

**COUNTY BOROUGH OF BLAENAU GWENT**

**REPORT TO: THE LEADER AND MEMBERS OF THE CABINET**

**SUBJECT: CABINET – 29<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER, 2023**

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

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**PRESENT: Leader/  
Cabinet Member - Corporate Overview & Performance  
Councillor S. Thomas**

**Deputy Leader/Cabinet Member – Place & Environment  
Councillor H. Cunningham**

**Cabinet Member – Place and Regeneration  
Councillor J.C. Morgan**

**Cabinet Member – People & Social Services  
Councillor H. Trollope**

**Cabinet Member – People & Education  
Councillor S. Edmunds**

**WITH:**  
Interim Chief Executive  
Chief Officer Resources  
Chief Officer Customer & Commercial  
Corporate Director Regeneration & Community Services  
Interim Corporate Director Social Services  
Head of Organisational Development  
Head of Legal & Corporate Compliance  
Head of Democratic Services, Governance & Partnerships  
Service Manager Young People & Partnerships  
Service Manager Customer Experience & Transformation  
Press & Public Relations Officer

## DECISIONS UNDER DELEGATED POWERS

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>SUBJECT</u>
<b>No. 1</b>	<p><b><u>SIMULTANEOUS TRANSLATION</u></b></p> <p>It was noted that no requests had been received for the simultaneous translation service.</p>
<b>No. 2</b>	<p><b><u>APOLOGIES</u></b></p> <p>An apology for absence was reported for the Interim Corporate Director of Education.</p>
<b>No. 3</b>	<p><b><u>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS</u></b></p> <p>No declarations of interest or dispensations were reported.</p>
	<p><b><u>DECISIONS</u></b></p>
<b>No. 4</b>	<p><b><u>CABINET</u></b></p> <p>Consideration was given to the decisions of the Cabinet Meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> October, 2023.</p> <p>RESOLVED that the decisions be received as a true record of proceedings.</p>
	<p><b><u>CORPORATE AND PERFORMANCE PORTFOLIO</u></b></p>
<b>No. 5</b>	<p><b><u>FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME – 10<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2024</u></b></p> <p>Consideration was given to report of the Scrutiny &amp; Democratic Officer.</p> <p>It was reported that the date on the report should be amended to read 10<sup>th</sup> January, 2024.</p>

RESOVLED, subject to the foregoing, that the Forward Work Programme for the meeting on the 10<sup>th</sup> January, 2024 be accepted. (Option 1)

**No. 6**

**GRANTS TO ORGANISATIONS**

Consideration was given the report of the Chief Officer Resources.

The following grants were received following publication of the report:-

**ABERTILLERY**

**Abertillery & Six Bells Ward - Councillor K. Chaplin**

- |    |                          |     |
|----|--------------------------|-----|
| 1. | Abertillery Ladies Choir | £90 |
| 2. | Ebbw Fach Choir          | £90 |
| 3. | K Style                  | £90 |

**Abertillery & Six Bells Ward - Councillor R. Leadbetter**

- |    |                                       |      |
|----|---------------------------------------|------|
| 1. | K Style                               | £100 |
| 2. | Abertillery Piranhas                  | £100 |
| 3. | Abertillery & District Museum Society | £100 |
| 4. | Abertillery Town Band                 | £100 |

**Cwmtillery Ward – Councillors M. Day & J. Wilkins**

- |    |         |      |
|----|---------|------|
| 1. | K Style | £100 |
|----|---------|------|

**Llanhilleth Ward - Councillor N. Parsons**

- |    |                                 |      |
|----|---------------------------------|------|
| 1. | K Style                         | £100 |
| 2. | St Illtyd's Primary School Fund | £200 |

**EBBW VALE**

**Cwm Ward – Councillors D. Bevan & G. Humphreys**

- |    |               |      |
|----|---------------|------|
| 1. | Baby Padfield | £300 |
|----|---------------|------|

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**NANTYGLO & BLAINA****Nantyglo Ward – Councillor P. Baldwin**

