

**MINUTES**

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**CABINET MEETING: 19 MARCH 2015**

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Cabinet Members Present:	Councillor Phil Bale (Chair) Councillor Sue Lent Councillor Peter Bradbury Councillor Dan De'Ath Councillor Bob Derbyshire Councillor Susan Elsmore Councillor Graham Hinchey Councillor Ramesh Patel Councillor Julia Magill
Observers:	Councillor David Walker Councillor Judith Woodman (min 129-138) Councillor Eleanor Sanders
Officers:	Paul Orders, Chief Executive Marcia Sinfield, for Section 151 Officer Shaun Jamieson, County Solicitor Joanne Watkins, Cabinet Office

**1 MINUTES OF THE CABINET MEETING HELD ON 19 FEBRUARY 2015**

**RESOLVED:** that the minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on 19 February be agreed

**2 CORPORATE PLAN 2015-17**

The Cabinet considered the Corporate Plan for 2015-17. The plan was structured around four priorities - Education and skills for people of all ages, Supporting people in vulnerable situations, Sustainable economic development as the engine for growth and job and Working with people and partners to design, deliver and improve services. It was intended that this approach would emphasise the Council's priorities and make clear that in the current financial climate it was necessary to secure a strong focus on a small number of priorities where significant change is required.

**RESOLVED:** that

1. the Corporate Plan 2015-2017 be approved as set out in Appendix 1 to the report for consideration by Council on 26 March 2015;

2. Council be recommended to delegate authority to the Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader of the Council to make any consequential amendments to the Corporate Plan following consideration by Council on 26 March 2015.

### **3 GREAT WESTERN CITIES**

The Cabinet considered proposals for collaboration and joint working between the 'Great Western Cities' of Cardiff, Newport and Bristol following a statement of intent which had been launched in February 2015. Three priority areas had been identified as potential areas for collaboration including improve connectivity, renewable energy and international marketing.

**RESOLVED:** that authority be delegated to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, to develop a programme of joint activity with the Great Western Cities in the areas outlined in paragraph 9 of this report.

### **4 CARDIFF INTERNATIONAL SPORTS STADIUM**

*Appendix 2 is not for publication as it contains exempt information of the description in paragraph 16 of Part 4 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972*

A proposal to remove the Cardiff International Sports Stadium from the Council's wider procurement process for leisure facilities and lease the Stadium and grounds to Cardiff and Vale College, which would sub-let the sports facilities to the House of Sport Limited was considered. It was reported that the College, allied with the House of Sport, would invest in the facilities, add new ones and take a full repairing lease on the facilities and premises, with the exception of the track. Furthermore the agreement to issue a lease would be dependent upon the Council receiving a satisfactory final business plan from the College.

**RESOLVED:** that

- (a) on submission of a final, detailed and satisfactory business plan from Cardiff and Vale College the Cardiff International Sports Stadium be removed from the leisure management procurement process
- (b) authority be delegated to the Director of Sport, Leisure and Culture to negotiate the lease and any ancillary documentation to Cardiff and Vale College, in conjunction with the Cabinet Member for Community Development, Co-operatives and Social Enterprise, the Cabinet Member for Corporate Services and Performance and the Section 151 Officer
- (c) the arrangement between the Council and Cardiff and Vale College should be predicated on public access to the facilities being guaranteed for the future and the Council being able to monitor and influence its success.

### **5 COMMUNITY PROVISION IN CARDIFF EAST**

Cabinet received a report detailing the outcome and evaluation of the public consultation on Community Provision in Cardiff East together with proposals for future service provision in the area. It was proposed that a Partnership Hub be established in the current Youth Centre building, the community's preferred

alternative venue, which had the space to accommodate a range of activity. The existing library building would remain open until the partnership hub was established. Furthermore it was proposed that the St Mellons Hub be extended and the services available in the Llanrumney Hub be further developed.

**RESOLVED:** that the current position regarding performance and the delivery of key commitments and priorities as at the end of Quarter 3 be noted

## **6 2014-15 QUARTER 3 PERFORMANCE REPORT**

The Cabinet received details of the Council's performance position in relation to the delivery of key commitments and priorities at the end of quarter 3 of the financial year 2014-15.

**RESOLVED:** that the current position regarding performance and the delivery of key commitments and priorities as at the end of Quarter 3 be noted

## **7 NON-DOMESTIC RATES - WRITE OFFS**

***Appendices A and B to this report are exempt from publication by virtue of paragraph 14 of Part 4 and paragraph 21 of Part 5 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972***

The Cabinet considered a report requesting authorisation to write off debts amounting to £731,395.87. The report outlined action taken in respect of attempts to recover this debt.

**RESOLVED:** that the write off of debts amounting to £731,395.87 as outlined in Appendix A to the report be authorised

## **8 PAY POLICY 2015/16.**

*Paul Orders, Christine Salter, Shaun Jamieson were not present during consideration of this item*

In accordance with the Localism Act 2011, the Cabinet considered the Pay Policy for 2015/16 prior to consideration at Council. The policy statement provided a framework to ensure that employees are rewarded fairly and objectively without discrimination.

