



## **SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL**

### **MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT PENALLTA HOUSE, YSTRAD MYNACH ON WEDNESDAY, 25TH FEBRUARY 2015 AT 5.00 P.M.**

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**PRESENT:**

Councillor D.G. Carter - Mayor  
Councillor L. Gardiner - Deputy Mayor

**Councillors:**

Miss L. Ackerman, M. Adams, H.A. Andrews, Mrs K.R. Baker, L. Binding, Mrs A. Blackman, C.J. Cuss, H.W. David, W. David, H.R. Davies, D.T. Davies, R.T. Davies, K. Dawson, N. Dix, C. Durham, C. Elsbury, Mrs C. Forehead, Miss E. E. Forehead, J.E. Fussell, Mrs J. Gale, R.W. Gough, D.T. Hardacre, D. Havard, C. Hawker, A.G. Higgs, G.J. Hughes, K. James, M.P. James, G. Johnston, Mrs B.A. Jones, G. Jones, Ms J.G. Jones, S. Kent, Ms P. Leonard, A. Lewis, K. Lloyd, C.P. Mann, S. Morgan, Mrs G. Oliver, Mrs R. Passmore, D.V. Poole, D.W.R. Preece, M.J. Prew, J. Pritchard, J.A. Pritchard, D. Rees, K.V. Reynolds, J.E. Roberts, R. Saralis, S. Skivens, Mrs E. Stenner, J. Taylor, L.G. Whittle, T.J. Williams, R. Woodyatt

**Together with:-**

C. Burns (Interim Chief Executive), D. Street (Director of Social Services), N. Scammell (Acting Director of Corporate Services), G. Williams (Interim Head of Legal Services and Monitoring Officer), S. Harris (Interim Head of Corporate Finance), A. Price (Interim Deputy Monitoring Officer), G. Hardacre (Head of Human Resources and Organisational Development), D. Regan (Lead Officer Finance), T. Maher (Interim Assistant Director Planning and Strategy, Education), G. Evans (Senior Manager, Planning and Strategy, Libraries), Mark S. Williams (Head of Community and Leisure Services) and E. Sullivan (Democratic Services Officer)

#### **1. BEREAVEMENT**

The Mayor referred to the recent passing of Councillor C. P. Mann's grandson and Councillor C. Gordon's mother and all present stood in silence as a mark of respect and extended their condolences to the bereaved families. Councillor Mann thanked Members for their expressions of sympathy which were of great comfort to the family.

#### **2. WEB-CASTING FILMING AND ELECTRONIC VOTING ARRANGEMENTS**

The Mayor reminded those present that the meeting was being filmed for training purposes in advance of the planned implementation of live web-casting of Council meetings. Members were also advised that the new electronic voting system would not be used as further testing and training on the system was required, decisions would be made by a show of hands.

### **3. APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mrs E.M. Aldworth, A.P. Angel, Mrs. G. Bevan, J. Bevan, P.J. Bevan, D. Bolter, Mrs P. Cook, N. George, C.J. Gordon, D.M. Gray, Mrs P. Griffiths, G. Kirby, Mrs D. Price, A. Rees, Mrs M.E. Sargent and Mrs. J. Summers and S. Aspinall (Acting Deputy Chief Executive).

### **4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

The Interim Chief Executive and the Interim Monitoring Officer gave members general advice in relation to the declaration of personal /prejudicial interests in relation to Item 4 the Budget Report. They were reminded that members declaring personal interests only were not required to leave the Chamber during the debate.

It was noted that it is a matter for the individual Member as to whether they wished to declare an interest.

Councillors Miss L. Ackerman, H.A. Andrews, Mrs A. Blackman, D.T. Davies, D.T. Hardacre, A.G. Higgs, K. James, Mrs J.G. Jones, D.V. Poole, K.V. Reynolds, Ms R. Passmore, M.J. Prew, and R. Woodyatt, declared an interest in agenda item 4 as it relates to the budget proposals. They were declared as personal (which enabled the Members to stay and take part in the discussion and voting thereon).

