

COUNTY BOROUGH OF BLAENAU GWENT

REPORT TO: THE CHAIR AND MEMBERS OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

SUBJECT: ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL - 2ND APRIL, 2020

REPORT OF:

PRESENT: COUNCILLOR M. MOORE (CHAIR)

Councillors P. Baldwin
D. Bevan
J. Collins
M. Cook
N. Daniels
D. Davies
G. A. Davies
M. Day
P. Edwards
L. Elias
D. Hancock
K. Hayden
S. Healy
J. Hill
W. Hodgins
M. Holland
J. Mason
H. McCarthy
C. Meredith
J. C. Morgan
J. P. Morgan
L. Parsons
G. Paulsen
K. Pritchard
K. Rowson
T. Sharrem
T. Smith
B. Summers
G. Thomas
S. Thomas

H. Trollope
J. Wilkins
B. Willis
L. Winnett

WITH: Managing Director
Chief Officer Resources
Head of Legal and Corporate Compliance
Head of Governance and Partnerships

ITEM	SUBJECT	ACTION
No. 1	<p><u>CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC</u></p> <p>Due to the COVID 19 pandemic and in order to adhere to U.K and Welsh Government guidance, this meeting was conducted via telephone conference.</p>	
No. 2	<p><u>SIMULTANEOUS TRANSLATION</u></p> <p>It was noted that no requests had been received for the simultaneous translation service.</p>	
No. 3	<p><u>APOLOGIES</u></p> <p>Apologies for absence were received from:</p> <p>Councillors G. Collier, M. Cross, G. L. Davies, J. Holt, J. Millard, B. Thomas and D. Wilkshire.</p>	
No. 4	<p><u>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS</u></p> <p>There were no declarations of interest or dispensations reported.</p>	
No. 5	<p><u>CHAIR AND DEPUTY CHAIR OF THE COUNCIL</u></p> <p>It was proposed and seconded that Councillor Mandy Moore be re-elected Chair of the Council and that Councillor Julie Holt be re-appointed Deputy Chair of the Council for the ensuing year.</p>	

	<p>Upon a vote being taken it was unanimously, RESOLVED accordingly.</p>	
No. 6	<p><u>LEADER AND DEPUTY LEADER OF THE COUNCIL</u></p> <p>It was proposed and seconded that Councillor Nigel Daniels be re-elected Leader of the Council and that Councillor David C. Davies be elected Deputy Leader for the ensuing year.</p> <p>Upon a vote being taken it was unanimously RESOLVED accordingly.</p>	
No. 7	<p><u>GROUP OFFICERS</u></p> <p>The Independent Group Officers for the ensuing year were reported as follows:</p> <p>Councillor N. Daniels – Leader Councillor D. Davies – Deputy Leader Councillor J. Wilkins – Secretary Councillor M. Moore – Group Chair Councillor J. Holt – Group Vice-Chair</p> <p>It was reported that the Labour Group Officers for the ensuing year would be:</p> <p>Councillor S. Thomas - Leader Councillor H. Trollope - Deputy Leader Councillor T. Sharrem - Group Chair Councillor M. Cross – Group Vice-Chair Councillor K. Hayden – Secretary Councillor H. McCarthy – Treasurer</p>	
No. 8	<p><u>MEMBERSHIP OF THE EXECUTIVE</u></p> <p>Upon a vote being taken it was unanimously RESOLVED that the following be appointed:</p> <p><u>Leader of the Council/Executive Member Corporate Services</u> Councillor N. Daniels</p> <p><u>Deputy Leader of the Council/Executive Member –</u></p>	

Regeneration & Economic Development

Councillor D. Davies

Executive Member – Environment

Councillor J. Wilkins

Executive Member – Social Services

Councillor J. Mason

Executive Member – Education

Councillor J. Collins

It was noted that changes to the Executive membership had been made in line with the principle of succession planning.

The Leader of the Council paid tribute and acknowledged the work undertaken by the former Deputy Leader/Executive Member – Environment, Councillor Garth Collier during his time in the role. Appreciation was expressed to Garth for the help, support and tireless work he had undertaken – the successes within the Environment Directorate could be attributed to Garth and also classed as his successes.

The Leader of the Labour Group echoed these comments.

No. 9

CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIRS AND MEMBERSHIP OF SCRUTINY COMMITTEES

It was proposed and seconded that the positions of Chair and Vice-Chair be held by the following and upon a vote being taken this was unanimously RESOLVED:

Corporate Overview Scrutiny Committee

Chair Councillor S. Healy

Vice-Chair Councillor M. Cook

Regeneration Scrutiny Committee

Chair Councillor J. Hill

Vice-Chair Councillor P. Edwards

Community Services Scrutiny Committee

Chair Councillor M. Moore

Vice-Chair Councillor C. Meredith

Education and Learning Scrutiny Committee

Chair Councillor H. Trollope

Vice-Chair Councillor J. Holt

Social Services Scrutiny Committee

Chair Councillor S. Thomas

Vice-Chair Councillor K. Rowson

FURTHER RESOLVED that the following be appointed:

Corporate Overview Scrutiny Committee

15 Members - Proportionality 10:4:1

1. **Chair** Councillor S. Healy

2. **Vice-Chair** Councillor M. Cook

3. **Councillors** P. Baldwin

4. M. Cross

5. G. A. Davies

6. P. Edwards

7. J. Hill

8. H. McCarthy

9. C. Meredith

10. J. Millard

11. J. P. Morgan

12. K. Prichard

13. L. Parsons

14. G. Paulsen

15. D. Wilkshire

Regeneration Scrutiny Committee - 15 Members -

Proportionality 10:4:1

- | | | |
|-----|-------------|-----------------------|
| 1. | Chair | Councillor J. Hill |
| 2. | Vice-Chair | Councillor P. Edwards |
| 3. | Councillors | G. Collier |
| 4. | | M. Cross |
| 5. | | G. A. Davies |
| 6. | | M. Day |
| 7. | | L. Elias |
| 8. | | M. Holland |
| 9. | | H. McCarthy |
| 10. | | J. Millard |
| 11. | | J. C. Morgan |
| 12. | | J. P. Morgan |
| 13. | | L. Parsons |
| 14. | | K. Rowson |
| 15. | | B. Willis |

