

**COUNTY BOROUGH OF BLAENAU GWENT**

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

**SUBJECT:** **CORPORATE AND PERFORMANCE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 14<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2024**

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

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

Councillors J. Thomas (Vice-Chair)

J. Holt

J. Hill

R. Leadbeater

C. Smith

T. Smith

**WITH:** Interim Chief Executive  
Interim Corporate Director Education  
Head of Democratic Services, Governance & Partnerships  
Head of Organisational Development  
Service Manager – Policy & Partnerships  
Chief Officer Customer & Commercial  
Chief Officer Resources  
Service Manager – Accountancy  
Business Partner – Finance  
Accountant – Accountancy & Planning  
Service Manager – Childrens Services  
Professional Lead – Engagement, Equality & Welsh Language  
Team Leader - Performance  
Democratic and Scrutiny 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 Service Manager – Performance &amp; Democratic</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 18<sup>th</sup> January, 2024.</p> <p>The Committee AGREED 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 Special Meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> February, 2024.</p> <p>The Committee AGREED the decisions be accepted as a true record of proceedings</p>
<p><b>No. 6</b></p>	<p><b><u>SPECIAL CORPORATE AND PERFORMANCE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE</u></b></p> <p>Consideration was given to the decisions of the Special Meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> March, 2024.</p> <p>The Committee AGREED the decisions be accepted as a true record of proceedings</p>
<p><b>No. 7</b></p>	<p><b><u>ACTION SHEET</u></b></p> <p>Consideration was given to the Action Sheet.</p> <p>The Committee AGREED that the report be accepted and the information therein be noted.</p>

<b>No. 8</b>	<p><b><u>COUNCIL'S CORPORATE PLAN 2022/27 REVIEW</u></b></p> <p>Consideration was given to the report of the Interim Chief Executive.</p> <p>The Committee AGREED that the report be accepted and agreed the revisions made to the Corporate Plan, outlined in paragraph 2.10 of the report, prior to approval at Council (Option 1).</p>
<b>No. 9</b>	<p><b><u>CAPITAL STRATEGY 2023/2024</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 and Members considered the Capital Strategy for the 2024/25 financial year (attached as appendix 1) and did not report any amendments, prior to submission to Council for formal approval (Options 1).</p>
<b>No. 10</b>	<p><b><u>TREASURY MANAGEMENT MID-YEAR REVIEW – SEPTEMBER 2023 &amp; QUARTER 3 UPDATE</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 and Members scrutinised the treasury management activity undertaken during the first nine months of 2023/24 and did not report any amendments to the previously agreed Treasury strategies and performance indicators (Option 1).</p>

No. 11	<p data-bbox="352 192 1286 360"><b><u>TREASURY MANAGEMENT – TREASURY STRATEGY STATEMENT, INVESTMENT STRATEGY &amp; MRP POLICY STATEMENT 2024/2025 (INCLUDING PRUDENTIAL INDICATORS)</u></b></p> <p data-bbox="352 405 1433 488">Consideration was given to the report of the Chief Resources Officer.</p> <p data-bbox="352 533 1433 831">The Committee AGREED that the report be accepted and Members considered the Annual Treasury Strategy Statement &amp; Annual Investment Strategy &amp; MRP Policy Statement for 2024/2025 financial year and the Treasury Management Prudential Indicators contained therein (Appendix A) and did not report any amendments, prior to submission to Council for formal approval (Option 2).</p>
No. 12	<p data-bbox="352 875 1034 920"><b><u>STRATEGIC EQUALITY PLAN 2024-28</u></b></p> <p data-bbox="352 965 1433 1048">Consideration was given to the report of the Head of Democratic Services, Governance and Partnerships.</p> <p data-bbox="352 1093 1433 1220">The Committee AGREED that the report be accepted and supported the proposed Strategic Equality Plan prior to approval at Council (Option 1).</p>
No. 13	<p data-bbox="352 1263 994 1308"><b><u>FOSTERING FRIENDLY EMPLOYER</u></b></p> <p data-bbox="352 1352 1433 1435">Consideration was given to the report of the Head of Organisational Development.</p> <p data-bbox="352 1480 1433 1563">The Committee AGREED that the report be accepted and recommended the Policy for approval to Council (Option 1).</p>
No. 14	<p data-bbox="352 1608 1219 1691"><b><u>REVIEW OF AGILE WORKING, AGILE WORKING AND FLEXIBLE WORKING POLICIES</u></b></p> <p data-bbox="352 1736 1433 1818">Consideration was given to the report of the Head of Organisational Development.</p> <p data-bbox="352 1863 1433 2080">The Committee AGREED that the report be accepted and noted the outcome of the agile working review, recommendations, progress/improvement and support the reviewed policies for Agile Working and Flexible Working for progression to Council for endorsement (Option 1).</p>

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**No. 15** **FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME – 25<sup>TH</sup> APRIL, 2024**

Consideration was given to the report of the Scrutiny and Democratic Officer

The Committee AGREED that the report be accepted and Committee agreed the Forward Programme for the meeting 25<sup>th</sup> April, 2024, as presented (Option 1).

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