

**COUNTY BOROUGH OF BLAENAU GWENT**

**REPORT TO: THE CHAIR AND MEMBERS OF THE  
DEMOCRATIC SERVICES COMMITTEE**

**SUBJECT: DEMOCRATIC SERVICES COMMITTEE –  
13<sup>TH</sup> JULY, 2023**

**REPORT OF: DEMOCRATIC OFFICER**

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

Councillors C. Bainton  
D. Bevan  
G. Davies  
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 of Partnerships Scrutiny Committee

Councillor W. Hodgins

Chair of People Scrutiny Committee

Councillor T. Smith

Vice-Chair of Places Scrutiny Committee

Councillor R. Leadbeater

**AND: Chief Officer Resources  
Service Manager Performance & Democratic  
Service Manager Policy & Partnerships  
Policy Officer**

ITEM	SUBJECT	ACTION
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 J. Wilkins and M. Cross  Chief Officer Customer &amp; Commercial  Head of Democratic Services, Governance &amp; Partnerships  Head of Organisational Development  Organisational Development Manager</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 27<sup>th</sup> March, 2023.</p> <p>The Committee AGREED that the Minutes be received as a true record of proceedings.</p>	
No. 5	<p><b><u>PROPOSED COMMITTEE FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME 2023/2024</u></b></p> <p>Consideration was given to the proposed Forward Work Programme 2023/2024.</p>	

	<p>The Committee AGREED that the report be accepted and Option 1 be endorsed, namely that the Forward Work Programme 2023/2024 be agreed.</p>	
<b>No. 6</b>	<p><b><u>SCHEDULE OF MEMBERS REMUNERATION 2023/2024</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 Option 1 be endorsed, namely that the Schedule of Members Remuneration 2023/2024 be agreed and published.</p>	
<b>No. 7</b>	<p><b><u>BLAENAU GWENT ENGAGEMENT AND PARTICIPATION STRATEGY</u></b></p> <p>Consideration was given to the report of the Head of Democratic Services, Governance and Partnerships.</p> <p>The Committee AGREED that the report be accepted and Option 1 be endorsed, namely that the planning and consultation process for a new Engagement &amp; Participation Strategy be noted and a joint Corporate Overview &amp; Performance Scrutiny and Democratic Services Committees Workshop on 26th July, 2023 be agreed to shape development of the initial Strategy.</p>	
<b>No. 8</b>	<p><b><u>TIME OF FUTURE MEETINGS</u></b></p> <p>Members considered the time of future Democratic Services Committee meetings.</p> <p>The Committee AGREED that all future Democratic Services Committees commence at 10.00 a.m.</p>	