

COUNCIL

(Hybrid Meeting. Civic Centre, Port Talbot/ Microsoft Teams)

Members Present:

14 December 2022

The Mayor: Councillor Robert Wood

The Deputy Mayor: Councillor Chris Williams

Councillors: A.R.Aubrey, T.Bowen, W.Carpenter, H.C.Clarke, C.Clement-Williams, M.Crowley, A.Dacey, H.Davies, H.Davies, O.S.Davies, R.Davies, S.E.Freeguard, N.Goldup-John, W.F.Griffiths, S.Harris, J.Henton, S.K.Hunt, J.Hurley, C.James, N.Jenkins, J.Jones, R.G.Jones, S.Jones, C.Jordan, D.Keogh, S.A.Knoyle, E.V.Latham, C.Lewis, D.Lewis, A.Llewelyn, A.Lodwig, R.Mizen, K.Morris, S.Paddison, D.M.Peters, R.Phillips, S.Pursey, S.Rahaman, P.A.Rees, S.Renkes, S.H.Reynolds, A.J.Richards, P.D.Richards, P.Rogers, M.Spooner, S.Thomas, D.Whitelock, L.Williamsd

Officers in Attendance: S.Curran, C.Griffiths, A.Jarrett, K.Jones, N.Pearce, M.Shaw, A.Thomas, Thomas and J.Woodman-Ralph

Representatives of the Translation Service: Nerys Hurford

1. **Mayor's Announcements**

Council were introduced to the simultaneous Welsh translation technology and members were pleased to see its introduction and looked forward to seeing it put to use in future meetings.

The Mayor reminded Council that the Mayor's Annual Christmas Concert would take place on Sunday 18th December and encouraged members to attend wherever possible.

2. **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

3. **Public Question Time.**

There were no public questions.

4. **Multi Locations Meeting Policy**

Councillor Saifur Rahaman (Chair of the Democratic Services Committee) introduced the report which was to ratify the Council's Multi Location Meetings Policy previously developed, considered and approved by the Democratic Services Committee.

Members were pleased to endorse the policy who welcomed the increased levels of public participation that the policy would allow.

RESOLVED: That the draft Multi Locations Meeting Policy be approved.

That delegated authority be granted to the Head of Legal and Democratic Services to update the Constitution of Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council to reflect the approval of the Multi Locations Meeting policy.

5. **Changes to Committee and Outside Body Membership**

The Head of Legal and Democratic Services introduced the report which was to authorise changes to the allocation of seats on council committees and outside bodies to the political groups as detailed in the circulated report.

RESOLVED: That the changes to the membership of committees as detailed in the circulated report be approved.

6. **Council Tax Reduction Scheme**

The Cabinet Member for Finance, Performance and Social Justice introduced the report, which was to authorise the proposed Council Tax Reduction Scheme for 2023/24.

RESOLVED: That the Council adopt the Council Tax Reduction Schemes and Prescribed Requirements (Wales) Regulations 2013 as further amended by the Council Tax Reduction Schemes (Prescribed Requirements and Default Scheme) (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2023 and any subsequent amendments that may be required by legislation in relation to The Council Tax Reduction Schemes (Prescribed Requirements and Default Scheme) (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2023.

That the Council approve the retention of the existing discretionary elements in relation to the Prescribed Scheme:

(i) That no increase in the backdated period for all claimants be applied from the standard 3 months contained in the Prescribed Scheme.

(ii) That no increase in the extended reduction period for all claimants be applied from the standard 4 weeks currently contained within the Prescribed Scheme.

(iii) Apply a 100% disregard for War Disablement Pensions, War Widows Pensions and War Widower's Pensions for all claimants.

7. **Notice of Motion under Section 10 of Part 4 (Rules of Procedure) the Council's Constitution**

No notices of motion were received.

8. **Questions from Members, with Notice, under Rule 9.2 of the Council's Procedure Rules**

No questions were received.

9. **Urgent Items**

There were no urgent items.

CHAIRPERSON