



***SOCIAL CARE HEALTH AND WELLBEING SCRUTINY
COMMITTEE***

2.00 PM THURSDAY, 1 APRIL 2021

VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS

All mobile telephones to be switched to silent for the duration of the meeting

PART 1

1. Welcome and Roll Call
2. Chairs Announcements
3. Declarations of Interest
4. Minutes of Previous Meeting (*Pages 5 - 8*)
5. Pre-Decision Scrutiny
To select appropriate items from the Cabinet Board agenda for Pre-Decision Scrutiny (Cabinet Board reports included for Scrutiny Members)
6. Forward Work Programme 2020/21 (*Pages 9 - 20*)
7. Urgent Items
Any urgent items (whether public or exempt) at the discretion of the Chairperson pursuant to Section 100B (4) (b) of the Local Government Act 1972.
8. Access to Meetings
Access to Meetings to resolve 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.

PART 2

9. Update Report on Housing Options and Homelessness (Exempt under Paragraph 14] (*Pages 21 - 34*)
10. Pre-Decision Scrutiny of Private Item/s
To select appropriate private items from the Cabinet Board agenda for Pre-Decision Scrutiny (Cabinet Board reports enclosed for Scrutiny Members)

K.Jones
Chief Executive

Civic Centre
Port Talbot

Friday, 25 March 2021

Committee Membership:

Chairperson: **Councillor L.M.Purcell**

Vice **Councillor C.Galsworthy**
Chairperson:

Councillors: A.P.H.Davies, O.S.Davies, J.Miller, S.Paddison,
S.H.Reynolds, D.Whitelock, A.N.Woolcock,
C.Edwards, W.F.Griffiths, H.C.Clarke and
N.J.E.Davies

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.*

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Social Care Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee

(Via Microsoft Teams)

Members Present:

28 January 2021

Chairperson: Councillor L.M.Purcell

Vice Chairperson: Councillor C.Galsworthy

Councillors: A.P.H.Davies, O.S.Davies, J.Miller, S.Paddison, S.H.Reynolds, D.Whitelock, A.N.Woolcock, C.Edwards, W.F.Griffiths and H.C.Clarke

Officers In Attendance A.Jarrett, A.Thomas, K.Warren and J.Hodges, N.Maund, T.Davies and C.L.Davies

Cabinet Invitees: Councillors A.R.Lockyer and P.D.Richards

Observers Councillor C.Clement-Williams

1. **Chairs Announcements**

Following the recent news of the Skewen Flooding, Members commended the officers for their urgent response and support to the scene.

2. **Declarations of Interest**

The following member made a declaration of interest at the start of the meeting:

Councillor C. Galsworthy

Re: Consultation on 2021/22 Budget Proposals, as she is in receipt of Direct Payments for a family member.

3. **Minutes of Previous Meeting**

That the minutes of the previous meeting held on the 3rd December 2020, be approved.

4. **Verbal Update on the Impacts Covid-19 has had on Social Services**

Members received a power point presentation which was circulated at the meeting, in relation to updates on the impacts of Covid-19 within Adult and Children's Services.

Discussions took place in relation to the number of vaccinations that had taken place within care homes, along with the safe process of the transfer of residents due to the Skewen Flooding, during the pandemic. Officers highlighted that all of the residents within Neath Port Talbot Care Homes have been vaccinated. Members were reassured that it was a smooth and well organised transfer.

Officers reassured members that the wellbeing of employees was a priority and that they are ensuring that employees take annual leave when required to prevent them from feeling overloaded with pressure. Officers also highlighted to members that the impacts of long covid-19 was also being considered and that this would also be an element where employees would need to be provided with support.

Members noted that it was likely that there may be less demand for residential care going forward and a higher demand for more care in the Community.

The Adult and Children's Services Cabinet Members commended the Officers for their work and support during these unprecedented times.

The Cabinet Member for Finance highlighted to members that Welsh Government had provided further funding for the Hardship Fund of 6.5 Million.

The Chair asked Members to forward any further questions to the Scrutiny Officer in relation to the update on the Impacts Covid-19 has had on Adult and Children's Services, as detailed within the circulated presentation.

Following Scrutiny, the report was noted.

5. **Consultation on 2021/22 Budget Proposals**

An overview was received on the Social Services, Health and Housing draft budget proposals 2021/2022.

It was highlighted, that the proposals included within the report were a small number of saving strategies which had already been scrutinised, consulted on and were approved by Council on 6th March 2020.

Members were also provided with information on the budget pressures to the service, along with the savings, cuts and income generation opportunities which are detailed within the circulated report.

The Impacts of Covid-19 on the budget were discussed and members therefore asked officers for reassurance on the predictions that they had produced for the upcoming budget and for clarity on whether any contingencies had been put in place in preparation for any unpredicted increase in budget. Officers reassured members that they had taken a reasonable view across the council and have provided a realistic view over the next year.

Following a query, officers clarified that the £135,000 figure detailed within the report was a council wide income generation, not just from the Social Services Department.

Discussions took place around the Building Safe and Resilient Communities project that was taking place. Officers informed members that due to the pressures following Covid-19 a decision was made to halt that project. A safe and well service was set up to provide support to those that were vulnerable.

