

**COUNTY BOROUGH OF BLAENAU GWENT**

**REPORT TO: THE PRESIDING MEMBER AND MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL**

**SUBJECT: DEMOCRATIC SERVICES COMMITTEE – 27<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2023**

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

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

Councillors C. Bainton  
D. Bevan  
E. Jones  
J.C. Morgan  
L. Parsons  
C. Smith  
L. Winnett

**ALSO: Scrutiny Chairs & Vice-Chairs**

Vice-Chair of Corporate & Performance Scrutiny Committee

Councillor J. Thomas

Chair and Vice-Chair of Partnerships Scrutiny Committee

Councillor W. Hodgins & P. Baldwin

Chair of People Scrutiny Committee

Councillor T. Smith

Chair and Vice-Chair of Places Scrutiny Committee

Councillor M. Cross & R. Leadbeater

**AND: Head of Democratic Services, Governance & Partnerships (Statutory Head of Democratic Services)  
Organisational Development Manager**

<b>ITEM</b>	<b>SUBJECT</b>	<b>ACTION</b>
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No. 1	<p><b><u>SIMULTANEOUS TRANSLATION</u></b></p> <p>It was noted that no requests had been received for the simultaneous translation service.</p>	
No. 2	<p><b><u>APOLOGIES</u></b></p> <p>Apologies for absence were received from:-</p> <p>Councillors Jen Morgan and M. Day Service Manager, Performance &amp; Democratic</p>	
No. 3	<p><b><u>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS</u></b></p> <p>There were no declarations of interest or dispensations reported.</p>	
No. 4	<p><b><u>DEMOCRATIC SERVICES COMMITTEE</u></b></p> <p>Consideration was given to the Minutes of the meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> November, 2021.</p> <p>The Committee AGREED that the Minutes be received as a true record of proceedings.</p>	
No. 5	<p><b><u>INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL FOR WALES ANNUAL REPORT 2023</u></b></p> <p>Consideration was given to the report of the Head of Organisational Development.</p> <p>The Committee AGREED that the report be accepted and that the determinations in the final IRPW Annual Report for 2023/2024 be noted.</p>	
No. 6	<p><b><u>ANNUAL REPORT OF THE HEAD OF DEMOCRATIC SERVICES 2022/23</u></b></p> <p>Consideration was given to the report of the Statutory Head of Democratic Services.</p> <p>The Committee AGREED that the report be accepted and endorsed Option 1; namely that the report be recommended to Council for approval.</p>	

<p><b>No. 7</b></p>	<p><b><u>DIVERSE COUNCIL ACTION PLAN UPDATE</u></b></p> <p>Consideration was given to the report of the Head of Democratic Services, Governance and Partnerships and the Service Manager Performance and Democratic.</p> <p>The Committee AGREED that the report be accepted and endorsed Option 1; namely that the Committee was satisfied with the action taken to date, identified in Appendix 1, and did not make any amendments to future actions.</p>	
<p><b>No. 8</b></p>	<p><b><u>COUNCIL'S SUITE OF MEMBER DEVELOPMENT POLICIES</u></b></p> <p>Consideration was given to the report of the Head of Democratic Services, Governance &amp; Partnerships.</p> <p>The Committee AGREED to recommend that the report be accepted and endorsed Option 1; namely that the suite of Policies as set out in the appendices be agreed prior to approval at Council:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Member Development Strategy 2022 – 2027 (appendix 1)</li> <li>• Members' Mentoring Framework 2022 – 2027 (appendix 2)</li> <li>• Elected Members Personal Development Review and Competency Framework 2022 (appendix 3)</li> </ul>	
<p><b>No. 9</b></p>	<p><b><u>BLAENAU GWENT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL PETITIONS PROTOCOL 2023-27</u></b></p> <p>Consideration was given to the report of the Head of Democratic Services, Governance &amp; Partnerships.</p> <p>The Committee AGREED to recommend that the report be accepted and endorsed Option 1; namely that the Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council Petitions Protocol 2023-2027 (found at Appendix 1) be agreed prior to approval at Council.</p>	