



City and County of Swansea

Notice of Meeting

You are invited to attend a Meeting of the

Education & Skills Policy Development Committee

At: Committee Room 5 - Guildhall, Swansea

On: Wednesday, 12 June 2019

Time: 4.00 pm

Chair: Councillor Robert Smith

Membership:

Councillors: J P Curtice, M Durke, F M Gordon, B Hopkins, O G James, L R Jones, M A Langstone, M B Lewis and D W W Thomas

Agenda

Page No.

- | | | |
|----------|---|--------------|
| 1 | Apologies for Absence. | |
| 2 | Disclosures of Personal and Prejudicial Interests.
www.swansea.gov.uk/disclosureofinterests | |
| 3 | Terms of Reference. (For Information) | 1 - 2 |
| 4 | Minutes.
To approve and sign the Minutes of the previous meeting(s) as a correct record. | 3 - 6 |
| 5 | Feedback on Pupil Development Grant Report to Cabinet. (Verbal - Chair) | |
| 6 | Workplan 2019/2020. (Discussion) | |

Next Meeting: Wednesday, 10 July 2019 at 4.00 pm

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Huw Evans'.

Huw Evans
Head of Democratic Services
Tuesday, 4 June 2019

Contact: Democratic Services - 636824

Agenda Item 3

Policy Development Committees (PDCs)

There are 5 Committees:

- Economy & Infrastructure;
- Education & Skills;
- People
- Poverty Reduction;
- Transformation & Future Council.

Purpose:

The PDCs are committees of Council with the purpose of development of the Council's Corporate Policies for consideration and adoption by Cabinet and / or Council as appropriate.

a) **Membership & Frequency of Meetings:**

- i) Non-Executive Members are eligible to be members of the PDCs;
- ii) Executive (Cabinet) Members are **not** eligible to be members of the PDC's;
- iii) Frequency of meetings is a matter for the Chair depending on workload; however, it is anticipated that formal Committee meetings shall be held monthly or as dictated by the work plan. In addition to formal Committee meetings, Informal Working Groups may be undertaken, if the work plan dictates;
- iv) Chairs of the PDCs will meet to co-ordinate agendas and work plans to ensure consistency and that there is no duplication in work.

b) **Role and Framework:**

The role of the PDC is to:

- i) Have a work plan shared with the relevant Cabinet Member;
- ii) Focus on policy development & delivery by in depth analysis of policy issues and consider future policy development with reference to the Corporate Plan;
- iii) Make a report and/or recommendation to the Cabinet Member / Cabinet / Council in connection with work undertaken;
- iv) Consider mechanisms to encourage and enhance public participation in development of policy and policy options;
- v) Work with Senior Officers in a Team Swansea approach to deliver key corporate priorities; and
- vi) Consider and where appropriate to invite relevant organisations / individuals to contribute to policy development discussions.

c) **Relationship with Scrutiny:**

- i) The role of the PDC is distinct from the Council's scrutiny function of holding to account, questioning and challenging proposed decisions, monitoring the performance of services, and tackling issues of concern thorough inquiries or one-off meetings (which may relate to a broad range of policy / service areas).

- ii) PDCs may refer any issues arising out of their role to the Scrutiny Programme Committee for further consideration / investigation and vice-versa.
 - iii) The PDC Chair will also consider whether any matter under consideration should be referred to the Scrutiny Programme Committee.
 - iv) PDCs and the Scrutiny Programme Committee should ensure awareness of each other's work programmes and consider whether there is any issue of duplication. The Scrutiny Programme Committee should consider relevant advice but has autonomy on decisions about the scrutiny work programme.
- d) **Support:**
- i) The Democratic Services Team shall provide the relevant support to the Policy Development Committees.
 - ii) The Director, Head of Service, or nominated relevant Officer will provide work plan support and research and produce reports as appropriate.

Agenda Item 4



City and County of Swansea

Minutes of the **Education & Skills Policy Development Committee**

Committee Room 5 - Guildhall, Swansea

Wednesday, 10 April 2019 at 4.00 pm

Present: Councillor R V Smith (Chair) Presided

Councillor(s)
J P Curtice

Councillor(s)
M Durke

Councillor(s)
L R Jones

Officer(s)

Gareth Borsden

Democratic Services Officer

Helen Morgan - Rees

Head of Education Achievement & Partnership

Stephanie Williams

Principal Lawyer

Apologies for Absence

Councillor(s): M A Langstone, S Pritchard, K M Roberts and D W W Thomas

41 Disclosures of Personal and Prejudicial Interests.

In accordance with the code of conduct adopted by the City & County of Swansea, no interests were declared.

42 Minutes.

Resolved that the Minutes of the Education & Skills Policy Development Committee held on 13 March 2019 be agreed as a correct record.

43 Pupil Development Grant. (Draft Cabinet Report)

The Chair presented the draft report to Cabinet from the PDC relating to recommendations around the future use of the Pupil Development Grant in schools.

