

**Minutes of the Meeting of OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE
held at the held remotely via video-conference on Wednesday, 15 September 2021**

PRESENT; Councillor Rowland Rees-Evans (Chairman), Councillors Elaine Evans (Vice-Chair), Bryan Davies, Marc Davies, Lyndon Lloyd MBE, Dan Potter, Wyn Thomas and Ivor Williams. Councillor Elizabeth Evans (Observer).

Also in attendance: Councillors Ray Quant MBE, (Deputy Leader of the Council), Rhodri Evans, Gareth Lloyd, Catherine Hughes, Alun Williams.

Officers in attendance: Donna Pritchard, Corporate Lead Officer, Nerys Lewis, Corporate Manager, Diana Davies, Corporate Manager, Partnerships and Performance, Lynne Walters, Partnership Officer, Geraint Edwards, Corporate Lead Officer, Michael Smith, Engagement and Equalities Officer, Rob Starr, Performance and Research Manager, Alison Hodgson, Corporate Performance and Improvement Officer, Siân Howys, Corporate Lead Officer and Statutory Director of Social Services, Elin Prysor, Corporate Lead Officer, Hannah Rees, Governance Officer, Lisa Evans, Standards and Scrutiny Officer, Dwynwen Jones, Overview and Scrutiny Support Officer, Iona Davies and Dafydd Williams, Translators.

ALSO PRESENT: Peter Skitt, Hywel Dda County Director Ceredigion/Programme Director Mid Wales Joint Committee.

(10.00 am - 12.03 pm)

26 Apologies

Councillor Mark Strong apologised for being unable to attend the meeting.

27 Disclosures of personal interest (including whipping declarations)

Members are reminded of their personal responsibility to declare any personal and prejudicial interest in respect of matters contained in this agenda in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 2000, the Council's Constitution and the Members Code of Conduct. In addition, Members must declare any prohibited party whip which the Member has been given in relation to the meeting as per the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011

There were no disclosures of personal or prejudicial interests.

28 Cylch Caron Update

The Chairman welcomed Nerys Lewis and Peter Skitt to the meeting. Nerys explained that following the withdrawal of Mid Wales Housing Association (subsequently Barcud) by mutual consent as a development partner all other partners remain fully committed to the delivery of the Integrated Resource Centre in Tregaron – Cylch Caron. Nerys also explained that Peter Skitt had been leading this project since Sue Darnbrook, Statutory Director Social Services' retirement as the Senior Responsible Officer (SRO). Peter advised Committee Members that a working group of Health Board and Council

Officers are currently reviewing and updating the business case in preparation for progression of the scheme with a view to initiating a retendering for the development partner in Autumn 2021. The next step for the partnership project is to arrange a 'Meet the Buyer' event in order to re-establish the process of attracting a new development partner. A formal tender process will then take place.

Members then had the opportunity to ask questions which were answered by Officers present.

Following discussion, Committee Members were asked to note the information contained within the report. The Chairman thanked Peter Skitt and Nerys Lewis for attending and providing an update in relation to Cylch Caron. The Chairman suggested another update is received in 6/8 months following the 'Meet the Buyer' event and the formal tender process. This was agreed.

29 Minutes of the Ceredigion Public Services Board (PSB) meeting held on the 12th July 2021 and the Ceredigion Local Well-being Plan Annual Report 2020-21.

The Chair welcomed Diana Davies and Lynne Walters to the meeting to present the report.

Councillor Bryan Davies referred to a concern which should be considered for raising at a future Public Services Board meeting concerning Natural Resources Wales (NRW). Councillor Davies asked for discussions at a future Scrutiny Committee in relation to this concern. NRW licence Welsh Water to discharge sewage into untreated rivers. Councillor Davies referred to an example in his Ward which is the River Llethi, Llanarth and another in Gilfachreda. This river then flows into the sea between Traeth Gwyn and Cei Bach. A warning on social media this week warned the public not to bathe in the sea due to pollution!

Councillor Davies raised a further related concern regarding the high levels of Phosphates in the Teifi and the rivers / streams that flow into it. Planning applications that fall into these locations face a lengthy process due to NRW rules. It affects two thirds of Ceredigion. Shouldn't Welsh Water and NRW be rectifying the situation rather than blaming farmers or developers?

It was agreed that Diana Davies would explore links with NRW and note this concern at a future Public Services Board meeting.

Lynne Walters presented the draft minutes of the PSB meeting held on the 12th July 2021, the report for each of the PSB Project Groups and the Ceredigion Local Well-being Plan Annual Report for 2020-2021.

There were many questions which were answered in turn by Officers. It was also highlighted that the Ceredigion Public Services Board is currently carrying out an engagement exercise in order to inform the next Assessment of Local Well-being. They want to find out about the well-being of local people and communities, now and for the future. Many things can influence

the well-being of individuals and communities, such as economic, social, environmental and cultural factors. Information on the engagement has been sent to all Councillors, Community/Town Councils and other stakeholders for their input. The closing date for responses to the Regional Well-being Survey is the 8th October 2021.

