

EXECUTIVE DECISION RECORD

CABINET

11 NOVEMBER 2020

Cabinet Members:

Councillors: R.G.Jones (Chairperson), C.Clement-Williams, D.Jones, E.V.Latham, A.R.Lockyer, P.A.Rees, P.D.Richards, A.Wingrave and L.Jones

Officers in Attendance:

S.Phillips, A.Evans, A.Jarrett, H.Jenkins, N.Pearce, K.Jones, C.Griffiths, S.Brennan, H.Jones, C.Davies, C.Davies and T.Davies

Invitee: Councillor M.Harvey (Scrutiny Committee Chair)

1. **APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRPERSON**

Agreed that Councillor R.G.Jones be appointed Chairperson for the meeting.

2. **TREASURY MANAGEMENT MID YEAR REVIEW REPORT 2020/21**

Decision:

That the Treasury Management activities to date this financial year, and how they relate to the proposed activities within the original 2020/21 Treasury Management Strategy and Annual Investment Strategy Statements, be noted.

Reason for Decision:

To comply with requirements of the Code of Practice on Treasury Management.

Implementation of Decision:

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

3. **REVENUE BUDGET UPDATE AND MONITORING REPORT
QUARTER 2 - 2020-21**

Officers explained that the £6.5 million overspend would be continuously monitored throughout the year, and were hopeful that the Council would have further recompense following submissions to Welsh Government.

Decisions:

1. That the proposed reserve movements and budget virements, as detailed within the circulated report, be approved.
2. That the operational and financial issues set out in the circulated report, be noted.
3. That the Council continue to work with Welsh Government and in line with legislation, regulations and directions to deliver services during these challenging times.
4. That the additional grants received, as detailed in the circulated report, be noted.
5. That the Council continue to seek additional funding from Welsh Government to cover COVID 19 consequences of increased expenditure, loss of income, increased cost of Council Tax Support and council tax collection shortfalls that adversely impact on Council funding and activity.

Reason for Decisions:

To monitor and update the Council's Budget projections for 2020/21 and inform Members of the financial risks arising from COVID 19.

Implementation of Decisions:

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

4. **CAPITAL PROGRAMME MONITORING REPORT QUARTER 2
- 2020 /21**

Members noted that there had been good progress with major capital investments in the County Borough over the last year.

Decisions:

1. That the proposed 2020/21 budget, totalling £77.684m, as detailed within the circulated report, be commended to Council for approval.
2. That the position in relation to expenditure as at 30 September 2020, be noted.

Reason for Decisions:

To update the Council's Capital Programme for 2020/21.

Implementation of Decisions:

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

5. **TREASURY MANAGEMENT MONITORING 2020/21**

Decision:

That the monitoring report be noted.

6. **AFAN FOREST PARK VISITOR CENTRE - VALLEYS
REGENERATION PARK GATEWAY PROJECT**

Decisions:

1. That the purpose of the project be noted and all elements for delivery, as detailed within the circulated report, be approved.

2. That authority be delegated to the Head of Property and Regeneration to sign the Welsh Government grant offer once received (subject to its terms).
3. That the procurement methods to deliver the scheme to time and budget, as detailed in the circulated report, in particular in relation to the proposed methodology to appoint a suitable playground manufacturer, be approved.

Reason for Decisions:

To allow the enhancement of facilities within Afan Forest Park Visitor Centre to attract a more diverse range of visitors. The procurement methodology proposed will facilitate the delivery of the project to time and budget.

Implementation of Decisions:

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

7. URGENT ITEM

Because of the need to deal now with the matter contained in Minute No. 8 below, the Chairperson agreed this could be raised at today's meeting as an urgent item pursuant to Section 100B (4)(b) of the Local Government Act 1972.

Reason:

Due to the time element.

8. CALCULATION OF COUNCIL TAX BASE FOR 2021-22

Decisions:

That the 2021/22 Council Tax Base be approved as follows:

- of 49,653.05 Band D properties (gross of collection rate)
- of 48,163.46 Band D properties (net at 97% collection rate) for the whole of the County Borough; and

- for each Town and Community Council area the amount shown in paragraph 6 of the circulated report.

Reason for Decisions:

To determine the Council Tax Base for 2021/22.

Implementation of Decisions:

The decision is for immediate implementation. The Chairperson of the scrutiny committee had agreed to this course of action. There would therefore be no call in of this decision.

9. **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 of the Local Government Act 1972.

10. **DEMOLITION OF PROPERTIES**

Decisions:

1. That the Council proceed with the demolition process of the properties as detailed within the private, circulated report.
2. That delegated authority be granted to the Head of Engineering and Transport, to enter into a contract for the demolition of the properties so identified in the private, circulated report, and to undertake ongoing maintenance works as and when required.
3. That delegated authority be granted to the Head of Property and Regeneration to enter into an easement in perpetuity with the owners of the properties as detailed in the private, circulated report, as determined by the Head of Property and Regeneration, to facilitate access to undertake demolition works and to allow access for ongoing maintenance of the supporting highways wall structure, on terms and conditions to be agreed by the Head of Property and Regeneration.

4. That delegated authority be granted to the Head of Planning and Public Protection to negotiate and enter into an agreement, in consultation with the Head of Legal Services, with landowners and insurers in respect of the Council undertaking the works required to comply with the Demolition Notices and recovering its costs from the insurance companies.

Reason for Decisions:

To progress with the demolition of the properties detailed within the private, circulated report, and to authorise the entering into of documentation to facilitate both access to undertake such work and recovery of the financial costs associated, and for ongoing maintenance of the supporting highways wall structure.

Implementation of Decisions:

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

Consultation:

The Local Ward Member is supportive of the proposals.

CHAIRPERSON