



EDUCATION SKILLS AND CULTURE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

2.00 PM MONDAY, 28 JUNE 2021

REMOTELY VIA 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 3 - 6*)

To scrutinise information and monitoring issues being reported by:

5. Update on the impact that Covid-19 has had on the Education, Leisure and Lifelong Learning Service (Verbal Update)
6. Forward Work Programme 2020/21 (*Pages 7 - 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

K.Jones
Chief Executive

Committee Membership:

Chairperson: Councillor S.H.Reynolds

Vice Chairperson: Councillor R.Mizen

Councillors: M.Crowley, S.Harris, J.Jones, D.Keogh, S.Miller, R.Phillips, M.Protheroe, S.Renkes, A.J.Richards, M.Spooner, D.Whitelock, R.W.Wood and J.Hale

***Co-opted
Voting Members** M.Caddick, A. Amor and L.Newman

***Co-opted Non
Voting Members** R.De Benedictis

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.*

Minutes of the Education Skills and Culture Scrutiny Committee

18 March 2021

Remotely via Teams

Chairperson:	Councillor S.H.Reynolds
Vice Chairperson:	Councillor R.Mizen
Councillors:	M.Crowley, S.Harris, J.Jones, D.Keogh, S.Miller, J.D.Morgan, R.Phillips, M.Protheroe, S.Renkes, A.J.Richards, D.Whitelock, R.W.Wood and J.Hale
Co-opted Voting Members:	M.Caddick and L.Newman
Officers In Attendance	A.Evans, C.Millis, P.Walker, W.John, E.Dennis, K.Gilbert, H.Lewis, P.Doyle, T.Davies and C.Davies
Cabinet Invitees:	Councillors A.R.Lockyer and P.A.Rees

1. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

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

Wayne John	Re: Item 8 – Welsh Public Library Standards, Annual Report 2019/20, as he is a Member on the Welsh Government Group on WPLS.
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2. **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

That the minutes of the previous meeting held on the 21 January 2021, were approved subject to the following amendment:

- That Cllr. J.Hale and Co-opted Member Lynda Newman be marked as present on the attendance.

3. **NEATH PORT TALBOT LIBRARY SERVICE - COVID-19 UPDATE**

Members were provided with an update on the performance of the Library Service during COVID-19 and officers outlined the support and range of services that were offered to residents, as contained within the circulated report.

Members commended the staff within Libraries for adapting to the current climate around Covid-19 while still providing an excellent service.

Following Scrutiny, the report was noted.

4. **REPORT ON THE CYNNYDD AND THE WELLBEING SERVICE**

Members were provided with information on the work and impact of the Wellbeing and Behaviour Service and Cynnydd. Members were also provided with information on future work, opportunities and challenges, as detailed within the circulated report.

Members commended the work of the Wellbeing and Behaviour Services and Cynnydd.

Following Scrutiny, the report was noted.

5. **PRE-DECISION SCRUTINY**

The committee chose to scrutinise the following cabinet board items:

Welsh Public Library Standards, Annual Report 2019-2020

Members received the Annual Report to the Welsh Government in respect of the Authorities library services performance against the Welsh Public Library Standards (WPLS) framework 6. Members also noted the feedback, comments and recommendations in the Annual Assessment Report 2019-20.

Members queried whether there were any impacts to the Valleys Impact assessment. Officers confirmed that as it was annual report for 2019-20 based on performance this report wouldn't have a direct impact on the Valleys.

The Committee requested that a note be sent to all officers to ensure that officers consider the Valleys Impact Assessment.

Following scrutiny, the Committee were supportive of the recommendations to be considered by cabinet board.

Schools' Forum Revised Constitution

Members were updated on a revised constitution for the Schools' Forum, as detailed within the circulated report.

Members asked for clarity in relation to the following statement that was detailed within the circulated report, 'Having reviewed the original Regulations the constitution attached as Appendix A has been drafted and clarity provided to the areas of Concern'. Members queried what the area of concern was. Officers clarified that there were no particular concerns in relation to the original draft it was more of a generic concern on ensuring the constitution was updated in line with current practice of the forum as it had drifted its ways of working from the original terms of reference.

Following scrutiny, the Committee were supportive of the recommendations to be considered by cabinet board.

6. FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME 2020/21

Members noted the Forward Work Programme and considered an additional item to be included in relation to Childcare placements within Schools due to the impact of the pandemic.

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:

Former Cymer Afan Comprehensive School – Stand-Alone Floodlit Astro Turf Pitch

Members received information in relation to the former Cymer Afan Comprehensive stand-alone floodlit Astro Turf Pitch, as detailed within the private circulated report.

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

Aberavon Seafront – Beach Lifeguard Service

Members were informed of a request to enter into a contract, as detailed within the circulated report, with regards provision of a Lifeguard Service at Aberavon Beach.

