRE WiFi**

4.1 This initiative actively enables and supports the Council's Digital Strategy 2017-2020 and the broader ambition to develop a first class digital infrastructure. The improved connectivity will directly assist towards Digital Inclusion as well as providing a further building block for agile working for Council employees, the future use of "Internet of Things" technology and support town centre businesses to increase their customer footfall.

4.2 It is generally accepted that access to the internet provides many positive benefits and it is envisaged that the provision of a Town Centre WiFi service may support:

- Increased attractiveness of our centres
- Improved access to public services which are increasingly available online
- Improved learning opportunities through the use of web-based learning materials
- Better employability opportunities through more effective job exploration
- Improved health and well-being through remote monitoring (health sensors are now built into smart phones) better communications and access to health and well-being services
- Better support Digital Inclusion
- Reduced isolation as access to the internet can help improve communication and social engagement
- Town centre businesses to advertise and promote their goods and services
- Access to potential savings and discounts offered from local businesses

#### **5. PROPOSED SOLUTION & ROLLOUT**

5.1. Following a collaborative procurement process alongside the Council's CCTV provision, the proposed solution will provide free to access Town Centre WiFi to the Aberdare, Ferndale, Mountain Ash, Porth, Pontypridd, Tonypany and Treorchy Town Centres.

5.2 Key features of the service:

- Service availability, between 7am and 7pm daily (maximum), with actual service times to be agreed in consultation with Town Centre businesses
- Landing page branded and bilingual
- Service to allow signup and secure authentication via a certificated sign-in page
- Homepage once connected will direct to [WWW.RCTCBC.GOV.UK](http://WWW.RCTCBC.GOV.UK)
- Bandwidth management to ensure capacity is not unduly utilised
- Service will prevent the access to inappropriate content
- Ability to provide auditing and reporting capabilities (usage and access details) in the event of an investigation
- Support for full range of devices (Mobile, Tablet, Laptop)
- Service would be Free of Charge for the public



- Service Support wrap for any WiFi point failures

5.3 Officers will engage with appropriate agencies, including South Wales Police, as part of the implementation arrangements in order to ensure that any Anti-Social Behaviour issues are effectively monitored.

5.4 Table 1 below sets out the proposed target delivery timescales for the Town Centre WiFi implementation programme across Rhondda Cynon Taf. Final dates are in the process of being confirmed with the Council's supplier.

*Table 1*

Town Centre	Quarter 2019/20
Aberdare	Q1
Ferndale	Q3
Mountain Ash	Q1
Porth	Q4
Pontypridd	Q2
Tonypany	Q2
Treorchy	Q3

## 6. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

6.1 There are no equality and diversity implications arising from the proposal which will be accessible for all.

## 7. CONSULTATION

7.1 There are no formal consultation requirements arising from the proposal. Officers will engage with appropriate agencies and town centre forums alongside the implementation process.

## 8. FINANCIAL IMPLICATION(S)

8.1 The costs of delivering town centre WiFi are already set aside as part of the resources identified to support the implementation of the digital strategy.

8.2 Opportunities for advertising will be explored alongside the implementation which could provide for potential income generation.

## 9. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS OR LEGISLATION CONSIDERED

9.1 There are no legal issues to highlight at this time. The procurement process for CCTV has already ensured the cost efficiency of this proposal.

**10. LINKS TO THE CORPORATE AND NATIONAL PRIORITIES AND THE WELL-BEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS ACT.**

10.1 The proposals are aligned to the Council's Corporate Plan commitment of providing more flexible services through use of the web and self-service channels to support increased user satisfaction. The proposals also support the Well-being of Future Generations Act in the following ways:

- The well-being goals of: 'a Wales of cohesive communities' by enabling residents, businesses and visitors to be digitally connected and 'a prosperous Wales' through the efficient use of resources and the development of skills and a well-educated population; and
- The sustainable development principles of 'involvement' in helping us shape digital services and support in line with what stakeholders require and 'prevention' through supporting vulnerable clients.

**11. CONCLUSION**

11.1 This report sets out a proposal that will support the ongoing transformation of Digital Services within Rhondda Cynon Taf including enhancing the town centre experience for our residents and visitors.