



POLICY AND RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 28TH FEBRUARY 2017

**SUBJECT: POLICY AND RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE FORWARD
WORK PROGRAMME**

**REPORT BY: ACTING DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES AND SECTION 151
OFFICER**

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To report the Policy and Resources Scrutiny Committee Forward Work Programme.

2. SUMMARY

2.1 Forward Work Programmes are essential to ensure that Scrutiny Committee agendas reflect the strategic issues facing the Council and other priorities raised by Members, the public or stakeholders.

3. LINKS TO STRATEGY

3.1 The operation of scrutiny is required by the Local Government Act 2000 and subsequent Assembly legislation. The Forward Work Programmes contribute to the following Well-being Goals within the Well-being of Future Generations Act (Wales) 2016 by ensuring there is an effective scrutiny function and ensure that council policies are scrutinised against the following goals:

- A prosperous Wales
- A resilient Wales
- A healthier Wales
- A more equal Wales
- A Wales of cohesive communities
- A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language
- A globally responsible Wales

4. THE REPORT

4.1 The Policy and Resources Scrutiny Committee forward work programme includes all reports that were identified at the scrutiny committee meeting on 17th January 2017. The work programme outlines the reports planned for the period February 2017 to June 2017.

4.2 The forward work programme is made up of reports identified by officers and members and has been prioritised into three priority areas, priority 1, 2 or 3. Members are asked to consider the work programme alongside the cabinet work programme and suggest any changes before it is published on the council website. Scrutiny committee will review this work programme at

every meeting going forward alongside any changes to the cabinet work programme or report requests.

- 4.3 The Policy and Resources Scrutiny Committee Forward Work Programme is attached at Appendix 1. The Cabinet Forward Work Programme is attached at Appendix 2.

5. WELL-BEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS

- 5.1 This report contributes to the well-being goals as set out in links to strategy above. It is consistent with the five ways of working as defined within the sustainable development principle in that by ensuring the scrutiny function is effective when reviewing services and policies and ensure it considers the wellbeing goals.

6. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 There are no specific equalities implications arising as a result of this report.

7. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 There are no specific financial implications arising as a result of this report.

8. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 There are no specific personnel implications arising as a result of this report.

9. CONSULTATIONS

- 9.1 There are no consultation responses that have not been included in this report.

10. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 10.1 That Members consider any changes and agree the final forward work programme prior to publication.

11. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS

- 11.1 To improve the operation of scrutiny.

12. STATUTORY POWER

- 12.1 The Local Government Act 2000.

Author: Catherine Forbes-Thompson Interim Head of Democratic Services
Consultees: Gail Williams, Interim Head of Legal Services and Monitoring Officer
Nicole Scammell, Acting Director of Corporate Services and Section 151 Officer

Appendices:

Appendix 1 Policy and Resources Scrutiny Committee Forward Work Programme.
Appendix 2 Cabinet Work Programme.

Policy & Resources Scrutiny Committee Forward Work Programme February 2017 to June 2017			
Meeting Date: 28 February 2017			
Subject	Purpose	Key Issues	Witnesses
WHQS Programme Re-profiling and associated Capital Programme (P1)	To review progress with the implementation of the WHQS Programme, re-profile over the remaining years where necessary, and set out a capital programme budget for 2017/18.	To consider the implications of slippage within the internal and external works programmes, establish if works need to be re-phased. Examine the implications on the community sequence and potential overlaps between internal and external works. Review the resourcing issues given the commitment to deliver the WHQS Programme by 2020.	Shaun Couzens
HRA Budget Monitoring Report (P2)	To provide Scrutiny members with an update on expenditure of the Housing Revenue Account budget for the first six months of the year	Key issues include:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identifying the overall budget available for the delivering the Housing Service Highlight any budget variations including projected overspends and underspends Provide an indication of the revenue contribution to the Capital Programme 	Shaun Couzens
Wellbeing Objectives 2016/17 - Investment in Council Homes	To provide a 6 months update of progress against the Councils highest priorities identified within the Councils Corporate Plan 2016.	To provide an update against the Well-being Objective action plan using the Council Ffynnon scorecard which provides PI data regarding completion of internal and external works programmes and adds information on peoples satisfaction with the internal works. The update of the WBO should also identify any emerging slippage or additional progress against the action plan	
British Telecom	To provide an update on the broadband provision across the county borough.	Issues experienced in Broadband services in terms of speed and coverage across the county borough.	British Telecom

APPENDIX 1

Meeting Date: 11 April 2017 - CANCELLED			
Subject	Purpose	Key Issues	Witnesses

Meeting Date: 6 June 2017			
Subject	Purpose	Key Issues	Witnesses
Housing Service Charges (P2)	To present to Scrutiny proposals for the de-pooling of service charges in sheltered housing schemes and the introduction of service charging for provision of new services for general needs tenants	Key issues include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limitations on the Council's ability to introduce service charges arising from the current tenancy agreement. • The implications of the Housing (Wales) Act 2014 as it relates to service charging of tenants of sheltered housing schemes. • Potential financial impact of de-pooling on tenants of sheltered schemes and associated implications for future viability of a number of schemes. 	Shaun Couzens

APPENDIX 1

Meeting Date: to be confirmed			
Subject	Purpose	Key Issues	Witnesses
Care & Repair Merger (P2)	This is an information report to provide members with details of the merger of the Care and Repair Service between Caerphilly and Blaenau Gwent	To advise members on the new arrangements as a result of the merger	
HR Policies and Welsh Language Standards 99-119 *NEW*	A number of HR related standards require internal HR policies to reflect the legal right of staff to be able to have internal discussions and paperwork relating to their employment available in Welsh. This report should be seen by Scrutiny, prior to Cabinet and Full Council. There will need to be a change to a number of HR policies. It is envisaged that a single report may cover all changes.	A generic overarching approach will be adopted to revise all affected HR policies in the same way. The report will cover how this approach will allow the authority to meet its legal requirements in complying with the Welsh Language Standards. The affected policies and the cross matching to each relevant standard will be explained in the report	Senior Policy Officer (Equalities and Welsh Language) Head of Human Resources This report will be drafted as a Corporate Services report since it relates to HR issues
Supported Accommodation	This information report will update members on the progress on supported accommodation	To advise members on the progress on supported accommodation.	