Councillors Miss L. Ackerman, D.T. Hardacre and S. Kent also declared an interest in specific items within the budget report (agenda item 4). They were declared as personal (which enabled the Members to stay and take part in the discussion and voting thereon).

Details are minuted with the respective item.

Further declarations of interest were received during the course of the meeting and are detailed with the respective item.

### **5. TREASURY MANAGEMENT ANNUAL STRATEGY, CAPITAL FINANCE PRUDENTIAL INDICATORS AND MINIMUM REVENUE PROVISION POLICY FOR 2015/2016**

Consideration was given to the report which was presented to Cabinet on the 25th February 2015. Details were provided of the Council's proposed 2015/16 Annual Treasury Management Strategy, the dataset of Prudential Indicators relevant to Treasury Management and Capital Finance and the proposed Minimum Revenue Provision Policy. The report also proposed a move away from the current risk averse investment strategy of lending to the Debt Management Office and Local Authorities only, which a view to and re-establishing lending to other financial institutions.

Members were referred to section 5.11 of the report which detailed the Annual Investment Strategy setting out the investments the Authority may use for the prudent management of its balances. Reference was also made to section 11 of the report covering the proposed Housing Revenue Account subsidy buy-out. It was noted that negotiations between Welsh Government and HM Treasury were ongoing and that the final settlement would be determined by the 31st March 2015.

It was moved and seconded that the recommendations from the Policy and Resources Scrutiny Committee and Cabinet be endorsed.

RESOLVED that for the reasons contained in the report:-

- (i) the Annual Strategy for Treasury Management 2015/16 be approved;

- (ii) the strategy be reviewed quarterly within the Treasury Management monitoring reports presented to the Policy and Resources Scrutiny Committee and any changes recommended be referred to Cabinet, in the first instance, and to Council for a decision. The Council will also receive a half-yearly report on Treasury Management activities;
- (iii) the Prudential Indicators for Treasury Management be approved as per Appendix 5 of the report;
- (iv) the Prudential Indicators for Capital Financing be approved as per Appendices 6 and 7 of the report;
- (v) Option 2 (for supported borrowing) and Option 3 Equal Instalment Method (for unsupported borrowing) for MRP purposes for 2015/16 be approved;
- (vi) the Authority adopt the recommendations as set out in the 8th December 2014 Policy and Resources Scrutiny Committee report and lend to financial institutions in accordance with the minimum credit rating criteria disclosed within this report;
- (vii) the Authority borrows £12.3m for the General Fund to support the 2015/16 capital programme, and an indicative amount of £75.4m for the HRA to exit the Subsidy system;
- (viii) the Authority adopts the investment grade scale as a minimum credit rating criteria as a means to assess the credit worthiness of suitable counterparties when placing investments;
- (ix) the Authority adopts the revised monetary and investment duration limits as set in Appendix 3 of the report.

## **6. BUDGET PROPOSALS 2015/16 AND MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY 2015/2018**

Councillors Miss L. Ackerman, H.A. Andrews, Mrs A. Blackman, D.T. Davies, D. T. Hardacre, A.G. Higgs, K. James, Ms. J. Jones, Ms R. Passmore, M.J. Prew, D.V. Poole, K.V. Reynolds, T.J. Williams and R. Woodyatt declared an interest as it relates to the budget (as having family members and relatives employed by the Council who may potentially be affected by the savings proposals and in relation to the car user allowance).

Councillor Miss L. Ackerman declared a personal interest (in that her mother receives a social services provision).

Councillor D.T. Hardacre declared a personal interest (in that his wife receives a social services provision).

Councillor S. Kent declared a personal interest (in that his mother receives a social services provision).

The above were declared as personal interests which enabled the Members to stay and take part in the discussion and voting thereon.

During the course of the debate Councillor M.P. James and D.T. Hardacre declared a personal interest (in that they are both a Chair of a Community Partnership).

