

THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF THE CITY & COUNTY OF CARDIFF

The County Council of the City & County of Cardiff met at County Hall, Cardiff on Thursday 27 February, 2014 to transact the business set out in the Council Summons dated 21 February 2014.

Present: County Councillor Derrick Morgan (Lord Mayor).

County Councillors Ali Ahmed, Manzoor Ahmed, Ali, Aubrey, Bale, Bowden, Bradbury, Bridges, Burfoot, Carter, Chaundy, Clark, Richard Cook, Corria, Cowan, Kirsty Davies, Davis, De' Ath, Derbyshire, Elsmore, Evans, Ford, Goddard, Goodway, Gordon, Govier, Graham, Groves, Hawkins, Hinchey, Holden, Howells, Hudson, Hunt, Hyde, Javed, Keith Jones, Margaret Jones, Joyce, Kelloway, Knight, Lent, Lloyd, Lomax, Love, Magill, Marshall, McEvoy, McGarry, McKerlich, Merry, Michael, Mitchell, Murphy, Parry, Patel, Phillips, David Rees, Dianne Rees, Robson, Sanders, Simmons, Stubbs, Benjamin Thomas, Graham Thomas, Huw Thomas, Thorne, Walker, Walsh, Weaver, Craig Williams, Darren Williams and Woodman

Apologies: County Councillors Ralph Cook and Boyle

156 : WEBCASTING AND RECORDING OF PROCEEDINGS

Members were reminded of a decision of the Constitution Committee on 10 July, 2008 to webcast the Council meeting. Members were also reminded that the Constitution Committee had previously agreed that Council proceedings be recorded for administrative purposes.

Formal approval to record the proceedings was granted.

157 : MINUTES

RESOLVED - That the minutes of the meetings held on 30 January 2014 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairperson.

158 : DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The Lord Mayor reminded Members of their responsibility under Article 10 of the Members' Code of Conduct to declare any interest, & to

complete Personal Interest forms, at the commencement of the item of business.

The following declarations were made in respect of Item 8 – Budget Proposals 2014 – 15 by Councillors with a personal interest on Local Authority School Governing Bodies:

County Councillors Ali Ahmed, Govier, Benjamin Thomas, Kelloway, Love, Davis, Weaver, Craig Williams, Groves, Walker, Morgan, Rees, Dilwar Ali, Stubbs, Simmons, Sanders, Clark, Bowden, Aubrey, Hunt, Hinchey, Marshall, Joyce, Huw Thomas, Gordon, Parry, Murphy, Cowan, Evans, Woodman, Lloyd, Hyde, Davies, Ford, Hudson, Thorne, Margaret Jones, Javed, Walsh, McEvoy, Howells, Chaundy, Mitchell, Bradbury, Bale, Patel, Richard Cook, Derbyshire, McKerlich, Merry, Corria, Goddar, Lent, Burfoot.

The following declarations were made in respect of Item 8 – Budget Proposals 2014 – 15 by Councillors with a personal interest in the Local Government Pension Scheme:

County Councillors Craig Williams, Benjamin Thomas, De’Ath, Groves, Walker, Dianne Rees, Sanders, Holden, Hyde, Phillips, Marshall, Huw Thomas, Cowan, Evans, Magill, Kirsty Davies, Bridges, Ford, Kelloway, Hudson.

The following declarations were made in respect of Item 8 – Budget Proposals 2014 – 15 by the following Councillors with a personal interest as they receive members allowances from the Council.

County Councillors Ali Ahmed, Manzoor Ahmed, Ali, Aubrey, Bale, Bowden, Bradbury, Bridges, Burfoot, Carter, Chaundy, Clark, Richard Cook, Corria, Cowan, Kirsty Davies, Chris Davis, De’Ath, Derbyshire, Elsmore, Evans, Ford, Goodard, Goodway, Gordon, Govier, Graham, Groves, Hinchey, Holden, Howells, Hudson, Hunt, Hyde, Javed, Margaret Jones, Keith Jones, Joyce, Kelloway, Knight, Lent, Lloyd, Lomax, Love, Magill, Marshall, McEvoy, McGarry, McKerlich, Merry, Michael, Mitchell, Derrick Morgan, Murphy, Jacqui Parry, Patel, Phillips, David Rees, Dianne Rees, Robson, Sanders, Simmons, Stubbs, Benjamin Thomas, Graham Thomas, Huw Thomas, Thorne, Walker, Walsh, Weaver, Craig Williams, Darren Williams, Woodman.

The following declarations were made:

<u>Councillor</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Interest</u>
Councillor Aubrey	Item 8 Budget Proposals 2014-15	Personal interest as a non Executive Director of Cardiff Bus.
Councillor Bale	Item 8 Budget Proposals 2014-15	Personal interest as a Director of Cardiff Bus. Personal interest as a member of South Wales Fire & Rescue Authority.
Councillor Bowden	Item 8 Budget Proposals 2014-15	Personal interest as a member of Diverse Cymru.
Councillor Bradbury	Item 8 Budget Proposals 2014-15	Personal interest as currently involved in setting up a Sports Trust with constituents.
Councillor Carter	Item 8 Budget Proposals 2014-15	Personal interest in relation to the cut in funding to Riverside Advice Centre. Also employer, MS Society, buys Advice Services from Riverside Advice Centre.
Councillor Corria	Item 8 Budget Proposals 2014-15	Personal interest on the basis of a conditional job offer from a third sector organisation that receives funding from Cardiff Council. It appears in the budget as a saving.
Councillor Cowan	Item 8 Budget Proposals 2014-15	Personal interest as a member of the Glamorgan Archives Joint Committee. Personal interest as a member of St John Wales Council, Cardiff & The Vale Personal interest as a member of the Rhiwbina Village Events Committee which has received grants.
Councillor Clark	Item 8 Budget Proposals 2014-15	Personal interest as a board member of CBTC
Councillor Derbyshire	Item 8 Budget Proposals 2014-15	Personal interest as a non Executive Director of Cardiff Bus.
Councillor Chris	Item 8 Budget	Personal interest as a member of