Cabinet Forward Work Programme

APPENDIX 2

1ST MARCH 2017	Key Issues	Service Area
Corporate Plan (Well-Being Objectives) Cynllun Corfforaethol (Amcanion Llesiant)	To present to Cabinet (1st March 2017) the Council's draft Corporate Plan for 2017/18 and to seek the views and approval of Cabinet prior to its presentation to Council on 7th March 2017.	Public Protection
Junior and Youth Forum Priorities 2017 Blaenoriaethau'r Fforwm Iau a'r Ieuenctid 2017	To inform Members of issues raised by Children & Young People via the Youth Service's Junior and Youth Forums.	Education
15TH MARCH 2017	Key Issues	Service Area
Rhymney 3-18 All Through School Rhymni 3 - 18 Ysgol Gydol Oed	To apprise Members of the outcome of the consultative process to establish a Rhymney 3-18 All Through School and determine whether to proceed to publish a statutory notice.	Education
Cabinet Forward Work Programme Blaenraglen Waith y Cabinet	To seek Cabinet endorsement of the Forward Work Programme for the period April 2017 to June 2017.	Democratic Services
Payment for Annual Leave Tâl am Wyliau Blynnyddol	To consider payment for Annual Leave.	Human Resources
WHQS Re-profiling and Associated Capital Programme Rhaglen Gyfalaf Cysylltiedig ag Ail-broffilio SATC	To review progress with the implementation of the WHQS Programme, re-profile over the remaining years, where necessary, and set out a capital programme budget for 2017/18.	Housing Services

Cabinet Forward Work Programme

APPENDIX 2

Proposed Admission Arrangements Trefniadau Derbyn Arfaethedig	To consider proposed changes to the Councils admission arrangements for the 2018/19 academic year	Education
Education Capital Programme Rhaglen Gyfalaf Addysg	To consider the school bids and recommendations for the allocation of funds against the different component parts of the 2017-18 Education capital programme	Education
Invest to Save Bids	The report will present Cabinet with details of bids for repayable one-off funding from the Invest to Save Reserve that will result in on-going revenue budget savings.	S. Harris
Universal Childcare Offer Pilot - Sept 2017		S. Mutch/ K. Cole

29TH MARCH 2017	Key Issues	Service Area
Bryn Brithdir, Oakdale Business Park – Renewal of CCBC and WG Joint Venture Agreement Bryn Brithdir, Parc Busnes Oakdale– Adnewyddu Cytundeb Menter ar y Cyd CBSC a LIC	To seek approval for the terms of the Joint Venture agreement with WG in relation to allocation of rental income received by the Council for Units 1-4 Bryn Brithdir, Oakdale Business Park.	Communities
Unit 21 Lawn Industrial Estate, Rhymney – Lease Renewal to the Furniture Revival, GC Enterprises (Wales) Ltd Uned 21 Ystâd Ddiwydiannol Lawn, Rhymni – Adnewyddu Prydles i'r Furniture Revival, GC Enterprises (Cymru) Cyf	To seek approval for the terms of the a new lease arrangement at a peppercorn rent with The Furniture Revival	Communities

Cabinet Forward Work Programme

APPENDIX 2

12TH APRIL 2017	Key Issues	Service Area

26TH APRIL 2017	Key Issues	Service Area
Annual Equalities Report Adroddiad Cydraddoldeb Blynyddol	<p>The Council has a statutory duty to produce an annual monitoring report on Equalities issues under current legislation. The requirements are very detailed as to what relevant information must be included in the annual monitoring and improvement report.</p> <p>The information presented is to ensure that the regulatory body involved (the Equalities and Human Rights Commission) is provided with full evidence of the Council's compliance and commitment to the statutory duty.</p>	Policy and Central Services

24TH MAY 2017	Key Issues	Service Area

7TH JUNE 2017	Key Issues	Service Area

21ST JUNE 2017	Key Issues	Service Area
Rhymney 3-18 All Through School Rhymni 3 - 18 Ysgol Gydol Oed	To make a final decision on the proposal to establish a Rhymney 3-18 All Through School.	Education
EAS Business Plan Cynllun Busnes GCA	This report presents the South East Wales Education Achievement Service (EAS) Business Plan.	Education

Cabinet Forward Work Programme

APPENDIX 2

Provisional Outturn for 2016/17.	The report will provide Cabinet with details of the provisional revenue budget outturn for the 2016/17 financial year prior to the annual audit by the Authority's External Auditors Grant Thornton.	Corporate Finance
----------------------------------	--	-------------------

CABINET AS TRUSTEES OF BLACKWOOD MINERS INSTITUTE		
2ND AUGUST 2017	Key Issues	Service Area
Blackwood Miners' Institute progress report and update on 2017/2018 Budget Adroddiad Datblygiad Sefydliad y Glowyr Coed Duon a Diweddariad Cyllid 2017/2018	To update Cabinet as Trustees on progress against the activity programme and work plan for Blackwood Miners Institute for the current year.	Economic Development

13TH DECEMBER 2017	Key Issues	Service Area
Council Tax Base	The report provides details of the Council Tax base for 2018/19 for tax setting purposes and the collection percentage to be applied.	Corporate Finance