

**THURSDAY, 1 APRIL 2021**

**TO: ALL MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD**

I HEREBY SUMMON YOU TO ATTEND A **VIRTUAL MEETING** OF THE **EXECUTIVE BOARD AT 10.00 AM, ON MONDAY, 12TH APRIL, 2021** FOR THE TRANSACTION OF THE BUSINESS OUTLINED ON THE ATTACHED AGENDA

*Wendy Walters*

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

<b>Democratic Officer:</b>	<b>Martin S. Davies</b>
<b>Telephone (direct line):</b>	<b>01267 224059</b>
<b>E-Mail:</b>	<b>MSDavies@carmarthenshire.gov.uk</b>

Wendy Walters Prif Weithredwr, *Chief Executive*,  
Neuadd y Sir, Caerfyrddin. SA31 1JP  
*County Hall, Carmarthen. SA31 1JP*

# EXECUTIVE BOARD

## MEMBERSHIP - 10 MEMBERS

Councillor	Portfolio
<b>Councillor Emlyn Dole</b>	<b>Leader</b> Corporate Leadership and Strategy; Chair of Executive Board; Represents Council at WLGA; Economic Development Represents the Council on the Swansea Bay City Region; Collaboration; Marketing and Media; Appoints Executive Board Members; Determines EBM Portfolios; Liaises with Chief Executive; Public Service Board
<b>Councillor Mair Stephens</b>	<b>Deputy Leader</b> Council Business Manager; Human Resources; Performance Management; Wales Audit; Training; I.C.T.; T.I.C. (Transformation, Innovation and Change); Strategic Planning
<b>Councillor Cefin Campbell</b>	<b>Communities and Rural Affairs</b> Rural Affairs and Community Engagement; Community Safety; Police; Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015; Tackling Poverty; Wellbeing of Future Generations; Third Sector Liaison ;Equalities, Climate Change Strategy.
<b>Councillor Glynog Davies</b>	<b>Education and Children</b> Schools; Children's Services; Special Education Needs; Safeguarding; Respite Homes; Regional Integrated School; Improvement Service; Adult Community Learning; Youth Services; School Catering Services, Lead Member for Children and Young People; Youth Ambassador
<b>Councillor Hazel Evans</b>	<b>Environment</b> Refuse; Street Cleansing; Highways and Transport Services; Grounds Maintenance; Building Services; Caretaking; Building Cleaning; Emergency Planning; Flooding, Public Rights of Way.
<b>Councillor Linda Evans</b>	<b>Housing</b> Housing – Public; Housing – Private, Ageing Well
<b>Councillor Peter Hughes Griffiths</b>	<b>Culture, Sport and Tourism</b> Town and Community Councils Ambassador; Development of the Welsh Language; Theatres; Sports; Leisure Centres; Museums; Libraries; Country Parks; Tourism.
<b>Councillor Philip Hughes</b>	<b>Public Protection</b> Trading Standards; Environmental Health. Environmental Enforcement; Planning enforcement; Unlicensed Waste; Parking Services; Bio diversity
<b>Councillor David Jenkins</b>	<b>Resources</b> Finance & Budget; Corporate Efficiencies; Property/Asset Management; Procurement; Housing Benefits; Revenues; Statutory Services (Coroners, Registrars, Electoral, Lord Lieutenancy); Armed Forces Champion Contact Centres and Customer Service Centres
<b>Councillor Jane Tremlett</b>	<b>Social Care &amp; Health</b> Adult Social Services; Residential Care; Home Care; Learning Disabilities; Mental Health; NHS Liaison/Collaboration/ Integration; Care Home Catering Services, Carers' Champion; Dementia Care Champion; Disability Ambassador

# A G E N D A

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

**2. DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST**

**3. TO SIGN AS A CORRECT RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD HELD ON THE 22<sup>ND</sup> MARCH, 2021.**

5 - 14

**4. QUESTIONS ON NOTICE BY MEMBERS**

**4.1 QUESTION BY COUNCILLOR ROB JAMES TO COUNCILLOR EMLYN DOLE, LEADER**

“Could the Leader state whether he supports the campaign by Unison, GMB and Unite for a minimum 10% pay increase for council workers?”

**4.2 QUESTION BY COUNCILLOR ROB JAMES TO COUNCILLOR HAZEL EVANS, EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER- ENVIRONMENT**

“In a previous Council meeting it was stated that after a four-year campaign by the Labour Group, kerbside glass collection would be introduced next year. Could you provide more information on when residents will have glass collected at the kerbside and the future of bring sites in Carmarthenshire?”

