



SPECIAL PARTNERSHIPS SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD IN PENALLTA HOUSE AND VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS ON THURSDAY 27TH APRIL 2023 AT 5.30 P.M.

PRESENT:

Councillor G. Johnston - Chair

Councillors:

M.A. Adams, Mrs. E.M. Aldworth, C.J. Cuss, G. Enright, D. Ingram-Jones, C.P. Mann, A. McConnell, B. Miles (Vice Chair), D. Preece, J. Taylor, L.G. Whittle, and C. Wright.

Cabinet Members: Councillor E. Stenner.

Together with:

K. Peters (Corporate Policy Manager), H. Delonnette (Senior Policy Officer), R. Kyte (Head of Regeneration and Planning), S. Mutch (Early Years Manager), L. Evans (Policy Officer), L. Aston (Team Leader – Employability Programmes), I. Evans (Procurement and Information Manager), B. Thomson-Payne (Property Review Officer), A. R. Griffiths (Service Delivery Manager), C. Forbes-Thompson (Scrutiny Manager), and J. Lloyd (Committee Services Officer).

Also in attendance: S. Tiley (GAVO), D. Llewellyn (Aneurin Bevan UHB) – Public Health Team), D. Davies (NRW), and A. Hussey (South Wales Fire and Rescue Authority).

RECORDING AND VOTING ARRANGEMENTS

The Chair reminded those present that the meeting would be live-streamed and a recording made available following the meeting via the Council's website, except for discussions involving confidential or exempt items – [Click Here to View](#). It was noted that voting on decisions would take place via Microsoft Forms.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillors J. Reed, C. Thomas, and A. Whitcombe.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest received at the commencement or during the course of the meeting.

3. MINUTES – 26TH JANUARY 2023

It was moved and seconded that the minutes of the meeting held on 26th January 2023 be approved as a correct record and by way of Microsoft Forms (and in noting there were 12 for, 0 against and 1 abstention) this was agreed by the majority present.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Partnerships Scrutiny Committee held on 26th January 2023 (minute nos. 1 – 8) be approved as a correct record.

REPORT OF OFFICERS

Consideration was given to the following report.

4. FINAL REPORT OF THE CAERPHILLY PUBLIC SERVICES BOARD – SUMMARY REPORT OF THE ACTIONS AND ENABLERS UNDER ‘THE CAERPHILLY WE WANT WELL-BEING PLAN 2018-2023’.

The Corporate Policy Manager introduced the report which provided a final summary report to the Partnerships Scrutiny Committee on the performance of the former Caerphilly Public Services Board. The report provided an overview of actions and activities over the five-year term of the well-being plan for the county borough area, ‘The Caerphilly We Want 2018-2023’.

Members were advised that the report was the final report of the Caerphilly Public Services Board, and that the future collaborative well-being planning will be achieved by the Gwent Public Services Board, which will be scrutinised by the new regional scrutiny committee. Members were also advised that Caerphilly County Borough Council had nominated two local authority members to sit on the new regional scrutiny committee.

Members were informed that the report provided an overview of key achievements and outcomes under each action area and enabler. It included lessons learned, which will be taken forward to the next iteration of the well-being plan as it relates to the county borough area and plans for the continuation of any ongoing programmes and projects.

Members were given a presentation on the action areas and enablers of the well-being plan, which included ‘Best Start in Life’, ‘Volunteering’, ‘Jobs Growth and Employability Support’, ‘ABUHB – Good Health and Well-being’, ‘Safer Communities’, ‘Resilient Communities’, ‘NRW – Protect and Enhance the Natural Environment’, ‘Caerphilly Cares’, ‘Communication’, ‘Procurement’, and ‘Assets’.

Members thanked the Officers for the work undertaken to produce the report and presentation.

A Member queried how adverse childhood experiences (Ace) are identified through the system and how is contact made with the family. Members were advised that referrals are made by the family or a professional. Anti-natal notifications would be registered at the 20- week scan and the family would receive a call to make contact. Currently contact is made within 72 hours of hospital discharge.

A Member sought clarification on the volunteering availability to staff, and the issues with signing up in the initial stages of the scheme. The Member also requested the

current figures of staff volunteering. Members were advised that this information could be forwarded to Members after the meeting.

A Member queried whether there were any plans for graduate programmes, under the 'job growth and employability support' area. Members were advised that this proposal is being considered.

A Member queried whether the number of current apprenticeships would be increasing from 32, and Members were advised that this was proposed to increase. Clarification was sought regarding placements available alongside college courses, and Members were advised that this would be considered in the future.

A Member sought clarification on the encouragement to quit smoking and the use of vapes to assist with this. It was noted that school children are now using vapes, which needs to be addressed. Members were advised that the information would be fed back to the smoking cessation team to follow this up. The Member also queried the access to the Hub on the website and the involvement of GPs in this process. Members were advised that GP's can refer people to services and activities available in their local communities.

A Member wished to note thanks for the podiatry service provided by ABUHB in relation to diabetes.

A Member queried the integrated wellbeing networks and whether there were any plans to spread the services wider into the communities. The Member also queried the 'daily mile' initiative in schools and whether this was still continuing. Members were advised that this had been successful, and information would be sought on the continuation of this scheme and Members would be updated following the meeting. Members were also advised that the integrated wellbeing networks had been targeted at specific areas, commencing with the upper Rhymney Valley, and more recently the Risca area, and the Caerphilly basin area, with future plans to cover more areas within the Borough.

A Member noted the 'arts' in the wellbeing and mental health initiative and referred to funding and match funding from ABUHB and CCBC and wished to note thanks for the recent assistance within their ward.

A Member commented on the Cwtch guides and thanked ABUHB for their recent and ongoing work within their ward.

A Member queried the 'Big Cheese' continuing as the 'Little Cheese' and were advised that due to ongoing work within the Castle grounds, the large numbers of the public who normally attend the bigger event could not be accommodated until 2024/25. Members were advised however, that positive feedback had been received from the town centre businesses as people who had attended the 'Little Cheese' event had visited the town centre more than when they had attended the 'Big Cheese' event.

A Member noted less cars on the road during lockdown and more residents out walking. The Member queried with the NRW representative whether there had been an increase in volunteers to maintain the countryside since the covid pandemic. Members were advised that there had been an increase in the tree planting schemes but that exact figures of volunteer work were not known.

A Member noted the large amount of tree cutting taking place within the Borough currently.

A Member wished to note that success of the community engagement, with regards to Caerphilly Cares.

The Scrutiny Committee noted the contents of the report and provided comments to lead officers to help inform the next iteration of local delivery plans.

The Corporate Policy Manager wished to note her thanks to NRW and her team for volunteering at the recent tree planting project at Ynys Hywel and noted thanks to all who had taken part in the last 5 years of work under 'The Caerphilly We Want Well-Being Plan 2018-2023'.

The Chair thanked all the Officers involved in the meeting and their teams for all their hard work.

The meeting closed at 7.20 p.m.

Chair