Consideration was given to the report which was presented to Cabinet on the 4th February 2015 and provided information on the budget proposals for 2015/16 and the medium term financial plan for 2015/2018. The Acting Director of Corporate Services outlined the key

points of the final Local Government Financial Settlement and asked Members to note the changes from provisional to final settlement including the increase in Aggregate External Finance and reduction in the Fire Service Levy for 2015/16. It was noted that in light of these changes some amendments were made to the savings proposals as detailed in table 7 of the report.

With regard to the Medium Term Financial Plan Mrs Scammell highlighted the key elements and detailed the extensive consultation process undertaken. Reference was made to the 5 key saving proposal principles put forward by Members at a seminar on the 3rd November 2014 to be considered by Council this evening.

Mrs Scammell then gave an overview of the General Fund Balances as detailed in Appendix 9 of the report. It was noted there were no further allocations to the General Fund over and above those identified. Balances were noted at just over £10m which represented 3% of the budget. Going forward there would be limited scope for any additional surpluses due to growing service pressures in key areas, ongoing reductions in WG funding and an ever-reducing Capital Programme.

In terms of the detail of the Capital Programme, Members were referred to Appendix 8 of the report and a summary of proposals for 2015/16, 2016/17 and 2017/18 was provided.

It was proposed and seconded that the recommendations within the report be approved.

An amendment was moved and seconded that in order to retain the Area Forum budget for community schemes the increase in Meals on Wheels be set at £1 per meal.

During the course of the debate on this amendment clarification was sought with regard to Members involvement in Community Partnerships and whether declarations of interest needed to be made in this regard. The Interim Monitoring Officer advised that given the general nature of the discussions and that most, if not all Councillors would have some level of involvement with Community Partnerships there was no need to declare an interest. However Members would need to be mindful of the code of conduct, should an individual reference be made to a particular partnership and a Members' position or involvement within it.

Councillor M.P. James and D.T. Hardacre declared a personal interest (in that they are Chair's of Community Partnerships).

In accordance with Rule of Procedure 15.4 (1) a request was made for a recorded vote.

#### **FOR THE AMENDMENT**

Councillors Miss L. Ackerman, Mrs K.R. Baker, L. Binding, C. Elsbury, J.E. Fussell, R.W. Gough, M.P. James, S. Kent, K. Lloyd, C.P. Mann, M.J. Prew, J.A. Pritchard, J.E. Roberts, S. Skivens, J. Taylor (15)

#### **AGAINST THE AMENDMENT**

Councillors, M. Adams, H.A. Andrews, D.G. Carter, C.J. Cuss, H.W. David, W. David, H.R. Davies, D.T. Davies, R.T. Davies, K. Dawson, N. Dix, C. Durham, Mrs C. Forehead, Ms E.E. Forehead, Mrs J. Gale, L. Gardiner, D.T. Hardacre, D. Havard, C. Hawker, A.G. Higgs, G. Johnston, Mrs B.A. Jones, G. Jones, Ms J.G. Jones, Ms P. Leonard, A. Lewis, S. Morgan, Mrs. G. Oliver, Mrs R. Passmore, D.V. Poole, D.W.R. Preece, J. Pritchard, D. Rees, K.V. Reynolds, R. Saralis, Mrs E. Stenner, L.G. Whittle, T.J. Williams, R. Woodyatt (39)

#### **ABSTENTIONS**

Councillor Mrs A. Blackman

The amendment was lost and following a show of hands, the following motion was declared carried by the majority present.

RESOLVED that:-

- (i) the Revenue Budget proposals for 2015/16 of £325.613m as set out in the report and summarised in Appendix 1 be approved;
- (ii) the proposed Capital Programme for the period 2015/16 to 2017/18 as set out in Appendix 8 of the report be approved:
- (iii) the proposed use of the General Fund balances as detailed in Appendix 9 of the report be approved;
- (iv) the general principles for considering savings options for future years as detailed in paragraph 4.2.5 of the report be approved.

