

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Monday, 29 June 2020

PRESENT: Councillor E. Dole (Chair);

Councillors:

C.A. Campbell, G. Davies, H.A.L. Evans, L.D. Evans, P. Hughes-Griffiths, D.M. Jenkins, L.M. Stephens and J. Tremlett;

The following Officers were in attendance:

W. Walters, Chief Executive;
C. Moore, Director of Corporate Services;
J. Morgan, Director of Community Services;
G. Morgans, Director of Education & Children's Services;
R. Mullen, Director of Environment;
J. Jones, Head of Regeneration;
L.R. Jones, Head of Administration and Law;
P.R. Thomas, Assistant Chief Executive (People Management & Performance);
D. Hockenhull, Marketing and Media Manager;
G. Morgan, Democratic Services Manager;
M.S. Davies, Democratic Services Officer.

Virtual Meeting: 10.00 am - 10.40 am

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence was received from Councillor P.M. Hughes.

2. DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST

There were no declarations of personal interest.

3. MINUTES - 1ST JUNE 2020

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Executive Board held on the 1st June, 2020 be signed as a correct record

4. PUBLIC QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

The Chair advised that no public questions had been received.

5. QUESTIONS ON NOTICE BY MEMBERS

The Chair advised that no questions on notice had been submitted by members.

6. COVID-19 ECONOMIC IMPACT AND RECOVERY

The Executive Board considered a report which provided an assessment of the impact that Covid-19 was having on Carmarthenshire businesses and identified what was important to them in the short, medium and long-term, so that going forward the Authority could provide them with the assistance they most needed.

As a platform to the development and delivery of the County's Economic Recovery Plan, an internal Business, Economy and Community recovery group had been established to coordinate development and delivery. That group had identified

several draft potential action strands and proposals for further consideration. In order to move forward Carmarthenshire County Council was seeking to employ external economic advice to assist with bringing this information together and map out a plan for future projects and tasks in order to provide the right support for local businesses and communities. An overarching advisory group, comprising key private sector industry leaders, would be established to assist with the development and refinement of the draft plan and provide leadership through the current crisis. The group would set the vision and direction for recovery.

Members welcomed the strategy set out in the report and commented on the important contribution local procurement and buying local would make towards the recovery of the Carmarthenshire economy both in rural areas and the major towns.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to receive the report and approve the proposed draft recovery strategy.

7. CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2020/21 UPDATE

The Executive Board considered a report which provided details of additions to the capital programme which had secured external funding since approval of the 2020/21 – 2024/25 programme on 3rd March 2020.

The Board was advised that since the publication of the agenda the Authority had received an additional grant of £1.732m from Welsh Government for local sustainable transport measures in response to Covid-19. The purpose of the grant was to assist local authorities in undertaking works to ensure the continuation of social distancing measures. The package of schemes included the following:

Access to schools;
Reallocation of road space;
Public transport;
Public realm social distancing;
Parking;
Minor works;
Cycle friendly infrastructure;
Active travel measures in rural towns.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the capital programme update report be received and the amendments, including the receipt of the abovementioned additional grant, approved.

8. ANY OTHER ITEMS OF BUSINESS THAT BY REASONS OF SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES THE CHAIR DECIDES SHOULD BE CONSIDERED AS A MATTER OF URGENCY PURSUANT TO SECTION 100B(4)(B) OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT, 1972

The Chair advised that there were no items of urgent business but took the opportunity to thank all staff for their continued efforts in helping to deal with issues arising from the current crisis and maintain front line services.

The Executive Board Member for Education and Children referred to the fact that some schools had reopened earlier in the day, albeit in a limited capacity due to social distancing measures, and paid tribute to all officers, head teachers, school staff and governing bodies who had worked hard to make this possible. He expressed the hope that detailed guidance would soon be received from Welsh Government with regard to arrangements for the next school year in September.

CHAIR

DATE