**4.3 QUESTION BY COUNCILLOR ROB JAMES TO COUNCILLOR HAZEL EVANS, EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER- ENVIRONMENT**

“In the Capital Budget there appeared to be no identified borrowing for improving the fleet to allow for kerbside glass collection. Would it be correct to say that kerbside collection will only happen with additional external funding and will not happen if funding applications are not successful?”

**4.4 QUESTION BY COUNCILLOR ROB JAMES TO COUNCILLOR GLYNOG DAVIES, EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER- EDUCATION AND CHILDREN**

“Can the Executive Board provide an update on the new Ammanford School consultation and can he commit that Betws Primary School will not close as part of the proposal?”

**5. PUBLIC QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**5.1 QUESTION BY MR IAN KYLE TO COUNCILLOR HAZEL EVANS, EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER - ENVIRONMENT**

“Could we please have acknowledgement of our request for support and arrange a consultation as soon as possible to discuss the merits of this proposal?”

As a summary of the proposal, you may be aware that Carmarthen Street has been closed for over a year now due to building work taking place at the Shire Hall. During this time the local businesses and residents in the area have noticed the positive effects of closing the road to through traffic and a petition was set up in September 2020 requesting that the road remained closed permanently. This was signed by just under 300 people with many comments citing safety concerns especially for children and less abled people due to the narrowness of the road / pavement.

Also, there have been many positive comments from local businesses needing to increase footfall especially after this dreadful Covid period, notably how the road closure had made the town much more pleasant for residents and attractive to tourists. With the redevelopment of the old Market Hall at the top of Carmarthen Street, it really does make sense to look at changing the vehicle access use along the road.

We (the residents of Carmarthen Street) have been lobbying local County Councilor Edward Thomas and the highways department since October 2020 in trying to arrange a consultation with us on how we can move this proposal forward and to date we have made very little progress.

We feel let down by the Council in the lack of acknowledgement and support for this proposal put forward by the residents and businesses in the town and ask that as the executive board member-responsible for Highways you provide us with an answer to the above question.”

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|----|---|---------|
| 6. | <b>MODERNISING EDUCATION PROGRAMME PROPOSAL TO RELOCATE YSGOL HEOL GOFFA TO A NEW SITE AND INCREASE ITS CAPACITY FROM 75 TO 120.</b>  | 15 - 18 |
| 7. | <b>TREASURY MANAGEMENT AND PRUDENTIAL INDICATOR REPORT 1ST APRIL 2020 TO 31ST DECEMBER 2020.</b>  | 19 - 34 |
| 8. | <b>BUSINESS RATES - RETAIL, LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY RATES RELIEF SCHEME 2021/22.</b>  | 35 - 42 |
| 9. | <b>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.</b> |         |

## EXECUTIVE BOARD

22 MARCH 2021

**PRESENT:** Councillor E. Dole (Chair)

**Councillors:**

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

**Also in attendance:**

Councillor D.M. Cundy;  
Councillor J.S. Edmunds;  
Councillor R. James.

**The following Officers were in attendance:**

W. Walters, Chief Executive;  
J. Morgan, Director of Community Services;  
C. Moore, Director of Corporate Services;  
R. Mullen, Director of Environment;  
P.R. Thomas, Assistant Chief Executive (People Management & Performance);  
J. Jones, Head of Regeneration;  
L.R. Jones, Head of Administration and Law;  
G. Ayers, Corporate Policy and Partnership Manager;  
D. Hockenhull, Marketing and Media Manager;  
M. Evans Thomas, Principal Democratic Services Officer;  
K. Davies, Sustainable Development Manager;  
L. Jenkins, Executive Board Support Officer;  
E. Bryer, Democratic Services Officer;  
R.M. Davies, Strategic Housing Delivery Manager;  
S. Rees, Simultaneous Translator;  
J. Corner, Technical Officer;  
J. Owen, Democratic Services Officer.

**Virtual Meeting – 10:00am - 11:40am**

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.**

There were no apologies for absence.

The Leader of the Council reminded all present that as of today the pre-election period had commenced.

**2. DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST.**

There were no declarations of personal interest.

**3. TO SIGN AS A CORRECT RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD HELD ON THE:-**

**3.1. 22<sup>ND</sup> FEBRUARY 2021**

**UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting of the Executive Board held on the 22<sup>nd</sup> February, 2021 be signed as a correct record.