## 7. COUNCIL TAX RESOLUTION 2015/16 AND COUNCIL TAX REDUCTION SCHEME

It was moved and seconded that the recommendations in the report be approved. By a show of hands this was agreed by the majority present.

RESOLVED that for the reasons contained in the report: -

1. it be noted that at its meeting on the 10th December 2014 the Cabinet calculated the following amounts for the year 2015/2016 in accordance with regulations made under Section 33(5) of The Local Government Finance Act 1992 and powers granted under The Local Authorities Executive Arrangements (Functions and Responsibilities) (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2001 as amended.

- (a) **59,318.14** Being the amount calculated by the Cabinet, in accordance with Regulation (3) of The Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) (Wales) Regulations 1995, as its council tax base for the year.

- (b) **Part of Council's Area**

	<u>Tax Base</u>
	<u>No. of D Band</u>
	<u>Equivalent Properties</u>
Aber Valley	1,996.04
Argoed	843.52
Bargoed	3,564.97
Bedwas, Trethomas & Machen	3,761.31
Blackwood	2,871.52
Caerphilly	6,050.10
Darren Valley	700.31
Draethen, Waterloo & Rudry	588.93
Gelligaer	6,189.13

	<u>Tax Base</u>
	<u>No. of D Band</u>
	<u>Equivalent Properties</u>
Llanbradach & Pwllypant	1,454.24
Maesycwmmmer	765.28
Nelson	1,567.59
New Tredegar	1,335.83
Penyrheol, Trecenydd & Energlyn	4,410.13
Rhymney	2,523.24
Risca East	2,037.75
Risca West	1,765.31
Van	1,626.69
Remainder	15,266.25
<b>Total</b>	<b>59,318.14</b>

being the amounts calculated by the cabinet, in accordance with regulation 6 of the Regulations, as the amounts of its council tax base for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which one or more special items relate.

2. the following amounts be now calculated by the Council for the year 2015/2016 in accordance with Sections 32 to 36 of the Local Government and Finance Act 1992:-
- (a) **£324,391,703** being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 32(2)(a) to (e) and 32(3) (a and b) of the Act;
- (b) **£1,200,000** being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 32(3) (c) of the Act;
- (c) **£323,191,703** being the amount by which the aggregate at (2)(a) above exceeds the aggregate at (2)(b) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 32(4) of the Act, as its budget requirement for the year;
- (d) **£263,691,541** being the aggregate of the sums which the Council estimates will be payable for the year into its council fund in respect of redistributed non domestic rates, revenue support grant, an authority's council tax reduction scheme or additional grant.
- (e) **£1,003.07** being the amount at (2)(c) above less the amount at (2)(d) above, all be divided by the amount at (1)(a) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 33(1) of the Act, as the basic amount of its council tax for the year;
- (f) **£655,381** being the aggregate amount of all special items referred to in section 34(1) of the Act.
- (g) **£992.02** being the amount at (2)(e) above less the result given by dividing the amount at (2)(f) above by the amount at (1)(a) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 34(2) of the Act, as the basic amount of its council tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which no special item relates.

(h) Part of the Council's Area	Local	County	Total County
	Precept	Borough	Borough & Community
	£	Levy	Council Band D
	£	£	Charge
			£
Aber Valley	14.78	992.02	1,006.80
Argoed	12.00	992.02	1,004.02
Bargoed	16.27	992.02	1,008.29
Bedwas, Trethomas & Machen	17.32	992.02	1,009.34
Blackwood	17.00	992.02	1,009.02
Caerphilly	13.00	992.02	1,005.02
Darren Valley	17.82	992.02	1,009.84
Draethen, Waterloo & Rudry	20.38	992.02	1,012.40
Gelligaer	14.14	992.02	1,006.16
Llanbradach & Pwlypant	19.68	992.02	1,011.70
Maesycwmmmer	23.91	992.02	1,015.93
Nelson	17.27	992.02	1,009.29
New Tredegar	12.67	992.02	1,004.69
Penyrheol, Trecenydd & Energlyn	12.64	992.02	1,004.66
Rhymney	13.87	992.02	1,005.89
Risca East	12.00	992.02	1,004.02
Risca West	15.05	992.02	1,007.07
Van	12.57	992.02	1,004.59
Remainder	0.00	992.02	992.02

being the amounts given by adding to the amount at (2)(g) above the amounts of the special item or items relating to dwellings in those parts of the Council's area mentioned above divided in each case by the amount at (1)(b) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 34(3) of the Act, as the basic amounts, of its council tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which one or more special items relate.

