



## City and County of Swansea

### Minutes of the **Cabinet**

#### Multi-Location Meeting - Gloucester Room, Guildhall / MS

#### Teams

Thursday, 21 December 2023 at 10.00 am

**Present:** Councillor R C Stewart (Chair) Presided

#### **Councillor(s)**

C Anderson  
L S Gibbard  
E J King  
A H Stevens

#### **Councillor(s)**

A Anthony  
H J Gwilliam  
A S Lewis

#### **Councillor(s)**

R Francis-Davies  
D H Hopkins  
R V Smith

#### **Officer(s)**

Huw Evans  
Martin Nicholls  
Ben Smith  
Debbie Smith

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

#### **Also present**

Councillor(s): T J Hennegan

#### **Apologies for Absence**

Councillor(s): - N/A

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## 75. 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 R V Smith declared a Personal & Prejudicial Interest in Minute 83 "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.
- 2) Councillor R V Smith declared a Personal Interest in Minute 84 "Regional Education Consortium Amendment to Legal Agreement on Voting within Joint Committee".

## 76. Minutes.

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

- 1) Cabinet held on 16 November 2023.

**77. Announcements of the Leader of the Council.**

**1) Draft Budget Settlement 2024-2025**

The Leader of Council stated that Welsh Government had published the draft Budget settlement 2024-2025.

**2) Swansea Regeneration, & Ambition 2024**

The Leader of the Council stated that several of Swansea's key projects would come to fruition in 2024, these included 71-72 The Kingsway, Place Theatre & Albert Hall. These and other schemes demonstrated the Council's ambition.

**78. Public Question Time.**

No questions were asked.

**79. Councillors' Question Time.**

No questions were asked.

**80. Scrutiny Inquiry into Anti-Social Behaviour.**

The Anti-Social Behaviour Scrutiny Inquiry Panel submitted a report, which presented the findings, conclusions and recommendations resulting from the Scrutiny Panel's Inquiry into Anti-Social Behaviour. Councillor T J Hennegan presented the report.

**Resolved** that:

- 1) The report be noted.
- 2) A written response to the scrutiny recommendations and proposed action(s) be given in due course.

**81. Revenue and Capital Budget Monitoring 2nd Quarter 2023/24.**

The Cabinet Member for Economy, Finance & Strategy submitted a report that outlined the financial monitoring of the 2023/204 revenue and capital budgets, including the delivery of budget savings.

**Resolved** that:

- 1) The comments and variations, including the heightened material uncertainties around equal pay provisions, set out in the report and the actions in hand to seek to address these be noted.
- 2) The virements and the use of the Contingency fund as set out in Paragraph 3.2 of the report and the Inflation provision as set out in Paragraph 4.3 of the

report subject to any further advice from the Section 151 Officer during the year be approved.

- 3) The need for all Directors to continue to minimise service spending in year be reinforced, providing clear recovery plans where they are overspending, recognising that the budget overall is currently balanced only by relying on future (but far from wholly assured) reimbursement from Welsh Government, centrally held contingency budgets and increasingly reserves.
- 4) It be recognised that Directorate cost overspends must be absolutely minimised, through recovery plans, given the proposed material pay provision, in current year by targeted recovery action with a clear expectation of 'tough' rebasing choices to achieve a balanced budget for the 2024/2025 budget round.
- 5) The indicative overspend in Paragraph 6.1 of the report with further actions to be confirmed in subsequent quarters once it is clearer as to the likely final cost of the equal pay award provision be noted.

## **82. Quarter 2 2023/24 Performance Monitoring Report.**

The Cabinet Member for Corporate Services & Performance submitted a report that outlined the corporate performance for Quarter 2 2023/2024.

**Resolved** that:

- 1) The Council's performance achieving the Council's wellbeing objectives in Quarter 2 2023/2024cbe 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 noted.

## **83. 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 & Learning be approved:

Blaenymaes Primary School	Sam Etheridge Phatsimo Mabophiwa
Christchurch Primary School	Donnie Yuen
Crwys Primary School	Linda Place
Cwmrhydyceirw Primary School	Helen McLaughlin

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Glyncollen Primary School	Cllr Ceri Evans
Gowerton Primary School	Richard Casey
Penclawdd Primary School	Howard Evans
Townhill Primary School	Janet Chaplin
Y G Bryntawe	Margaret Greenaway

**84. Regional Education Consortium Amendment to Legal Agreement on Voting Within Joint Committee.**

The Deputy Chief Legal Officer presented a report that sought approval to amend the Partneriaeth Joint Committee Agreement to allow each constituent Local Authority to choose whether to nominate their Leader or Cabinet Member with responsibility for the Education portfolio to be the voting member on the Joint Committee.

**Resolved that:**

- 1) The draft Deed of Variation attached at Appendix A of the report which allows each individual Constituent Authority to decide who should be the voting member on Partneriaeth's Joint Committee be approved.
- 2) The Cabinet Member for Education & Learning be appointed as the voting member for Swansea Council and the non-voting member shall be the Leader of Swansea Council.
- 3) Authority be delegated to the Chief Legal Officer to approve the final terms of the Deed of Variation and to enter into the Deed on behalf of the Council.

**85. Financial Procedure Rule 7 – Local Transport Fund SBWW and Regional Bus Core Allocation 2023/24 and 2024/25.**

The Cabinet Member for Environment & Infrastructure submitted a report that sought approval for the additional funding for Local Transport Fund (LTF) and to add the capital expenditure to the delivery programme for Local Transport Fund projects in 2023/2024 and 2024/2025. It also sought to comply with Financial Procedure Rule 7 "Capital Programming and Appraisals", to commit and authorise schemes in the Capital Programme.

**Resolved that:**

- 1) The receipt of the grant funding be approved.
- 2) Authority be delegated the Cabinet Member for Environment & Infrastructure and Director of Place to progress the Local Transport Fund schemes set out in Paragraph 2 of the report, and they be added to the Capital programme in line with FPR7.

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The meeting ended at 11.03 am

**Chair**

<b>Call In Procedure – Relevant Dates</b>	
Minutes Published:	21 December 2021
Call In Period Expires (3 Clear Working Days after Publication):	23.59 on 29 December 2023
Decision Comes into force:	30 December 2023