Davis	Proposals 2014-15	the Glamorgan Archives Joint Committee.
Councillor Goddard	Item 8 Budget Proposals 2014-15	Personal interest as a Board Member Cardiff Bus. Personal interest as a member of Vale of Glamorgan St John's Ambulance
Councillor Goodway	Item 8 Budget Proposals 2014-15	Personal interest as member of Central Cardiff Enterprise Advisory Board and the South East Wales City Region Advisory Board
Councillor Gordon	Item 8 Budget Proposals 2014-15	Personal interest as a trustee of South Riverside Community Development Centre and Home Start. Both of which do receive some council funding. Personal interest as a trustee of Grassroots City Centre Youth Project.
Councillor Govier	Item 8 Budget Proposals 2014-15	Personal interest as a Board Member of Cardiff and Vale Credit Union
Councillor Hinchey	Item 8 Budget Proposals 2014-15	Personal interest as Chair Trustee of Crossroads Care (Cardiff & the Vale) Ltd Charity which is in receipt of funding and care provider.
Councillor Holden	Item 8 Budget Proposals 2014-15	Personal interest as an employee of Cardiff & Vale University Health Board. The cuts may effect employment.
Councillor Howells	Item 8 Budget Proposals 2014-15	Personal interest as a board member of CBTC
Councillor Javed	Item 8 Budget Proposals 2014-15	Personal interest as a member of South Wales Fire & Rescue Authority.
Councillor Joyce	Item 8 Budget Proposals 2014-15	Personal interest as a Council Tenant
Councillor Lomax	Item 8 Budget Proposals 2014-15	Personal interest, family member in Youth Service.

		Personal interest as a member of the Glamorgan Archives Joint Committee.
Councillor McGarry	Item 8 Budget Proposals 2014-15	Personal interest as a LA School Governor at St Peters Primary School.
Councillor McKerlich	Item 8 Budget Proposals 2014-15	Personal interest as a trustee of Radyr & District Good Neighbours who have been in receipt of a grant.
Councillor Phillips	Item 8 Budget Proposals 2014-15	Personal interest as a member of South Wales Fire & Rescue Authority.
Councillor Parry	Item 8 Budget Proposals 2014-15	Personal interest as a member of the Glamorgan Archives Joint Committee.
Councillor Robson	Item 8 Budget Proposals 2014-15	Personal interest as a member of the Glamorgan Archives Joint Committee.
		Personal interest as a member of the Rhiwbina Village Events Committee
Councillor Sanders	Item 8 Budget Proposals 2014-15	Personal interest as Chair of the Rhiwbina Village Events Committee and in receipt of a small grant up until last year.
Councillor Simmons	Item 8 Budget Proposals 2014-15	Personal interest as Board Member of Cardiff Bus
Councillor Benjamin Thomas	Item 8 Budget Proposals 2014-15	Personal interest as a Board Member of Cardiff Bus
Councillor Walsh	Item 8 Budget Proposals 2014-15	Personal interest as in receipt of a Council Pension.
Councillor Craig Williams	Item 8 Budget Proposals 2014-15	Personal interest as a non executive Board Member of Cardiff Bus
Councillor Darren Williams	Item 8 Budget Proposals 2014-15	Personal interest as trustee Riverside Advice Ltd. The Advice Centre receives Council funding.
Councillor	Item 8 Budget	Personal interest as Honorary Vice

Woodman Proposals 2014-15 President of Diverse Cymru who
deliver Direct Payment Services.

159: ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Lord Mayor welcomed Councillor Susan Elsmore to the Chamber, elected to represent the Canton Electoral Division at the By Election on the 20 February 2014.

Councillor Elsmore thanked the people of Canton for placing their trust in her.

The Lord Mayor advised Members that the National St David's Day Celebrations would take place on Saturday 1 March 2014.

160: PUBLIC QUESTIONS

EDUCATION AND LIFELONG LEARNING QUESTION

Question 1: Rick Newnham

The process of youth work encourages the democratic participation and involvement of young people. By denying young people the chance to be taken seriously as partners in their youth service, the Council risks alienating young people to an ever greater extent. Can the Council assure young people that they remain committed to a democratic and universal youth service?

Reply: County Councillor Julia Magill

As a Council we recognise the importance of including young people in decision making particularly in relation to engaging young people in shaping services which impact on their lives.

Cardiff Council has a good record of involving young people in service development, for example young people involved with Cardiff Youth Council have been directly supported to engage with a range of key decision makers on a wide number of issues; young people are regularly involved in the Council's Children & Young People's Scrutiny

Committee; and young people have been actively involved in the commissioning of £5.2 million pounds worth of Families First services.

We will continue to strengthen our working relationship with young people through such bodies as Cardiff Youth Council and other representational bodies ensuring that the voices of young people are at the heart of and that they are partners in the future planning of youth services in Cardiff.

Welsh Government Ministers through the Learning and Skills Act have directed local authorities to provide, secure the provision of, or participate in, the provision of youth support services. As a Council we recognise the need to support young people in Cardiff to reach their potential and as such are committed to ensuring that young people have access to effective youth support and youth work provision. This is a measure that we take seriously.

In the challenging financial climate that currently exists the Council will be required to consider how best to deploy limited resources to secure effective youth services in Cardiff. We will need to consider new ways of working as well as making improvements in collaborative working across youth service providers.

During the next ten months we are committing to working with young people, communities, youth workers, other professionals and stakeholders to develop a secure youth service offer for young people in Cardiff, presenting a preferred option of service delivery by December 2014.