**3.2 1<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2021**

**UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting of the Executive Board held on the 1<sup>st</sup> March, 2021 be signed as a correct record.

**4. QUESTIONS ON NOTICE BY MEMBERS**

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

**5. PUBLIC QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

The Chair advised that no public questions had been received.

**6. CARMARTHENSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL CORPORATE COMPLAINTS POLICY**

The Executive Board considered a report which provided detailed the reasons for the requirement to develop a new corporate complaints policy, which if approved would replace the current complaints and compliments procedure.

The report outlined that on 30th September 2020, the Public Services Ombudsman (PSOW) for Wales and its Complaints Standards Authority (CSA) formally launched a new Model Concerns and Complaints Policy and had been given Local Authorities 6 months to implement a new Policy and submit an updated document to the PSOW.

Whilst the model policy did not represent a significant departure from the Council's existing Complaints and Compliments Procedure and complaints handling processes the report highlighted the key changes.

In addition, arrangements to address the key changes were being progressed and complaints reporting would be included in quarterly performance management reports from April 2021 onwards.

**UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that the new Complaints Policy be approved to replace the previous Complaints and Compliments Procedure.

## **7. CORPORATE STRATEGY 2018/23 - UPDATE APRIL 2021**

The Executive Board received a report which provided which provided information on the adjustments that had been made to the Corporate Strategy 2018-23 and the Well-being Objectives which were adopted in June 2018. The adjustments were made to reflect the developing priorities, the impact of the Covid-19 Pandemic, Brexit and climate change.

To underpin the Corporate Strategy, it was reported that the Departmental and Service business plans would be aligned to support the delivery of the Corporate Strategy and Well-being Objectives. Key actions and targets would be identified with the delivery being monitored on a quarterly basis.

**UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT IT BE RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL that the Corporate Strategy and Well-being Objectives adopted in June, 2018 be adjusted, as reported, to reflect developing priorities, the impact of the Covid-19 Pandemic, Brexit and climate change.**

## **8. STRATEGIC EQUALITY PLAN ANNUAL REPORT 2019-20**

The Executive Board received the Annual Report 2019-20 for the Strategic Equality Plan. The report provided the Board with an opportunity to review, monitor and reflect the ongoing activity around meeting the general and specific duties of the Equality Act 2010. In addition, the annual report included information in relation to employment, training and pay.

The Board noted that Strategic Equality Plans set out how public bodies consider the needs of groups with 'protected characteristics', as outlined in the Equality Act 2010, to ensure that all individuals receive just and equitable treatment in respect of service delivery and strategy/policy formulation.

It was reported that throughout 2020 the Strategic Equality Plan had been revised after having worked partnership with the Local Authorities across Dyfed Powys, both Health Boards, Dyfed Powys Police, Mid and West Wales Fire Service, Wales Ambulance Services NHS Trust, the Brecon Beacons National Park Authority, Pembrokeshire Coastal National Park Authority and the Dyfed Powys Police and Crime Commissioner, to undertake a detailed engagement and consultation exercise.

It was noted that a Diversity and Equality Promotion Calendar and a Flag and illumination protocol had been developed. It was acknowledged that whilst this was an excellent method to raise awareness, it was equally important to continue to promote equality and diversity all year round.

**UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the Strategic Equality Plan Annual Report for 2019-20 be approved.**

## **9. ANNUAL REPORT ON THE WELSH LANGUAGE 2019-20**

The Executive Board, in accordance with the Welsh Language Commissioner's monitoring arrangements, received the Annual Report on the Welsh Language which outlined the implementation work in 2019-20. The report focused on the fourth year of implementing the Welsh Language Standard.

The report provided detailed statistical information in relation to the actions of the Strategy, which included Welsh Language skills audit of the workforce and data in relation to recruitment.

Board members noted during 2019/20 a new impetus had been given to the implementation of the standards within the Council, due to significant progress being made on internal work as well as building on partnerships with other organisations in order to promote the Welsh language across Carmarthenshire. It was acknowledged that an increase of 43% staff undertook a Learning and Development Opportunity to learn or improve their Welsh during 2019/20.

It was reported that the Council had won the 'Employer of the Year' category in the Gwobrau Dysgu Cymraeg 2020 Learn Welsh Awards, an accolade which demonstrated the Council's commitment to the Welsh Language.

**UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the annual report in relation to the Welsh language and compliance with the Welsh Language Standards during 2019-2020 be received.**

## **10. FUTURE SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PARTNERSHIP**

The Executive Board considered a report which provided information regarding the regional school improvement arrangements.

Due to delays with developing and establishing a replacement partnership model for regional school improvement service (ERW), the report requested that the Executive Board defer withdrawal from ERW from 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021 to 31<sup>st</sup> August 2021.

**UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED:**

- 10.1 to note that since serving notice to withdraw from ERW, the work around a new footprint and model for regional school improvement had not been progressed to enable a smooth transition to a new model by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021.**
- 10.2 to note that any new model for school improvement was likely to need legal changes to governance arrangements which would not be in place by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021.**
- 10.3 to agree to withdraw the notice to withdraw and remain in ERW until 31<sup>st</sup> August 2021 or until such time as new arrangements are in place.**
- 10.4 to delegate to the Director of Education and Children's Services and Head of Legal Services authority to enter into any Deed of Variation necessary to ensure any change to withdrawal arrangements or any other necessary amendments approved by the Joint Committee.**



## **11. NET ZERO CARBON PLAN - UPDATE REPORT**

The Executive Board received an update report on the Net Zero Carbon Plan which was developed following the approval of the Net Zero Carbon (NZC) Plan by County Council on 12<sup>th</sup> February 2020. The draft Net Zero Carbon Plan update was developed in accordance with Action NZC-28 of the Plan that required performance reports on progress towards becoming a net zero carbon local authority by 2030 to be published annually.

The report comprised of detailed information within following sections:-

- High Level Summary including Progress against Actions
- COVID-19 and Climate Change
- Progress Update
- Future Actions
- Wider Response to Climate Emergency (Appendix 1)

In addition to the report, the Board noted that at its meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> March 2021, the Environmental and Public Protection Scrutiny Committee had resolved to write a letter to the Welsh Government to convey its concern regarding the limited capacity of the local electricity distribution network and to request that Welsh Government work with Local Authorities, and others, to develop a clear plan to address this issue. In addition, in its letter, convey its disappointment that the Wales Carbon Reporting Guidance has not been published to date.

The Board, after considering the Environmental and Public Protection Scrutiny Committee's request that the Executive Board, in a separate letter to the Welsh Government echo and support the Committee's comment, acknowledged the importance of this in order to be able proceed and continue working towards being a Net Zero organisation by 2023 and agreed to honour the request.

### **UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that:**

**11.1 the Net Zero Carbon Plan - Update Report be approved;**

**11.2 a letter be written to Welsh Government to echo the concerns raised by the Environmental and Public Protection Scrutiny Committee at its meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> March 2021;**

**11.3 delegated authority be granted to Officers to make typographical or factual amendments as necessary to improve the clarity and accuracy of the Net Zero Carbon Plan - Update Report.**

## **12. COUNCIL'S REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING REPORT**

The Executive Board considered the revenue budget monitoring report which provided the latest budgetary position as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020, in respect of 2020/2021. The budget position recognised the substantial additional pressures that had been placed on the Authority in responding to the Covid19 pandemic and the support provided by Welsh Government

Overall, the monitoring report forecasted an end of year underspend of £1,325k on the Authority's net revenue budget with an underspend at departmental level of £232k.

The Executive Board noted that whilst reports earlier in the year, have indicated a significant overspend due to the impact of Covid-19, the current projected position had now significantly improved, with the additional Covid-19 related costs and lost income being largely refunded from the Welsh Government hardship scheme.

It was further noted that whilst the overall position is indicated to be far more favourable than previously reported there were some departments still showing significant pressures. In particular both Communities and Environment still indicated an overspend of approximately £500K each. Departments were still challenged by the pressures and response required to Covid-19 and it was expected that this unprecedented position would continue into next financial year.

Commentaries against specific budget variances where assumptions had been made where shown within Appendix A appended to the report.

Executive Board Members noted that the report stated that Council Tax collection remained an area of significant concern. However, in response to a query in relation to future Council tax payments the Executive Board Member for Resources stated that if Council tax was not paid this year then it would be recovered wherever possible next year. The Director of Corporate Services added that this was an area of challenge and that the substantial deferments made early in the financial year at the start of the pandemic were currently being managed and collected and that Council Taxpayers who were finding it difficult to pay would be a position to apply for the Council Tax Reduction Scheme, he clarified that the that teams were working closely together to ensure help is provided wherever possible.

