

**COUNTY BOROUGH OF BLAENAU GWENT**

**REPORT TO: THE CHAIR AND MEMBERS OF THE CORPORATE AND PERFORMANCE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

**SUBJECT: CORPORATE AND PERFORMANCE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 16<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2023**

**REPORT OF: DEMOCRATIC & COMMITTEE SUPPORT OFFICER**

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**PRESENT: COUNCILLOR J. WILKINS (CHAIR)**

Councillors J. Thomas  
C. Bainton  
M. Day  
G. Humphreys  
C. Smith  
T. Smith

**WITH:** Interim Chief Executive  
Interim Corporate Director Social Services  
Corporate Director Regeneration and Community Services  
Chief Officer Resources  
Service Manager Accountancy  
Head of Governance and Partnerships  
Head of Organisational Development  
Service Manager – Customer Experience and Benefits  
Service Manager – Infrastructure  
Policy Officer (Engagement & Equality)  
Scrutiny and Democratic Officer

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<b><u>ITEM</u></b>	<b><u>SUBJECT</u></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.

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<p><b>No. 2</b></p>	<p><b><u>APOLOGIES</u></b></p> <p>The following apologies for absence were received:-</p> <p>Councillor E. Jones; Councillor R. Leadbeater; and Chief Officer Customer and Commercial</p>
<p><b>No. 3</b></p>	<p><b><u>DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS</u></b></p> <p>No declarations of interest or dispensations were reported.</p>
<p><b>No. 4</b></p>	<p><b><u>CORPORATE AND PERFORMANCE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE</u></b></p> <p>Consideration was given to the decisions of the meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> February, 2023.</p> <p>The Committee AGREED that the decisions be accepted as a true record of proceedings.</p>
<p><b>No. 5</b></p>	<p><b><u>SPECIAL CORPORATE AND PERFORMANCE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE</u></b></p> <p>Consideration was given to the decisions of the meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> February, 2023.</p> <p>The Committee AGREED that the decisions be accepted as a true record of proceedings.</p>
<p><b>No. 6</b></p>	<p><b><u>MEETING SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS OF THE EQUALITY ACT 2010: ANNUAL REPORTING AND IMPACT ASSESSING</u></b></p> <p>Consideration was given to the report of the Head of Governance and Partnerships.</p> <p>The Committee AGREED that the report be accepted and</p> <p>a) <b>Annual Reporting</b> – considered the Annual Report being presented for 22/23 and noted progress made against the Council’s Equality Objectives; and</p>

	<p>b) <b>Impact Assessing</b> – noted the new IIA process, and that member briefing sessions for all elected members would be arranged to cover the specific duty for assessing impact to include, the process, examples of its use, and its role in decision-making.</p>
<p><b>No. 7</b></p>	<p><b><u>REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING - 2022/2023, FORECAST OUTTURN TO 31ST MARCH 2023 (AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2022)</u></b></p> <p>Consideration was given to the report of the Chief Resources Officer.</p> <p>The Committee AGREED that the report be accepted (Option 1) and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• provided appropriate challenge to the financial outcomes in the report; and</li> <li>• noted the forecast application of reserves.</li> </ul>
<p><b>No. 8</b></p>	<p><b><u>CAPITAL BUDGET MONITORING, FORECAST FOR 2022/2023 FINANCIAL YEAR (AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2022)</u></b></p> <p>Consideration was given to the report of the Chief Officer Resources.</p> <p>The Committee AGREED that the report be accepted (Option 1) and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• provided the appropriate challenge to the financial outcomes in the report;</li> <li>• continued to support appropriate financial control procedures agreed by Council; and</li> <li>• noted the budgetary control and monitoring procedures in place within the Capital Team, to safeguard Authority funding.</li> </ul>
<p><b>No. 9</b></p>	<p><b><u>PROGRESS REPORT CONTRACTS OVER £500K</u></b></p> <p>Consideration was given to the report of the Head of Community Services.</p> <p>The Committee AGREED that the report be accepted and recommended endorsement by Cabinet (Option 1).</p>

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<b>No. 10</b>	<b><u>TREASURY MANAGEMENT – TREASURY STRATEGY STATEMENT, INVESTMENT STRATEGY &amp; MRP POLICY STATEMENT 2023/2024 (INCLUDING PRUDENTIAL INDICATORS)</u></b>
	<p>Consideration was given to the report of the Chief Officer Resources.</p>
	<p>The Committee AGREED that the report be accepted and considered the Annual Treasury Strategy Statement &amp; Annual Investment Strategy &amp; MRP Policy Statement for 2023/2024 financial year and the Treasury Management Prudential Indicators contained therein (Appendix A) and do not consider any amendments, prior to submission to Council for formal approval (Option 2).</p>
<b>No. 11</b>	<b><u>CAPITAL STRATEGY 2023/2024</u></b>
	<p>Consideration was given to the report of the Chief Officer Resources.</p>
	<p>The Committee AGREED that the report be accepted and considered the Capital Strategy for the 2023/24 financial year (attached as appendix 1) and do not consider any amendments, prior to submission to Council for formal approval (Option 1).</p>
<b>No. 12</b>	<b><u>FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME: 27<sup>TH</sup> APRIL, 2023</u></b>
	<p>Consideration was given to the report of the Scrutiny and Democratic Officer.</p>
	<p>The Committee AGREED that the report be accepted and Members agreed the Forward Programme for the meeting on 27<sup>th</sup> April, 2023, as presented (Option 2).</p>

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