

NOTES OF A MEETING OF THE CARDIFF CAPITAL REGION CITY DEAL JOINT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE HELD IN SIRHOWY ROOM, PENALLTA HOUSE, CAERPHILLY COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL, TREDOMEN PARK, YSTRAD MYNACH, HENGOED, CF82 7PG ON MONDAY, 20 JANUARY 2020 AT 10:00

Present

Councillor JPD Blundell – Chairperson

L Parsons	J Ridgewell	G Thomas	A Davies (Deputy Member for Monmouthshire County Council)
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Apologies for Absence

R Patel and P Pavia

Officers:

Kellie Beirne	Cardiff Capital Region Director
Julie Ellams	Democratic Services Officer
Rachel Pick	Scrutiny Officer
Andrew Rees	Democratic Services Manager

37. MEETING

The meeting was inquorate. The Chairperson suggested that the officer present the reports for information but added that the Joint Scrutiny Committee would be unable to approve the Minutes, agree any changes to the Forward Work Programme, note the information reports or make any recommendations on the reports.

38. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Members commented that Cllr G Thomas (Rhondda Cynon Taff) and Cllr J Ridgewell (Caerphilly County Borough Council) were in attendance at the 23 September 2019 meeting but their names were not recorded in the minutes.

39. CARDIFF CAPITAL REGION REGIONAL ECONOMIC GROWTH PARTNERSHIP - INITIAL INDUSTRIAL AND ECONOMIC GROWTH PLAN

K Beirne, Cardiff Capital Region Director presented a report setting out the scope and substance of CCR's initial Industrial and Economic Plan, as developed by the Regional Economic Growth Partnership in conjunction with the City Deal Office. This had been endorsed by Regional Cabinet in February 2019. She outlined the bold and ambitious approach to driving economic and inclusive growth, the framework in which the City Deal could advance and deliver, and the foundations for the development of the Intervention and Investment Framework.

Members discussed a number of issues including those listed below:

- Making the link between hi-tech industries and the everyday economy.
- Funding to support the peripheral industries and the Investment Framework.

- Developing skills and keeping a skilled workforce, dedicated training centres and investment in small/medium enterprises.
- The latest position with recruitment to the new structure within the City Deal Office and difficulties recruiting to short term posts.
- Deputy Members of the Committee receiving the same papers as the Members including confidential information, the importance of Members attending, clarification on the role of the Deputy, a review of the Terms of Reference and in particular, should membership of the Committee be increased from one to two members from each authority.
- Authorities sending the right representatives with relevant skills and knowledge
- The need for dedicated points of contact to promote initiatives.
- Links with businesses and the importance of business partnerships.
- The importance of the Investment Tracker and why it would be submitted to all future meetings.
- Success of the Graduate Scheme and placing graduates before they leave the region.
- The Communication Plan, advertising to the general public, the use of Podcasts and social media.

The Cardiff Capital Region Director explained that she would be submitting a report to the next meeting regarding the state of the region, competitiveness and resilience.

40. **2019-20 ANNUAL BUSINESS PLAN - QUARTER 2 PERFORMANCE**

The Cardiff Capital Region Director presented a report on the Quarter 2 reporting position against the 2019/20 City Deal Business Plan as reported to Cabinet on 19 December 2019. The report also provided an update of actual expenditure as at Quarter 2 against the approved Wider Investment Fund budgets as set out in the Annual Business Plan for the financial year 2019/20.

The Cardiff Capital Region Director referred to the continued changes to the format, structure and shape of the report in order to provide a balanced scorecard approach as set out in the Annual Business Plan. She explained that there was also a wider programme of activity including contributing to current policy debates, delivery of evidence to Welsh Affairs Select Committee and participation in Regional Investment board and ministerial task and finish groups.

41. **FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME, TRAINING AND SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS**

The Democratic Services Manager reported the items scheduled for the March 2020 meeting and he added that he was checking availability for a date for the next meeting in late March 2020.