

COUNTY BOROUGH OF BLAENAU GWENT

REPORT TO: THE LEADER AND MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE

SUBJECT: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE - 19TH JANUARY, 2022

REPORT OF: DEMOCRATIC & COMMITTEE SUPPORT OFFICER

PRESENT: COUNCILLOR N. DANIELS (CHAIR)

Councillors J. Collins
J. Mason
J. Wilkins

WITH: Managing Director
Corporate Director Regeneration and Community Services
Corporate Director Education
Corporate Director Social Services
Chief Officer Customer and Commercial
Chief Officer Resources
Head of Legal and Corporate Compliance
Head of Policy and Partnerships
Press Officer

DECISIONS UNDER DELEGATED POWERS

ITEM	SUBJECT	ACTION
No. 1	<u>SIMULTANEOUS TRANSLATION</u> It was noted that no requests had been received for the simultaneous translation service.	
No. 2	<u>APOLOGIES</u> An apology for absence was received from Councillor D. Davies, Deputy Leader/Executive Member – Regeneration & Economic Development.	

<p>No. 3</p>	<p><u>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS</u></p> <p>There were no declarations of interest and dispensations raised.</p>	
	<p><u>MINUTES</u></p>	
<p>No. 4</p>	<p><u>EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE</u></p> <p>Consideration was given to the minutes of the meeting held on the 15th December, 2021.</p> <p>RESOLVED that the minutes be accepted as a true record of proceedings.</p>	
	<p><u>DECISION ITEMS - CORPORATE SERVICES MATTERS</u></p>	
<p>No. 5</p>	<p><u>FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME – 2ND MARCH 2022</u></p> <p>Consideration was given to the report of the Leader of the Council.</p> <p>RESOLVED that the Forward Work Programme be accepted and the information contained therein be noted (Option 1).</p>	
<p>No. 6</p>	<p><u>IMPLEMENTING THE SOUTH EAST WALES CORPORATE JOINT COMMITTEE</u></p> <p>Consideration was given to the report of the Managing Director.</p> <p>The Managing Director noted the report which set out an interim governance and delivery model sufficient to implement the statutory requirements for establishment of the South East Wales Corporate Joint Committee (CJC).</p> <p>It was added that the report also detailed the ‘twin-track’ approach to operating the Cardiff Capital Region (CCR) City Deal alongside the initial ‘bare minimum’ phase of CJC mobilisation ahead of the SE Wales CJC setting its first statutory budget on 31st January, 2022.</p>	

The Managing Director spoke to the report and highlighted the key points of the legal requirements as detailed in the report. The Managing Director referred to the amount of work which had been undertaken and advised that until fully established the joint committee would run in parallel with the current City Deal arrangements.

The Managing Director further noted the financial implications and advised that there would be not budget impacts for 2022/2023 as the work would be carried out with the funding already committed for city deal.

In conclusion, the Managing Director referred to the recommendations which were mainly for noting by the Executive. The final recommendation sought support for the Leader of the Council to set the budget which would happen on the 31st January, 2022.

The Leader advised that there had been a great deal of debate on this matter which had now been accepted. The Leader advised that although it the report was very detailed it gave the clarity of the rationale which was to be taken forward by local authorities.

The Leader referred to the recommendations and asked the Executive to separately approve recommendation (g).

The Executive Member for Social Services moved recommendation (g) and the Executive Member for Education seconded recommendation (g). All the Executive were all in favour of the aforementioned and it was thereupon

RESOLVED that the report be accepted and the Executive Committee noted the following recommendations:-

- (a) the interim governance and delivery model for implementation of the SE Wales Corporate Joint Committee and with the 'twin track' arrangements proposed across operation of CCR City Deal, alongside initial enactment of a 'bare minimum' CJC – and until such time the proposed 'lift and shift' approach could occur;
- (b) the requirement for the CJC to set and approve a budget on or before 31st January, 2022 and the steps set out in the report to enable this;

- (c) the risks and issues set out in the report which require ongoing monitoring, mitigation and management;
- (d) the request made by CCR of WG to amend the CJC regulations to change the date on which immediate duties commence under the Regulations from 28th February, 2022 to 30th June, 2022;
- (e) the draft Standing Orders at Appendix 1 which set out the initial requirements and operating model for the CJC as well as initial business for the inaugural meeting on 31st January, 2022;
- (f) the work ongoing by CCR and its constituent Councils to work with WG, Audit Wales and advisors as appropriate, to help inform resolution of the remaining issues wherever possible; and
- (g) the Leader of the Council in his duty to consider and set the first budget of the SE Wales CJC on 31st January, 2022 be supported in order to ensure the Council was complying with the legislation as required.

**DECISION ITEM –
REGENERATION & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT MATTERS**

No. 7

LAND AT RASSAU

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.

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 14, Part 1, Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act, 1972 (as amended).

Consideration was given to report of the Corporate Director Regeneration and Community Services and an overview was provided to the Executive.

RESOLVED that the report be accepted and the information which contained details relating to the business/financial affairs of persons other than the Authority be accepted (Option 1).