Supplementary Question: *Rick Newnham*

Given that contracting out has generally been a calamity in England both where it has been contracted out to the voluntary sector or to private companies because there has been a lack of universality with closures of many youth provisions in many of the cities and indeed in terms of the cuts in terms and conditions of workers. Additionally there is a question mark that the Local Authority still provides the best form of democratic accountability in relation to services and in terms of the proposals that have been made about contracting out will this not mean that the service becomes less than universal and less than democratic and the question - What evidence have you to provide the decision to contract out services

on the basis that that will be a more effective and democratic or universal service?

Reply: *County Councillor Julia Magill*

One of the issues that the Council is faced with generally in this very challenging financial situation in which we find ourselves is that the provision of services that aren't statutory services, and as I have just been explaining, we work under a broad statutory measure but isn't a statutory service in the way that admissions services are in education, that those services are seriously under pressure and Cardiff, at the moment, makes a very substantial investment in youth services and I don't think there will be a youth service anything close to the scale of Cardiff's by the end of this budget round in Wales so we do have to look at ways of making a sustainable offer. What that means is that we need to work with young people particularly and we have got a model we have already used in relation to Families First where young people have directly been involved in drawing up specifications and interviewing prospective providers of services and we will be looking to achieve that. We will be looking around the UK at what's happened, at what's worked well and what hasn't so if there are disasters out there we need to be aware of those and not replicate those mistakes but I think that it is only right to say that we do have to move to a new model of working what is not determined yet is what that will look like exactly. It is not necessarily contracting out to private sector providers it might well be social enterprises, charities and there may well still be some in house services so that is what we are going to be looking at over the next few months. In terms of democratic accountability the specifications and the way that contracts are run will still be under scrutiny through the Children and Young People's scrutiny committee and through the Council itself.

Question 2: *Dylan James*

Following a survey late in 2013 the people of Cardiff said a youth centre is what they wanted in their areas, so why is it that most areas are losing their youth clubs.

Reply: *County Councillor Julia Magill*

Thank you very much for your question too.

The Council's Cabinet has put forward amended proposal for consideration by Council later today, which reduces reducing the budget for the Youth Service by £250,000. The original proposal was that we were going to be looking at taking £1 million out of the budget this year. That is a much better position and I think we are all very relieved about that and that gives us a year to work on a new model of service as I have just been describing.

There will still need to be a reduction in youth service delivery, but we will look to achieve this through service efficiency and an overall reduction in open access youth provision opening times, but we will be seeking to maintain delivery from existing youth centres across the city and including the youth centres across the north of the city, in some cases we will have to look for alternative venues but those are for particular local issues.

The financial pressures faced by the Council do remain very difficult and we will still need to explore how to achieve an affordable youth service for the future. We will be working with young people like yourself, Cardiff Youth Council, communities, youth workers and other stakeholders to help reshape the Youth Service.

Supplementary Question: *Dylan James*

If Youth Services are being closed and you are removing a small amount of money from there, surely in the short term that may not make such a massive amount of difference, but in the longer term...In the short term of removing Youth Services from areas across Cardiff there may not be a massive effect and you will save money but surely in the long term money will have to spent on things such as Youth Prisons etc. and more support on that side of things as Youth Centres will not be there to support young people.

Reply: *County Councillor Julia Magill*

There is certainly a balance to be struck between having a targeted service which is focussed on young people at school, for example, who

may be in danger of not engaging with education, employment and training and young people that are caught up in the criminal justice system who are particularly vulnerable, who have got particular needs, and there needs to be a targeted service for those.

It is one of the things we have talked about a lot actually with the Children & Young Peoples Scrutiny Committee is that there is a role for a universal element in the service and actually it detracts from the targeted services if there isn't an element of open access service that is still maintained. We were certainly not stripping out the whole of the open access service even when we were talking about taking a million pounds out. As I have said one of the things that we need to do in reshaping the service is to look at the balance between open access and targeted services and that is one of the things we will need to take great care with as we work on a new scope and scale for the service over the next year but it is a point well made, thank you.

QUESTION TO THE LEADER

Question 3: *Jessica Purnell*

What is being done by Cardiff Council to ensure involvement in the running of the Council and council services from the younger generation?

Reply: *County Councillor Heather Joyce*

Thank you Jessica for your question.

As has been outlined by my colleague, Councillor Magill, in her response to the first Public Question this afternoon, the Council is committed to enabling the engagement and participation of young people in shaping those services which impact on their lives.

The Council recognises the important contribution made by the Cardiff Youth Council in providing effective representation for the views of children and young people aged 11 to 25 within the city. It is one of the main mechanisms through which young people can engage with the Council about services they receive.

As part of the consultation on the 2014/15 budget priorities, we held specific engagement event involving the Cardiff Youth Council at City

Hall in December last year, which provided an important opportunity for around 35 young people who attended to have their say on which services should be prioritised and how the Council could save money, raise money or do things differently in the future.

Cardiff Youth Council representatives have also met with the Cabinet Member for Education and Lifelong Learning regarding future funding and have given a presentation to the Cardiff Partnership Board regarding Cardiff Youth Council priorities.

The Youth Council has also co-produced engagement events with both the Cardiff Partnership Team and the Council's Children & Young People Scrutiny Committee, which have provided an opportunity for young people to have their say on the education they receive and the main priorities for young people in Cardiff. The Active Involvement Team within the Council's Young Service continues to support the positive development of the Cardiff Youth Council. The team also works with young people across Cardiff to ensure that the views of young people are captured and fed directly into decision making processes. In addition, young people are increasingly more able to respond to Council consultations online and utilise social media to engage with the Council and comment on council services.

FINANCE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT QUESTION

Question 4: *Anneliise Shanahan*

Why does the Council waste so much money on bringing in consultants at ridiculous wages to cut departments? That alone would be a massive saving, why not do this in house?

