

RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee held at the County Borough Council Headquarters, The Pavilions, Clydach Vale on Wednesday, 20th January, 2016 at 3.30 p.m.

PRESENT

County Borough Councillor R.W.Smith – in the Chair

County Borough Councillors

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| W.J.David | I.Pearce |
| C.Davies | (Mrs.)S.Rees |
| S.Evans | G.Stacey |

In Attendance

County Borough Councillor A.Crimmings – Cabinet Member for Environment, Leisure & Culture

Officers in Attendance

Mr.C.Bradshaw – Chief Executive
Mr.G.Isingrini – Group Director, Community & Children's Services
Mr.P.Nicholls – Head of Litigation
Mr.D.Batten – Head of Leisure, Parks & Countryside
Mr.P.Griffiths – Service Director, Performance & Improvement
Ms.S.Kochalski – Leisure Operations Manager (North)
Mr.K.Nicholls – Leisure Operations Manager (South)
Ms.K.May – Head of Democratic Services

40. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest pertaining to the agenda.

REPORT OF THE GROUP DIRECTOR, COMMUNITY & CHILDREN'S SERVICES

41. MEDIUM TERM STRATEGIC PLAN – RCT LEISURE SERVICES 2015-2020

The Committee were informed that at the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on the 21st October, 2015, during consideration of the Cabinet's Work Programme, Members agreed that the Leisure Services Strategy 2015-2020 should undergo pre-scrutiny due to the cross cutting nature of the strategy that would impact on all age groups within the County Borough and Cabinet were advised accordingly at its meeting on the 22nd October, 2015. However, at the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on the 18th November, 2015, Members were of the view that it was more appropriate that the review should be undertaken by Members of this Committee.

Members of this Committee were therefore asked to scrutinise, comment and make recommendations on the draft Medium Term (2015-20) Strategic Plan for Leisure Services, prior to submission to the Cabinet for final approval.

The Head of Leisure, Parks and Countryside introduced the strategy to Members as appended to his report and with the aid of PowerPoint slides, he together with the Leisure Operations Managers for the Cynon and Taf areas outlined in greater detail the main aims of the strategic plan, many of which related to the goals contained within the Wellbeing of the Future Generations (Wales) Act, 2015 (effective as from the 1st April, 2016).

The Leisure Strategy for RCT included:-

- Its contribution to the national and RCT priorities
- The evidence of need
- The proposed principles and priorities for RCT
- The proposed key actions
- The proposed performance and outcome measures

Following the presentation and the comments made by the Officers on how the Council intends to deliver and support an increase in the physical activity levels of the residents of Rhondda Cynon Taf and in doing so contribute to improving quality of life and wellbeing; Members made comments.

One Member referred to the goals set out on page 19 of the report and queried how they were going to be achieved and also how the role of / support to local groups could be reinforced within the strategy. Officers indicated that the draft Action Plan appended to the report showed the key Partners that would work with the Authority to ensure the most efficient and effective use of the resources available and would be revisited to reinforce this element of the strategy. The Chair indicated that Communities First areas could also assist in achieving these goals (e.g. the provision of transport so that people could access the facilities) and requested that this be incorporated into the strategy.

A Member also indicated that it would be beneficial for all concerned if those individuals in the middle/older age groups could be captured as it would reduce the risk of them developing major chronic diseases such as coronary heart disease and diabetes and would increase their life expectancy. The Member added that there was therefore a need for the strategy to set out more specifically the areas / age groups etc., to be targeted along with the rationale / intended outcomes from this approach.

One Member commented that the links to working with the Health Service to help improve the well being of residents needs to be reinforced / play a more central role within the strategy as well as improving the use of the GP Referral Scheme.

Following a discussion and subject to addressing the feedback provided by Members, the Committee supported the draft Leisure Strategy. The Chair

concluded by also suggesting that the Leisure Strategy should be renamed the `Wellbeing Strategy`.

**R.W.SMITH
CHAIRMAN**

The meeting closed at 4.30 p.m.