**Community Services Scrutiny Committee - 15 Members -
Proportionality 10:4:1**

- | | | |
|----|-------------|------------------------|
| 1. | Chair | Councillor M. Moore |
| 2. | Vice-Chair | Councillor C. Meredith |
| 3. | Councillors | P. Baldwin |
| 4. | | M. Cook |
| 5. | | G. L. Davies |
-

6. S. Healy
7. W. Hodgins
8. J. Holt
9. H. McCarthy
10. J. Millard
11. G. Paulsen
12. K. Pritchard
13. T. Sharrem
14. B. Summers
15. L. Winnett

**Education & Learning Scrutiny Committee –
15 Members - Proportionality 10:5**

1. Chair Councillor H. Trollope
2. Vice-Chair Councillor J. Holt
3. Councillors D. Bevan
4. G. Collier
5. M. Cook
6. M. Day
7. L. Elias
8. W. Hodgins

- | | |
|-----|---------------------|
| 9. | C. Meredith |
| 10. | J.C. Morgan |
| 11. | J. P. Morgan |
| 12. | L. Parsons |
| 13. | B. Summers |
| 14. | T. Smith |
| 15. | S. Thomas |

** Would also include 2 Members of religious bodies and between 2 – 5 parent governors with voting rights only when dealing with education matters.*

- | | | |
|----|----------------------|--|
| 1. | Mr. T. Baxter | Diocesan Education Body (R.C. Church) |
| 2. | Mr. A. Williams | The Church in Wales |
| 3. | Vacancy | Youth Forum Representative |

Social Services Scrutiny Committee
15 Members - Proportionality 10:5

- | | | |
|----|--------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. | Chair | Councillor S. Thomas |
| 2. | Vice-Chair | Councillor K. Rowson |
| 3. | Councillors | D. Bevan |
| 4. | | G. Collier |
| 5. | | G. A. Davies |
| 6. | | G. L. Davies |
| 7. | | P. Edwards |
| 8. | | L. Elias |

- | | |
|-----|------------|
| 9. | K. Hayden |
| 10. | J. Holt |
| 11. | M. Moore |
| 12. | G. Paulsen |
| 13. | B. Summers |
| 14. | T. Sharrem |
| 15. | T. Smith |

Public Service Board Scrutiny Committee – 15 Members - Proportionality 10:4:1 (to include Corporate Overview Members and Chairs of Scrutiny Committees)

- | | | |
|----|--------------------|--|
| 1. | Chair | <u>Chair of Corporate Overview Scrutiny Committee</u>
Councillor S. Healy |
| 2. | Vice-Chair | <u>Vice-Chair of Corporate Overview Scrutiny Committee</u>
Councillor M. Cook |
| 3. | | <u>Chair of Social Services Scrutiny Committee</u>
Councillor S. Thomas |
| 4. | | <u>Chair of Community Services Scrutiny Committee</u>
Councillor M. Moore |
| 5. | | <u>Chair of Education & Learning Scrutiny Committee</u>
Councillor H. Trollope |
| 6. | | <u>Chair of Regeneration Scrutiny Committee</u>
Councillor J. Hill |
| 7. | Councillors | P. Baldwin |

- | | |
|-----|--------------|
| 8. | M. Cross |
| 9. | G. A. Davies |
| 10. | P. Edwards |
| 11. | C. Meredith |
| 12. | J. Millard |
| 13. | J. P. Morgan |
| 14. | G. Paulsen |
| 15. | K. Pritchard |

No. 10 STANDING COMMITTEES AND STANDING SUB-COMMITTEES

Item Nos. 8 and 9 were considered simultaneously.

Upon a vote being taken it was unanimously RESOLVED that the following be appointed:

Planning, Regulatory & General Licensing Committee
15 Members - Proportionality 10:5

- | | | |
|-----|-------------|-----------------------|
| 1. | Chair | Councillor D. Hancock |
| 2. | Vice-Chair | Councillor W. Hodgins |
| 3. | Councillors | D. Bevan |
| 4. | | G. L. Davies |
| 5. | | M. Day |
| 6. | | S. Healy |
| 7. | | J. Hill |
| 8. | | C. Meredith |
| 9. | | K. Rowson |
| 10. | | T. Smith |
| 11. | | B. Thomas |

12. G. Thomas
13. D. Wilkshire
14. B. Willis
15. L. Winnett

***Ward Members to be invited re: planning site meetings without voting rights.**

General Licensing Sub-Committee (Rolling Rota)
3 Members (No proportionality)

1. Chair Councillor D. Hancock
or
2. Vice-Chair Councillor W. Hodgins

Plus 2 other Members of the Planning, Regulatory & General Licensing Committee

Statutory Licensing Committee
15 Members - Proportionality 10:5

1. Chair Councillor D. Hancock
2. Vice-Chair Councillor W. Hodgins
3. Councillors D. Bevan
4. G. L. Davies
5. M. Day
6. S. Healy
7. J. Hill
8. C. Meredith
9. K. Rowson

10. T. Smith
11. B. Thomas
12. G. Thomas
13. D. Wilkshire
14. B. Willis
15. L. Winnett

Statutory Licensing Sub-Committee (Rolling Rota)
3 Members – (No proportionality)

1. Chair Councillor D. Hancock

or

2. Vice-Chair Councillor W. Hodgins

Plus 2 other Members of the Statutory Licensing Committee

Democratic Services Committee
15 Members - Proportionality 10:5

1. Chair Councillor M. Cross
2. Vice-Chair Councillor B. Summers
3. Executive Member - Corporate Services
Councillor N. Daniels
4. Councillors G. Collier
5. G. A. Davies
6. G. L. Davies
7. M. Day
8. L. Elias

