

**EXECUTIVE DECISION RECORD**  
**CABINET BOARD – 4<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2008**  
**POLICY AND RESOURCES**

**Cabinet Board Members:**

Councillors: J. Rogers and A.H.Thomas (Chairman)

**Officers in Attendance:**

D.Davies, M.Jones and A.Borthwick

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1. **APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN**

Agreed that Councillor A.H.Thomas be appointed Chairman for the meeting.

2. **MINUTES OF THE POLICY AND RESOURCES CABINET BOARD HELD ON THE 24<sup>TH</sup> JULY, 2008**

**Decision:**

Noted by the Committee.

**Report of the Director of Finance and Corporate Services**

3. **MISCELLANEOUS GRANTS**

**Decisions:**

1. That the following application for grant be approved in accordance with the criteria, as contained in the circulated report, and in the sum shown below:-

Cancer Information and Support Services, Neath - £100.

2. That consideration of the following applications be refused:-
  - (a) Neath Port Talbot Credit Union and Afan Savers' Credit Union;
  - (b) British Olympic Appeal Beijing 2008.

**Reason for Decisions:**

In accordance with approved criteria.

**Implementation of Decisions:**

The decisions will be implemented after the three day call in period.

4. **WELSH CHURCH ACT FUND**

**Decisions:**

1. That consideration of the following applications be deferred to a future meeting:-
  - (a) Gibeon Congregational Church, Taibach;
  - (b) Rock Congregational Chapel, Cwmavon;
  - (c) Salvation Army, Skewen Temple Corps, Skewen.
2. That consideration of the new criteria be deferred to a future meeting.

**Reasons for Decisions:**

To enable further information to be obtained.

**Implementation of Decisions:**

The decisions will be implemented after the three day call in period.

**Report of the Head of Human Resources**

5. **ANNUAL HEALTH AND SAFETY REPORT – 2007/2008**

**Decision:**

That the report be noted.

6. **ANNUAL EQUALITIES IN EMPLOYMENT REPORT – 2007/2008**

**Decision:**

That the report be noted.

**Report of the Head of Community Care Services**

7. **NEATH PORT TALBOT'S DISABILITY EQUALITY SCHEME  
2006-2009 – PROGRESS REPORT**

**Decision:**

That the report be noted.

**Report of the Head of Corporate Strategy**

8. **REFOCUSED POST OFFICE DIVERSIFICATION FUND:  
WELSH ASSEMBLY GOVERNMENT CONSULTATION**

**Decision:**

That, the response contained in the circulated report, together with Members' comments in respect of the need for E.U. match funding and recognition of the need for Post Offices to diversify, be submitted to the Welsh Assembly Government as the Authority's formal response.

**Reason for Decision:**

To respond to the Welsh Assembly Government's consultation on the proposed Post Office diversification fund, by the due date of the 30<sup>th</sup> October 2008.

**Implementation of Decision:**

The decision will be implemented after the three day call in period.

9. **REVIEW OF ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENTS: WELSH ASSEMBLY GOVERNMENT CONSULTATION**

**Decision:**

That the response contained in the circulated report be submitted to the Welsh Assembly Government as the Authority's formal response to the consultation on the Review of Electoral Arrangements.

**Reason for Decision:**

To respond to the Welsh Assembly Government's consultation letter in respect of the review of Electoral arrangements, by the due deadline of 19<sup>th</sup> September 2008.

**Implementation of Decision:**

The decision will be implemented after the three day call in period.

10. **OFFICER URGENCY ACTION**

**Decision:**

The following urgency decision taken by the Head of Corporate Strategy, in consultation with the requisite Members, be noted.

Support for the new Lord Lieutenancy Office.

11. **WELSH LANGUAGE SCHEME ANNUAL MONITORING REPORT 2007/08 AND CORPORATE ACTION PLAN**

**Decision:**

That the report be noted.

**Report of the Head of Financial Services**

12. **ANNUAL TREASURY REPORT 2007/08 AND AMENDED PRUDENTIAL INDICATORS FOR 2008/09 ONWARDS**

**Decisions:**

1. That the report be noted;
2. That the updated Prudential Indicators for 2008/09 to 2010/11, as contained in Appendix 1 to the circulated report, be approved.

**Reason for Decisions:**

To approve, in line with statutory requirements, the Annual Treasury report for the Council.

**Implementation of Decisions:**

The decisions will be implemented after the three day call in period.

13. **TREASURY MANAGEMENT**

**Decision:**

That the report be noted.

