

**COUNTY BOROUGH OF BLAENAU GWENT**

**REPORT TO: THE CHAIR AND MEMBERS OF THE PARTNERSHIPS SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

**SUBJECT: PARTNERSHIPS SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - 16TH NOVEMBER, 2023**

**REPORT OF: DEMOCRATIC SUPPORT OFFICER**

---

**PRESENT: COUNCILLOR W. HODGINS (CHAIR)**

Councillors D. Bevan (Vice-Chair)  
P. Baldwin  
D. Davies  
M. Day  
E. Jones  
C. Smith  
L. Winnett  
D. Woods

**WITH:** Chief Officer Commercial & Customer  
Corporate Director Regeneration & Community Services  
Interim Corporate Director of Education  
Interim Head of School Improvement and Inclusion  
Head of Democratic Services, Governance & Partnerships  
Service Manager, Young People and Partnerships  
Service Manager, Customer Experience & Transformation  
Internal Communications Officer  
Scrutiny and Democratic Officer

**AND:** Matt Lewis, Shared Resource Service  
Kathryn Beavan Seymour, Shared Resource Service  
Phillip Sykes, Aneurin Leisure Trust

<b>ITEM</b>	<b>SUBJECT</b>	<b>ACTION</b>
<b>No. 1</b>	<b><u>SIMULTANEOUS TRANSLATION</u></b> It was noted that no requests had been received for the	

	simultaneous translation service.	
<b>No. 2</b>	<p><b><u>APOLOGIES</u></b></p> <p>No apologies for absence were reported.</p>	
<b>No. 3</b>	<p><b><u>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS</u></b></p> <p>Councillor W. Hodgins declared an interest in the following:</p> <p>Item No. 8 Position Statement of Performance Against the Service Level Agreement with the Shared Resource Service (SRS) for the period 1st April 2022 to 31st March 2023.</p>	
<b>No. 4</b>	<p><b><u>PARTNERSHIPS SCRUTINY COMMITTEE</u></b></p> <p>The decisions of the Special Partnerships Scrutiny Committee held on 19<sup>th</sup> October, 2023 were submitted.</p> <p>The Committee unanimously AGREED that the decisions be accepted as a true recording of proceedings.</p>	
<b>No. 5</b>	<p><b><u>ACTION SHEET</u></b></p> <p>The Action Sheet arising from the Special meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> October, 2023 was submitted.</p> <p>The Committee AGREED that the action sheet be noted.</p>	
	<p><b><u>CHANGE IN AGENDA ORDER</u></b></p> <p>The Chair reported that Item No. 8 would be considered first on the agenda.</p>	
<b>No. 6</b>	<p><b><u>POSITION STATEMENT OF PERFORMANCE AGAINST THE SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENT WITH THE SHARED RESOURCE SERVICE (SRS) FOR THE PERIOD 1ST APRIL 2022 TO 31ST MARCH 2023</u></b></p>	

	<p>Consideration was given to report of the Chief Officer Commercial &amp; Customer.</p> <p>The Committee AGREED to recommend that Option 1 be accepted, namely:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• That the Committee considered the position statement on performance for the period 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2022 to 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2023 against the SLA in place with SRS, prior to submission to Cabinet; and</li> <li>• Receive annual updates as part of the ongoing partnership with SRS.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>No. 7</b></p>	<p><b><u>WELSH PUBLIC LIBRARY STANDARDS (WPLS) ANNUAL RETURN 2021/22</u></b></p> <p>Consideration was given to report of the Service Manager, Young People &amp; Partnerships.</p> <p>The Committee AGREED to recommend that the information detailed in the report be accepted (Option 1).</p>	
<p><b>No. 8</b></p>	<p><b><u>ANEURIN LEISURE TRUST PERFORMANCE AND MONITORING</u></b></p> <p>Consideration was given to report of the Service Manager, Young People &amp; Partnerships.</p> <p>The Committee AGREED to recommend that the report be accepted; and to support the Trust in making energy savings, the Committee recommended that the Council look at works that needed to be undertaken to utilise the energy centre on the Steelworks Site. (Option 2)</p>	
<p><b>No. 9</b></p>	<p><b><u>FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME: 22ND FEBRUARY 2024</u></b></p> <p>Consideration was given to report of the Scrutiny &amp; Democratic</p>	

Officer.

The Welsh Libraries Report would be submitted to a future meeting of the Committee.

The Committee AGREED, subject to the foregoing, that the report be accepted and the FWP for the meeting on 22<sup>nd</sup> February, 2024 be accepted (Option 1).