<b>(i)</b>									
<b><u>Valuation Bands</u></b>	<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>I</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>County Borough Council</b>	661.35	771.57	881.80	992.02	1,212.47	1,432.92	1,653.37	1,984.04	2,314.71
<b><u>Community Councils</u></b>									
Aber Valley	9.85	11.50	13.14	14.78	18.06	21.35	24.63	29.56	34.49
Argoed	8.00	9.33	10.67	12.00	14.67	17.33	20.00	24.00	28.00
Bargoed	10.85	12.65	14.46	16.27	19.89	23.50	27.12	32.54	37.96
Bedwas, Trethomas & Machen	11.55	13.47	15.40	17.32	21.17	25.02	28.87	34.64	40.41
Blackwood	11.33	13.22	15.11	17.00	20.78	24.56	28.33	34.00	39.67
Caerphilly	8.67	10.11	11.56	13.00	15.89	18.78	21.67	26.00	30.33
Darren Valley	11.88	13.86	15.84	17.82	21.78	25.74	29.70	35.64	41.58
Draethen, Waterloo & Rudry	13.59	15.85	18.12	20.38	24.91	29.44	33.97	40.76	47.55
Gelligaer	9.43	11.00	12.57	14.14	17.28	20.42	23.57	28.28	32.99
Llanbradach & Pwllypant	13.12	15.31	17.49	19.68	24.05	28.43	32.80	39.36	45.92
Maesycwmmmer	15.94	18.60	21.25	23.91	29.22	34.54	39.85	47.82	55.79
Nelson	11.51	13.43	15.35	17.27	21.11	24.95	28.78	34.54	40.30
New Tredegar	8.45	9.85	11.26	12.67	15.49	18.30	21.12	25.34	29.56
Penyrheol, Trecenydd & Energlyn	8.43	9.83	11.24	12.64	15.45	18.26	21.07	25.28	29.49
Rhymney	9.25	10.79	12.33	13.87	16.95	20.03	23.12	27.74	32.36
Risca East	8.00	9.33	10.67	12.00	14.67	17.33	20.00	24.00	28.00
Risca West	10.03	11.71	13.38	15.05	18.39	21.74	25.08	30.10	35.12
Van	8.38	9.78	11.17	12.57	15.36	18.16	20.95	25.14	29.33
Remainder	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b><u>Valuation Bands</u></b>									
	<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>I</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b><u>Totals For Community Council Areas</u></b>									
Aber Valley	671.20	783.07	894.94	1,006.80	1,230.53	1,454.27	1,678.00	2,013.60	2,349.20
Argoed	669.35	780.90	892.47	1,004.02	1,227.14	1,450.25	1,673.37	2,008.04	2,342.71
Bargoed	672.20	784.22	896.26	1,008.29	1,232.36	1,456.42	1,680.49	2,016.58	2,352.67
Bedwas, Trethomas & Machen	672.90	785.04	897.20	1,009.34	1,233.64	1,457.94	1,682.24	2,018.68	2,355.12
Blackwood	672.68	784.79	896.91	1,009.02	1,233.25	1,457.48	1,681.70	2,018.04	2,354.38
Caerphilly	670.02	781.68	893.36	1,005.02	1,228.36	1,451.70	1,675.04	2,010.04	2,345.04
Darren Valley	673.23	785.43	897.64	1,009.84	1,234.25	1,458.66	1,683.07	2,019.68	2,356.29
Draethen, Waterloo & Rudry	674.94	787.42	899.92	1,012.40	1,237.38	1,462.36	1,687.34	2,024.80	2,362.26
Gelligaer	670.78	782.57	894.37	1,006.16	1,229.75	1,453.34	1,676.94	2,012.32	2,347.70
Llanbradach & Pwllypant	674.47	786.88	899.29	1,011.70	1,236.52	1,461.35	1,686.17	2,023.40	2,360.63
Maesycwmmmer	677.29	790.17	903.05	1,015.93	1,241.69	1,467.46	1,693.22	2,031.86	2,370.50
Nelson	672.86	785.00	897.15	1,009.29	1,233.58	1,457.87	1,682.15	2,018.58	2,355.01
New Tredegar	669.80	781.42	893.06	1,004.69	1,227.96	1,451.22	1,674.49	2,009.38	2,344.27
Penyrheol, Trecenydd & Energlyn	669.78	781.40	893.04	1,004.66	1,227.92	1,451.18	1,674.44	2,009.32	2,344.20
Rhymney	670.60	782.36	894.13	1,005.89	1,229.42	1,452.95	1,676.49	2,011.78	2,347.07
Risca East	669.35	780.90	892.47	1,004.02	1,227.14	1,450.25	1,673.37	2,008.04	2,342.71
Risca West	671.38	783.28	895.18	1,007.07	1,230.86	1,454.66	1,678.45	2,014.14	2,349.83
Van	669.73	781.35	892.97	1,004.59	1,227.83	1,451.08	1,674.32	2,009.18	2,344.04
Remainder	661.35	771.57	881.80	992.02	1,212.47	1,432.92	1,653.37	1,984.04	2,314.71