And why was the Splott play centre under the budget heading it was and not protected as this service has a knock on effect like social services agreed last week?

Reply: *Councillor Russell Goodway*

The Council has done precisely what you ask for. Since taking office in May 2012 we have reduced the cost of interim managers and consultants by some £2.6 million as a result of employing an in-house senior management team. We will continue to employ in-house expertise

whenever it is produce and cost effective to do so. However, there are occasions where specialist expertise is required and, if this is the case, we will engage the expertise required from external agencies and organisations.

With regard to the Splott Play Centre, I believe that it would be difficult to justify the facility being categorised as a social service alongside the vital services which the two Social Services Directorates deliver and which, as a result, have been afforded a degree of local protection.

Play is considered a leisure activity and, as such, budgetary provision has traditionally been allocated with the Sport, Leisure & Culture portfolio. I believe that to be the correct treatment. It is important to appreciate that Cardiff is one of the last Councils, if indeed not the last to continue to deliver play services. The Cabinet Member has, regrettably, concluded that it will not be possible to maintain the financial commitment to these services in the future, and he has presented a compelling case why that is the case, however Cabinet has allocated a sum of money to enable them to continue into next year whilst alternative service delivery arrangements can be introduced which do not require on-going council funding.

Supplementary Question: *Anneliise Shanahan*

I am old enough to remember the Star Centre opening with our Labour Councillors, Lord Jack Brooks, ex Lord Mayor Ricky Ormonde and Gordon Houlston fighting for the much needed leisure centres for Splott and Tremorfa community, now Huw, Gretta and Ed are fighting for us to save our services but the Cabinet Minister of Sports, Leisure & Culture seems to intend to take our services away from us and when will Councillor Patel make the promise, he made a promise to visit our play centres to see for himself the fantastic service we provide in our deprived community and how is the Council intending to support the friends of the Splott Paly Centre in becoming sustainable and going forward when the funding runs out next year.

Reply: *County Councillor Russell Goodway*

Lord Mayor, the Council will understand that it is difficult for me to respond to such a direct question for the Cabinet Member for Sport, Leisure and Culture but what I can say is that I too am old enough to remember the opening of the Star Centre and the personalities to which

you refer and I remember too that, as Leader of the County Council, I saved those leisure centres that were established by the former South Glamorgan Council under trust arrangements when we took those leisure centres under Council control.

All I can tell you is that the Cabinet collectively, including Councillor Patel has given a commitment that we want to retain those leisure facilities in South Cardiff, we understand that there are new opportunities in South Cardiff in relation to the Splott Hub, that may enable us to better protect those facilities, but you have our assurance that those facilities in that important part of the city are something that we are committed to protect.

QUESTION TO THE LEADER

Question 5: *Joel Williams*

In May 2012 your administration made a pledge to cap council tax increases to 2% per year after a freeze for the first budget our administration announced in May 2013. Now with the prospect of an increase above 2% can you please justify why your administration appointed 22 senior managers on salaries of £120,000 & £130,000, costing the Cardiff tax payer over £1 million?

Can you also clarify why you decided to expand your cabinet by appointment an extra cabinet member, also costing the tax payer tens of thousands of pounds per year?

Reply: *County Councillor Heather Joyce*

Thank you Mr Williams for your question.

The Cardiff Labour Party commitment in respect of Council Tax increases was to freeze council tax at the 2012/13 levels in 2013/14 and, all things being equal, to keep increases in 2014/15 and 2015/16 to a maximum of 2%.

The decision to include the words all things being equal was critical. It meant that we were only able to make the commitment to that course provided things did not change significantly. Well things have changed and more than significantly.

You will appreciate that the commitment was not made lightly and was based on information provided by the Government at that time.

The indicative financial settlement figures for Cardiff announced in December 2011 indicated that the Council would be required to cut some £16 million from its spending profiles in 2014/15. In the event, we are required to cut £50 million – that is £34 million more than anticipated.

You will appreciate that the change is the result of a series of reductions in the level of funding made available to Wales by the Westminster Government and which were the subject of announcements by the Chancellor of the Exchequer since October 2012.

With regard to the Council's senior management arrangements, I am sorry to say you have been misled if you believe that we have made 22 appointments within the salary range of £120,000 to £130,000. In fact there are only 12 in that range. Furthermore, they replaced the extensive interim management/management consultancy regime which we inherited and which saw individuals being paid at the rate of £1500 per day or £350,000 per year. In comparison, the senior management arrangements we have introduced has saved the Council about £2.6 million per year in consultancy costs.

More recent decisions, which have been taken following an interim review carried out by the new Chief Executive, have resulted in some posts in the senior management structure being deleted – such as the Corporate Director (Operations) post.

As far as the composition of my Cabinet is concerned, I accept that I took the decision in July last year to expand it by one – to the maximum of 10 members which is allowed by law. This was done in order to create a new, specific cross-cutting portfolio for the Deputy Leader to focus on matters such as performance management, alternative service deliver models, communications and workforce matters, which are integral to how Council services will be delivered in the future.

You may be aware that the Cabinet has made a commitment to reduce their Senior Salaries by 2.7% in line with the same reduction for senior managers resulting from the proposed Workforce Agreement, which forms part of today's budget proposals.

Supplementary Question: *Joel Williams*

Could I firstly start by saying that to ask individuals and communities in Cardiff Council and in the Cardiff area to accept a reduction in Council services and at the same time demand an inflation busting council tax increase is not only unfair but it is also wrong and therefore my supplementary question is this – are you seriously saying Councillor Joyce that only 12 people, new appointments to this council are earning the same level of pay as central government ministers and members of our Cabinet and can you also finally tell me how many officers in Cardiff council are earning in excess of £120,000 and does that figure include pension contributions. Thank you.