Following Scrutiny, the committee were supportive of the proposals to be considered by the cabinet board.

Councillor S.H.Reynolds

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
Leisure and Culture Scrutiny Sub Committee	Charlotte Davies
Social Care, Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee	Charlotte Davies
Regeneration and Sustainable Development Scrutiny Committee	Chloe Plowman
Community Safety and Public Protection Scrutiny Sub 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	Please see Cabinet FWP for items	
7 th April	Meeting cancelled	
12 th May	Please see Cabinet FWP for items	
6 nd June	Please see Cabinet FWP for items	
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	
5 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	Meeting cancelled	
<p>10th June – postponed to 28th June 1</p>	<p>An update on the impact Covid-19 has had on Education and Leisure services;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How has the return to schools been, any issues etc, overcome or still challenging, • Assessment in lieu of exams, how is it going/gone • Staff morale in Council, classroom and wider provision, • New curriculum prep. Simple quick rendering of what was said at school standards. • Adult Education activities • Childcare - as furlough ends after summer what will be the issues for providers / do we know? How many operating 	Andrew Thomas/ Chris Millis

22 nd July		
2 nd September	Update on capacity at Schools – First and Second Choice	Andrew Thomas / Helen
14 th October	Update on Youth and Community Activity	Chris Mills
	Curriculum Reform Update	Andrew Thomas
25 th November	Items to be confirmed	
20 th January 2022		
18 th January	Items to be confirmed	
17 th February	Consider the impacts that the pandemic has had on Schools - including the impacts from the loss of attendance and wellbeing on pupils and teachers –This will be included in Cabinet Board Report – Pupil Attendance update	
31 st March	Items to be confirmed	

Leisure and Culture Scrutiny Sub Committee (All starting 2pm unless otherwise stated)

Meeting Date	Agenda Item	Cabinet Board	Contact Officer
2021			
1 st July	Items to be confirmed		
23 rd September	Christmas/New Year Opening Times (Libraries, Leisure Centres etc)	14 th October	Paul Walker
	Service Update Report – Theatre’s, Margam Park (information on the effect that Covid-19 is having on venues)		Paul Walker
	Physical Activity Sport Service Update – pass		Mark Naperella/ Paul Walker
16 th December	Library Performance Report	6 th January 2021	Wayne John
2022			
10 th 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	Please see Cabinet FWP for items	
24 th June (Change of date) 5 th July	Update Report on the impact of Covid-19 on Disabled Facilities Grants	Angela Thomas
29 th July 2014	Residential Care – update on future plans	Chele Howard
16 th September	Impact of dischargers from hospitals on the availability of care packages. An update on Delayed Transfer of Care (DTOCS) – cross border issues. General stats? - the social services department coping with providing appropriate care packages when needed and what are the sort of waiting lists? Include Hospital to Home	Angela Thomas
21 st October	The Neuro Diverse Strategy – Post scrutiny	Keri Warren
9 th December		

2022		
20 th January	Items to be confirmed	
3 rd March	Recovery plan – specifically to do with social care, inclusion on care homes – is this going to change people decisions going forward. Welfare of staff to be included in this.	Angela Thomas
7 th April	Items to be confirmed	

Items to be confirmed:

- Invite Tai Tarian – Update from Tai Tarian – TBC discuss common concerns from local residents and ways of resolving in future from lack of communication
- Invite Health Board – TBC Mental Health Issues, Hospital to Home Scheme

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

Meeting Date	Agenda Item	Contact Officer
2021		
16 th April	Trends in Domestic Abuse	Claire Jones/Elinor Wellington
14 th May	Update Report on Active Travel	Ceri Morris
15 th June	Please see Cabinet Board FWP for Items	
30 th July	Items to be confirmed	
10 th September	Update on the Audit Wales NPT Action Plan	Simon Brennan
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	

Community Safety and Public Protection Scrutiny Sub Committee (All starting 10am unless otherwise stated)

Meeting Date	Agenda Item	Contact Officer
2021		
9 th July	Neath Town Centre Anti-Social Behaviour	Elinor Wellington
1 st October	Environmental Health/Trading Standards – Food Hygiene Inspections	Ceri Morris / Mark Thomas
17 th December (2.00 pm)	Items to be confirmed	
2022		
18 th March	Items to be confirmed	

Items to be programmed in:

- CCTV
- Safe Spaces
- Anti-social Behaviour in Town Centres

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

Meeting Date	Agenda Item	Contact Officer
2021		
26 th March	Please see Cabinet Board FWP for items	
21 st May	Please see Cabinet Board FWP for items	
2 nd July	Items to be confirmed	
24 th September	Annual Parking Report 2020/21	Steve Cook
	Parking Enforcement Operation 2021	Steve Cook
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	