being the amounts given by multiplying the amounts at (2)(g) and (2)(h) above by the number which, in the proportion set out in Section 5(1) of the Act, is applicable to dwellings listed in a particular valuation band divided by the number which in that proportion is applicable to



dwellings listed in a particular valuation band D, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 36(1) of the Act, as the amounts to be taken into account for the year in respect of categories of dwellings listed in different valuation bands.

3. it be noted that for the year 2015/2016 the major precepting authority has stated the following amounts in precepts issued to the Council, in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:-

<u>Valuation Bands</u>	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
<u>Precepting Authority</u>									
Police and Crime									
Commissioner for Gwent	141.08	164.59	188.11	211.62	258.65	305.67	352.70	423.24	493.78

4. having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts at (2)(i) and (3) above, the Council, in accordance with Section 30(2) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, hereby sets the following amounts of Council Tax for the year 2015/2016 for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:-

<u>Valuation Bands</u>	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Aber Valley	812.28	947.66	1,083.05	1,218.42	1,489.18	1,759.94	2,030.70	2,436.84	2,842.98
Argoed	810.43	945.49	1,080.58	1,215.64	1,485.79	1,755.92	2,026.07	2,431.28	2,836.49
Bargoed	813.28	948.81	1,084.37	1,219.91	1,491.01	1,762.09	2,033.19	2,439.82	2,846.45
Bedwas, Trethomas & Machen	813.98	949.63	1,085.31	1,220.96	1,492.29	1,763.61	2,034.94	2,441.92	2,848.90
Blackwood	813.76	949.38	1,085.02	1,220.64	1,491.90	1,763.15	2,034.40	2,441.28	2,848.16
Caerphilly	811.10	946.27	1,081.47	1,216.64	1,487.01	1,757.37	2,027.74	2,433.28	2,838.82
Darren Valley	814.31	950.02	1,085.75	1,221.46	1,492.90	1,764.33	2,035.77	2,442.92	2,850.07
Draethen, Waterloo & Rudry	816.02	952.01	1,088.03	1,224.02	1,496.03	1,768.03	2,040.04	2,448.04	2,856.04
Gelligaer	811.86	947.16	1,082.48	1,217.78	1,488.40	1,759.01	2,029.64	2,435.56	2,841.48
Llanbradach & Pwllpant	815.55	951.47	1,087.40	1,223.32	1,495.17	1,767.02	2,038.87	2,446.64	2,854.41
Maesycwmmwr	818.37	954.76	1,091.16	1,227.55	1,500.34	1,773.13	2,045.92	2,455.10	2,864.28
Nelson	813.94	949.59	1,085.26	1,220.91	1,492.23	1,763.54	2,034.85	2,441.82	2,848.79
New Tredegar	810.88	946.01	1,081.17	1,216.31	1,486.61	1,756.89	2,027.19	2,432.62	2,838.05
Penyrheol, Treceenydd & Energlyn	810.86	945.99	1,081.15	1,216.28	1,486.57	1,756.85	2,027.14	2,432.56	2,837.98
Rhymney	811.68	946.95	1,082.24	1,217.51	1,488.07	1,758.62	2,029.19	2,435.02	2,840.85
Risca East	810.43	945.49	1,080.58	1,215.64	1,485.79	1,755.92	2,026.07	2,431.28	2,836.49
Risca West	812.46	947.87	1,083.29	1,218.69	1,489.51	1,760.33	2,031.15	2,437.38	2,843.61
Van	810.81	945.94	1,081.08	1,216.21	1,486.48	1,756.75	2,027.02	2,432.42	2,837.82
Remainder	802.43	936.16	1,069.91	1,203.64	1,471.12	1,738.59	2,006.07	2,407.28	2,808.49