Reply: *County Councillor Heather Joyce*

I can confirm it was not 22, it was 12 appointments that were made and in answer to your other questions, 14 members are in receipt of over £120,000, it does not include pension, but there again neither does it for the Ministers.

161 : PETITIONS

The following petitions were submitted:

Councillor Chaundy – several residents of Llanedeyrn and Pentwyn opposing the closure of the Llanedeyrn Play Centre.

Councillor Carter – group of petitions from residents of Pentwyn opposing the closure and sale of The Dome, Pentwyn.

Councillor Gordon – petition from businesses and residents mostly in the Cathedral Road area, asking that no more ‘Best Parties Ever’ be held in Cardiff again.

Councillor Evans – petition of approximately 1200 signatures organised by Cardiff Youth council asking to ensure the continued provision of high quality play, youth and leisure services.

Councillor Marshall – petition from a large number of parents in the Splott Ward against the closure of the Play Centre in Splott.

Councillor Chris Davis – petition of approx 100 from Whitchurch youth Centre.

Councillor Clarke – further petition on behalf of residents against the monthly collection of black bins and black bags.

Councillor Craig Williams – just short of 1000 signatures against the stopping of the evening bus service 136 from Pentyrch and Creigau after 6.15 pm.

Councillor Graham Thomas – petition residents of Creigau objecting to the cutting of the evening bus service

Councillor Lloyd – a few extra names to add to the petition collected in the autumn regarding the refilling of Llanishen Reservoir

162: CORPORATE PLAN 2014-2017

Council received the draft Corporate Plan 2014 – 2017 for consideration and approval.

The Lord Mayor invited the Leader of the Council to present the draft Corporate Plan.

The Council had to develop a new Corporate Plan for 2014-2017 in the context of severe financial challenges facing local government, which had required budget savings of some £52 million to be identified in 2014/15 with potential for further £65 million in budget savings required between 2015/16 and 2016/17. This reduction in resources, together with a growing population and greater demand for public services, meant that the Council was facing unprecedented challenges in how it delivered services in the future. As a result, the Council had to focus its limited resources on a smaller number of key priorities and outcomes.

The Corporate Plan had been reviewed and revised in order to provide a concise and focused document that was based on the Administration's clear political vision and three key priorities for Cardiff:

- Economic Development as the engine for growth and jobs

- Education and skills for people of all ages to fulfil their potential and be well prepared for employment in the Cardiff economy and beyond; and
- Supporting vulnerable adults, children and young people in times of austerity.

The Wales Audit Office and a Welsh Local Government Association (WLGA) Peer Review Team had made a number of recommendations in relation to the Council's current Corporate Plan that had been approved by Council in 2013 and associated improvement and performance framework.

The strategic priorities had been both communicated widely both internally and externally, and had been endorsed by citizens as part of the Council's Budget priorities consultation and engagement process. The Plan also reflected the importance of maintaining the "Golden thread" that should exist between priorities; service and financial planning; timely performance management that integrates financial and service performance; and objectives for individual members of staff.

As part of the integrated, corporate approach required to support the implementation of the Corporate Plan 2014-2017, newly designed individual Directorate Delivery Plans would be developed, which would contain more detailed objectives and outcomes and would further integrate financial and service planning.

It was proposed that an Organisational Development Plan would be developed for future consideration by the Council which will support the implementation of the Corporate Plan and, in particular, focus on how the organisation will develop to meet the challenges of reduced resources and changing service delivery requirements.

The Leader commended the Corporate Plan 2014-17 and this was seconded by Councillor Julia Magill.

The Cabinet Member for Education and Lifelong Learning, drew attention to the financial implications faced by the Council. A new management team was now in place to deliver the Council's vision and alternative working practices would have to be made in order to deliver these priorities.

The Lord Mayor invited debate on the report and the content of the Corporate Plan.

During the debate a number of matters were raised including: the perceived need for the Plan to better reflect the Capital City Status;; concerns that the three objectives would not be delivered upon due to the Council's significantly reduced budget; concerns regarding specific aspects of service provision; the perceived need for performance indicators to be included in the new Plan; the importance of benchmarking with other authorities; and the importance of a Metro system including links to develop the City Region. The Leader responded to the issues raised as part of the debate.

RESOLVED – That

- (1) the Corporate Plan 2014-2017 be approved;
- (2) the Chief Executive be authorised to make any further consequential amendments to the Corporate Plan in consultation with the Leader of the Council as a result of Council consideration of the Budget 2013/14.

163: BUDGET PROPOSALS 2014-2015

(Members declarations of interest under Article 10 of the Members' Code of Conduct as set out in Minute Number 158 were noted)

The Lord Mayor reminded Members of the agreed conduct of debate for the consideration of the cabinet Budget Proposals, the alternative budget proposals and amendments to the budget report received in accordance with the Council Procedure rules and contained necessary officer advice. The Lord Mayor indicated that Members would be called to speak in accordance with the agreed Speaking Order.

The Council Budget report invited Council to consider the Cabinet's

- (i) estimates of expenditure and income in order to set the Council Tax in accordance with the Local Government Finance Act 1992.

- (ii) recommendations on the strategy and plan for the control of the Authority's borrowing and investments for the year 2014/15 (the Annual Treasury Management Strategy)
- (iii) consider the financial challenges facing the Council over the four years as set out in the Medium Term Financial Plan
- (iv) recommendations on the Prudential Code, capital expenditure and treasury indicators for 2014/15 and the amended Policy for 2013/14
- (v) proposals to set the rent level for Housing Revenue Account properties, service charges and management fees for leaseholders 2014/15.
- (vi) proposals to agree the rates of fees and charges for Council services for 2014/15
- (vii) consider and reflect on the responses to the consultation and any agreed amendments received in advance of the Cabinet meeting

The Cabinet in preparing its budget had taken into account the comments of the Section 151 Officer, in respect of the robustness of the budget and the adequacy of reserves as required under Section 25 of the Local Government Act 2003, and the responses received through the budget consultation process, which had taken place through Scrutiny Committees; Opposition Groups; Trade Unions and the public consultation process.

