

Mae'r cofnodion hyn yn amodol ar gymeradwyaeth yng nghyfarfod priodol nesaf y Pwyllgor.

These Minutes are subject to approval at the next appropriate meeting of the Committee.

RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

HEALTH & WELLBEING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting of the Health & Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee held at the County Borough Council Offices, The Pavilions, Cambrian Park, Clydach Vale on Monday, 16th April, 2018 at 5 p.m.

Present

County Borough Councillor R.Yeo – in the Chair

County Borough Councillors

J. Davies	W. Owen	J. Williams
S. Evans	L. Jones	C. J. Willis

In Attendance

County Borough Councillor R. Lewis – Deputy Cabinet Member for Prosperity and Wellbeing

County Borough Councillor G. Thomas – Vice Chair of Overview and Scrutiny

Officers

Mr G. Isingrini – Group Director, Community & Children's

Mr. P. Mee – Director, Public Health, Protection & Community Services

Mr N. Elliott – Service Director, Adult Services

Mr A. Wilkins – Head of Legal - Corporate and Democratic Services

41 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from County Borough Councillors J. Elliott, L. De Vet, M. Forey and A. Roberts

42 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

RESOLVED – that in accordance with the Members Code of Conduct, there were no personal interests made at the meeting pertaining to the agenda.

43 MINUTES

RESOLVED – To approve as an accurate record the minutes of the meeting of the Health & Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee held on the:-

- 30th January 2018
- 20th February 2018

44 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.

45 THE DEVELOPMENT OF COMMUNITY HUBS IN RHONDDA CYNON TAF

The Director for Public Health, Protection & Community Services presented his report with the purpose of updating Scrutiny on the development of Community Hubs across Rhondda Cynon Taf.

The Director outlined the background to the Council's approach to building resilient communities through the promotion of early intervention and prevention services which includes the development of the Community Hubs. The Hubs represent the bringing together of services and partnerships which will better serve the communities of Rhondda Cynon Taf and enable residents to access a range of services and support at an early stage from within one or a number of closely located buildings.

Members were informed that the proposal to develop the Community Hubs has derived from a number of strategic priorities such as the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015, the Cwm Taf Regional Plan 2018-23 and the Our Valleys, Our Future Delivery Plan. The latter having been established in July 2016 by the First Minister which created a Ministerial Taskforce for the South Wales Valleys and published its high-level action plan 'Our Valleys, Our Future', setting out three key priorities which centres around bringing together existing or creating new community hubs. It was also confirmed that following an expression of interest to Welsh Government by the Cwm Taf Public Services Board (PSB) which was approved in June 2017, Cwm Taf is now one of five Children First pioneer areas in Wales and will develop and pilot two Community Zones in Gurnos, Merthyr Tydfil and Ferndale in Rhondda Cynon Taf.

The Director referred to the Funding Flexibilities Pathfinder Project, of which Rhondda Cynon Taf is one of eight Local Authorities in Wales to participate with Welsh Government. The project merges several funding streams into the Early Intervention and Prevention Support Grant. The ten programmes included in the pathfinder projects were listed together with five programmes where it has been proposed the flexible funding should be best directed.

The Director explained the objectives and expected outcomes of developing the Community Hubs within Rhondda Cynon Taf, to make better use of community assets, to identify opportunities for further partnership working and to explore different ways of working so that better public services are joined up and accessible. Scrutiny was advised of the specific progress made within several locations across the County Borough such as Mountain Ash where it is proposed to develop the existing Day Centre as a Community Hub. This will enable the co location of services for the benefit of local residents together with a library

service and ICT suite which would provide support for employment and skills development. A four week consultation was undertaken in respect of the Mountain Ash proposal from the 26th February 2018, the results of which will be considered by Cabinet on the 19th April 2018. Likewise it was reported that a four week focussed consultation had been undertaken in respect of the proposal in Ferndale which would also be considered at the same Cabinet meeting.