**Report of the Head of Legal and Democratic Services**

14. **OFFICER URGENCY ACTION**

**Decision:**

That the following urgency decision taken by the Head of Legal and Democratic Services, in consultation with the requisite Members, be noted.

Authorisation for a Legal Officer to appear in the Magistrates' and County Court – Ms.J.Steward.

**Report of the Head of Planning**

15. **OFFICER URGENCY ACTION**

**Decision:**

That the following urgency decision taken by the Head of Planning, in consultation with the requisite Members, be noted:

Local Development Plan process.

**Report of the Head of Change Management and Innovation**

16. **QUARTERLY PERFORMANCE INDICATOR DATA -  
OVERVIEW**

**Decisions:**

1. That the report be noted;
2. That a revised format be utilised for future reports.

**Joint Report of the Head of Change Management and Innovation  
and the Head of Revenues and Customer Services**

17. **QUARTERLY PERFORMANCE INDICATOR DATA, CHIEF  
EXECUTIVE'S OFFICE AND FINANCE AND CORPORATE  
SERVICES DIRECTORATE**

**Decisions:**

1. That the report be noted;
2. That a revised format be utilised for future reports.

**Report of the Head of Revenues and Customer Services**

18. **PAYMENT OF COUNCIL TAX AT POST OFFICES**

**Decision:**

That the Council continue to offer a payment facility at Post Offices for Council Tax.

**Reason for Decision:**

In order to support the Post Office network across the County Borough, the corporate aim of Confident Communities and also the Valleys Strategy.

**Implementation of Decision:**

The decision will be implemented after the three day call in period.

**Minutes**

19. (a) **JOINT RESILIENCE COMMITTEE – 6<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2008**  
(b) **MARGAM JOINT CREMATORIUM COMMITTEE –  
11<sup>TH</sup> APRIL, 2008**

**Decision:**

That the above mentioned Minutes be noted.

20. **URGENT ITEM**

**Decision:**

Because of the need to deal now with the matter contained in Minute No. 21 below, the Chairman agreed this could be raised at today's meeting as an urgent item pursuant to Statutory Instrument No. 2290 (as amended).

**Reason for Decision:**

To ensure that Members' views are obtained and included in the Council's response to the Ministry of Justice by the 26<sup>th</sup> September, 2008 deadline.

**Urgent Report of the Head of Corporate Strategy**

21. **ELECTION DAY/WEEKEND VOTING – MINISTRY OF  
JUSTICE CONSULTATION**

**Decision:**

That the response as set out in Appendix 1 to the circulated report, be submitted to the Ministry of Justice as the Council's formal response to the Consultation on Election Day/Weekend Voting.

**Reason for Decision:**

To respond to the Ministry of Justice's consultation paper by the due deadline of 26<sup>th</sup> September 2008.



**Implementation of Decision:**

The decision will be implemented after the three day call in period.

22. **ACCESS TO MEETINGS**

**Decision:**

That pursuant to Regulation 4 (3) and (5) of Statutory Instrument 2001 No.2290, the Public be excluded for the following items of business which involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 12 and 14 of Part 4 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972.

**Private Report of the Head of Revenues and Customer Services**

23. **NNDR APPLICATIONS FOR HARDSHIP RELIEF**

**Decisions:**

1. Case 1

That the application be refused.

2. Case 2

That the application for Hardship Relief of 33 1/3% of the increased rate bill, in the sum disclosed in the private circulated report, be approved.

**Reason for Decisions:**

To determine each application on its merits in light of the Authority's scheme for Hardship Relief.

**Implementation of Decisions:**

The decisions will be implemented after the three day call in period.

24. **WRITE OFF OF IRRECOVERABLE DEBTS IN RESPECT OF HOUSING BENEFITS**

**Decision:**

That the accounts be written off as detailed in the private circulated report.

**Reason for Decision:**

The accounts are irrecoverable.

**Implementation of Decision:**

The decision will be implemented after the three day call in period.

25. **WRITE OFFS – IRRECOVERABLE SUNDRY DEBTS**

**Decision:**

That the accounts be written off as detailed in the private circulated report.

**Reason for Decision:**

The accounts are irrecoverable.

**Implementation of Decision:**

The decision will be implemented after the three day call in period.

26. **COUNCIL TAX WRITE OFFS**

**Decisions:**

1. That the accounts 1 – 3, as detailed in the private circulated report, be written off;
2. That consideration of the remaining accounts be deferred for further information.

**Reasons for Decisions:**

1. The accounts are irrecoverable;
2. To obtain additional information.

**Implementation of Decisions:**

The decisions will be implemented after the three day call in period.

**CHAIRMAN**