- | | |
|-----|--------------|
| 9. | K. Hayden |
| 10. | M. Holland |
| 11. | H. McCarthy |
| 12. | J. C. Morgan |
| 13. | L. Parsons |
| 14. | K. Pritchard |
| 15. | T. Sharrem |

*Chair and Vice-Chair of Scrutiny Committees to be invited without voting rights

Audit Committee

15 Members - Proportionality 10:4:1

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| Chair | To be confirmed |
| 1. Vice-Chair | <u>Chair of Corporate Overview Scrutiny Committee</u>
Councillor S. Healy |
| 2. | <u>Deputy Leader of the Council</u>
Councillor D. Davies |
| 3. | <u>Chair - Education & Learning Scrutiny Committee</u>
Councillor H. Trollope |
| 4. | <u>Chair - Social Services Scrutiny Committee</u>
Councillor S. Thomas |
| 5. | <u>Chair – Regeneration Scrutiny Committee</u>
Councillor J. Hill |
| 6. | <u>Chair - Community Services Scrutiny Committee</u>
Councillor M. Moore |

-
7. **Chair - Democratic Services Committee**
Councillor M. Cross
 8. **Chair – Planning, Regulatory & General Licensing Committee**
Councillor D. Hancock
 9. **Councillor G. L. Davies**
 10. **Councillor W. Hodgins**
 11. **Councillor J. Holt**
 12. **Councillor J. Millard**
 13. **Councillor K. Rowson**
 14. **Councillor B. Summers**
 15. **Councillor L. Winnett**

Audit Committee Appointments Panel 3:2

1. Councillor D. Davies
2. Councillor S. Healy
3. Councillor J. Hill
4. Councillor S. Thomas
5. Councillor H. Trollope

Standards Committee - 9 Members –

(3 County Borough Councillors

5 Independent Members

1 Community Council Member)

1. **Town Councillor Jacqueline Thomas**
 2. **Mr. J. B. Evans**
 3. **Mr. Stephen Williams**
 4. **Mr R. Alexander**
 5. **Mr. J. Price**
 6. **Miss H. Roberts**
-

-
7. Councillor K. Hayden
 8. Councillor M. Moore
 9. Councillor G. Thomas

Shortlisting – JNC Officers

7 Members – Proportionality 5:2

1. Leader / Executive Member - Corporate Services
- 2 Deputy Leader / Executive Member – Regeneration & Economic Development
3. Executive Member for appropriate Portfolio
4. Chair of appropriate Scrutiny Committee
5. Vice-Chair of appropriate Scrutiny Committee
6. Councillor J. C. Morgan
7. Councillor T. Sharrem

Substitutes

1. Councillor S. Healy
2. Councillor J. Hill
3. Councillor H. McCarthy
4. Councillor K. Hayden

Appointments Committee – JNC Officers

15 Members - Proportionality 10:5

1. Chair – Leader
 2. Vice-Chair – Deputy Leader
-

3. **Executive Member for appropriate Portfolio**
4. **Chair of appropriate Scrutiny Committee**
5. **Vice-Chair of appropriate Scrutiny Committee**
6. **Councillors** **D. Bevan**
7. **M. Cook**
8. **M. Cross**
9. **S. Healy**
10. **J. Hill**
11. **H. McCarthy**
12. **C. Meredith**
13. **M. Moore**
14. **J. C. Morgan**
15. **T. Smith**

*N.B. Appointments to be made by group leader as required.
Executive Member of Appropriate Portfolio(s) Scrutiny Chair of
Appropriate Portfolio(s)*

Substitutes

1. **Councillor M. Moore**
2. **Councillor B. Summers**
3. **Councillor K. Hayden**
4. **Councillor L. Winnett**

Shortlisting – Managing Director/Chief Executive
7 Members – Proportionality 5:2

1. **Leader of the Council**
- 2 **Deputy Leader of the Council**

3. **Leader of the Largest Opposition Group**
4. **Deputy Leader of the Largest Opposition Group**
5. **Councillor J. Collins**
6. **Councillor J. Mason**
7. **Councillor J. Wilkins**

Officer additions if appropriate

Substitutes

1. **Councillor S. Healy**
2. **Councillor J. Hill**
3. **Councillor J. C. Morgan**
4. **Councillor H. McCarthy**

Appointments Committee – Managing Director/Chief Executive - 15 Members - Proportionality 10:5

1. **Chair – Leader**
2. **Vice-Chair – Deputy Leader**
3. **Leader of the Largest Opposition Group**
4. **Deputy Leader of the Largest Opposition Group**
5. **Councillors J. Collins**
6. **M. Cook**
7. **M. Cross**
8. **S. Healy**
9. **J. Hill**
10. **H. McCarthy**
11. **J. Mason**
12. **C. Meredith**

13. **M. Moore**

14. **J. Wilkins**

15. **L. Winnett**

*N.B. Appointments to be made by group leader as required.
Executive Member of Appropriate Portfolio(s) Scrutiny Chair of
Appropriate Portfolio(s)*

Substitutes

1. **Councillors P. Edwards**

2. **J. Holt**

3. **J. C. Morgan**

4. **K. Hayden**

Appeals Committee

**1 Member to be selected from the following to Chair the
Committee*

Chair of Education & Learning Scrutiny Committee

Chair of Social Services Scrutiny Committee

Chair of Regeneration Scrutiny Committee

Chair of Community Services Scrutiny Committee

Chair of Corporate Overview Scrutiny Committee

* 1 Member to be selected from the following Majority Group
Members:

Councillors 1. G. Collier
2. D. Hancock
3. J. Holt

* 1 Member to be selected from the following Labour Group
Members:

Councillors 1. D. Bevan
2. T. Smith
3. **D. Wilkshire**

** On a Rolling Rota*

Substitute Members

- Councillors**
1. M. Cook
 2. W. Hodgins
 3. B. Willis
 4. L. Winnett

**Investigating & Disciplinary Committee
(JNC & Chief Officers)**

- Councillors
1. D. Davies - Chair
 2. G. A. Davies
 3. P. Edwards
 4. C. Meredith
 5. S. Thomas

