

EXECUTIVE DECISION RECORD
POLICY AND RESOURCES CABINET BOARD
3 SEPTEMBER, 2015

Cabinet Members:

Councillors: A.H.Thomas (Chairperson) and P.A. Rees

Officers in Attendance:

H.Jenkins, Mrs.K.Jones and Miss.G.Cirillo

1. **APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN**

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

2. **MINUTES OF THE POLICY AND RESOURCES CABINET BOARD HELD ON THE 9TH JULY 2015**

Noted by the Committee.

3. **QUARTERLY PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT DATA 2015-2016 - QUARTER 1 PERFORMANCE (1ST APRIL 2015 - 30TH JUNE 2015)**

Decision:

That the report be noted.

4. **COUNTER TERRORISM AND SECURITY ACT 2015**

Decisions:

1. That the Head of Corporate Strategy and Democratic Services be authorised to take the actions necessary to secure compliance by the Local Authority with s26 and s36 of the Counter-Terrorism and

Security Act 2015, and associated statutory guidance issued by the Home Secretary in relation thereto;

2. That the above delegations be reported to Council in due course in order that authority to amend the Constitution may be obtained;
3. That Officers contact the WLGA to request that representations be made to Ministers concerning the fact that no new resources had been identified to support the new duties placed on local authorities in relation to the legislation subject of this report and other similar reports on today's agenda.

Reasons for Decisions:

1. To provide the relevant Officers with the delegated authority to implement the actions necessary for the Authority to be able to comply with Sections 26, 36 and the Statutory Guidance, issued by the Home Secretary under Section 29 of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015.
2. To draw to the attention of Ministers, the imposition of new duties without a corresponding allocation of new resources to fulfill the new duties.

Implementation of Decisions:

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

5. **ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR, CRIME AND POLICING ACT 2014**

Decisions:

1. That the Head of Corporate Strategy and Democratic Services, the Head of Public Protection and Housing, the Head of Legal Services, the Head of Streetcare and the Head of Planning be authorised to exercise the new powers available under the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 for the purposes of tackling anti-social behaviour and low level crime;
2. That the delegated authorities provided by the Cabinet Board be reported to Council in due course in order that authorisation to reflect the delegated authorities in the Council's Constitution can be obtained.

Reason for Decisions:

To formally authorise Officers to exercise the powers available under the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 for the purposes of tackling anti-social behaviour and low level crime across the Neath Port Talbot County Borough.

Implementation of Decisions:

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

6. **LOCAL AUTHORITY NEW DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES - VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN, DOMESTIC ABUSE AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE (WALES) ACT 2015**

Decisions:

1. That the the new duties and responsibilities placed upon the Council under the Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (Wales) Act 2015, be noted;
2. That the the Head of Corporate Strategy and Democratic Services be given delegated authority to take the actions necessary to ensure compliance by the Council with the provisions of the Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (Wales) Act 2015, subject to those actions being funded by Welsh Government;
3. That the above delegations be reported to Council in due course in order for changes to the Council's Constitution to be authorised.

Reason for Decisions:

To provide formal authority to the relevant Officer to take the actions necessary to secure compliance by the Council with the new duties and responsibilities placed on local authorities by the Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (Wales) Act 2015.

Implementation of Decisions:

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

7. **REVISED STRATEGIC EQUALITY PLAN 2015-2019**

Decisions:

1. That the revised Strategic Equality Plan 2015-19, attached at Appendix 1 to the circulated report, be endorsed;
2. That the Strategic Equality Plan 2015-19, be presented to Council for approval.

Reason for Decisions:

To discharge the Council's duty in relation to the Equality Act 2010 (Statutory Duties) (Wales) Regulations 2011.

Implementation of Decisions:

The decisions will be implemented after consultation with the Scrutiny Committee and consideration and approval by Council.

8. **TREASURY MANAGEMENT MONITORING REPORT 2015-2016**

Decision:

That the report be noted.