## 7. REPLACEMENT OF A MEMBER OF CORPORATE MANAGEMENT TEAM

Consideration was given to the report which proposed the recruitment arrangements to replace a member of the Corporate Management Team. The Interim Chief Executive confirmed the resignation of Ms Sandra Aspinall, Acting Deputy Chief Executive, and explained the need to recruit to this post in order to ensure that there was sufficient capacity within CMT to be able to effectively manage the Councils operations.

Members were also asked to note the authority's statutory requirement to designate a Chief Education Officer however this role did not need to be at a Director level and in many authorities this now sat at a Head of Service level. Members were reminded that in recent years the number of Corporate Directors had reduced to four and any further reduction would jeopardise the management of the authority. For this reason and in order to encourage a greater breadth of applicants, a more flexible approach was proposed for the recruitment to the post of Corporate Director, rather than recruiting specifically to a Director of Education post. This would allow greater flexibility in appointing the most suitable and experienced person with the intrinsic skills necessary to embrace a changing and developing portfolio.

The recruitment process was outlined and Members advised that this would include the national advertisement of the post in order to comply with Welsh Government requirements.

During the course of the ensuing discussion clarification was sought as to whether any additional cost would be attached to the re-designation of the Chief Education Officer and if this vacancy would be filled on a permanent or interim basis, particularly when there was such uncertainty as to the position of the currently suspended Officers. The Interim Chief Executive confirmed that as this would be a recruitment to a vacant post it would be done so on permanent basis and there would be no addition cost involved with the designation of the Chief Education Officer.

Clarification was also sought as to recruitment process for the re-designation and Members advised that there was a specific procedure that would need to be followed in this regard.

It was moved and seconded that the recommendations contained in the report be approved and by a show of hands (and in noting there were 4 abstentions) this agreed by the majority present.

RESOLVED that for the reasons contained in the report:-

- (i) the post of Corporate Director to replace the departing substantive postholder be advertised;
- (ii) a Head of Service be designated as 'Chief Education Officer' who will report to one of the Corporate Directors;
- (iii) the post of 'Acting Deputy Chief Executive' not be replaced during the ongoing period of uncertainty with the suspension of the substantive post holder;
- (iv) the recruitment be advertised nationally on the Councils' approved salary arrangements listed in its Pay Policy Statement (The approved salary of CCBC's Corporate Director posts fall within a range of four incremental points between £107,396 rising to a maximum of £118,329 per annum).

The meeting closed at 7.01 p.m.

Approved as a correct record and subject to any amendments or corrections agreed and recorded in the minutes of the meeting held on 10th March 2015 they were signed by the Mayor.

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MAYOR