No. 11

**SPECIAL AND AD HOC COMMITTEES/CONSULTATION
MEETINGS**

Upon a vote being taken it was unanimously,

RESOLVED that the following be appointed:

**Cross Party Member Development Working Group
5 Members**

1. **Leader / Executive Member – Corporate Services**
Councillor N. Daniels
2. **Deputy Leader/ Executive Member – Regeneration &
Economic Development**
Councillor D. Davies
3. Councillor S. Healy
4. Councillor J. Holt
5. Councillor H. Trollope

Public Service Board (PSB)

-
1. Leader of the Council/Executive Member Corporate Services

Consultation with Trade Unions

1. Leader/Executive Member Corporate Services
2. Deputy Leader/Executive Member – Regeneration & Economic Development
3. Appropriate Portfolio Member(s)

CONSULTATION TOWN /COMMUNITY COUNCILS

1. Leader / Executive Member - Corporate Services
Councillor N. Daniels
- 2. Executive Member - Regeneration & Economic Development**
Councillor D. Davies
3. Executive Member – Environment
Councillor J. Wilkins
4. Executive Member – Education
Councillor J. Collins
- 5. Executive Member – Social Services**
Councillor J. Mason
- 6. Councillor M. Cook**
7. Councillor M. Cross
8. Councillor J. Hill
9. Councillor M. Moore
10. Councillor L. Winnett

Fostering Panel (Social Services)

1. Councillor J. Holt

Substitute: Councillor K. Rowson

Blaenau Gwent Care and Repair – Agency Board

1. Executive Member - Social Services

Councillor J. Mason

2. Executive Member – Environment

Councillor J. Wilkins

50+ Network

1. Executive Member – Social Services

Councillor J. Mason

2. Chair – Social Services Scrutiny Committee

Councillor S. Thomas

3. Vice-Chair – Social Services Scrutiny Committee

Councillor K. Rowson

4. Councillor G. Thomas

Education Admissions Forum

1. Executive Member – Education

Councillor J. Collins

2. Chair – Education & Learning Scrutiny Committee

Councillor H. Trollope

Schools Forum

1. Executive Member – Education

Councillor J. Collins

2. Chair – Education & Learning Scrutiny Committee

Councillor H. Trollope

Standing Advisory Committee on Religious Education

1. Executive Member – Education

Councillor J. Collins

2. Chair – Education & Learning Scrutiny Committee

Councillor H. Trollope

3. Councillor J. Holt

Scrutiny Schools Wellbeing Group (formerly School Standards Monitoring Group)

1. Chair – Education & Learning Scrutiny Committee
Councillor H. Trollope

or

2. Vice-Chair – Education & Learning Scrutiny Committee
Councillor J. Holt

3. Councillor M. Cook

4. Councillor L. Elias

5. Councillor C. Meredith

6. Councillor B. Summers

7. Councillor D. Bevan

8. Councillor J. C. Morgan

9. Councillor T. Smith

*** Chair and Vice-Chair to attend separate meetings**

****A rolling membership from the above list – 3 or 4 members to attend each meeting.**

Self-Evaluation Panel

1. Leader of the Council
Councillor N. Daniels

2. Deputy Leader of the Council
Councillor D. Davies

3. Executive Member - Education
Councillor J. Collins

4. Chair of Education & Learning Scrutiny Committee

Councillor H. Trollope

5. Lead Member – Safeguarding
Executive Member – Social Services
Councillor J. Mason

HoV Waste Programme Joint Committee

1. Executive Member – Environment
Councillor J. Wilkins
2. Executive Member – Regeneration & Economic Development
Councillor D. Davies

Tomorrow Valley Project

1. Executive Member – Environment
Councillor J. Wilkins
2. Executive Member – Corporate Services
Councillor N. Daniels

Local Authority Liaison Committee

Executive Member – Environment
Councillor J. Wilkins

Executive Member – Regeneration & Economic Development
Councillor D. Davies

Sirhowy Ward Members

Rassau Ward Members

Beaufort Ward Members

Brynmawr Ward Members

Constitution Working Group

1. Leader of the Council

Councillor N. Daniels

2. Deputy Leader of the Council
Councillor D. Davies

3. Leader of the Labour Group
Councillor S. Thomas

4. Deputy Leader of the Labour Group
Councillor H. Trollope

5. Chair of Corporate Overview Scrutiny Committee
Councillor S. Healy

6. Vice-Chair of Corporate Overview Scrutiny Committee
Councillor M. Cook

7. Chair of the Council
Councillor M. Moore

8. Deputy Chair of the Council
Councillor J. Holt

9. Councillor P. Edwards

10. Councillor J. Hill

Freedom of the Borough – Cross Party Working Group

1. Councillor J. Hill

2. Councillor J. Holt

3. Councillor G. Thomas

4. Councillor D. Bevan

5. Councillor K. Hayden

**Grants Working Group –
16 Members – Proportionality 10:5:1**

**** 1 Member from each Ward on a political proportionality basis.***

- | | | |
|-----|--------------|--|
| 1. | | Councillors L. Parsons
(Llanhilleth Ward) |
| 2. | N. Daniels | (Abertillery Ward) |
| 3. | J. Hill | (Brynmawr Ward) |
| 4. | T. Sharrem | (Cwmtillery Ward) |
| 5. | L. Winnett | (Blaina Ward) |
| 6. | G. Thomas | (Beaufort Ward) |
| 7. | G. Paulsen | (Badminton Ward) |
| 8. | G. L. Davies | (Cwm Ward) |
| 9. | M. Cross | (Sirhowy Ward) |
| 10. | D. Hancock | (Six Bells Ward) |
| 11. | J. Millard | (Ebbw Vale South
Ward) |
| 12. | B. Summers | (Ebbw Vale North
Ward) |
| 13. | M. Moore | (Tredegar Central and
West Ward) |
| 14. | J. C. Morgan | (Georgetown Ward) |
| 15. | D. Wilkshire | (Rassau Ward) |
| 16. | K. Rowson | (Nantyglo Ward) |

