

# Document Pack



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**6<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2016**

I HEREBY SUMMON YOU TO ATTEND A MEETING OF THE **EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER DECISIONS MEETING FOR COMMUNITIES** WHICH WILL BE HELD IN **DEMOCRATIC SERVICES COMMITTEE ROOM, COUNTY HALL, CARMARTHEN**, AT **10.00 AM, ON THURSDAY, 12TH MAY, 2016** FOR THE TRANSACTION OF THE BUSINESS OUTLINED ON THE ATTACHED AGENDA

*Mark James*

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE**



PLEASE RECYCLE

<b>Democratic Officer:</b>	<b>Gaynor Morgan</b>
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<b>Ref:</b>	<b>AD016-001</b>

# A G E N D A

1. DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTERESTS.
2. TO SIGN AS A CORRECT RECORD THE DECISIONS OF THE MEETING HELD ON THE 12TH APRIL 2016. 3 - 4
3. ESTABLISHMENT OF A TACKLING POVERTY ADVISORY PANEL 5 - 10

**EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER DECISIONS MEETING FOR  
COMMUNITIES**

**TUESDAY, 12<sup>TH</sup> APRIL, 2016**

**PRESENT:** Councillor P.A. Palmer [Executive Board Member]

**The following officers were in attendance:**

Ms K. Thomas                      Community Safety Manager  
Mrs M. Evans Thomas          Democratic Services Officer

**Room 61, County Hall, Carmarthen : 10.00 a.m. - 10.25 a.m.**

**1.        DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTERESTS**

There were no declarations of personal interest.

**2.        TO SIGN AS A CORRECT RECORD THE DECISION RECORD OF THE  
MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER FOR COMMUNITIES HELD  
ON THE 14TH MAY, 2015**

**RESOLVED** that the decision record of the meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> May, 2015 be signed as a correct record.

**3.        DOMESTIC ABUSE SERVICES GRANT 2016/17 FROM WELSH  
GOVERNMENT**

The Executive Board Member was advised that the Welsh Government had increased its allocation to the Council from £37,500 to £112,750 to support strategic co-ordination, Independent Domestic Violence Advisor (IDVA) and direct service commissioning. Previously, the £37,500 funded a Domestic Abuse Co-ordinator post (£27,500) and a contribution towards an IDVA service (£10,000 matched by a Home Office contribution).

In order to meet the deadline, a draft delivery plan had been submitted to the Welsh Government confirming how the Authority wished to allocate the funding. The proposal was to increase the allocation to the Co-ordinator's post to £34,000 and the IDVA service to £78,750. The decision relating to the allocation had to be evidence based and include proposed targets and outcomes for the period. Both the current projects could be evidenced as providing good outcomes (as reported to the Welsh Government) and needing additional funding.

Domestic Abuse Co-ordinator – there was a need to increase the hours of the Co-ordinator back to full time to ensure the delivery of the strategic work needing to be undertaken. The hours had previously been reduced to remain within the allocated funding. Additional strategic work to be completed in year included a multi-agency local response to the new Welsh Government strategy due to be published in November and assistance with the requirement to develop a local strategy which would involve a significant level of preparatory work including a needs assessment and mapping of existing service provision.

IDVA – the current IDVA service was provided by approximately 2 FTE posts (a 21

hour per week IDVA and a support service of 56 hours per week funded by the Police & Crime Commissioner). The recommended level for the casework in the county was 4 FTEs, as identified in a report by SafeLives, a national charity whose work includes leading on multi-agency approaches to help high risk victims and the provision of IDVA training.

This year was considered by the Welsh Government to be a transitional year prior to a regional funding approach being introduced from April 2017. Welsh Government would be working with Local Authorities to move to a regional funding and commissioning approach and had indicated that the Co-ordinator and IDVA services would be commissioned regionally from 2017. During 2016/17 the needs assessment undertaken in preparation for the development of a local strategy would ensure an evidence based approach could be taken regarding future allocation of funding across the region.

Both services were currently provided by Hafan Cymru and it was considered prudent to continue with the existing service delivery arrangements in the interim, prior to the introduction of a regional approach in 2017. This proposal was the subject of an exception report which had been considered by the Director of Corporate Services and the Head of Administration & Law, in accordance with the Authority's Contract Procedure Rules.

## **RESOLVED**

- 3.1 that the delivery plan submitted to Welsh Government detailing the Authority's proposals for the allocation of additional funding for the Domestic Abuse Co-ordinator and the IDVA service, as detailed in the report, be endorsed;**
- 3.2 to continue with the current service provider for this year, prior to a regional commissioning approach being undertaken from 2017.**

## EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER DECISIONS MEETING FOR COMMUNITIES

2<sup>th</sup> May 2016

<b>Executive Board Member:</b>	<b>Portfolio:</b>
Cllr. Pam Palmer	Communities

### Establishment of a Tackling Poverty Advisory Panel

#### Recommendations / key decisions required:

To approve establishing an elected members' Tackling Poverty Advisory Panel to support and monitor the Council's work on Tackling Poverty.

#### Reasons:

During discussions at the elected members' Tackling Poverty Focus Group it was felt that the establishment of a Tackling Poverty Advisory Panel would provide important support to the Executive Board Member with responsibility for tackling poverty. The Panel would oversee and monitor the Council's Tackling Poverty Action Plan, overarching policy and wider tackling poverty agenda.