Following discussion, Committee Members were asked to consider the following recommendations:

RECOMMENDATION (S):

1. To receive the draft minutes of the Ceredigion PSB meeting held on the 12th July 2021;
2. To receive the most recent report for each of the PSB Project Groups as presented to the PSB; and;
3. To receive the Ceredigion Local Well-being Plan Annual Report 2020-2021.

Committee Members agreed to points 1-3 as above.

The Chairman thanked Diana Davies and Lynne Walters for attending and presenting at the meeting.

30 'A Fair and Equal Ceredigion.' Strategic Equality Plan (SEP) Monitoring Report 2020-21

Michael Smith was welcomed to present the report.

Following discussion, Committee Members were asked to receive and endorse the Strategic Equality Plan (SEP) Monitoring Report April 2020 to March 2021 and to make recommendations as appropriate when the report is presented to Cabinet on the 5th October 2021.

Members agreed to receive and suggested that Cabinet should endorse the Strategic Equality Plan (SEP) Monitoring Report April 2020 to March 2021 as presented.

The Chairman thanked Michael Smith for attending and presenting at the meeting.

31 Draft Well-being & Improvement Objectives Annual Report 2020/21

Rob Starr and Alison Hodgson were welcomed to the meeting. Rob Starr presented the 2020/2021 Well-being and Improvement Objectives Annual Report.

Following discussion, Members agreed the draft Well-being and Improvement Objectives Annual Report 2020-2021 prior to consideration by Cabinet and Council.

The Chairman thanked Rob Starr and Alison Hodgson for attending and presenting at the meeting.

32 Report on the Council's use of the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000 ('RIPA')

The Chairman welcomed Elin Prysor and Hannah Rees to the meeting. Hannah presented the report advising Committee Members that there has not been any RIPA activity by any service of the Council during the period of the 1st December 2020 to 12th August 2021. Authorising Officers have confirmed that they have not considered any RIPA applications during this time. Hannah referred to the Corporate RIPA Policy and Procedures (draft document – appendix 1 of the agenda papers) providing a summary of the proposed changes. She then directed Members to the RIPA Social Media Policy (appendix 2 of the agenda papers) and use of the internet/social media.

Following discussion, Committee Members were asked to consider the following recommendations:

1. Note the content of the Report;
2. Note that there has been no RIPA activity by any service of the Council during the period of the 1st December 2020 to the 12th August 2021; and
3. Note the contents of the draft amended Corporate RIPA Policy and Procedures Document (Appendix 1) and draft RIPA Social Media Policy (Appendix 2), and recommends that Council approve the documents.

Committee Members agreed to (1) note the report content, (2) note that there has been no RIPA activity by any service of the Council during the period of the 1st December 2020 to the 12th August 2021; and; (3) note the contents of the draft amended Corporate RIPA Policy and Procedures Document and the draft RIPA Social Media Policy and agreed to recommend that Council approve the documents as presented.

Elin Prysor thanked Hannah for the work she has undertaken since she commenced her role 12 months ago. Hanna thanked Elin for her kind words and also thanked Alun Williams, Corporate Lead and Anne-Louise Davies, Trading Standards Officer for their input and support.

The Chairman thanked Elin Prysor and Hannah Rees for attending and presenting the report.

33 CYSUR/CWMPAS Combined Local Operational Group Safeguarding Report Qtr 4 2020/21

The Statutory Director of Social Services, Sian Howys was welcomed to present the Safeguarding Report for quarter 4, 2020/2021.

Following discussion, Committee Members agreed to note the contents of the report and the levels of activity within the Local Authority, so that governance of the Local Authority activity and its partner agencies are monitored.

The Chairman and seconded by the Committee Members took the opportunity to thank the Team for their continued and valued work during the pandemic.

The Chairman also thanked Sian Howys for attending and presenting at the meeting.

34 Draft Forward Work Programme

Each Committee Chair provided information in turn regarding their respective Overview and Scrutiny Committees.

Following discussion, it was agreed that Refuse Collection be considered at the January 2022, Thriving Communities Committee meeting.

35 To confirm minutes of the Coordinating meeting held on 16 June 2021 and to consider any matters arising from those minutes

Councillor Bryan Davies proposed to confirm the minutes of the Coordinating Committee meeting held on the 16 June 2021 as a true record and Councillor Dan Potter seconded his proposal. There were no matters arising from those minutes.

36 Any other matter that the Chairman decides is for the urgent attention of the Committee

There were no other matters raised.

Councillor Rowland Rees-Evans, Chair, thanked Committee Members for attending the meeting and to Officers for presenting the information in a clear and concise manner. He thanked all officers involved for ensuring the smooth running of the meeting.

Confirmed at the Meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee held on 1 December 2021

Chairman: _____

Date: _____