**Advisory Panel for the Appointment of Local Authority
Governors**

1. Executive Member – Education (Chair)
Councillor J. Collins
2. Councillor M. Cook

3. Councillor J. Holt
4. Councillor C. Meredith
5. Councillor B. Summers
6. Councillor H. Trollope
7. Councillor J. C. Morgan

Substitutes:

1. Councillor L. Elias
2. Councillor L. Parsons
3. Councillor T. Smith
4. Councillor D. Bevan

Observer: **A representative of the Blaenau Gwent School Governors' Association (BGSGA)**

Destination Management Group (1 representative from each valley)

- 1. Councillor P. Edwards**
- 2. Councillor M. Moore**
- 3. Councillor L. Parsons**

Digital Inclusion

- 1. Councillor J. Holt**
- 2. Councillor H. Trollope**

Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee

- 1. Councillor K. Rowson**

Community Asset Transfer Steering Group

1. **Executive Member – Environment**
Councillor J. Wilkins

Tredegar Heritage Initiative

1. **Councillor D. Davies**
2. **Councillor M. Moore**
3. **Councillor M. Cross**
4. **Councillor H. Trollope**
5. **Councillor J. C. Morgan**

Tredegar Town Council Representative – T. Smith

Cost Pressure Sub-Group

1. Leader of the Council/Executive Member – Corporate Services
Councillor N. Daniels
2. Deputy Leader of the Council/Executive Member Regeneration & Economic Development
Councillor D. Davies
3. Executive Member – Social Services
Councillor J. Mason
4. Executive Member – Education
Councillor J. Collins
5. Executive Member – Environment
Councillor J. Wilkins
6. Chair – Corporate Overview Scrutiny Committee
Councillor S. Healy
7. Vice-Chair – Corporate Overview Scrutiny Committee
Councillor M. Cook

Blaenau Gwent Enterprise Board

1. **Leader or Deputy Leader**

2. Executive Member – Regeneration & Economic Development

3. Corporate Director of Regeneration & Community Services

Corporate Parenting Board

**1. Executive Member – Social Services
Councillor J. Mason**

**2. Chair of Social Services Scrutiny Committee
Councillor S. Thomas**

3. Councillor J. Holt

4. Councillor K. Rowson

5. Councillor D. Bevan

Resettlement Programme

1. Councillor J. Mason

2. Councillor J. Collins

3. Councillor J. Millard

4. Councillor H. McCarthy

5. Councillor H. Trollope

MEMBERS' CHAMPIONS

Community Safety

Councillor C. Meredith

Children & Young People

Councillor J. P. Morgan

Older Persons

Councillor K. Rowson

Equalities and Diversity

Councillor M. Moore

Armed Forces

Councillor B. Thomas

Natural Environment & Biodiversity

Councillor L. Parsons

Digital Champion

Councillor J. Holt

LEAD MEMBER(S)

Lead Member - Safeguarding

Executive Member - Social Services

No. 12

COUNCIL'S REPRESENTATIVES ON OTHER BODIES

Upon a vote being taken it was unanimously,

RESOLVED that the following be appointed:-

Adult Learning Wales (formerly Workers' Educational Association Wales, YMCA Wales Community Council)

Scrutiny Chair – Education & Learning

Age Concern Gwent – Executive Committee Membership

Executive Member – Social Services

The Alliance

Executive Member – Regeneration & Economic Development

Scrutiny Chair – Regeneration

Aneurin Bevan Community Council – Local Committee

1. Councillor J. Millard
2. Councillor P. Edwards
3. **Vacancy**

Aneurin Bevan Health Board – Independent Review Panel to meet Continuing Health Care Needs

Scrutiny Chair – Social Services

Aneurin Bevan University Health Board – Stakeholder Reference Group

Executive Member – Social Services

Aneurin Leisure Trust

Councillor W. Hodgins

Councillor L. Parsons

Aneurin Leisure Trust – Community Chest Panel

Councillor M. Cook

Brecon Beacons National Park – National Park Authority & Site Visits

Councillor J. Hill

Cardiff Capital Region City Deal – Regional Scrutiny Committee

Chair of Regeneration Scrutiny Committee

Substitute: Scrutiny Vice-Chair of Regeneration Scrutiny Committee

Cardiff Capital Region City Deal Cabinet

Leader of the Council

CSC (Compound Semi-Conductor Board Part of the IQE Investment through City Deal)

Deputy Leader/Executive Member – Regeneration & Economic Development

Executive Member – Environment

Duke of Beaufort's Breconshire Estate Commoner's Association

Councillor B. Thomas

EAS - Education Achievement Service for South East Wales

Executive Member – Environment

Substitute: Executive Member – Regeneration & Economic Development

EAS – Joint Executive Group

Executive Member – Education

EAS – Audit and Risk Assurance Committee

Councillor S. Healy

Councillor M. Cook

G.A.V.O. – Executive Committee & Local Committee

Executive Member – Social Services – Councillor J. Mason

G.A.V.O. - Be Proud of your Community Gwent Awards (Formerly
- Gwent Best Kept Village Committee)

Councillor L. Parsons

Greater Gwent Cremation Joint Committee

Scrutiny Chair – Community Services

Councillor M. Moore

Substitute: Scrutiny Vice-Chair – Community Services

Councillor C. Meredith

Gwent Archives Joint Committee

Executive Member – Regeneration & Economic Development

Councillor J. Millard

Gwent Police Crime Panel

(formerly Gwent Police Authority)