Members queried whether the predicted figure of £400,000 for Homelessness was going to be adequate during these times. Members asked whether Officers had considered contingency plans and used the Skewen Flooding as an example of unpredicted circumstances. Officers informed members that there had been further funding from Welsh Government of 1.5 mil which reduced the predicted figure to £400,000. It was noted that a report would be brought to a future committee providing further detail on Homelessness.

Following a discussion relating to an income generation suggestion from scrutiny members relating to a bus service for organisations and communities. The Director of Social Services, Health and Housing and the Cabinet Member for Finance confirmed that they would

consider this suggestion following a scoping exercise and at a meeting of the Income Generation panel.

Following Scrutiny of the budget details contained within the report, Members were reminded that their comments from this meeting would form part of the formal consultation response for the budget 2021/22. They were asked that if they had any other proposals for budget savings, not included within the attached report, that they approach Officers for their consideration.

6. **Forward Work Programme 2020/21**

The Forward Work Programme was noted.

7. **Access to Meetings**

RESOLVED: that pursuant to Section 100A(4) and (5) of the Local Government Act 1972, 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 above Act.

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

The committee chose to scrutinise the following private cabinet board items:

Vacant Property Surplus to Requirements

Members received information in a request in declaring a vacant property surplus, as detailed within the private circulated report.

Following scrutiny, the committee was supportive of the proposals to be considered by cabinet board.

CHAIRPERSON

SCRUTINY
FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

March 2021 – 2022

CONTENTS

<u>COMMITTEE</u>	<u>Officer Responsible</u>
Cabinet Scrutiny Committee	Charlotte Davies / Chloe Plowman
Education, Skills and Culture Scrutiny Committee	Charlotte Davies
Social Care, Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee	Charlotte Davies
Regeneration and Sustainable Development Scrutiny Committee	Chloe Plowman
Streetscene and Engineering Scrutiny Committee	Chloe Plowman

Cabinet Scrutiny Committee (All starting 2pm unless otherwise stated)

Meeting Date	Agenda Item	Contact Officer
2021		
8 th March	Budget Special (please see Cabinet FWP for items)	Hywel Jenkins
16 th March	Items to be confirmed	
13 th April	Items to be confirmed	
12 th May	Items to be confirmed	
2 nd June	Items to be confirmed	
30 th June	Items to be confirmed	
28 th July	Items to be confirmed	
1 st September	Items to be confirmed	
22 nd September	Items to be confirmed	
20 th October	Items to be confirmed	
17 th November	Items to be confirmed	

15 th December	Items to be confirmed	
2022		
12 th January	Items to be confirmed	
9 th February	Items to be confirmed	
9 th March	Items to be confirmed	
6 th April	Items to be confirmed	
9 th May	Items to be confirmed	

Education, Skills and Culture Scrutiny Committee (All starting 2pm unless otherwise stated)

Meeting Date	Agenda Item	Contact Officer
2021		
18 th March	Update Report on Libraries	Andrew Thomas
	Report on the work of Cynnydd and the Wellbeing Service	Andrew Thomas
29 th April	Update on Leisure	Andrew Thomas/Paul Walker
10 th June	Items to be confirmed	
22 nd July	Items to be confirmed	
2 nd September	Items to be confirmed	
14 th October	Items to be confirmed	
25 th November	Items to be confirmed	
2022		
6 th January	Items to be confirmed	

17 th February	Items to be confirmed	
31 st March	Items to be confirmed	

Social Care, Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee (All starting 2pm unless otherwise stated)

Meeting Date	Agenda Item	Contact Officer
2021		
1 st April	Update on Homelessness	Angela Thomas
13 th May	Impact of dischargers from hospitals on the availability of care packages. An update on Delayed Transfer of Care (DTOCS)	Angela Thomas
	Update Report on the impact of Covid-19 on Disabled Facilities Grants	Andrew Jarrett
24 th June	Items to be confirmed	
29 th July	Items to be confirmed	
16 th September	Items to be confirmed	
21 st October	Items to be confirmed	
9 th December	Items to be confirmed	

2022		
20 th January	Items to be confirmed	
3 rd March	Items to be confirmed	
7 th April	Items to be confirmed	

Regeneration and Sustainable Development Scrutiny Committee (All starting 10am unless otherwise stated)

Meeting Date	Agenda Item	Contact Officer
2021		
16 th April	Update Report on Active Travel	Ceri Morris
	Trends in Domestic Abuse	Claire Jones/Elinor Wellington
14 th May	Items to be confirmed	
15 th June	Items to be confirmed	
30 th July	Items to be confirmed	
10 th September	Items to be confirmed	
22 nd October	Items to be confirmed	
3 rd December	Items to be confirmed	
2022		
14 th January	Items to be confirmed	
4 th March	Items to be confirmed	

8 th April	Items to be confirmed	

Streetscene and Engineering Scrutiny Committee (All starting 10am unless otherwise stated)

Meeting Date	Agenda Item	Contact Officer
2021		
26 th March		
21 st May	Items to be confirmed	
2 nd July	Items to be confirmed	
24 th September	Items to be confirmed	
5 th November	Items to be confirmed	
17 th December	Items to be confirmed	
2022		
28 th January	Items to be confirmed	
11 th March	Items to be confirmed	
29 th April	Items to be confirmed	

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By virtue of paragraph(s) 14 of Part 4 of Schedule 12A
of the Local Government Act 1972.

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