**RESOLVED:**that

- 1) the attached Pay Policy Statement 2015/16 (Appendix 1) be approved for consideration by Council on 26 March 2015
- 2) In light of the issues outlined in paragraphs 7-10 of this report, Council be recommended to agree that the Authority's Pay Policy Statement will include the following paragraph:

14.2 The JNC for Chief Officers negotiates on national (UK) annual cost of living pay increases for this group, and any award of same is determined on this basis. Chief Officers employed under JNC terms and conditions are contractually entitled to any national JNC pay rises. This Council will therefore pay these nationally agreed pay awards as and when determined unless full Council decides otherwise.

- (3) Council be recommended to agree that the national pay award for JNC Chief Officer from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2015. The pay award is 2% for salaries below £99,999. There is no pay award for salaries above £100,000.

## **9 GLAMORGAN COUNTY CRICKET CLUB LOAN WRITE OFF AND RESTRUCTURING**

***Appendix 1 and 2 to this Report are not for publication as they contain exempt information of the Description in Paragraphs 14 and 21 of Schedule 12a to the Local Government Act 1972***

*Councillor Peter Bradbury declared a personal interest in this item and took no part in this decision.*

Cabinet considered a proposal from Glamorgan County Cricket Club (GCCC) for a write-off and restructuring of sums due to the Council in respect of loans provided to improve the Club's ground infrastructure and to meet standards required for the staging of test matches. It was reported that the implications of not accepting the proposal were the likely insolvency of the Club or a change in legal status which could have significant cost implications for the Club, reputational impact, loss of test or other major match status including impact on existing match awards. Independent financial advice had been sought and it was noted that the first creditor has agreed to the terms of the restructuring, subject to the Council also doing so, giving assurance the Council is acting in accordance with the Market Investor Principle.

### **RESOLVED:** that

1. In line with the other main creditors, it be agreed to write-off circa 70% of the value of sums outstanding on loans made to Glamorgan County Cricket Club.
2. the heads of terms and revised terms for repayment of amounts outstanding be agreed, whilst acknowledging that there can be no absolute guarantee that income generated by the Club will enable it to repay the proposed restructured loan.
3. authority be delegated to the Corporate Director Resources to complete revised contractual terms with the club in consultation with County Solicitor and the Cabinet Member for Corporate Services and Performance..

## **10 CABINET RESPONSE TO REPORT OF THE: CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE ENTITLED 'LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN'S TRANSITION TO INDEPENDENT LIVING'**

The Cabinet received the response to the report of the Children & Young People's Scrutiny committee relating to 'Looked After Children's Transition to Independent Living'. It was reported that all recommendations had been accepted.

**RESOLVED:** that the responses set out in the appendix to the report in relation to the September 2014 report of the Task and Finish Group convened by the scrutiny committee to consider the needs of care leavers in Transition be agreed

## **11 SCHOOL ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS 2016/2017**

The Cabinet considered the School Admissions Arrangements Policy for 2016/2017. The policy had been subject to consultation with headteachers, governing bodies, diocesan directors, neighbouring local education authorities and other interested bodies.

**RESOLVED:** that it be noted the draft School Admissions Arrangements 2016/2017 have been determined and the Admission Policy 2016/17 be agreed

## **12 REALIGNMENT OF THE 21ST CENTURY SCHOOLS PROGRAMME**

***Appendices 2 & 3 are not for publication as they contain exempt information of the description in paragraph(s) 16 of Part 4 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972***

A report detailing proposals for a realignment of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools Programme was received. It was noted that capital expenditure had the potential to make an important contribution to creating high quality environments to support teaching and learning effectively. The realignment of the 2011 programme aimed to address the current levels of educational attainment at KS4 in the Southern arc; provide a sufficiency of primary places ensuring best value from the financial resources available and the to ensure that schools are assets that benefit their wider community.

**RESOLVED:** that

1. the realigned 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools Programme be approved.
2. it be noted that the approval in principle of the realigned strategy by Welsh Government is required and the Director of Education and Lifelong Learning be authorised to seek to secure Welsh Government approval in principle for the realigned programme, including additional grant funding.
3. authority be delegated to the Director of Economic Development (in consultation with the Cabinet Members for Education & Skills and Corporate Services & Performance, the County Solicitor, and the Corporate Director for Resources) to negotiate and complete the purchase of land on the Hamadryad Peninsula for education purposes and to dispose of the land adjacent to County Hall.
4. authority be delegatged to the Director of Education & Lifelong Learning (in consultation with the Cabinet Members for Education & Skills and Corporate Services & Performance, the County Solicitor, and the Corporate Director for Resources) to determine all aspects of the procurement process (including for the avoidance of doubt development of all procurement documentation and selection and award criteria, commencement of procurement through to award of contracts) for specific 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools proposals in line with the realigned strategy once approved and the thresholds set out in paragraphs

78 to 80, save that in respect of the Eastern High School Project, the thresholds referred to above will be amended as set out in paragraph 81.