1.	Friends of Coed Cae Community House	£300
2.	Hermon Cemetery Trust	£390
3.	Trevor Rowson Wildlife / Nantyglo Action Group	£200
4.	Piranhas Swimming Club	£150
5.	Winchestown OAP Association	£200
6.	Nantyglo OAP Association	£200
7.	Nantyglo Community Shop	£200
8.	BGfm	£400
9.	Nantyglo RFC	£250
10.	Friends of Parc Nant y Waun	£100
11.	Needles & Pins	£200
12.	Wesleyan Methodist Church	£100
13.	St. Annes Church	£100

**Nantyglo Ward – Councillor S. Behr**

1.	Friends of Coed Cae Community House	£300
2.	Hermon Cemetery Trust	£150
3.	Trevor Rowson Wildlife / Nantyglo Action Group	£300
4.	Piranhas Swimming Club	£150
5.	Winchestown OAP Association	£200
6.	Nantyglo OAP Association	£200
7.	Nantyglo Community Shop	£200
8.	BGfm	£200
9.	Nantyglo RFC	£100
10.	Friends of Parc Nant y Waun	£100
11.	Needles & Pins	£100
12.	Wesleyan Methodist Church	£100
13.	St. Annes Church	£100

**TREDEGAR****Sirhowy Ward – Councillors M. Cross T. Smith & D. Rowberry**

1.	Tredegar Orpheus Male Voice Choir	£100
2.	2167 Squadron Air Training Corps	£100
3.	Tredegar Angling Club	£100
4.	Trefil Junior RFC	£100
5.	Gwent Area Ass. Welsh Cob & Pony Society	£100
6.	Tredegar Ironsides RFC	£200

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	<p>7. Sirhowy Valley Woodlands £100</p> <p>8. Sirhowy Community Centre £250</p> <p>9. Ystrad Deri Community Centre £250</p> <p>10. Horeb Chapel £50</p> <p>11. Sardis Chapel £50</p> <p>12. Ebenezer Welsh Congregational Church £100</p> <p>13. St Georges Church £100</p> <p>14. Immaculate Conception Church £100</p> <p>15. Valleys Life After Stroke £100</p> <p>16. Silurian Boxing Club £100</p> <p>17. Tredegar Junior Netball Club £100</p> <p>18. Tredegar Women's Institute £100</p> <p>19. Oak Football Club £100</p> <p>20. Tredegar Operatic Society £100</p> <p>21. Tredegar Twinning Association £100</p> <p>22. Brynbach Running Club £100</p> <p>23. Bedwellty Park Bowls £100</p> <p>24. Siloam Chapel £100</p> <p>25. Tredegar Mayors Appeal £100</p> <p>26. Moose International Lodge £100</p> <p>27. Tredegar AFC £100</p> <p>28. Tredegar Business Forum £100</p> <p>29. Sirhowy Angling Club £100</p> <p>30. Waundeg &amp; Nantybawch Community Association £250</p> <p>RESOLVED accordingly.</p> <p>FURTHER RESOLVED, subject to the foregoing, that the report be accepted and the information contained therein be noted.</p>
<b>No. 7</b>	<p><b><u>GRANTS WORKING GROUP – 25<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER, 2023</u></b></p> <p>The report of the meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> October, 2023 was submitted.</p> <p>RESOLVED that the report be noted.</p>
<b>No. 8</b>	<p><b><u>CAPITAL BUDGET MONITORING, FORECAST FOR 2023/2024 FINANCIAL YEAR (AS AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2023)</u></b></p> <p>Consideration was given to the report of the Chief Officer Resources.</p>

	<p>RESOLVED that the report be accepted and Cabinet provided the appropriate challenge to the financial outcomes in the report; continued to support appropriate financial control procedures agreed by Council and noted the budgetary control and monitoring procedures in place within the Capital Team, to safeguard Authority funding (Option 1).</p>
<b>No. 9</b>	<p><b><u>REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING 2023/2024 FORECAST OUTTURN TO 31 MARCH 2024 (AS AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2023)</u></b></p> <p>Consideration was given to the report of the Chief Officer Resources.</p> <p>RESOLVED that the report be accepted and Cabinet provided the appropriate challenge to the financial outcomes in the report; noted the application of Reserves; considered and challenged the Action Plans attached at Appendix 2; and approved the budget virements detailed in paragraphs 5.1.18. (Option 1)</p>
<b>No. 10</b>	<p><b><u>THE CALCULATION OF THE COUNCIL TAX BASE FOR THE YEAR 2024/25</u></b></p> <p>Consideration was given to report of the Chief Officer Resources.</p> <p>RESOLVED that the report be accepted and Cabinet approved the Council Tax base calculation for 2024/25 as detailed in Appendix 1, tables 1 to 6, and that the Council Tax Base for tax setting purposes be 20,936.36.</p>
<b>No. 11</b>	<p><b><u>SICKNESS ABSENCE PERFORMANCE 2022/23</u></b></p> <p>Consideration was given to report of the Head of Organisational Development.</p> <p>RESOLVED that the report be accepted and Cabinet approve the report and the ongoing actions to support improvement in attendance. (Option 2)</p>
<b>No. 12</b>	<p><b><u>POSITION STATEMENT OF PERFORMANCE AGAINST THE SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENT WITH THE SHARED</u></b></p>

