

## CAERPHILLY COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

### NOTICE OF THE DECISIONS FROM THE POLICY AND RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 29TH SEPTEMBER 2020 AT 5.30 P.M.

#### PRESENT:

Councillors: M. A. Adams, Mrs E. M. Aldworth, Miss E. Forehead, L. Harding, G. Johnston, G. Kirby (Vice Chair), C. P. Mann, B. Miles, J. Pritchard (Chair), R. Saralis, Mrs M. E. Sargent, G. Simmonds, L. G. Whittle

Cabinet Members: Cllr. C. Gordon (Cabinet Member for Corporate Services), Cllr. Mrs E. Stenner (Cabinet Member for Finance, Performance and Customer Service), Cllr. Mrs L. Phipps (Cabinet Member for Housing and Property)

Officers: R. Edmunds (Corporate Director for Education and Corporate Services), S. Harris (Head of Financial Services & S151 Officer), Lynne Donovan (Head of People Services), Liz Lucas (Head of Customer and Digital Services), Mark S. Williams (Interim Corporate Director - Communities), Sue Richards (Head of Education, Planning and Strategy), Marcia Lewis (Principal Officer Catering), Marcus Lloyd (Head of Infrastructure), Jonathan Lloyd (Headteacher, Ystrad Mynach Primary School), Lianne Dallimore (Unison Branch Secretary), C. Forbes-Thompson (Scrutiny Manager), E. Sullivan (Senior Committee Services Officer), S. Hughes (Committee Services Officer)

#### APOLOGIES:

Councillors: Mrs C. Forehead, J. Taylor

The decisions and declarations of interest are set out below. For further details please refer to the relevant report.

ITEM	SUBJECT	DECISION	VOTE
2.	Declarations of Interest.	No declarations of interest.	
3.	Minutes of the Policy and Resources Scrutiny Committee held on 25 <sup>th</sup> February 2020.	Approved as a correct record.	9 For 0 Against 2 Abstention
4.	Consideration of any matter referred to this Committee in accordance with the call-in procedure.	None	
5.	Policy and Resources Scrutiny Committee Forward Work Programme.	RESOLVED that the Forward Work Programme as appended to the meeting papers be published on the Council's website.	11 For 0 Against 0 Abstention
6.	To receive and consider the Cabinet reports listed on the Agenda.	It was noted that none of the Cabinet reports listed on the agenda had been called forward for discussion at the meeting.	
7.	Flexible Working.	It was moved and seconded that for the reasons given in the Officer's	

		<p>report the recommendations contained therein be approved.</p> <p>RECOMMENDED to Cabinet that:-</p> <p>3.1.1 Cabinet acknowledge the benefits of the flexible working arrangements that have supported service delivery across the Council since March 2020.</p> <p>3.1.2 Cabinet agree to formally adopt the flexible working principles set out at Appendix 1 of the report to Policy and Resources Scrutiny Committee as a core principle for supporting service delivery.</p> <p>3.1.3 Cabinet delegates authority to the Head of Paid Service, in consultation with the relevant Cabinet Member, to determine on a service by service basis the optimum approach to flexible working and accommodation requirements.</p> <p>3.1.4 Cabinet note the need to consider how the current flexi system can be aligned with and support the principles of flexible working through ongoing discussions with trade unions.</p> <p>3.1.5 Cabinet note the potential investment associated with the deployment of flexible working in relation to IT equipment and furniture as well as the potential savings that can be generated through the rationalisation of buildings and reductions in other operating expenditure.</p> <p>3.1.6 Cabinet agrees to receive additional reports, as required, to agree funding and any associated HR and IT Policy changes that might be required.</p> <p>3.1.7 Cabinet endorse the proposal to set aside an initial one-off sum of £500k to be funded from capital earmarked</p>	<p>3.1.1 – 3.1.8 12 For 0 Against 1 Abstention</p>
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		<p>reserves to ensure that the Council can respond proactively in the short-term to commence the roll-out of new flexible ways of working.</p> <p>3.1.8 Cabinet endorses the development of an appropriate training and development programme for managers and staff to ensure the benefits of flexible working are maximised.</p> <p>It was also moved and seconded that the Policy and Recourses Scrutiny Committee RECOMMEND to Cabinet that:-</p> <p>3.1.9 The Policy and Resources Scrutiny Committee hold a Special Meeting in order to consider in detail the principles of flexible working and its impact on staff and service users and communities.</p>	<p>3.1.9 12 For 0 Against 0 Abstention</p>
8.	Cash Handling.	<p>It was moved and seconded that for the reasons given in the Officer's report the recommendations contained therein be approved.</p> <p>RECOMMENDED to Cabinet that:-</p> <p>3.1.1 Current service users be consulted on the termination of the doorstep collection service for housing rents and council tax.</p> <p>3.1.2 Subject to the outcome of the consultation being supportive the decision to terminate the doorstep collection service be delegated to the Chief Housing Officer and Cabinet Member.</p> <p>3.1.3 The option of reopening the cash desks in Ty Penallta is not pursued at this time as the potential benefits are outweighed by the disadvantages. Alternatively, it is proposed that we continue to build on the good work undertaken in recent months to promote further channel shift as our current default position.</p>	<p>3.1.1 – 3.1.4 12 For 0 Against 0 Abstention</p>

		<p>3.1.4 The medium to longer-term service offer should be determined by the pending review of customer services and the wider reviews that will be undertaken as part of the Strengthening Team Caerphilly report that was approved by Cabinet on the 22nd July 2020.</p>	
9.	Cashless Catering Solution – Schools.	<p>It was moved and seconded that for the reasons given in the Officer's report the recommendations contained therein be approved.</p> <p>3.1 a) Members considered the information contained in the report.</p> <p>RECOMMENDED to Cabinet:-</p> <p>3.1 b) To proceed to purchase the cashless catering solution for 84 school settings.</p> <p>3.1 c) That the residual funding requirement of £246.5k be met from Education and Corporate Services Reserves.</p>	<p>3.1 b) – 3.1c) 13 For 0 Against 0 Abstention</p>

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