



CABINET SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

**IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE JOINT MEETING OF CABINET /
EDUCATION SKILLS AND WELLBEING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
WEDNESDAY, 8 MAY 2024**

**MULTI-LOCATION MEETING - COUNCIL CHAMBER, PORT TALBOT
& MICROSOFT TEAMS**

This meeting may be filmed for live or subsequent broadcast via the Council's Internet Site. By participating you are consenting to be filmed and the possible use of those images and sound recordings for webcasting and/or training purposes.

Part 1

1. Chairs Announcements
2. Declarations of Interests
3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting (*Pages 3 - 6*)
 - 27th March 2024
4. Pre-decision Scrutiny
 - To select appropriate items from the Cabinet agenda for pre-decision scrutiny (cabinet reports enclosed for Scrutiny Members)
5. Urgent Items
Any urgent items at the discretion of the Chairperson pursuant to Section 100BA(6)(b) of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).

K.Jones
Chief Executive

Committee Membership:

Chairperson: Councillor P.Rogers

**Vice
Chairperson:** Councillor C.Jordan

Councillors: T.Bowen, H.C.Clarke, C.Clement-Williams,
C.Galsworthy, J.Henton, J.Jones, R.G.Jones,
S.Paddison, R.Phillips, S.Pursesey, S.H.Reynolds
and A.J.Richards

Notes:

- (1) If Committee Members or non-Committee Members wish to have relevant items put on the agenda for future meetings, then please notify the Chief Executive/Chair eight days before the meeting.*
- (2) If non-Committee Members wish to attend for an item of interest, then prior notification needs to be given (by 12.00 noon on the day before the meeting). Non-Committee Members may speak but not vote, or move or second any motion.*
- (3) For pre scrutiny arrangements, the Chair will normally recommend forthcoming executive items for discussion/challenge. It is also open to Committee Members to request items to be raised - though Members are asked to be selective here in regard to important issues.*
- (4) The relevant Cabinet Board Members will also be invited to be present at the meeting for Scrutiny/ Consultation purposes.*
- (5) Would the Scrutiny Committee Members please bring the Cabinet Board papers with them to the meeting.*

Cabinet Scrutiny Committee

(Multi-Location Meeting - Council Chamber, Port Talbot & Microsoft Teams)

Members Present:

27 March 2024

Chairperson: Councillor P.Rogers

Councillors: T.Bowen, C.Galsworthy, J.Henton, J.Jones, S.Paddison, S.Purse, S.H.Reynolds and A.J.Richards

Officers In Attendance N.Pearce, C.Griffiths, H.Jones, N.Daniel, S.Brennan, T.Davies, R.Headon, A.Thomas and P.Chivers

Cabinet Invitees: Councillors W.F.Griffiths, J.Hale, S.Harris, J.Hurley, N.Jenkins, A.Llewelyn and C.Phillips

1. **Chairs Announcements**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

It was confirmed that the committee would be scrutinising item 6 and the private urgent report from the Cabinet agenda.

2. **Declarations of Interests**

None received.

3. **Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

The minutes of the meeting held on 14 February 2024 were approved as a true and accurate record.

4. **Pre-decision Scrutiny**

Strategic Equality Plan Annual Report 2022-2023

Officers advised members of the following typing errors contained in the report: paragraph 20 should read 2022-2023 and not 2021-2022 as stated, paragraph 21, should reference Cabinet and not Cabinet Policy & Resources Sub-committee, as stated.

Members referred to Action 4.5.4.50 on page 55 of the report contained within the agenda pack and requested a progress update on physical access to committee facilities improvements at Neath Civic Centre.

Officers did not have the requested information to hand; information will be circulated to members outside of the meeting.

Members questioned whether the offer of a guaranteed interview to any person affected by the TATA Steel Plant closure compromised equality.

The Director of Environment and Regeneration advised members that the guaranteed interview offer was for TATA employees or those who worked in the supply chain who met all of the essential criteria linked to a vacancy.

Members questioned whether the Citizens Panel was diverse and representative of all protected characteristics in the community?

Officers confirmed that following recent consultations, work is planned to ensure the Citizens Panel is representative of all communities in the county borough. Where gaps are identified, recruitment to the panel will be targeted accordingly. Officers will circulate the current representation of the panel to members, with further information provided once available.

Members enquired whether data was held in relation to the number of staff members learning Welsh and whether this figure was increasing or decreasing, compared to previous years.

Officers will circulate this information to members outside of the meeting.

Members referenced page 13 paragraph 17 of the report, and were pleased that Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Impacts was included in the report.

Following scrutiny, the recommendation was supported to Cabinet.

5. **Forward Work Programme 2023/24**

The Forward Work Programme was noted.

6. **Urgent Items**

There were no urgent items received on the Cabinet Scrutiny agenda.

There was one urgent private report on the Cabinet agenda.

7. **Access to Meetings**

Resolved: to exclude the public for the following item(s) pursuant to Section 100A(4) and (5) of the Local Government Act 1972 and the relevant exempt paragraphs of Part 4 of Schedule 12A to the above Act.

8. **Pre-Decision Scrutiny of Private Item/s**

The New Plaza

Following scrutiny, the recommendation was supported to Cabinet.

**Cllr. P Rogers
CHAIRPERSON**

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