Councillor C. Meredith

Councillor L. Winnett

Gwent Regional Partnership Board

Executive Member – Social Services

Heads of the Valleys Programme Board

Executive Member – Regeneration & Economic Development

Joint Council for Wales Employers Side

Executive Member – Corporate Services

Monmouth School Farm Endowment Trust

Councillor B. Thomas

National Adoption Service Governance Board

Executive Member – Social Services

PATROL Adjudication Joint Committee

Scrutiny Chair – Community Services

Councillor M. Moore

Sub:- Scrutiny Vice-Chair - Community Services

Councillor C. Meredith

Reserve Forces & Cadets Association for Wales – Local Government Representation

Councillor B. Thomas

Silent Valley Waste Services Ltd

Non Executive

Councillors M. Cook & B. Summers

Shareholder Representatives

Leader of the Council

Executive Member - Environment

South Wales Fire Authority

Councillor W. Hodgins

South East Wales Regional Aggregates Working Party

Executive Member – Environment

Tai Calon Board

Councillor M. Day

Councillor G. A. Davies

Vision in Wales (formerly Wales Council for the Blind)

Executive Member – Social Services

Scrutiny Chair – Social Services

Welsh Local Government Association

Leader of the Council

WLGA Executive Board

Leader of the Council

WLGA Council and Voting

Leader of the Council
Substitute:- Deputy Leader of the Council

WLGA – All Wales Social Services Policy Group

Executive Member – Social Services

WLGA – Environment Champion

Executive Member – Environment

WLGA – Officer Appointment – Finance Working Group

Chief Officer Resources – Rhian Hayden

WLGA Corporate Affairs – Public Private Partnership Ltd – Management Board

Executive Member – Corporate Services

WLGA – Cultural Affairs & Leisure – South Wales Regional Committee

Executive Member – Environment

Wales Council for the Deaf

Executive Member – Social Services

Welsh Joint Education Committee

Executive Member – Education

Youth Offending Service Local Management Board – Blaenau Gwent & Caerphilly

Executive Member – Social Services

LEA REPRESENTATION ON SCHOOL GOVERNING BODIES

Abertillery 3-16 Learning Community

Mr. R. Bevan

Councillor J. Holt

Councillor N. Daniels

Councillor M. Cook

Vacancy

All Saints R.C. Primary

Mr. N. Price
Mrs. P. Mitchell

Beaufort Hill Primary

Vacancy

Vacancy

Mr. R. Lynch

Blaen-y-Cwm Primary

Councillor Lyn Elias

Ms. Megan Morgan

Ms Natasha Tepielow

Vacancy

Bryn Bach Primary

Mr. Gemma Badham

Councillor Malcolm Cross

Mrs Diane Rowberry

Brynmawr Foundation

Ms Stephanie Hopkins

Councillor John Hill

Canolfan Yr Afon

(The River Centre)

Vacancy

Ms. Lisa Adams

Mr. Stephen J. O'Reilly

Coed-y-Garn Primary

Councillor Keri Rowson

Mr. Kenneth Jones

Vacancy

Cwm Primary

Councillor Derrick Bevan

Mrs Kathryn Cross

Ms. Natalie Marshall

Deighton Primary Tredegar

Councillor Haydn Trollope
Councillor Bernard Willis
Mr. Phillip Griffiths
Mrs Amanda Hulbert

Ebbw Fawr Learning Community

Councillor Derrick Bevan

Councillor Jonathan Millard
Mrs Gina Taylor
Councillor Clive Meredith
Councillor Dai Davies

Georgetown Primary

Tredegar

Councillor Mandy Moore
Councillor John C. Morgan
Ms Donna Hardman

Glanhowy Primary,

Tredegar

Miss Joanne Davies
Councillor Tommy Smith
Ms. Tara Lane

Penycwm Special

Ms. Dawn Wilcox
Mrs Jennifer Morgan
Mrs Nicola Probert

Rhos-y-Fedwen Primary

Councillor D. Wilkshire
Councillor G. A. Davies
Councillor P. Edwards

Sofrydd Primary

Mrs Gill Clark
Pat Smail
Deborah Field

St. Illtyd's Primary

Mrs Keri Jones

Vacancy

Councillor Joanne Collins

St. Joseph's R.C. Primary

Councillor Malcolm Cross

**St Marys Brynmawr CIW Primary
Vacancy**

**St. Mary's RC Primary Brynmawr
Vacancy**

Mrs Angela Davies

Tredegar Comprehensive

Councillor John C. Morgan

Councillor Haydn Trollope

Mr Adrian Tuck

Ms. Melanie Rogers

Mr. Andrew Pearsall

Willowtown Primary

Vacancy

Councillor David C. Davies

Mrs Sian Barrett

Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Helyg, Blaina

Councillor John Hill

Councillor Peter Baldwin

Mrs Tracey Dyson

Ystruth Primary

Councillor Mrs. Lisa Winnett

Councillor Garth Collier

Vacancy

No. 13

**EMERGENCY GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENTS DURING
COVID19 OUTBREAK**

Consideration was given to the report of the Head of Legal and Corporate Compliance (Monitoring Officer).

At the invitation of the Chair, the Head of Legal and Corporate Compliance presented the report, the purpose of which was to establish temporary emergency Governance arrangements in

order that decisions may continue to be taken to delay and mitigate the spread and impact of Corona Virus within the community whilst protecting the workforce and residents, particularly those who were most vulnerable.

As the virus was spreading quickly, the measures taken by the Council to date as part of its emergency response was, amongst other things, to move to the delivery of only critical services.

In terms of the decision making process there was a need to respond quickly to these changes. Blaenau Gwent's local scheme of delegation, contained in Section 13 of the Constitution, already delegated a wide range of operational issues to officers. However, most policy determinations and major decisions which had a wider impact were reserved to the Executive for decision but given that Council meetings had been cancelled for the foreseeable future there was a need to put in place temporary emergency steps to effectively respond to the potential impact of COVID 19, and to continue to deliver critical services and protect local communities and staff.

