



CABINET

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT PENALLTA HOUSE, TREDOMEN, ON WEDNESDAY, 4TH SEPTEMBER 2013 AT 2.00 P.M.

PRESENT:

Councillor H.A. Andrews - Chairman

Councillors:

Mrs C. Forehead (HR & Governance/Business Manager), D.T. Hardacre (Performance and Asset Management), K. James (Regeneration, Planning and Sustainable Development), G. Jones (Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Housing), D.V. Poole (Community and Leisure Services), K.V. Reynolds (Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Corporate Services), T.J. Williams (Highways, Transportation and Engineering), R. Woodyatt (Social Services).

Together with:

S.A. Rosser (Interim Chief Executive), S. Aspinall (Acting Deputy Chief Executive), N. Scammell (Acting Director of Corporate Services & Section 151 Officer).

Also present:

K. Cole (Manager, Learning Education and Inclusion), S. Mutch (Early Years Manager), S.M. Kauczok (Committee Services Officer).

WELCOME

The Chairman welcomed Dan Johns who had recently been appointed as Communications and Media Officer.

195. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillor R. Passmore (Cabinet Member for Education & Lifelong Learning) and Mr D. Street (Acting Corporate Director Social Services).

196. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

197. MINUTES

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on 30th July 2013 (minute nos. 184-191; page nos. 91-95) and of the special Cabinet meeting held on 23rd August 2013 (minute nos. 192-194; page nos. 96-97) be approved and signed as a correct record.

MATTER ON WHICH AN EXECUTIVE DECISION WAS REQUIRED

198. FLYING START PROGRAMME EXPANSION 2013-2014

The report informed Members of the Flying Start programme expansion 2013-2015 and sought approval of the additional business cases for recruitment to start at the earliest opportunity.

It was noted that the number of additional staff that will be required is 44 not 54 as indicated in paragraph 2.4 of the report.

The Flying Start Programme is designed to provide preventative services in the early years to children in the Authority's most deprived areas. Welsh Government had recently announced that they are committed to doubling the number of children who benefit from Flying Start by the end of the Assembly term. In line with this commitment they have made an additional £55m available over the next three years to support this expansion. In terms of Caerphilly CBC the expansion will offer an entitlement to families in a further 9 areas, making 19 in all.

In order to deliver the expanded programme, an additional 44 staff will be required and approval was required to allow recruitment to take place as soon as possible. All posts within the plan will be funded through the Flying Start grant or shared with Families First grant. Additional numbers of children included in the programme are predicted for 2015-16 and this will require new capital bids to be submitted to WG by 31st October 2013.

The recommendations in the report were moved and seconded and by a show of hands were unanimously approved.

RESOLVED that for the reasons contained in the officer's report: -

1. The expansion plan and recruitment of the Flying Start staff team be approved.
2. The submission of the capital funding bid be approved.

The meeting closed at 2.15 pm.

Approved and signed as a correct record subject to any corrections made at the meeting held on 18th September 2013.

CHAIRMAN