



RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

RECORD OF DECISIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE

DECISION MADE BY: Cabinet DATE DECISION MADE: 12th February, 2015.

Agenda Item 8

SUBJECT:
The Council's Staff Advisory Panel

**Cabinet Members Present
County Borough Councillors:**

A.Morgan (Chairman), P.Cannon, R.Bevan, A.Crimmings, M.Forey,
E.Hanagan, G.Hopkins, K Montague and M.Webber

**Other Members in Attendance
County Borough Councillors:**

P. Griffiths, S. Bradwick, R. Lewis, T. Bates, J. Bonetto, T. Leyshon
and R. K. Turner

1. **DECISION MADE:**

Agreed –

- To note the contributions of staff and members of the public in the form of the suggestions received to date i.e. between July and December 2014
- To note the work undertaken by the Staff Advisory panel in assessing 'suggestions' and recommending budget saving opportunities
- To take forward the following recommendations of the Staff Advisory Panel;-
 - **Mobile Devices**
 - That the Director, Customer Care & ICT take forward the improved tariff rate secured for mobile phone devices, allowing a total budget saving of **£0.095M**
 - That a further in-depth review is undertaken in respect of a reduction in mobile devices across the Authority, allowing a total annual budget saving of **£0.022M**
 - **Provision of Water Coolers in Council Buildings**
 - The removal of water coolers from all back office locations (excluding front facing buildings e.g. Leisure centres), allowing an annual budget saving of **£0.014M**
 - **Cash Collection Arrangements**
 - To reduce the frequency of cash collections from specific Council establishments, whilst ensuring security arrangements and insurance limits are not compromised, allowing an annual budget saving of **£0.010M**.
 - **Purchase of Newspapers for use by the public**
 - To reduce the purchase of newspapers at Day Centres and Homes for the elderly to 1 daily national newspaper and 1 weekly local newspaper, allowing an annual saving of **£0.005M**
 - That the Library Service consults with service users in terms of opportunities to revise the coverage of newspapers and magazine provided at libraries, whilst still maintaining the council's statutory duties under the Public Libraries and Museum Act 1964.
- To request the Group Director, Corporate & Frontline Services to update the draft 2015/16 budget strategy to reflect the financial implications of the decision taken, prior to Council on the 4th March 2015, and as part of this update, any savings achievable in 2015/16 should be used to reduce the level of Transitional Funding (i.e use of the Medium Term Financial planning and Service Transformation Reserve) needed to deliver a balanced budget for that year.

2. REASON FOR THE DECISION BEING MADE:

- The need for the cabinet to consider the details of the suggestions received from Council Staff and members of the public in response to the 'Budget Challenge' faced by the Council.

3. CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN PRIOR TO DECISION BEING MADE:

- July – December 2014 - Staff and Members of the Public invited to contribute ideas for cost saving and / or income generating suggestions to potentially close the budget gap over the medium term
- Staff Advisory Panel assess the suggestions and make budget saving recommendations to Cabinet, if appropriate.

4. PERSONAL INTERESTS DECLARED:

- None.

5. DISPENSATION TO SPEAK (AS GRANTED BY STANDARDS COMMITTEE):

N/A

6. (a) IS THE DECISION URGENT AND NOT TO BE THE SUBJECT OF ANY CALL-IN BY THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE:

YES NO ✓

Note: This decision will not come into force and may not be implemented until the expiry of 5 clear working days after its publication i.e. **20th February 2015** to enable it to be the subject to the Call-In Procedure in Rule 17.1 of the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules.

6. (b) IF YES, REASONS WHY IN THE OPINION OF THE DECISION-MAKER THE DECISION IS URGENT:

N/A

6.(c) 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:

N/A

.....
(Mayor)

.....
(Dated)

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'A. S. Jones'.

.....
(Proper Officer)

12.02.15
(Dated)