



City and County of Swansea

Minutes of the **Cabinet**

Multi-Location Meeting - Gloucester Room, Guildhall / MS

Teams

Thursday, 23 March 2023 at 10.00 am

Present: Councillor R C Stewart (Chair) Presided

Councillor(s)

C Anderson
H J Gwilliam
A S Lewis
A H Stevens

Councillor(s)

R Francis-Davies
D H Hopkins
A Pugh

Councillor(s)

L S Gibbard
E J King
R V Smith

Officer(s)

Huw Evans
Tracey Meredith
Martin Nicholls
Ben Smith

Head of Democratic Services
Chief Legal Officer / Monitoring Officer
Chief Executive
Director of Finance / Section 151 Officer

Also present

Councillor(s): P M Black

Apologies for Absence

Councillor(s):

149. Disclosures of Personal and Prejudicial Interests.

In accordance with the Code of Conduct adopted by the City and County of Swansea, the following interests were declared:

- 1) Councillor A Pugh declared a Personal & Prejudicial Interest in Minute 156 "Local Authority Governor Appointments" and withdrew from the meeting prior to its consideration".
- 2) Councillor R V Smith declared a Personal & Prejudicial Interest in Minute 156 "Local Authority Governor Appointments" and stated that he had dispensation from the Standards Committee to Stay, Speak but Not Vote on matters relating to the Appointment of Local Authority Governors.
- 3) Councillor L S Gibbard declared a Personal Interest in Minute 159 "Building Capital Maintenance Programme 2023-2024".

150. Minutes.

Resolved that the Minutes of the meeting(s) listed below be approved and signed as a correct record:

- 1) Cabinet held on 16 February 2023.

151. Announcements of the Leader of the Council.

1) Explosion at Clydach Road, Morriston

The Leader of Council referred to the recent tragic death following an explosion at Clydach Road, Morriston. He gave condolences to the family on behalf of the victim.

He also thanked the Swansea Council Officer, the Housing Team and the Emergency Services for supporting the community.

2) Condolences, Councillor Hazel Morris

The Leader of the Council referred to the recent death of Councillor Hazel Morris. He stated that Councillor Morris had represented the Penderry Ward for 15 years.

All present observed a minute's silence as a mark of sympathy and respect.

3) Freeport at Milford Haven & Port Talbot

The Leader of the Council welcomed the announcement that Neath Port Talbot Council and Pembrokeshire Council as part of the Swansea Bay City Region had been successful in their bid to have Freeports at Milford Haven & Port Talbot.

152. Public Question Time.

No questions were asked.

153. Councillors' Question Time.

No questions were asked.

154. Pre-decision Scrutiny - National 20 Mph Default Speed Limit Including Consideration of the Exemptions Process.(Verbal)

Councillor P M Black provided pre-decision feedback.

155. National 20 Mph Default Speed Limit Including Consideration of the Exemptions Process.*

Call In Procedure - Urgency: *This decision is exempt from the Authority's Call In Procedure as "either the Head of Paid Service, the Section 151 Officer or the Monitoring Officer certifies that any delay likely to be caused by the Call In Procedure could seriously prejudice the Council or the Public Interest including failure to comply with Statutory requirements".*

The Cabinet Member for Environment & Infrastructure submitted a report that outlined the proposal to make the national default speed limit on restricted roads 20mph and detail those roads which will be exempt and remain at 30mph. The report sets out the consultation process to be followed and seeks confirmation of the approach taken.

Resolved that:

- 1) The mandatory Welsh Government requirement to implement a default 20mph in Swansea be noted.
- 2) The approach detailed in the report in respect of the implementation of the 20mph default speed limit in Swansea be endorsed.
- 3) Authority be delegated to the Cabinet Member for Environment and Infrastructure to approve the exceptions agreed with individual Ward Members leading to the formal public advertisement of the appropriate Traffic Regulation Orders.

156. Local Authority Governor Appointments.

The Local Authority Governors Appointment Group submitted a report, which sought approval of the nominations submitted to fill Local Authority (LA) Governor vacancies on School Governing Bodies.

Resolved that:

- 1) The following nominations recommended by the Director of Education in conjunction with the Cabinet Member for Education Improvement, Learning & Skills be approved:

1)	Crwys Primary School	Michael Clinch
2)	Llanrhidian Primary School	Laura Alexander
3)	St Thomas Primary School	Rev Steven Bunting
4)	Talycopa Primary School	Cllr Alyson Pugh
5)	Tre Uchaf Primary School	Rachel Rees
6)	YGG Gellionnen	Helen Jones
7)	YGG Lonlas	Angharad Wooldridge
8)	YGG Pontybrenin	Keith Collins
9)	YGG Tan y Lan	Gareth Huxtable

10)	Y G Bryntawe	David Williams
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157. Quarter 3 2022/23 Performance Monitoring Report.

The Cabinet Member for Corporate Services & Performance submitted a report that outlined the Corporate Performance for Quarter 3 2022/2023.

Resolved that:

- 1) The Council's performance in respect of managing the pandemic and its aftermath and achieving the Council's wellbeing objectives for Quarter 3 of 2022-23 be noted.
- 2) The use of this information to inform executive decisions on resource allocation and, where relevant, corrective actions to manage and improve performance and efficiency in delivering national and local priorities be endorsed.

158. Disabled Facilities & Improvement Grant Programme 2023/24.

The Cabinet Member for Service Transformation submitted a report that provided details of the Disabled Facilities & Improvement Grant Programme and sought approval to include schemes in the 2023/24 Capital Programme. It also sought to comply with Financial Procedure Rule 7 "Capital Programming and Appraisals") - to commit and authorise schemes as per the Capital Programme.