<b>Directorate:</b> Chief Executive's Department	<b>Designations:</b> Assistant Chief Executive (Regeneration & Policy)	<b>Tel Nos. / E-Mail Addresses:</b> 01267 224112 / 01267 224659 / 01267 224164
<b>Name of Head of Service:</b> Wendy Walters	Policy & Partnership Manager	<a href="mailto:WSWalters@sirgar.gov.uk">WSWalters@sirgar.gov.uk</a> <a href="mailto:GAyers@sirgar.gov.uk">GAyers@sirgar.gov.uk</a> <a href="mailto:RSLlewhellin@sirgar.gov.uk">RSLlewhellin@sirgar.gov.u</a>
<b>Report Author:</b> Gwyneth Ayers & Rebecca Llewhellin	Performance, Governance and Policy Officer	<a href="mailto:RSLlewhellin@sirgar.gov.uk">k</a>

**Declaration of Personal Interest (if any):**

None

**Dispensation Granted to Make Decision (if any):**

N/A

(If the answer is yes exact details are to be provided below:)

**DECISION MADE:**

Signed:

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER

The following section will be completed by the Democratic Services Officer in attendance at the meeting

Recommendation of Officer adopted	YES / NO
Recommendation of the Officer was adopted <b>subject to the amendment(s) and reason(s) specified:</b>	
Reason(s) why the Officer's recommendation was <b>not adopted:</b>	

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:- EBM Communities 12<sup>th</sup> May 2016

### Establishment of a Tackling Poverty Advisory Panel.

In 2013 the Welsh Government requested that all Local Authorities in Wales appoint an Anti-Poverty Champion charged with improving the understanding of the poverty agenda and to support and challenge their organisation to deliver the necessary action. Cllr. Pam Palmer was appointed in this role. Work was initiated to identify existing tackling poverty work across the Authority which was presented to the Policy & Resources Scrutiny Committee in February 2015.

The Scrutiny Committee requested the establishment of a cross party members task and finish focus group to look at:

- Improving coordination of tackling poverty initiatives delivered by the Authority;
- Identifying gaps in existing provision; and
- Identify priorities for tackling poverty going forward.

In order to fulfil these objectives and as a result of the work of the Focus Group an action plan will be developed to capture existing tackling poverty work across the organisation and to ensure that future programmes are designed with this action plan. The main aim of the proposed Advisory Panel will be to advise and support the Executive Board Member with responsibility for Tackling Poverty.

The objectives of the Tackling Poverty Advisory Panel are to:

- Develop a co-ordinated response by Carmarthenshire County Council to poverty in the county;
- Support the identification of needs of communities in relation to poverty;
- Consider gaps in tackling poverty support and potential means of addressing these;
- Support the identification of future priorities for Carmarthenshire County Council in terms of tackling poverty;
- Monitor the Tackling Poverty Action Plan;
- Explore opportunities for embedding best practice from flagship tackling poverty programmes such as Flying Start and Communities First into core service provision; and
- Encourage opportunities for greater collaboration between services and external partners in addressing poverty in Carmarthenshire.

It is proposed that the cross-party Panel will consist of six elected members (two from each group) together with the Executive Board Member with responsibility for Tackling Poverty. It is recommended that the membership would be consistent with the original members of the Focus Group. These are:

- 2 Independent representatives: Cllr. Hugh Richards & Cllr. Wyn Evans
- 2 Labour representatives: Cllr. Deryk Cundy & Cllr. Jan Williams
- 2 Plaid Cymru representatives: Cllr. J Eirwyn Williams & Cllr. Alun Lenny

Officer representatives from key tackling poverty initiatives will also contribute to the Panel as appropriate.

The Executive Board Member with responsibility for Tackling Poverty will chair the Panel and will elect a Vice-Chair from amongst the members. The Corporate Policy team will provide secretariat support to the panel.

This recommendation was supported by Corporate Management Team (CMT) in April.

DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED ?	NO
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## IMPLICATIONS

I confirm that other than those implications which have been agreed with the appropriate Directors / Heads of Service and are referred to in detail below, there are no other implications associated with this report :

Signed : **Wendy Walters, Assistant Chief Executive (Regeneration & Policy)**

Policy and Crime & Disorder	Legal	Finance	ICT	Risk Management Issues	Organisational Development	Physical Assets
<b>YES</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>NONE</b>

### 1. Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities

The establishment of the Panel will provide greater clarity for the Council's existing work on tackling poverty and support the identification of gaps for further development through existing schemes or core services. Any gaps identified would be discussed in detail with the relevant project/service leads before being progressed.

## CONSULTATIONS

I confirm that the appropriate consultations have taken in place and the outcomes are as detailed below

Signed: **Wendy Walters, Assistant Chief Executive (Regeneration & Policy)**

**1. Scrutiny Committee** – discussed and agreed as part of the Policy & Resources Scrutiny Committee Tackling Poverty Focus Group

**2. Local Member(s)** – N/A

**3. Community / Town Council** – N/A

**4. Relevant Partners** – N/A

**5. Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations**

Officers leading on key tackling poverty programmes have been involved in the Scrutiny Focus Group and will continue to support the discussions of the Advisory Panel

### Section 100D Local Government Act, 1972 – Access to Information

List of Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:

**THESE ARE DETAILED BELOW**

Title of Document	File Ref No.	Locations that the papers are available for public inspection
Tackling Poverty Position Statement & Summary		Available through Bex Llewellyn; Corporate Governance & Policy Officer

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