

COUNCIL

(Civic Centre, Port Talbot)

Members Present:

1st July 2015

The Mayor: Councillor **A.P.H.Davies**

The Deputy Mayor: Councillor **Mrs.S.M.Penry**

Councillors: J.R.Bryant, A.Carter, Ms.C.Clement-Williams, Mrs.R.Davies, Mrs.J.Dudley, P.Greenaway, M.Harvey, S.K.Hunt, H.N.James, Mrs.L.H.James, A.Jenkins, E.E.Jones, Mrs.D.Jones, R.G.Jones, S.Jones, D.Keogh, E.V.Latham, D.Lewis, A.Llewelyn, Mrs.K.Lloyd, J.Miller, Mrs.S.Miller, J.D.Morgan, Ms.C.Morgans, Mrs.S.Paddison, R.Phillips, S.Rahaman, P.A.Rees, P.D.Richards, A.Taylor, A.J.Taylor, A.H.Thomas, A.L.Thomas, R.Thomas and A.N.Woolcock

Officers in Attendance: S.Phillips, A.Evans, H.Jenkins, G.Nutt, D.Michael, R.George, Mrs.A.Manchipp and Mrs.J.Woodman-Ralph.

Representatives of the Translation Service: Present

1. **MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

It was with great pleasure that the Mayor announced the following recipients in the Queen's Birthday Honours List:

- Huw Morgan Jenkins, Chairman of the Swansea City Football Club received the O.B.E for Services to Sport in Wales.
- Lt Col Arwyn Lewis, Corps of Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers of Neath Road, Resolven received the O.B.E.

signed off by the Director of Education, Leisure and Lifelong Learning, the Head Teacher and Chairman of Governors and reviewed on an annual basis.

- RESOLVED:**
- (a) that the Revenue Outturn position for 2014/15, contained in the circulated report, be approved;
 - (b) that the Specific Reserves, as contained in Appendix 4 to the circulated report, be approved;
 - (c) that the General Reserve, as contained in Appendix 5 to the circulated report, be approved;
 - (d) that the draft Statement of Accounts incorporate the above decisions.

5. **CAPITAL PROGRAMME OUTTURN 2014/15**

The Director of Finance and Corporate Services gave Members an overview of the circulated report. Members were pleased with the achievements that had been made in the delivery of the programme and noted the improvements made in the community.

Members also noted that the Capital Steering Group was currently reviewing the risks and pressures that may require investment and improvement over the next few years and a report would be brought back to Members by the end of 2015 highlighting these pressures.

RESOLVED: that the report be noted.

6. **UPDATE TO TREASURY MANAGEMENT PRACTICE INVESTMENT CRITERIA**

Members received an overview of the circulated report highlighting the proposed amendments to the Council's Treasury Management Practices Investment Criteria as a result of the recent changes to the support rating for the majority of United Kingdom banks. It was noted that the credit rating agency Fitch had reduced the support rating from 1 to 5 which means under the existing criteria the Council is unable to invest with them.

Discussion took place on the impact on the Council but it was confirmed that, with the level of monitoring of the markets, there should be not impact on the Council.

The Director of Finance and Corporate Services also confirmed that due to changes introduced by the Icelandic Government relating to their monetary controls he will be reporting further information in due course to Policy and Resources Cabinet Board.

RESOLVED: that approval be granted to the amendments to the Councils' Treasury Management Practices Investment Criteria as detailed in Appendix 2 to the circulated report.

7. **BUDGET STRATEGY 2016/17**

The Chief Executive gave Council a briefing on the context for the 2016/17 budget as detailed within the circulated report. Members noted that the report had been discussed by Cabinet at its meeting on the 24th June 2015 and had commended it to Council for decision. It was highlighted that the consultation process on the need for further savings had already commenced to ensure that Members, Trade Unions, Partners and Staff were aware of the work that need to be progressed and proposals for areas of savings highlighted. It was noted that the final settlement figure from the Welsh Government would not be available until the end of October beginning of November and proposals would need to be considered and development to ensure that the Council achieves a balanced budget by February 2016. A further report containing proposals for Members consideration would be submitted to Council in September 2015.

Members also noted the implications for the Authority of the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act.

There followed a question and answer session on the implications of the reduced budget on the Council and the variety of options that needed to be considered by the Council.

- RESOLVED:**
- (a) That the position and direction of travel in relation to the Budget Strategy for 2016/17 as outlined within the circulated report be noted;
 - (b) That approval be granted, in principle, to the outline programme of consultation events, as listed in Appendix 1 within the circulated report, with a particular emphasis on a continuing dialogue with partners, trade unions and staff.

8. **SINGLE INTEGRATED PLAN ANNUAL REPORT 2014/15**

Members received an overview of the Single Integrated Plan Annual Report for 2014-2015 as detailed in the circulated report which had been approved for publishing by the Local Service Board at its last meeting on the 15th June 2015. From the report it was noted there were four cross cutting priorities that the Local Service Board and supporting partners would be concentrating on namely Children and Young People, Anti-Poverty, Health Inequities and Transport with an additional priority of Community Safety.

Members were pleased that Community Safety had been added to the priorities and commended the work on substance misuse and the new psychoactive substances. It was also asked if there were any plans to extend the support of the Anti-Poverty priority in the Pontardawe One Stop Shop which has been very successful. Officers explained that an evaluation of this work was currently underway to ascertain if it could be developed further.

- RESOLVED:**
- (a) That the Single Integrated Plan Annual Report 2014-2015 prepared by the Local Service Board, be noted;
 - (b) That Community Safety be included in the Single Integrated Plan from 2015-2016, as a cross cutting priority;
 - (c) That the priority actions identified by the Local Service Board for 2015-2016, be approved.

9. **SECTION 85(1) OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**

RESOLVED: that in view of the absence at the present time of Councillor Mrs. Pearson from Council business, due to illness, approval be granted for her continued absence until further notice pursuant to Section 85(1) of the Local Government Act 1972.

10. **NOMINATION OF ELECTED MEMBER TO THE PENSION FUND BOARD OF CITY AND COUNTY OF SWANSEA PENSION FUND**

RESOLVED: that Councillor A.R.Lockyer to be this Authority's Member representation on the Local Pension Fund Board.

11. **EXECUTIVE DECISIONS OF THE CABINET AND CABINET BOARDS.**

RESOLVED: That the following Executive Decisions of Cabinet and Cabinet Boards be noted:-

Cabinet	25 th March 2015
Cabinet	15 th April 2015
Cabinet	22 nd April 2015
Economic and Community Regeneration (Special)	19 th March 2015
Economic and Community Regeneration	2 nd April 2015
Economic and Community Regeneration	14 th May 2015
Children, Young People and Education (Special)	31 st March 2015
Children, Young People and Education	9 th April 2015
Social Care, Health and Housing	2 nd April 2015
Social Care, Health and Housing	14 th May 2015

Policy and Resources 9th April 2015
Environment and Highways 23rd April 2015
Cabinet (Special) 20th May 2015

Children, Young People and
Education 28th May 2015

NOTE: In relation to Minute No 10 of the Children, Young People and Education Cabinet Board held on the 28th May 2015 reference was made to an email that the Reason for Decision did not reflect the Decision that had been made. It was noted that the Minutes had been confirmed as a true record by the relevant Cabinet Board and were for noting by Council.

Environment and Highways 9th June 2015

CHAIRMAN