



## **POLICY AND RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 19TH JULY 2011**

**SUBJECT: COST OF NEW FURNITURE PURCHASED FOR TY PENALLTA TO  
FACILITATE THE RELOCATION OF SOCIAL SERVICES**

**REPORT BY: HEAD OF PERFORMANCE AND PROPERTY**

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### **1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 To provide information (as requested by Councillor D.V. Poole at Policy and Resources Scrutiny meeting on 19th April 2011) on the cost of new furniture purchased to facilitate the move of Social Services to Ty Penallta together with reasons for the costs and savings arising from the move.

### **2. LINKS TO STRATEGY**

- 2.1 To assist the Authority in meeting its Medium Term Financial Plan agreed by Council as part of the 2010/11 budget setting process and to contribute towards the rationalisation of the authority's property portfolio.

### **3. THE REPORT**

- 3.1 A report was presented to Cabinet on 20 July 2010 recommending the closure of Hawtin Park in order to achieve recurring annual savings of approx £500k. Approval was sought for the expenditure identified in that report to relocate Social Services to other premises including Ty Penallta. An estimate of the cost of new system furniture to accommodate the additional 130 or so staff at Ty Penallta was included in the forecast contained in that report (see also para 4.1 below).
- 3.2 Matching workstations and storage cabinets were used to provide a consistent and coherent image within each floor. The workstations installed at Ty Penallta are constructed largely in pods of 6 or 4 with shared legs and integral cable management and enable the achievement of greater occupancy rates. 109 additional workstations were purchased. It was decided to re-use the existing chairs from Hawtin Park, which delivered a saving of £25-30k.
- 3.3 Much of the furniture and ancillary equipment from Hawtin Park was re-used in the Social Services moves to Enterprise House and Woodfieldside Business Park or allocated to other Social Services establishments. Remaining items of furniture/equipment were transferred into storage at Dyffryn House. Some of this stock has been allocated to other CCBC establishments or local charities and this process is ongoing. Internal Audit has been involved in this process from the outset.

### **4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 The total one off cost of the furniture purchased to achieve the above relocations amounted to £60k which was financed from the furniture sinking fund that had been established as part of the Ty Penallta project. This compares with recurring annual saving of approximately £500k.

## **5. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 Over 400 staff were moved from a number of services within or into Ty Penallta during the relocation project.

## **6. CONSULTATIONS**

- 6.1 The outcome of consultations has been incorporated into this report.

## **7. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 7.1 That the contents of this report be noted.

## **9. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 9.1 For information only.

## **10. STATUTORY POWER**

- 10.1 Local Government Act 1999.

Author: Phil S Evans, Head of Information, Communications and Technology Services  
Consultees: Cllr Colin Mann, Cabinet Member for Corporate Finance, Procurement and Sustainability  
Cllr Colin Hobbs, Cabinet Member for Performance, Property and Asset Management  
Nigel Barnett, Deputy Chief Executive  
Colin Jones, Head of Performance and Property  
Adrian Crabb, Senior Facilities Manager