Councillor Goodway, Cabinet Member, Finance, Business and Local Economy, moved the Cabinet proposal as updated by the Amendments sheet.

The Cabinet Member Finance, Business and Local Economy introduced the Cabinet report. The draft proposals had been subject to a consultation process following its announcement at Council 30 January 2014, which had provided Scrutiny Committee, opposition groups and the people of Cardiff the opportunity to comment on the proposals. The Cabinet Member thanked Cabinet colleagues and members of Council's Labour Group for their willingness to challenge every idea, every budget line to identify the cuts needed. To the Trade Unions and the wider workforce for their willingness to engage in the process. To the wider public who participated in the extensive public consultation exercise and whose views and values helped to define the final proposals. Finally, the Cabinet Member thanked the Chief Executive and the Senior Management Team, in particular Christine Salter and Officers in Finance

for not only their commitment and support but for their patience and fortitude during the critical period.

The Cabinet Member set the context for the budget report and identified significant operational and financial challenges and risks going forward. The Cabinet Member stated that in this budget it was proposing to ask local people to pay on average just 71p more per week in council tax, to help safeguard services and facilities, such as Youth and Play Services and Bowls facilities, which the public told us were most valued.

The Cabinet Member explained that in addition extra monies were being provided for the following:

- Reduce a planned increase in the cost of “meals on wheels” services for older people;
- Provide finance to continue cleaning the city after major events, keeping clean major routes into the city and safeguarding leaf clearing operations;
- Continue to provide support for arts outreach activities and provide £30,000 to each of the newly established Neighbourhood Partnership Boards charged with improving local neighbourhoods so that communities could continue to deliver for themselves those services the council was no longer able to deliver.

The Cabinet Member explained the budget provided some protection for schools budgets and kept savings in social services to a minimum. Further, these proposals did not include the closure of any day centres, leisure centres or libraries and provided monies to help keep the city clean and tidy.

Councillor Goodway explained that a key component of this budget was the implementation of a workforce package which has been the subject of negotiations with trade unions and which, with a single exception of employees on the “living wage” would see employees having a reduction in their working week from 37 to 36 hours per week or the equivalent of a 2.7% salary sacrifice and senior managers taking a 2.7% pay cut.

The Cabinet Member drew attention to the mechanisms in place to minimise impact on front line services:

- Adopting different and more cost effective ways of delivering services;
- Reducing management costs and back office costs and working smarter;
- Increasing fees and charges to cover the cost of delivering services;
- Reducing spending outside the Council through better purchasing arrangements.

The Cabinet Member stated that the Council would need to cut anywhere between £92 million and £120 million over the next three years and as a consequence; faced a period of profound change; the status quo was not an option and the mantra “business as usual” no longer applied. Commitment was therefore being directed to establishing new public service social enterprises with Council signing up to the Co-operative Council network, in order to become an enterprising council working with partners across all sectors to achieve the best outcomes for local people. The proposals before the Council have emerged only after a prolonged period of intensive deliberation, discussion and debate with all options being explored and implications considered.

The Cabinet Member for Finance, Business and Local Economy commended the budget to Council.

The Leader of the Council, Councillor Heather Joyce seconded the proposals. It was acknowledged that making these types of spending cuts were difficult however, it was critical that the Council ensured its key priorities outlined in the Corporate Plan were taken forward.

The Lord Mayor invited the proposer and seconder of the alternative budget proposals and amendment to formally move their proposal and to speak.

Councillor Robson formally moved the Independent alternative proposal and spoke on the proposal.

Councillor Cowan formally seconded the Independent alternative proposal and reserved the right to speak later in the debate.

Councillor McEvoy formally moved the Plaid Cymru alternative proposal and spoke on the proposal.

Councillor Ford formally seconded the Plaid Cymru alternative proposal and spoke on the proposal.

The Lord Mayor invited general debate on the budget proposals and the amendments as proposed. Following the debate the Lord Mayor explained that a vote would be taken on each of the alternative budget proposals and amendments.

(It was requested that the vote on each of the proposals be recorded using the electronic voting system)

It was noted that during the debate the Liberal Democrat Group formally asked for a reference back of the Budget proposals and the Lord Mayor explained that a vote on this request would be taken first.

The Liberal Democrat Reference back proposal as proposed by Councillor Aubrey Voting as follows:

Following a request for a recorded vote on the reference back, voting was as follows:

For (24)

County Councillors Aubrey, Bowden, Bridges, Carter, Chaundy, Clark, Cowan, Kirsty Davies, Ford, Graham, Holden, Howells, Hudson, Hyde, Margaret Jones, McEvoy, McKerlich, Dianne Rees, Robson, Sanders, Graham Thomas, Walker, Williams and Woodman

Against (43)

County Councillors Ali Ahmed, Manzoor Ahmed, Ali, Bale, Bradbury, Richard Cook, Corria, Davis, Derbyshire, Elsmore, Evans, Goddard, Goodway, Gordon, Govier, Groves, Hinchey, Hunt, Javed, Keith Jones, Joyce, Knight, Lent, Lomax, Love, Magill, Marshall, McGarry, Merry, Michael, Mitchell, Murphy, Parry, Patel, Phillips, Simmons, Stubbs, Benjamin Thomas, Huw Thomas, Thorne, Walsh and Weaver, Darren Williams

The Reference back was lost.