It was, therefore, proposed that the Managing Director or her nominated deputy (being any officer comprised of the Corporate Leadership Team) should have temporary delegated power to make Executive decisions on behalf of the Council. In addition, a temporary Emergency Committee be established in order to consider significant issues which may arise and which may fall outside the Council's current agreed policy or budget framework. This Committee would consist of 5 Members and in the event that a Member of this Committee became unavailable, a substitute would be able to be nominated. The remit of this Committee was detailed in paragraph 3.1 of the report.

It was noted that the statutory power to permit such delegation was contained within section 15(2) of the Local Government Act 200, which provisions enabled a Council to arrange for functions of the Executive to be discharged by a Committee or officers of the Authority.

The Head of Legal and Corporate Compliance concluded by recommending that Option 1 be endorsed.

The Leader of the Council said that it was absolutely necessary to support the report and the recommendation to establish an

Emergency Committee. Named representatives would be forwarded to Democratic Services and the Managing Director following the meeting. Flexibility for substitutes would ensure optimum attendance. He concluded by advising that he would propose that Option 1 be endorsed at the appropriate juncture.

The Leader of the Labour Group supported the Leader's comments and advised that he would also submit a named representative following the meeting.

It was, thereupon, proposed and unanimously supported that Option 1 be endorsed.

RESOLVED that the report be accepted and that Option 1 be endorsed, namely:

- In respect of the exercise of Executive Functions as outlined in the Council's Constitution, the Council temporarily delegated power and responsibility for exercising Executive functions (which have not already been delegated by virtue of existing arrangements within the Council's Constitution) to the Managing Director (and in her absence or incapacity to any of her nominated deputies being any officer of the Corporate Leadership Team) to make decisions and undertake any actions required to ensure critical services continued to operate based on business continuity plans, in order to ensure the Council and its residents were protected.
- In order to ensure there was appropriate involvement of Elected Members, there would be established (without further report) an Emergency Committee of Elected Members comprising the Leader of the Council, the Leader of the Labour Group, two Independent Elected Members and one Labour Elected Member, who would be consulted on decisions which may fall outside the Council's current budget or policy framework. Any urgent decisions which were required to be taken which were outside the Council's current policy and budgetary framework, must be taken in accordance with the existing provisions of Paragraph 15.5 of the Council's Constitution, with the additional proviso that the Emergency Committee must be consulted prior to any such decision being taken.
- In addition, the Managing Director (or her nominated deputy)

should make all reasonable efforts to contact the Leader and/or other Members of the Emergency Committee to inform him/her of the circumstances and of her/his decisions as soon as reasonably practicable.

- In the event that a Member of the Emergency Committee became unavailable, they may nominate a substitute. The Emergency Committee may conduct its business by email, telephone or using any digital means at their disposal. It was not intended that there be a minimum “quorum” for this Committee. The details of the communication arrangements may be agreed between the Managing Director and the Leader of the Council or their nominated substitutes. The arrangements would continue until further notice.
- In terms of existing delegated powers i.e. those which were delegated in the Constitution to named Directors/Senior Officers, for the avoidance of doubt, the Managing Director should be entitled to exercise any functions otherwise delegated to a Chief Officer in the event of that officer’s absence or inability to exercise specific delegated powers, or in an emergency.
- All decisions taken as a result of this temporary delegation should be recorded on a “Decision Notice” and (unless deemed “Exempt Information” by the Council’s Monitoring Officer) displayed for public access purposes on the Council’s website, as soon as was reasonably practicable.

No. 14

CORPORATE FEES AND CHARGES REGISTER 2020/2021

Members considered the report of the Chief Officer Commercial.

The Leader of the Council proposed that Option 1 be endorsed. The Leader of the Labour Group also confirmed his support for the report.

It was, thereupon, unanimously,

RESOLVED that the report be accepted and Option 1 be endorsed, namely:

The proposed fees and charges for Trade Waste and Markets, the extract from the Fees and Charges Register 2020/2021 be

	<p>approved. Details were summarised below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trade Waste – A reduction in the annual fee for the Duty of Care Notice from £49.50 to £25.00. • Markets – A fee uplift of 2% which would increase the pitch fee between £0.40 and £2.00 depending on the pitch size. 	
<p>No. 15</p>	<p><u>EXEMPT ITEM</u></p> <p>To receive and consider the following report which in the opinion of the proper officer was an exempt item taking into account consideration of the public interest test and that the press and public should be excluded from the meeting (the reason for the decision for the exemption was available on a schedule maintained by the proper officer).</p>	
<p>No. 16</p>	<p><u>RECRUITMENT</u></p> <p>Having regard to the views expressed by the Proper Officer regarding the public interest test, that on balance the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information and that the report should be exempt.</p> <p>RESOLVED that the public be excluded whilst this item of business is transacted as it is likely there would be a disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 15, Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).</p> <p>Consideration was given to the report of the Managing Director.</p> <p>At the invitation of the Chair, the Managing Director spoke briefly to the report which had been presented to seek approval to the proposed redesign and recruitment of the role of the Corporate Director of Education and to confirm the temporary ‘acting up’ arrangements put in place as a matter of urgency due to the pending retirement of the current Corporate Director of Education.</p> <p>The Managing Director concluded by advising Members that the preferred recommendation was Option 1 as detailed within the report.</p> <p>The Executive Member for Education commenced by placing on</p>	

record her appreciation to the retiring Corporate Director of Education, Lynette Jones for the dedication and commitment she had given to the role over the years, and said that education was in a far different place as a result of her efforts. The Executive Member expressed her very best wishes to Lynette on her forthcoming retirement.

The Executive Member continued by stating that given the current circumstances a timescale for the permanent recruitment process was unable to be provided but this would be undertaken as soon as reasonable and practical to do so. She was confident that the interim Corporate Director was more than capable of taking forward education during this turbulent time.

The Executive Member for Education concluded by referring to the wonderful response received from the Education Team in light of the current situation and expressed her appreciation to officers for the work undertaken during this difficult time.

The views of Members were, thereupon, sought in relation to the report.