9. **ANNUAL TREASURY MANAGEMENT OUTTURN REPORT 2014-2015**

Decision:

That the report be noted.

10. **INSURANCE ARRANGEMENTS 2015-2016**

Decisions:

1. That the awarding of Insurance Policies as outlined in the circulated report be approved.
2. That the Head of Financial Services ensures that the Council's tendered Insurance arrangements are in place from 1 October 2015.

Reason for Decisions:

To provide a decision in relation to the Council's Insurance Arrangements, which need to be in place before the 1 October 2015.

Implementation of Decisions:

The decision is an urgent one for immediate implementation. The Chairman had agreed to this course of action and therefore there would be no call-in of this decision.

11. **DISCRETIONARY HOUSING PAYMENTS - REVIEW OF 2014-15 PERFORMANCE AND POLICY UPDATE FOR 2015-16**

Decisions:

1. That the outcomes and financial support provided via Discretionary Housing Payments in 2014-15 as outlined in the detailed report be noted;
2. That the joint working arrangements between Housing Benefit, Housing Options and NPT Homes in relation to awarding DHP's be noted and supported;
3. That the updated Discretionary Housing Payments Policy and Procedure, (as set out in Appendix 3) to the circulated report be approved.

Reason for Decisions:

In order to review performance information and update the Discretionary Housing Payment Policy and Procedures.

Implementation of Decisions:

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

12. **PUBLIC SERVICES OMBUDSMAN FOR WALES ANNUAL LETTER AND REPORT**

Decision:

That the report be noted.

13. **FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME 2014/15.**

Decision:

That the Forward Work Programme 2015/16 be noted.

14. **ACCESS TO MEETINGS**

RESOLVED: 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 Paragraph 14 of Part 4 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972.

15. **LOTTERY AND EMPLOYEE WELLBEING INITIATIVE**

Decisions:

1. That Members note the intention of the Corporate Health Group to establish a Neath Port Talbot Staff Association with its day to day management undertaken by an Executive Committee with outline terms of reference, as set out at Appendix 1 to the private circulated report, with a detailed Constitution being developed;
2. That the Association establish a Private Society Lottery and Employee Wellbeing Fund that will benefit its members, with the Executive Committee making decisions in relation to those funds, in line with the terms of reference at Appendix 1 to the private circulated report, and in accordance with the detailed Constitution;
3. That the introduction of a part-time administrative post within the Corporate Strategy and Democratic Services to provide the administrative service to that the Executive Committee including the use of Council facilities, be approved, and that the salary of the administrative post be met in full by the lottery funds, and that the appointee be seconded from the existing workforce;
4. That the Internal Audit Service audit the lottery and employee wellbeing funds, with the cost of the audit work to being met from the funds;
5. That Finance and Corporate Services make staff lottery deductions

from the payroll, and charge the Association an administration fee equivalent to 2% of deductions, and that the funds generated by the lottery prize fund and employee wellbeing fund be paid into a bank account to be controlled by the NPT Staff Association through its Executive Committee, as detailed in the private circulated report;

6. That the Communications Section be authorised to assist in promoting the NPT Staff Association, associated lottery and employee wellbeing initiatives, the costs of which to be borne by the lottery fund.

Reason for Decisions:

To create an NPT Staff Association and to provide authority for services to be provided to the Executive Committee of the Association by the Council, on a chargeable basis.

Implementation of Decisions

The decisions are urgent for immediate implementation. The Chairman had agreed to this course of action and therefore there would be no call-in of these decisions.

16. **WRITE OFF OF COUNCIL TAX**

Decision:

That the write-offs of the amounts as detailed within the private circulated report, be approved.

Reason for Decision:

The accounts are irrecoverable.

Implementation of Decision:

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

17. **HOUSING BENEFITS WRITE OFF**

Decision:

That the write offs of the amounts, as detailed within the private circulated report, be approved.

Reason for Decision

The accounts are irrecoverable.

Implementation of Decision

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

CHAIRPERSON