The Independent alternative budget proposal as proposed by Councillor Robson. Voting was as follows:

For (4)

County Councillors Cowan, Holden, Robson, Sanders

Against (46)

County Councillors Ali Ahmed, Manzoor Ahmed, Ali, Bale, Bowden Bradbury, Richard Cook, Corria, Davis, Derbyshire, Elsmore, Evans, Ford, Goddard, Goodway, Gordon, Govier, Groves, Hinchey, Hunt, Javed, Keith Jones, Joyce, Knight, Lent, Lomax, Love, Magill, Marshall, McEvoy McGarry, Merry, Michael, Mitchell, Murphy, Parry, Patel, Phillips, Simmons, Stubbs, Benjamin Thomas, Huw Thomas, Thorne, Walsh and Weaver, Darren Williams

Abstain (19)

County Councillors Aubrey, Bridges, Carter, Chaundy, Clark, Kirsty Davies, Graham, Howells, Hudson, Hyde, Lloyd, Margaret Jones, McKerlich, Dianne Rees, David Rees, Graham Thomas, Walker, Woodman, Craig Williams

The Independent alternative budget proposal was lost

The Plaid Cymru alternative budget proposal as proposed by Councillor McEvoy. Voting was as follows:

For (2)

County Councillors Ford, McEvoy

Against (47)

County Councillors Ali Ahmed, Manzoor Ahmed, Ali, Bale, Bradbury, Cowan, Richard Cook, Corria, Davis, Derbyshire, Elsmore, Evans, Goddard, Goodway, Gordon, Govier, Groves, Hinchey, Holden, Hunt, Javed, Keith Jones, Joyce, Knight, Lent, Lomax, Love, Magill, Marshall, McGarry, Merry, Michael, Mitchell, Murphy, Parry, Patel, Phillips, Robson, Sanders, Simmons, Stubbs, Benjamin Thomas, Huw Thomas, Thorne, Walsh and Weaver, Darren Williams

Abstain (20)

County Councillors Aubrey, Bridges, Bowden, Carter, Chaundy, Clark, Kirsty Davies, Graham, Howells, Hudson, Hyde, Lloyd, Margaret Jones, McKerlich, Dianne Rees, David Rees, Graham Thomas, Walker, Woodman, Craig Williams

The Plaid Cymru alternative budget proposal was lost.

The Cabinet Budget proposal was then voted upon and the voting was as follows:

For (43)

County Councillors Ali Ahmed, Manzoor Ahmed, Ali, Bale, Bradbury, , Richard Cook, Corria, Davis, Derbyshire, Elsmore, Evans, Goddard, Goodway, Gordon, Govier, Groves, Hinchey, Hunt, Javed, Keith Jones, Joyce, Knight, Lent, Lomax, Love, Magill, Marshall, McGarry, Merry, Michael, Mitchell, Murphy, Parry, Patel, Phillips, Simmons, Stubbs, Benjamin Thomas, Huw Thomas, Thorne, Walsh and Weaver, Darren Williams

Against (22)

County Councillors Aubrey, Bridges, Bowden, Clark, Cowan, Kirsty Davies, Ford, Graham, Holden, Howells, Hudson, Lloyd, Margaret Jones, McEvoy, McKerlich, Dianne Rees, David Rees, Robson, Sanders, Graham Thomas, Walker, Craig Williams

Abstain (4)

County Councillors Carter, Chaundy, Hyde, Woodman

The Cabinet Budget proposal was carried.

RESOLVED – That the Council, having taken account of the comments of the Section 151 Officer in respect of the robustness of the budget and the adequacy of reserves as required under Section 25 of the Local Government Act 2003, and having considered the responses received to the Budget Consultation is recommended to:

1.0 Approve the Revenue, Capital and Housing Revenue Account budgets including all proposals and increasing the Council Tax by 3.97% as set out in this report and that the Council resolve the following terms.

2.0 note that at its meeting on 19 December 2013 the Council calculated the following amounts for the year 2014/15 in accordance with the regulations made under Section 33(5) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992:-

a) 138,759 being the amount calculated in accordance with Regulation 3 of the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) (Wales) Regulations 1995, as amended, as its Council Tax base for the year.

b)	Lisvane	2,260
	Pentyrch	3,131
	Radyr	3,589
	St. Fagans	1,184
	Old St. Mellons	1,256
	Tongwynlais	804

being the amounts calculated in accordance with Regulation 6 of the Regulations as the amounts of its Council Tax base for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which special items relate.

2.1 Agree that the following amounts be now calculated by the County Council of the City and County of Cardiff for the year 2014/15 in accordance with Sections 32 to 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992:-

a) Aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 32(2)(a) to (d) (including Community Council precepts totalling £256,300).

£1,022,235,537

b) Aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for items set out in Section 32(3)(a) and (c).

£451,123,700

- c) Amount by which the aggregate at 2.1(a) above exceeds the aggregate at 2.1(b) above calculated in accordance with Section 32(4) as the budget requirement for the year.

£571,111,837

- d) Aggregate of the sums which the Council estimates will be payable for the year into its Council Fund in respect of Revenue Support Grant, redistributed Non-Domestic Rates, Additional Grant.

£435,985,970

- e) The amount at 2.1(c) above less the amount at 2.1(d) (net of the amount for discretionary relief of £250,000), all divided by the amount at 2.0(a) above, calculated in accordance with Section 33(1) as the basic amount of Council Tax for the year.

£975.62

- f) Aggregate amount of all special items referred to in Section 34(1).

£256,300

- g) Amount at 2.1(e) above less the result given by dividing the amount at 2.1(f) above by the amount at 2.0(a) above, in accordance with Section 34(2) of the Act, as the basic amount of Council Tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of the area to which no special items relate.

£973.77

- h) The amounts given by adding to the amount at 2.1(g) above the amounts of special items relating to dwellings in those part of the council's area mentioned below, divided in each case by the amount at 2.0(b) above, calculated in accordance with Section 34(3) as the basic amounts of Council Tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of the area to which special items relate.

