

Minutes of the meeting of the **Cwm Taf Public Services Board Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee** held at the Valleys Innovation Centre, Navigation Park, Abercynon on Monday, 18th December, 2017 at 1 p.m.

PRESENT

County Borough Councillor J.Bonetto (Chair – Rhondda Cynon Taf)

County Borough Councillors

Merthyr Tydfil

C.Barry
D.Isaac
D.Sammon
T.Skinner (Vice-Chair)

Rhondda Cynon Taf

E.George
G.Thomas

Statutory Co-opted Member (non-executive)

Mr.M.Jehu – Cwm Taf University Health Board

Officers

Ms.K.May – Head of Democratic Services (Rhondda Cynon Taf)
Mr.H.Jones – Scrutiny Manager (Merthyr Tydfil)
Ms.L.Lawson – Performance Manager (Rhondda Cynon Taf)
Ms.S.Davies – Partnerships Manager
Mr.M.Thomas – Head of Corporate Services (Merthyr Tydfil)
Mr.A.Mogford – Business Change Manager (Merthyr Tydfil)
Ms.S.Lyons-Nicholas – Performance Officer (Merthyr Tydfil)

Ms.A.Jones – Consultant for Public Health Wales and Cwm Taf Well-being Plan Lead

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and the necessary introductions were made.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from County Borough Councillors L.M.Adams and P.Jarman (Rhondda Cynon Taf) and J.Amos (Merthyr Tydfil).

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

RESOLVED - to note that in accordance with the Members' Code of Conduct there were no declarations of interest made at the meeting pertaining to the agenda.

4. CHANGE TO THE ORDER OF THE AGENDA

The Committee agreed that the agenda would be considered out of sequence and as detailed in the minutes set out hereunder.

5. DRAFT CWM TAF WELL-BEING PLAN

The Joint Committee received Ms.A.Jones, Consultant for Public Health Wales and the Lead Officer for the Cwm Taf Well-being Plan who gave the background and process of the draft Cwm Taf Well-being Plan which would assist Members in forming a constructive challenge and making their views to the draft Plan which they had before them and as required by the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act, 2015.

Ms.Jones reported that the findings from the consultation that was undertaken on the Well-being Assessment which was published in March of this year, were mapped into well-being objectives which in turn informed the draft Well-being Plan for the Cwm Taf area.

Ms.Jones reported on the extensive consultation exercise that has been undertaken in order that the views gathered will inform and shape the final plan.

Following the observations made by Ms.Jones, Members gave their views on the objectives contained within the Draft Plan, one being increasing the employment rates thereby giving the right skills to help people get a job as it was felt by one Member that the area which he represents is badly polluted and very industrialised so would be detrimental to people's health. He was therefore concerned that there was no reference in the draft plan to air quality.

In response, Ms. Jones reported that there are a lot of mining areas within Cwm Taf which caused a lot of deaths, there are requirements within the Act to introduce high quality jobs that are safe and beneficial to the communities. Pollution from transport was also a problem especially in the valleys where there are narrow roads. The Public Services Board is looking at ways to address air quality and integrate it into the plan, the plans for the Metro would play a significant part in alleviating the problems associated with air pollution.

She reported that initiatives such as the Apprenticeship scheme will be further developed thus allowing people to undertake training in the job that they wish to do. Another opportunity that was also being explored was where individuals wished to work within the areas of Health as people could start as a support worker in a GP Practise or on a hospital ward and they could be trained up to be, for example, a nurse. People could also study for degrees and other such courses whilst undertaking their job. The Chair indicated that she has been approached by many of her constituents who are qualified as nurses but have got to wait approximately 18 months before they can get back into the workplace and be retrained. In response, Ms.A.Jones reported that this concern would be fed back to the PSB.

In response to a further query raised by a Member in respect of targets and timescales for delivery of the objectives, Ms.Jones stated that the draft plan is out for consultation at the moment and is a general overview. Once the consultation process has been complete and the statutory partners have agreed the plan then timescales and targets will be addressed which will assist Members in their scrutiny role.

The Vice-Chair reported that under Objective 1 there were opportunities for working with communities to make sure they have what they need and she was particularly interested in the Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and queried what skills and training would be offered to safeguard those communities. She further queried how this together with the cross working between the third sector and public sector would be measured.

Ms.Jones indicated that how the progress would be measured in respect of both the ACEs and the cross working would be a challenge but they would continue to work with communities to maybe design a bespoke service. These were matters that would also be brought to the attention of the PSB.

Following a discussion, when Ms.Jones outlined the next steps and indicated that the Well-being plan would be published by the 3rd May, 2018 as it must be done within a year of the county borough elections. The Chair thanked her for attending today's meeting and indicated that the views of Members would be forwarded to the PSB within the deadline of the 19th December, 2017.

6. MINUTES

RESOLVED – to approve as an accurate record the minutes of the inaugural meeting of the Cwm Taf Public Services Board Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on the 20th February, 2017.

7. MATTERS ARISING

(1) *Minute No.5.2(1)* –

The Head of Democratic Services informed Members that approaches had been made to the three statutory organisations inviting non executive members to serve on this Joint Committee when both the South Wales Fire & Rescue Service and Natural Resources Wales had declined and that Mr.M.Jehu who was in attendance at today's meeting had been nominated by Cwm Taf University Health Board.

Following a discussion, it was suggested that an elected Member from either of the two authorities (RCT and Merthyr Tydfil) who has been nominated to sit on the South Wales Fire & Rescue Service be invited to attend meetings of this Joint Committee as and when appropriate, as he/she would have an understanding of the workings of that organisation.

(2) Minute No.5.2(3) –

The Head of Democratic Services advised Members that following the advertisement for the co-option of two residents (one from RCT and one from Merthyr Tydfil) to serve on the JOSC as Publically Appointed Independent co-opted Members, applications had been received from individuals of both areas. However, as the Vice-Chair had not been appointed until fairly recently, no appointments had been made.

A general discussion ensued in respect of the co-option of members onto the JOSC and it was

RESOLVED -

1. that arrangements be made for the shortlisted applicants to be interviewed by the Chair and Vice Chair of this Joint Committee;
2. that representatives be invited to serve as co-opted members on the JOSC from the following organisations:-
 - Ambulance Service
 - Community Health Council
3. That the Head of Democratic Services of Caerphilly County Borough Council be invited to attend the next meeting of this Joint Committee to give her views on the arrangements that were put in place within her respective authority for the co-option of individuals.

8. TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE CWM TAF PUBLIC SERVICES BOARD JOINT OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Following the inaugural meeting of this Joint Committee held on the 20th February, 2017, Members had before them the Terms of Reference of the Cwm Taf Public Services Board which included the `tracked changes` that had been made in accordance with Minute No.5(1) of that meeting and it was **RESOLVED –**

1. to agree to terms of reference of this JOSC;
2. That the Chair and/or Vice-Chair attend meetings, as and when felt appropriate of the Cwm Taf PSB in order to gain a better understanding of the work undertaken by its members.

9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

AGREED - that the next meeting of the JOSC be held on the 12th February, 2018 at 10 a.m. at the Valleys Innovation Centre, Abercynon, subject to the availability of the room.

These minutes are subject to approval at the next meeting of the Joint Committee

**J.BONETTO
CHAIR**

The meeting closed at 2.12 p.m.