

POLICY & RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Monday, 29 March 2021

PRESENT: Councillor A.G. Morgan (Chair)

Councillors:

S.M. Allen, D.M. Cundy, W.R.A. Davies, H.L. Davies, W.T. Evans (In place of D.E. Williams), G.H. John, J.K. Howell, C. Jones, K. Lloyd (In place of K. Madge), B.D.J. Phillips (In place of K.V. Broom), J.G. Prosser and J.S. Edmunds

Also in attendance:

Councillor D.M. Jenkins, Executive Board Member for Resources

The following Officers were in attendance:

L.R. Jones, Head of Administration and Law

R. Hemingway, Head of Financial Services

P.R. Thomas, Assistant Chief Executive (People Management & Performance)

S. Rees, Simultaneous Translator

L. Jenkins, Executive Board Support Officer

J. Corner, Technical Officer

E. Bryer, Democratic Services Officer

M.S. Davies, Democratic Services Officer

Virtual Meeting: 10.00 - 10.45 am

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors K.V. Broom, K. Madge and D.E. Williams.

2. DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST INCLUDING ANY PARTY WHIPS ISSUED IN RELATION TO ANY AGENDA ITEM

There were no declarations of personal interest.

3. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

No public questions had been received.

4. REVENUE & CAPITAL BUDGET MONITORING REPORT 2020/21

The Executive Board Member – Resources presented the Authority's Corporate Budget Monitoring Report and the Chief Executive's and Corporate Services departmental reports as at 31st December 2020 in respect of the 2020/21 financial year. The report also included an appendix detailing Savings Monitoring 2020-21. The Committee was advised that the business case for Pentre Awel Wellness Village had now been approved.

It was noted that whilst the filling of vacant posts had stalled partly due to the pandemic, resulting in underspend in associated areas such as the cost of DBS checks, recruitment processes were expected to pick up as lockdown restrictions eased.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to receive the report.

5. QUARTERLY TREASURY MANAGEMENT AND PRUDENTIAL INDICATOR REPORT 1ST APRIL 2020 TO 31ST DECEMBER 2020

The Committee considered the Mid-Year Treasury Management and Prudential Indicator report for the period 1st April 2020 – 31st December 2020 to ensure that the activities undertaken were consistent with the requirements of the Treasury Management Policy and Strategy for 2020-21 adopted by Council on the 3rd March, 2020.

In response to a comment the Committee was advised that whilst, under the Treasury Management Strategy it had been agreed to borrow finance when interest rates were at their most advantageous as was the case currently, the Council was presently in a position where it was able to use its cash balances thus saving on borrowing requirements. The situation was, however, under constant review. It was emphasised that the purpose of borrowing was to support capital schemes and not the revenue budget.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the monitoring report be noted.

6. POLICY & RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE ACTIONS AND REFERRALS UPDATE

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the report detailing progress in relation to actions, requests or referrals emerging from previous scrutiny meetings, be noted.

7. FORTHCOMING ITEMS

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the list of forthcoming items to be considered at the next scheduled meeting to be held on the 30th April 2021 be received.

8. MINUTES - 2ND AND 8TH MARCH 2021

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the minutes of the meetings held on the 2nd and 8th March 2021 be signed as correct records.

CHAIR

DATE