	<p><b><u>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>RESOLVED that the report be accepted and Cabinet considered the position statement on performance for the period 1st April 2022 to 31st March 2023 against the SLA in place with SRS; and agreed to receive annual updates as part of the ongoing partnership with SRS. (Option 1)</p>
<p><b>No. 13</b></p>	<p><b><u>THE ANNUAL LETTER OF THE PUBLIC SERVICES OMBUDSMAN FOR WALES 2022/2023</u></b></p> <p>Consideration was given to report of the Head of Legal &amp; Corporate Compliance.</p> <p>RESOLVED that the report be accepted and Cabinet was informed of the Council’s performance with regard to complaints made to the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales. (The report has been considered by the Governance and Audit Committee with assurance that the process for the monitoring of complaints is robust and the performance information provided reflects these practices). (Option 1)</p>
	<p><b><u>PLACE AND ENVIRONMENT PORTFOLIO</u></b></p>
<p><b>No. 14</b></p>	<p><b><u>WASTE AND RECYCLING ANNUAL PERFORMANCE 2022-23</u></b></p> <p>Consideration was given to report of the Service Manager Neighbourhood Services.</p> <p>RESOLVED that the information contained in the report be accepted. (Option 1)</p>
	<p><b><u>PLACE AND REGENERATION PORTFOLIO</u></b></p>
<p><b>No. 15</b></p>	<p><b><u>CLIMATE CHANGE, NET ZERO ANNUAL REPORT 2022/23</u></b></p>

	<p>Consideration was given to report of the Interim Chief Executive.</p> <p>RESOLVED that the report be accepted and Cabinet support the progress made. (Option 1)</p>
<b>No. 16</b>	<p><b><u>ABERTILLERY PLACEMAKING PLAN</u></b></p> <p>Consideration was given to report of the Corporate Director Regeneration &amp; Community Services.</p> <p>RESOLVED that the report be accepted and Cabinet endorse the Abertillery Placemaking Plan, its vision and core ambitions for the future. This will enable us to finalise the draft of the delivery plan and take steps towards the implementation of the projects that will be contained within it. (Option 2)</p>
	<p><b><u>PEOPLE AND EDUCATION PORTFOLIO</u></b></p>
<b>No. 17</b>	<p><b><u>IMPROVING SCHOOLS PROGRAMME</u></b></p> <p>Consideration was given to report of the Interim Corporate Director of Education.</p> <p>RESOLVED that the report be accepted as provided. (Option 2)</p>
<b>No. 18</b>	<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>RESOLVED that the report be accepted and Cabinet considered the governance arrangements, annual performance and agreed the contents therein. (Option 1)</p>
<b>No. 19</b>	<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>



	RESOLVED that the report be accepted and the information contained therein be noted. (Option 1)
<b>No. 20</b>	<p><b><u>UPDATE ON PROGRESS AGAINST ESTYN RECOMMENDATIONS</u></b></p> <p>Consideration was given to report of the Interim Corporate Director of Education.</p> <p>RESOLVED that the report be accepted as provided. (Option 2)</p>
	<b><u>PEOPLE AND SOCIAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO</u></b>
<b>No. 21</b>	<p><b><u>PROGRESS REPORT: CHILDREN'S RESIDENTIAL HOMES</u></b></p> <p>Consideration was given to report of the Interim Corporate Director of Social Services.</p> <p>RESOLVED that the report be accepted and Cabinet support the report as an accurate representation of the progress to date in respect of the development of Blaenau Gwent's residential children's homes. (Option 1)</p>