

Cabinet Scrutiny Committee

(Via Microsoft Teams)

Members Present:

8 January 2021

Chairperson: **Councillor M.Harvey**

Vice Chairperson: **Councillor S.Rahaman**

Councillors: S.E.Freeguard, N.T.Hunt, S.K.Hunt, A.Llewelyn, S.Miller, R.Mizen, J.D.Morgan, S.Paddison, L.M.Purcell, S.M.Penry, S.H.Reynolds and A.N.Woolcock

Officers In Attendance A.Evans, A.Jarrett, H.Jenkins, C.Griffiths, K.Jones, D.Giles, A.Thomas, S.Brennan, K.Warren, I.Finnemore, K.Gilbert, N.Pearce, M.Shaw, J.Woodman-Ralph, C.Plowman and C.Davies

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

1. Declaration of Interest

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

Cllr. C. Clement-Williams -

Re. Item 10 - Proposed Creation and Extinguishment Orders for the footpath from Hodgsons Road to the river Tawe Community of Ystalyfera – as she has relatives living in Hodgsons Road.

2. **Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

The Minutes of the previous meeting held on the 11th November 2020, were approved.

3. **Pre-decision Scrutiny**

The Committee scrutinised the following Cabinet items:

The Commitment to a Preferred IT System to Support Social Services Functions

Members were updated in relation to a preferred IT system to support Social Services functions.

Discussions took place ascertaining whether the proposed system would be compatible with the Health Service to retain effective collaborative working. It was explained that the IT system would be made available to relevant Health staff to enhance team working.

It was highlighted that updated versions of Oracle would be available within the next couple of years. It was asked how the remodelling of Adult Services would fit in with the IT update timescales. It was noted that the updates would enhance the remodelling of Adult Services. It was noted that as the remodelling continues the Council would update to the relevant IT system as required.

Members discussed the earliest date as to when the Council would realistically migrate on to the WCCIS platform. Officers confirmed that they wouldn't consider changing their views within the next 5 years.

The risk elements were queried, such as the allocation of IT staffing resources and funding of the work. Officers assured members that the skill set to develop the system was within the team and a plan had been considered to ensure there were resources within the team. It was also noted that there would be a transfer of budget reserves from Social Services to the Central IT Team to cover the costs.

It was asked whether we would be at a disadvantage for keeping our I.T system in house. Officers confirmed that the council wouldn't be at a disadvantage as the IT system would be tailored specifically for Neath Port Talbot.

Following scrutiny, the Committee was supportive of the proposal to be considered by the Cabinet Board.

Proposed Creation and Extinguishment Orders for the footpath from Hodgsons Road to the river Tawe – Community of Ystalyfera

(Cllr. Clement Williams re-affirmed her interest at this point and withdrew from the meeting)

Officers made an amendment to the report, changing Ward Affected from 'Ystalyfera' to 'Godregraig'.

Following scrutiny, the Committee was supportive of the proposal to be considered by the Cabinet Board.

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

The Forward Work Programme was noted.

CHAIRPERSON

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