Member No. 1

A Member commenced by stating that she had been surprised at the preferred option that was being recommended. She explained that during the time that education was in special measures, the role of Corporate Director had been advertised on the lower rate of pay and whilst numerous applications had been received, a successful appointment had not been made. As a consequence, the Council had unanimously agreed to re-advertise the job for a second time with a market supplement to attract the right calibre of candidate and on this occasion a successful appointment was subsequently made.

The successful candidate on the second occasion had been Lynette Jones who had done an amazing job turning education around and playing a major part in helping education out of special measures.

The Member pointed out that having to undertake this recruitment process twice had cost the Council a considerable amount of money and if this course of action was repeated by removing the current market supplement it would again be a waste of time and

money.

In addition, she expressed her concern that Education was a large portfolio and if additional duties were to be included within the role i.e. client side of Leisure and Culture this could be problematic on times as in the current climate when focus was solely needed on education alone. The Member concluded by stating that she did not agree with the recommended proposal.

Member No. 2

Another Member stated that he would also be endorsing Option 2 for the same reasons outlined by his colleague above and said that whilst education had progressed, it was not 'out of the woods yet'. Members had to remember that times had moved on since the last appointment and current salaries had increased for example, the salary of a head teacher in Blaenau Gwent was over £100,000 and the average salary for a secondary head teacher was £125,000. Therefore, the right calibre of candidate would not be secured for the salary that was on offer.

In the meantime, whilst the Head of Education Transformation was doing an excellent job but the substantive post should be filled as soon as possible because when 'normality' resumed children would have been out of school for a considerable period of time and some would have missed their opportunity to improve their grades and would have to receive predictive grades. He concluded by proposing that Option 2 be endorsed. This proposal was seconded.

Member No. 3

Another Member said that during 2012 education had been placed in special measures, and during that time the Council had appointed numerous Directors of Education including sharing a Corporate Director with another local authority. However, it was not until the current Corporate Director had been appointed that clarity was brought to the table and Lynette had played a major part in helping education out of special measures. He continued by stating that he would not wish the Council to go through this unpleasant experience again and, therefore, warned against approving Option 1 because the Council needed to secure the best candidate for the role.

The Member concluded by placing on record his appreciation to the retiring Corporate Director of Education, Lynette Jones for the work undertaken during her time in the role.

Member No. 4

A Member said that he had witnessed the turmoil and carnage that special measures had brought to the Council and pointed out that it had not only affected education but the whole of the Council and it was not until Lynette Jones was appointed that the Council had found stability. He had concerns that the authority would not attract the right candidate under Option 1 and asked whether the Executive Member – Education was confident that if this option was approved that the Council would attract the right calibre of candidate for the role.

The Executive Member – Education stated that given the tremendous amount of work undertaken by Lynette, education and Council was in a very different position from where it had been and she was confident that good quality candidates would be attracted to apply for the role.

Leader of the Labour Group

The Leader of the Labour Group said that it was important to state that the comments made by the Members of the Labour Group had been borne out of experience and took into account the Recovery Board's and Welsh Government's views to attract the right candidates to Blaenau Gwent as Education had been one of the main priorities for the Group during that time.

The Leader of the Labour Group stated that whilst he proposed that Option 2 be endorsed, he confirmed that the Labour Group did support the interim 'acting up' arrangements that had been put in place.

Leader of the Council

The Leader of the Council commenced by stating that he understood some of the comments that colleagues from the Labour Group had made but advised that to proceed with the recruitment process at this present time would be unwise. He agreed with the sentiments of the Executive Member for Education i.e. that Blaenau Gwent itself was now in a far better position

particularly in education and he paid tribute and expressed his appreciation to Lynette Jones who was one of the hardest workers and most driven people he had ever come across, and the successes in education were Lynette's successes. Blaenau Gwent was appropriately placed to attract people to live and work in the area.

All factors had been taken into account by the Managing Director and she would not do anything to place the authority in a precarious position and Members needed to have faith and confidence in her. Whilst the Executive Member was new in the role she had also considered all factors and she was very much in unison with the Managing Director.

The Leader continued by advising that the market supplement could be used a 'fall back' position if an appointment was unable to be made. If the role was advertised immediately with a market supplement, Members needed to consider the message that this may send to the other Corporate Directors.

The Leader concluded by stating that at the appropriate juncture he would be strongly supporting Option 1.

As the meeting was teleconferenced and an amendment had been tabled, it was agreed a recorded vote be undertaken in respect of amended Option 2 only:

Option 2:

- **That the Council proceed to recruit to the role of the Corporate Director of Education as it currently stood with a market supplement and no additions to the job description.**
- **The temporary 'acting up' arrangements be supported.**

In Favour – Councillors P. Baldwin, D. Bevan, K. Hayden, H. McCarthy, J. C. Morgan, T. Sharrem, T. Smith, S. Thomas, H. Trollope, B. Willis and L. Winnett.

Against – Councillors J. Collins, M. Cook, N. Daniels, D. Davies, G. A. Davies, M. Day, P. Edwards, S. Healy, J. Hill, W. Hodgins, M. Holland, J. Mason, C. Meredith, M. Moore, J. P. Morgan, L. Parsons, G. Paulsen, K. Pritchard, K. Rowson, B. Summers, G.

Thomas and J. Wilkins.

This proposal was not carried.

RESOLVED, subject to the foregoing, that the report which related to information relating to any consultations or negotiations, or contemplated consultations or negotiations in connection with any labour relations matter arising between the Authority or a Minister of the Crown and employees of, or office holders under, the Authority be accepted and Option 1 be endorsed, namely that the following proposals be approved:

- The role of Corporate Director of Education be redesigned, salary range £80,046 – £88,048 per annum (Pay Award Pending).
- The current market supplement be removed with immediate effect.
- The Head of Education Transformation be temporarily appointed from the 30th March, 2020 pending the recruitment process for a permanent appointment.

A Member expressed his appreciation to the Chair for managing the meeting under difficult circumstances.
