

CABINET SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

(Council Chamber - Port Talbot Civic Centre)

Members Present:

21 November 2018

Chairperson: Councillor A.N.Woolcock

Vice Chairperson: Councillor S.Rahaman

Councillors: M.Crowley, S.E.Freeguard, M.Harvey,
S.K.Hunt, L.Jones, S.A.Knoyle, S.Miller,
J.D.Morgan, S.Paddison and S.M.Penry

Officers In Attendance A.Jarrett, H.Jenkins, G.Nutt, S.Phillips,
C.Griffiths, K.Jones, R.MacGregor, C.Furlow,
N.Headon and N. Jones

Cabinet Invitees: Councillors C.Clement-Williams, D.W.Davies,
R.G.Jones, E.V.Latham, A.R.Lockyer,
P.A.Rees, P.D.Richards and A.J.Taylor

1. **PRE-SCRUTINY**

The Committee scrutinised the following matters:-

Cabinet Board Proposals

2.1 **Calculation of Council Tax Base for 2019/20**

The Committee received information in relation to the Calculation of Council Tax Base for 2019/20 as contained within the circulated report.

Members asked for clarification on how the calculations set out in this report impacted on the Budget and Council Tax. Officers explained that the decision on the actual level of council tax payable for 2019/20 would be made in February 2019, and would be based on the final budget determination and the number of properties set out in the report.

Members queried whether the charges were set by Welsh Government. Officers explained that Welsh Government used the council tax information to distribute RSG funding via the Local Government Funding Formula.

Following scrutiny, the Committee were supportive of the proposals to be considered at Cabinet Board.

2.2 Half Year Progress Report – Corporate Governance Improvement Action Plan for 2018/19 – period 1 April 2018 to 30 September 2019

The Committee received information in relation to the Half Year Progress Report – Corporate Governance Improvement Action Plan as contained within the circulated report.

Members queried when the training would take place for elected members on the General Data Protection Regulation. Officers explained that this would take place by the end of January 2019. Members questioned whether there was extra funding for the training. Officers explained that there was no extra cost for the training as the course had been prepared and delivered by Council Officers; it was only the cost of Officers; time.

It was noted that the report title should read 30 September 2018 instead of 30 September 2019.

Following scrutiny, it was agreed that the report be noted.

2.3 Corporate Plan Key Performance Indicators 2018/2019 – Quarter 2 Performance (1 April 2018 – 30 September 2018)

The Committee received information in relation to Corporate Plan Key Performance Indicators 2018/2019 – Quarter 2 Performance (1 April 2018 – 30 September 2018)

Members referred to the delays in child assessments, and queried when would a task and finish group be set up to look into this. Officers explained that a group had recently been set up and a report would be brought back to a future meeting.

Members requested for comparative data from other authorities of a similar size to be made available and Welsh Government performance indicators. Officers stated this information would be circulated to members as soon practicable.

Members highlighted that the Authority were not meeting their targets in relation to the number of people that were being kept in hospital. Members highlighted their concern that there would not be any money for future development. Officers explained that they needed to focus on Domiciliary Care and were looking at a range of issues and solutions. Officers stated that a person's needs should be looked at along with the reasons why they had been admitted to hospital in the first place. Officers added that the option of receiving care at home was always explored. Members questioned whether Abertawe Bro Morgannwg University Health Board (ABMU) were involved. Officers explained that they had a meeting arranged with the Chief Executive of ABMU to discuss these issues.

Members queried was there a system of priorities in place. Officers explained that the Corporate Plan sets out the Council's priorities, and that a number of performance indicators reflected statutory responsibilities.

In relation to Neath Port Talbot coffee shops, members questioned how often were they inspected, and whether products contained information regarding allergies. Officers explained that Neath Port Talbot coffee shops had received five star ratings for hygiene. Officers added that ingredients and potential allergies were stated on the food packaging.

Following scrutiny, it was agreed that the report be noted.

2. **FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME 18/19**

The Committee noted the Forward Work Programme.

CHAIRPERSON