### **13 SCHOOL TRANSPORT POLICY REVIEW PUPILS AGED 16 TO 19 FREE HOME TO SCHOOL TRANSPORT**

***Appendix B to this report is not for publication under Schedule 12A Part 4 paragraphs 16 and 21 of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended) in that it contains information in respect of which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained in legal proceedings and the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information***

The Cabinet considered a proposal to hold public consultation on the phased withdrawal of the Council's Free Home to School Transport for post 16 pupils/students aged 16-19 (Passport to Travel Scheme) as a result of the significant shortfall in funding for the Scheme from the commencement of the 2016/2017 academic Year. It was reported that the full Education Maintenance Allowance ("EMA") provided pupils aged 16-19 with £30 per week, of which £10 was intended to cover transport costs and that therefore there was a risk at present that, when taken with the funding from the Passport to Travel Scheme, such pupils were being overcompensated in respect of their travel costs.

**Resolved:** that

- 1) consultation be undertaken on the proposal for the phased withdrawal of funding of Free Home to School Transport via the Councils Passport to Travel Scheme for post 16 pupils/students aged 16-19 with effect from the 2016/2017 Academic Year. Funding would continue for all pupils who started 6th Form or college courses prior to the 2016/2017 Academic Year providing they continue to qualify for the full EMA allowance, until the end of the academic year that they turn 19;
- 2) it be noted that further investigations which are intended to be undertaken alongside the consultation and the intention that the Director of Strategic Planning Highways Traffic & Transportation will return to Cabinet with a further report setting out the feedback from the consultation and the results of those investigations to enable the Cabinet to make a decision as to the approach which it wishes to adopt to address the future funding gap in the Cardiff Passport to Travel Scheme.

### **14 CARDIFF COUNCIL DESIGNATION AS SINGLE LICENSING AUTHORITY FOR POWERS CONTAINED IN PART 1 OF THE HOUSING (WALES) ACT 2014 - WELSH AGENT AND LANDLORD LICENSING SCHEME**

It was reported that Cardiff Council had been formally consulted regarding its designation as the Single Licensing Authority for Licensing Agents and Landlords in Wales and authorisation for this designation was sought from Cabinet. The designation would involve the Council delivering the scheme across 22 local authority areas in Wales.

**Resolved:** that

1. the implications of the Housing (Wales) Act 2014 ("the 2014 Act") as set out in the report and the proposal to designate The County Council of the City and County

of Cardiff as the Single Licensing Authority for the purpose of Part 1 of the 2014 Act be noted

2. it be agreed that the Council carry out the arrangements set out in paragraph 6 of the report, to enable the Council to undertake its designated role as the Single Licensing Authority; and
3. authority be delegated to the Corporate Director with responsibility for Environment, in consultation with the Corporate Director Resources, the County Solicitor and the Cabinet Member (Environment), to negotiate and conclude a Memorandum of Understanding with all Welsh Local Authorities and to address those matters set out in paragraphs 6 and 16 of the report.
4. the Monitoring Officer be requested to recommend to Council any consequential to the Officer Scheme of Delegations.

## **15 HOME IMPROVEMENT LOANS**

Approval was sought for amendments to the Private Sector Housing Policy to include new arrangements for awarding private sector Home Improvement Loans making use of Welsh Government repayable funding.

**Resolved:** that

1. Council be recommended to approve the amendments to the revised Private Sector Housing Policy including the proposals set out in this report to provide Home Improvement Loans to elderly owner occupiers and Houses into Homes Loans to the private rented sector to bring empty properties back into use.
2. Council be recommended to approve the use of Welsh Government repayable funding to meet the costs of these loans
3. Council be recommended to agree that authority be delegated to the Director of Communities, Housing and Customer Service to put in place the detailed arrangements relating to the Home Improvement Loan schemes and to make minor changes to the schemes as necessary to their ensure effective operation.

## **16 FAIRWATER COMMUNITY POLL**

The Cabinet was advised of the results of the Fairwater Community Poll held on 5<sup>th</sup> March 2015. It was reported that in answer to the question “Do you want the Council to re-open the Waungron Road Recycling Centre?”, a ‘Yes’ vote was returned. Members were advised that the closure of Waungron Road Recycling Centre was agreed as part of the reduction of Household Waste Recycling Centres in the Budget for 2014/2015; and that no provision was made to allow the re-opening of the Centre in the 2015/16 Budget. The call to re-open Waungron Road Recycling Centre could not therefore be achieved within the approved budgetary framework.

**Resolved:** that

1. the results of the Fairwater Community Poll held on 5<sup>th</sup> March 2015 (Appendix A to the report) be noted; and
2. the matter be referred to full Council, with a recommendation that no further action should be taken in response to that Poll.