He thanked Helen Morgan-Rees for her work in collating the information discussed by the PDC during their meetings over the past months and for drafting the report to Cabinet.

He verbally outlined several minor amendments to the reports that he would like incorporated into the final report. He would confirm the relevant amendments in writing with Officers following the meeting.

The Committee supported the amendments suggested by the Chair.

Resolved that the report with the amendments outlined by the Chair be approved and referred to Cabinet on 15 May 2019.

44 **New Curriculum. (Verbal)**

Helen Morgan-Rees gave a powerpoint presentation to the PDC relating to information that had been provided by Welsh Government on "Preparing for the New Curriculum".

She outlined a copy of the presentation would be circulated to Members following the meeting.

She indicated that the new curriculum is part of a ten year rolling programme, which is currently halfway through and still 2 years away from actual implementation.

As part of the detailed and informative presentation, the following topic areas were outlined and discussed:

- Mains aims of the new curriculum;
- Reasons behind the changes – current curriculum been in place since 1988/89 and is very prescribed;
- Key recommendations from "Successful Futures" – will now be purpose not content driven and will be have an emphasis on achievement not attainment, with 12 key pedagogical approaches;
- 4 main purposes to support children & young people going forward;
- Definition of new curriculum;
- Support for new curriculum – new national approach to professional learning, new evaluation & improvement procedures;
- Purpose led curriculum and continuation of learning from primary into secondary;
- Knowledge and skills- no bias going forward;
- 5 new ideas about the curriculum – purpose, process, progression, pedagogy & professional learning;
- Main new components – cross curricular responsibilities, wider skill perspective and school level curriculum;
- 6 main areas of new learning – Expressive Arts, Humanities, Health & Well-being, Science & Technology, Mathematics & Numeracy and Languages, Literacy & Communication.
- What matters statements;
- New achievement outcomes & assessment procedures;
- Revised national approach to professional learning to be introduced from Autumn 2019.

She indicated that information on the new curriculum would be circulated to all schools after the easter break for consultation. The consultation period would last until July.

She also detailed the new peer review pilot scheme to be introduced in September for schools which will have Challenge Advisers to assist, the new roadmap being provided to primary schools by Estyn and the revised Estyn inspection arrangements in place going forward.

A suggestion to develop and better utilise the links with colleagues in the "further education" sector was made relating to the peer review groups. The Officer

welcomed this and indicated she would further discuss with colleagues and report back in the future.

Members discussed the topics covered during the presentation and made comments about and asked questions of the Officer, who responded accordingly, particularly around the following subject areas:

More freedom for schools to teach new/alternative subjects, the need for schools/teachers/pupils all to change their approach and attitudes to learning, need for appropriate support to be given to teachers with additional training etc, possibility of viewing/collating the responses to the consultation exercise from Swansea schools.

Members **agreed** to continue look at the issue of the new curriculum and its implications in the forthcoming municipal year.

45 Workplan 2018/2019.

The Chair following on from Minute 44 above, referred to the recent circulation of information relating to Pioneer Schools in Swansea. He referred to previous discussions that the PDC had undertaken relating to these schools and outlined the need to meet with and seek the views from both these and non pioneer schools going forward.

Helen Morgan-Rees also suggested that the views of both UCA and SCASH networks be sought on the new curriculum.

She also reported that further to the discussions at the previous meeting, representatives from local businesses had been appointed to the Skills Partnership Group.

Resolved that both pioneer and non pioneer schools be invited to attend meetings in the new municipal year, and the views of the cluster groups be sought and reported back when available.

The meeting ended at 4.56 pm

Chair



City and County of Swansea

**Minutes of the Education & Skills Policy
Development Committee**

Council Chamber - Guildhall, Swansea

Thursday, 9 May 2019 at 4.15 pm

Present:

Councillor(s)

J P Curtice
B Hopkins
M A Langstone
D W W Thomas

Councillor(s)

M Durke
O G James
M B Lewis

Councillor(s)

F M Gordon
L R Jones
R V Smith

Apologies for Absence

Councillor(s): None.

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- 1 To suspend Council Procedure Rule 12 "Chair of Meetings" in order to allow the Presiding Member to preside over the under mentioned agenda items.**

Resolved that Procedure Rule 12 be suspended in order to allow the Presiding Member to preside over this meeting.

(Councillor D W W Thomas presided)

- 2 To elect a Chair for the Municipal Year 2019 - 2020.**

Resolved that Councillor R V Smith be elected Chair for the 2019-2020 Municipal Year.

(Councillor R V Smith presided)

- 3 To elect a Vice Chair for the Municipal Year 2019 - 2020.**

Resolved that Councillor J P Curtice be elected Vice-Chair for the 2019-2020 Municipal Year.

- 4 Disclosures of Personal and Prejudicial Interests.**

In accordance with the Code of Conduct adopted by the City and County of Swansea, no interests were declared.

The meeting ended at 4.16 pm

Chair