The Director for Public Health, Protection & Community Services concluded his report by reiterating the key advantages of the community hubs to align community services under one location to facilitate local partnerships and internal community networks and support a community led approach. He added that the Community Hubs represent a good use of local assets where the Council will explore opportunities to work alongside the third sector to enhance the support offered to the local community.

Following the presentation the Director invited Members to scrutinise the contents of the report.

In response to a query concerning how the neighbourhood networks and location of the Hubs would be identified the Director referred Members to the report which set out the proposed catchment areas and he explained that they had been determined based on a number of criteria such as population size, identifiable communities and existing community support. It was explained that a mapping exercise would be carried out to identify Hub buildings from existing public and third sector assets and services together with input from the community and Elected Members who would be able to provide local information and knowledge concerning their community needs.

The Deputy Cabinet Member for Prosperity and Wellbeing explained that funding would be shaped by local circumstances and is very much dependent on existing facilities and assets within the individual areas. He added that the Council would look to target resources in areas of greatest need.

A Member expressed concern in respect of the proposal to develop the existing Mountain Ash Day Centre as a Community Hub, specifically concerns about the space allocated to the library provision in the Community Hub being less than in its current location. Further comments were made in respect of Cabinet considering the responses to the consultation exercise at its meeting on the 19th April 2018 and, subject to consideration of that consultation exercise, Cabinet being recommended to approve the development of the proposed Community Hub at Mountain Ash Day Centre as the model going forward. Some Members considered that this specific proposal warranted further scrutiny by the Health & Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee to ensure it reflects the needs of the local community.

Scrutiny was informed that each, individual proposal would be based on the needs of that particular community and that each model would be determined by many local factors and importantly needed to be sustainable in the long term.

Following consideration of the report, it was **RESOLVED:-**

1. To acknowledge the contents of the report;
2. To request that Cabinet at its meeting on 19th April 2018 defer consideration of the consultation responses and other recommendations in respect of the report relating to the proposed Community Hub in Mountain Ash in view of the concerns raised by the Health & Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee; and
3. That the Health & Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee undertakes further scrutiny of the proposed Mountain Ash Community Hub model to ensure it reflects the needs of the community and report its findings back to Cabinet.

46 UPDATE IN RESPECT OF THE IMPLEMENTING THE SOCIAL SERVICES AND WELL-BEING ACT

The Service Director of Adult Social Services presented the report of the Group Director, Community & Children's Services in respect of progress made and robust self assessment process in place following the implementation of the Social Services Well-Being (Wales) Act, 2014.

Scrutiny was reminded that in 2014 and 2015 Rhondda Cynon Taf undertook a significant programme to prepare for the commencement of the new legislation from April 2016 and since that time the Local Authority has been able to demonstrate a commitment to the changes required. The Service Director explained that reports evidencing the good progress have previously been presented to the Health & Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee in relation to the preparation leading up to and including the implementation of the Act.

The Service Director reported on the long term objectives facing the Local Authority, many of which are being carried out in conjunction with other organisations and he referred to some of the challenges ahead such as balancing an increasing demand for care and support with available resources and further improving the Council's Quality Assurance and Risk Assessment arrangements. Scrutiny was provided with a summary of progress to date which had been encompassed through the report delivered by the Cabinet Member for Adult and Children's Community Services at a recent Scrutiny meeting.

In conclusion the Service Director of Adult Social Services delivered a summary of performance within some of the individual Service Areas such as the Stay Well@Home Service which has demonstrated that initial performance is very positive, evidencing that the new service is having a significant impact on reducing hospital admissions and the length of stay at both hospital sites of the Royal Glamorgan Hospital in Llantrisant and Prince Charles Hospital in Merthyr Tydfil. In view of the success of the initiative Scrutiny requested a visit to the Stay Well@Home Service to see first hand how it operates.

Following consideration of the report it was **RESOLVED:-**

1. To acknowledge the good progress made and robust self assessment process in place following the implementation of the Social Services and Well-Being (Wales) Act 2014; and
2. That Scrutiny undertakes a visit to the Stay Well@Home Service.

Cllr R. Yeo
Chair

The Meeting closed at 5.45p.m.