	£
Lisvane	988.81
Pentyrch	999.32

Radyr	995.78
St. Fagans	988.97
Old St. Mellons	994.71
Tongwynlais	997.40

- i) The amounts given by multiplying the amounts at 2.1(g) and 2.1(h) above by the number which in the proportion set out in the Council Tax (Valuation Bands) (Wales) Order 2003 is applicable to dwellings listed in a particular valuation band divided by the number which in that proportion is applicable to dwellings listed in valuation band D calculated in accordance with Section 36(1) of the Act as the amounts to be taken into account for the year in respect of categories of dwellings listed in different valuation bands.

Area	VALUATION BANDS								
	A £	B £	C £	D £	E £	F £	G £	H £	I £
Lisvane	659.21	769.08	878.94	988.81	1,208.55	1,428.29	1,648.02	1,977.63	2,307.23
Pentyrch	666.21	777.25	888.28	999.32	1,221.39	1,443.47	1,665.53	1,998.64	2,331.75
Radyr	663.85	774.50	885.14	995.78	1,217.06	1,438.35	1,659.64	1,991.56	2,323.49
St. Fagans	659.32	769.20	879.08	988.97	1,208.74	1,428.52	1,648.29	1,977.95	2,307.60
Old St. Mellons	663.14	773.67	884.18	994.71	1,215.75	1,436.81	1,657.85	1,989.42	2,320.99
Tongwynlais	664.93	775.76	886.58	997.40	1,219.04	1,440.69	1,662.34	1,994.80	2,327.27
All other parts of the Council's Area	649.18	757.38	865.57	973.77	1,190.16	1,406.56	1,622.95	1,947.54	2,272.13

- 2.2 note that for the year 2014//15, the South Wales Police Authority has stated the following amounts in precepts issued to the Council, in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 for each of the categories of dwelling shown below:-

VALUATION BANDS								
A £	B £	C £	D £	E £	F £	G £	H £	I £
126.89	148.04	169.19	190.34	232.64	274.94	317.23	380.68	444.13

- 2.3 Having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts at 2.1(i) and 2.2 above, the County Council of the City and County of Cardiff in accordance with Section 30(2) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 hereby set the following amounts as the amounts of Council Tax for the year 2014/15 for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:-

Part of Council's Area									
VALUATION BANDS									
Area	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Lisvane	786.10	917.12	1,048.13	1,179.15	1,441.19	1,703.23	1,965.25	2,358.31	2,751.36
Pentyrch	793.10	925.29	1,057.47	1,189.66	1,454.03	1,718.41	1,982.76	2,379.32	2,775.88
Radyr	790.74	922.54	1,054.33	1,186.12	1,449.70	1,713.29	1,976.87	2,372.24	2,767.62
St. Fagans	786.21	917.24	1,048.27	1,179.31	1,441.38	1,703.46	1,965.52	2,358.63	2,751.73
Old St. Mellons	790.03	921.71	1,053.37	1,185.05	1,448.39	1,711.75	1,975.08	2,370.10	2,765.12
Tongwynlais	791.82	923.80	1,055.77	1,187.74	1,451.68	1,715.63	1,979.57	2,375.48	2,771.40
All other parts of the Council's Area	776.07	905.42	1,034.76	1,164.11	1,422.80	1,681.50	1,940.18	2,328.22	2,716.26

- 2.4 Authorise the Corporate Director Resources to make payments under Section 38 of the Local Government (Wales) Act 1994 from the Council Fund by equal instalments on the last working day of each month from April 2014 to March 2015 in respect of the precept levied by South Wales Police Authority in the sum of £26,411,388.
- 2.5 agree that the Common Seal be affixed to the said Council Tax.
- 2.6 agree the Common Seal be affixed to precepts for Port Health Expenses for the period 1 April 2014 to 31 March 2015 namely

	£
The County Council of the City and County of Cardiff	158,235
The Vale of Glamorgan County Borough Council	17,595

- 2.7 agree that notices of the making of the said Council Taxes signed by the Chief Executive be given by advertisement in the local press under Section 38(2) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992.
- 3.0 Approve the Prudential Indicators for 2014/15, 2015/16 & 2016/17 delegating to the Section 151 Officer the authority to effect movement between the limits for borrowing and long term liabilities within the authorised limit for any year.
- 4.0 Approve the Treasury Management Strategy for 2014/15 in accordance with the Local Government Act 2013 and the Local Authority (Capital Finance & Accountancy) (Wales) Regulations 2003 and subsequent amendments.
- 5.0 Approve the Minimum Revenue Provision Policy for 2014/15 and the updated Policy for 2013/14.
- 6.0 Authorise the Section 151 Officer to raise such funds as may be required to finance capital expenditure by temporary or long term borrowing within the limits outlined above, and to bring forward or delay schemes within the Capital Programme.

164: AUDIT COMMITTEE – INDEPENDENT MEMBERS
APPOINTMENTS

The report sought approval for the recruitment and appointment of new Independent Members of the Audit Committee.

RESOLVED: The Council Agreed:

- (i) to note the content of the report;
- (ii) authorise the Corporate Director Resources to progress the recruitment of new independent members of the Audit Committee and conclude the appointments, to fill the currency vacancy and any future vacancies which may arise within a period of 6 months from the date of the first appointment, following a public recruitment exercise similar to that used to

appoint independent members of the Standards & Ethics Committee.

165: NOMINATION OF MEMBERS TO SERVE ON OUTSIDE BODIES

The Constitution provided that the Council would from time to time, receive nominations and make Member appointments as necessary to serve as representatives of Council on outside bodies.

RESOLVED: The Council Agreed to appoint Councillor Georgina Phillips to serve as the Council representative on the Valuation Appointments Panel.

Signed _____

Dates _____