

RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held at the County Borough Council Offices, The Pavilions, Cambrian Park, Clydach Vale on Monday, 10th July, 2017 at 5 p.m.

PRESENT

County Borough Councillor L.M.Adams – in the Chair

County Borough Councillors

H.Boggis	J.James
J.Bonetto	P.Jarman
J.Brencher	G.Thomas

Non Committee Member(s) in Attendance

County Borough Councillor M.Webber – Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Council Business

County Borough Councillor C.J.Willis – Scrutiny Performance Management Co-ordinator

County Borough Councillors S.Bradwick and T.Williams – Chair/Vice Chair respectively of Public Service Delivery, Communities & Prosperity Scrutiny Committee

County Borough Councillors R.Yeo and J.Elliott – Chair/Vice Chair respectively of Health & Well-Being Scrutiny Committee

County Borough Councillor S.Rees-Owen – Chair of Children & Young People Scrutiny Committee

County Borough Councillor G.Holmes – Vice Chair of Finance & Performance Scrutiny Committee

County Borough Councillor K.L.Jones – Vice-Chair of the Audit Committee

Co-opted/Ex Officio Members in Attendance

Mr.J.Fish – Elected Parent/Governor Representative (Education)

Mrs.S.Jones – Elected Parent/Governor Representative (Education)

Mr.R.Hull – Chair and Lay Member of the Audit Committee

Officers in Attendance

Mr.C.B.Jones – Director, Legal & Democratic Services

Mr.C.Hanagan – Director, Cabinet & Public Relations

Ms.K.May – Head of Democratic Services

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from County Borough Councillors E.George and J.Harries.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

RESOLVED – to note that there were no declarations of interest made at the meeting pertaining to the agenda.

3 MINUTES

RESOLVED – to approve as accurate records, the minutes of the meetings of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on the 6th and 15th March, 2017.

4 OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE'S WORK PROGRAMME

In her report, the Head of Democratic Services advised Members of the requirement to devise and publish a Work Programme for each of the Council's Scrutiny Committees in accordance with Part 4 of the Constitution (Overview and Scrutiny Procedure rules). She also reminded the Committee of its role in relation to the co-ordination of the four thematic Scrutiny Committees and its responsibility for approving the Work Programmes developed by those respective Scrutiny Committees; and being mindful of this the Chair invited the Chairs and Vice-Chairs of the four themed Scrutiny Committees together with the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Audit Committee to this meeting to give them the opportunity to consider the proposed list of matters requiring consideration by the Cabinet over the 2017/18 municipal year (attached to the report at Appendix 1 and as reported to the Cabinet on the 22nd June, 2017) to ascertain if there were any topics that could undergo pre-scrutiny by their respective Committees.

Also in attendance at the meeting were the Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for Council Business, County Borough Councillor M.Webber and the Director, Cabinet & Public Relations, Mr.C.Hanagan

Prior to the Members of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee giving consideration to the Committee's Work Programme (attached to the report at Appendix 2), Members received the Director, Cabinet & Public Relations who reported that in the near future, further improvements were to be made to the Cabinet's Work Programme, whereby there would be a fuller description rather than a brief outline of the topics that were to be included for consideration at future Cabinet meetings, which would assist Scrutiny Members when considering items that could undergo pre-scrutiny.

The Director, Cabinet & Public Relations reported that the current Work Programme was quite light compared to previous months as this was the first Work Programme produced following the recent County Borough elections and that it will be reviewed and updated on a quarterly basis. In September, the Cabinet Work Programme would contain more items and not just the items that are reported on an annual basis.

The Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for Council Business confirmed that future Work Programmes of the Cabinet would contain more detail on each of

the topics and she welcomed the role of Scrutiny Members in selecting topics to undergo pre-scrutiny. She was also pleased that Members were considering the possibility of holding meetings in different venues outside of the Council chamber thus encouraging public engagement in the scrutiny function.

Following the comments made by the Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for Council Business and the Director, Cabinet & Public Relations, the Chair thanked them for their attendance and they left the meeting.

In addition to the items that could be selected for pre-scrutiny as shown on the Cabinet Work Programme (Appendix 1), Members gave consideration to the proposed items as listed on Appendix 2 to the report, which had been compiled following a recent meeting held between the Chair and Vice-Chair of this Committee and the Head of Democratic Services.

At the meeting, concern was expressed by one of the Members in relation to notices of motions that had been considered at meetings of Council had not been acted upon.

Following a discussion, it was **RESOLVED** -

1. That the Extra Care Strategy as shown in the Cabinet Work Programme undergo pre-scrutiny by Members of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee;
2. That the issue in respect of Fire Safety Arrangements for Social Housing, Supported Housing, Houses in Multiple Occupation and Council Owned Buildings as considered at the Cabinet meeting on the 22nd June, 2017 be a matter for consideration by Members of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and not the Public Services Delivery, Communities & Prosperity Scrutiny Committee as referred to in the Cabinet Decision Notice, in view of the cross cutting issues;
3. That at its next meeting the Democratic Services Committee receives an update on the Document Management Proposals as shown in the Cabinet Work Programme;
4. That an update be provided at the next meeting of this Committee in respect of the Notice of Motion as considered by Council on the 23rd March, 2016 (Minute No.135 refers) regarding supporting the Welsh Steel Industry in that "*In an effort to support the Welsh Steel Industry, this Council will, in future, make it clear in its Contract and Tender specification documents, that as a preference, all work and structures requiring the use of steel should be sourced from Welsh Steel Works*"
5. That the Notice of Motion considered at the Council meeting held on the 30th November, 2016 (Minute No.80 refers) in respect of the

cessation of burial or cremation fees charged for the funerals of veterans and service men and women be referred to the Finance and Performance Scrutiny Committee;

6. That the Notice of Motion considered at the Council meeting held on the 11th January,, 2017 (Minute No.101 refers) in respect of supporting the Welsh Hearts campaign to provide defibrillators in public places be referred to the Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee.

L.M.Adams
Chair

The meeting closed at 5.30 p.m.