Resolved that:

- 1) The Disabled Facilities and Improvement Grant Programme as detailed in the report be approved, including its financial implications, and that the Programme be included in the 2023/24 capital budget.

159. Building Capital Maintenance Programme 2023/24.

The Cabinet Member for Economy, Finance & Strategy submitted a report that sought to agree the schemes to be funded through the Capital Maintenance Programme.

Resolved that:

- 1) The proposed capital maintenance schemes as listed in Appendix A of the report be approved.
- 2) The schemes and their financial implications as identified in Appendix C of the report be authorised to be included in the capital programme.

160. Capital Allocation to Highway Infrastructure Assets 2023-24.

The Cabinet Member for Environment & Infrastructure submitted a report that sought to confirm the Capital Work Programme for highway infrastructure assets.

Resolved that:

- 1) The proposed indicative allocations, together with the Financial Implications set out in Appendix A of the report be approved and included in the Capital Programme.
- 2) Authority be delegated to the Head of Highways and Transportation with the agreement of the Cabinet Member for Environment and Infrastructure to prioritise, finalise and allocate funding to the appropriate schemes in line with the prioritisation approach detailed in this report.

161. Third Sector Compact Agreement Update.

The Cabinet Member for Wellbeing submitted a report that provided an update on Swansea's Third Sector Compact Agreement and the work to date of the Compact Liaison Group who were formed as part of the updated Swansea Compact Agreement with the Voluntary Sector in 2018.

Resolved that:

- 1) The report be noted.

162. Swansea Public Toilet Strategy – Revised 2023.

The Cabinet Member for Community submitted a report that sought approval for Swansea's revised Public Toilet Strategy.

Resolved that:

- 1) The revised Swansea Public Toilet Strategy be approved.
- 2) The future actions for delivery as set out in paragraph 3 of the report be approved and authority be delegated to the Director of Place and Cabinet Member for Community to make any amendments or changes to the delivery plan.

163. National Empty Homes Scheme 2023 – 2025.

The Cabinet Member for Service Transformation submitted a report that sought to provide details of the Welsh Government National Empty Homes Grant scheme and sought approval to participate in the scheme including match funding requirements and to include the scheme within the 2023/2024 and 2024/25 capital programmes to comply with Financial Procedure Rule 7 "Capital Programming and Appraisals" - to commit and authorise schemes to the Capital Programme.

Resolved that:

- 1) The Council's participation in the National Empty Homes Grant scheme and approves the provision of the match funding requirements be approved.

- 2) The inclusion of the National Empty Homes Grant scheme in the 2023-24 and 2024-25 capital programmes be approved.

164. FPR7 Report - The Welsh Government Transforming Towns - Placemaking Grant.

The Cabinet Member for Investment, Regeneration & Tourism submitted a report that sought to comply with Financial Procedure Rule 7 "Capital Programming and Appraisals" - to commit and authorise schemes to the Capital Programme.

Resolved that:

- 1) The fact that the grant application as set out in the report has been approved by Welsh Government as part of the 2022/23-2024/25 capital bidding round for the Welsh Government Transforming Towns Programme be noted.
- 2) The addition of the Welsh Government Transforming Towns Placemaking Grant Programme funding to the capital programme to support the delivery of the schemes outlined in paragraph 2.2 of the report be approved.
- 3) It be noted that an inter authority agreement is being prepared to protect the Council's position as lead Authority in distributing the funding received from Welsh Government to deliver the schemes on a regional basis and authority be delegated to the Head of Planning and City Regeneration in consultation with the Chief Legal Officer to enter into the agreement on behalf of the Council.

165. Business Rates – Temporary Rate Relief Scheme (Wales) 2023/24.

The Chief Finance Officer (Section 151 Officer) submitted a report that provided information and sought the adoption of a temporary Retail, Leisure and Hospitality Rates Relief Scheme relating to Business Rates, which has been introduced by Welsh Government for the financial year 2023/24.

Resolved that:

- 1) The details of the scheme set out in the report be noted.
- 2) The rate relief scheme outlined in the report for 2023/24 be adopted.

166. Urgent Item

The Leader of the Council stated that pursuant to Paragraph 100B (4) (b) of the Local Government Act 1972, he considered that the "Acquisition, Swansea City Centre" report should be considered at the meeting as a matter of urgency.

167. Exclusion of the Public

Cabinet were requested to exclude the public from the meeting during consideration of the item(s) of business identified in the recommendations to the report(s) on the grounds that it / they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as set out in the exclusion paragraph of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) (Wales) Order 2007 relevant to the items of business set out in the report(s).

Cabinet considered the Public Interest Test in deciding whether to exclude the public from the meeting for the item of business where the Public Interest Test was relevant as set out in the report.

Resolved that the public be excluded for the following item(s) of business.

(Closed Session)

168. Acquisition, Swansea City Centre

Reason for Urgency: The acquisition is required to be completed this financial year and must comply with the grant conditions.

Call In Procedure - Urgency: *This decision is exempt from the Authority's Call In Procedure as "either the Head of Paid Service, the Section 151 Officer or the Monitoring Officer certifies that any delay likely to be caused by the Call In Procedure could seriously prejudice the Council or the Public Interest including failure to comply with Statutory requirements".*

The Cabinet Member for Investment, Regeneration & Tourism submitted a report that sought approval to finalise the acquisition within Swansea City Centre as detailed in the report.

Resolved that the amended recommendations as detailed be approved.

Note: The meeting was adjourned for 23 minutes (11.27-11.50) during this Item to allow for the Appointments Committee to meet as scheduled.

The meeting ended at 12.32 pm

Chair

Call In Procedure – Relevant Dates	
Minutes Published:	23 March 2023
Call In Period Expires (3 Clear Working Days after Publication):	23.59 on 28 March 2023
Decision Comes into force:	29 March 2023