Carmarthenshire experienced a marked reduction in payments during the first quarter, which was unlikely to fully recover during the year, however initially collection of this debt will continue into next year, but it is anticipated that some will become bad debt and will need to be written off. Welsh Government have provided some funding to support Local Authorities in respect this issue.

The Housing Revenue Account quantified a prediction of underspend by £2,937k for 2020/21. A list of main variances was appended to the report at Appendix B.

**UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that:**

- 12.1 The Budget Monitoring report be received, and consideration given to the budgetary position and appropriate corrective action.**
- 12.2 Chief Officers and Heads of Service critically review options available to them to limit the forecasted overspend of budgets, whilst recognising the pressure Covid-19 has placed on the Authority's overall budget.**

### **13. CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2020/21 UPDATE**

The Executive Board considered a report which provided an update of the latest budgetary position for the 2020/21 capital programme as at the 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2020.

Executive Board Members noted that £38m of the -£63,153k variance reported in the October capital monitoring report had been built into future years' budgets as part of the 2021/22 to 2025/26 five-year capital programme. Budgets had been amended to reflect this slippage to future years and was also presented in this report.

Appendix A appended to the report showed a forecasted net spend of £44,717k was forecasted compared with a working net budget of £76,284k giving a -£31,567k variance. The Executive Board Member for Resources reported that the significant variance projected at this time continued to be largely attributed to the restrictions associated with the Covid-19 pandemic and the delay in the start of the City Deal projects.

The report detailed additional Schemes to the Capital Programme which sought Executive Board approval.

The Board considered the main variances detailed within each department appended to the report at Appendix B.

#### **UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that:**

- 13.1 the capital programme update report be received;**
- 13.2 the additional projects detailed in the report be approved.**

### **14. 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 Leader of the Council took the opportunity to raise awareness that tomorrow was National Day of Reflection [Tuesday, 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2021] which would be marked by way of illuminating County Hall in order to reflect and remember those who had lost their lives during the pandemic.

The Leader announced that after having received a request to consider an urgent report on 'Affordable housing assisted Living Property Acquisitions', agreed to include it on today's agenda as the matter required an Executive Board decision prior to the deadline of 31/3/2021. The report pursuant to paragraph 14 of part 4 of schedule to 12(A) of the Local Government Act 1972 would be considered in camera.

## **15. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC**

**UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED**, pursuant to the Local Government Act 1972, as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) (Wales) Order 2007, that the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items as the reports contained exempt information as defined in paragraph 14 of Part 4 of Schedule 12A to the Act.

## **16. POLICY AND RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE "CALL IN" OF EXECUTIVE DECISION -LAND AT PENPRYS, LLANELLI**

Following the application of the public interest test it was **RESOLVED** pursuant to the Act referred to in minute no. 15 above not to publicise the content of the report as it contained exempt information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Authority holding that information) (Paragraph 14 of Part 4 of Schedule 12A to the Act). The public interest test in respect of this report outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information contained therein as disclosure would put the authority at a material disadvantage in any subsequent negotiations with third parties and potentially harm the public purse.

The Executive Board received a report requesting consideration of a decision that had been made by the Policy and Resources Scrutiny Committee at its meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> March 2021; to refer an Executive Decision made by the Executive Board on Land at Penprys Llanelli back to the Executive Board with specific regard to the Wellbeing and Future Generations Act and the implications for Llanelli Crematorium.

The Executive Board Members, after having re-considered its decision made on 8<sup>th</sup> February 2021:-

**UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** to uphold the decision and approve that authority be delegated to the Head of Regeneration, in consultation with the Executive Board Member, to negotiate terms and enter into an option agreement with the adjoining landowner at Penprys, Llanelli."

## **17. FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR CHRT/LLANELLY HOUSE**

Following the application of the public interest test it was **RESOLVED** pursuant to the Act referred to in minute no. 15 above not to publicise the content of the report as it contained exempt information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Authority holding that information) (Paragraph 14 of Part 4 of Schedule 12A to the Act). The public interest test in respect of this report outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information contained therein as the report contained sensitive financial information relating to the Trust and the project. Although the public would normally favour transparency and openness, this was outweighed by the public interest in maintaining confidentiality in this case because of the need to protect the project's sustainability.

The Executive Board considered a report on the current financial situation of Llanelly House, noting the importance of Llanelly House to Llanelli Town Centre regeneration.

**UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that a support package as stated in the report for a further 2 years be approved.

**18. AFFORDABLE HOUSING ASSISTED LIVING PROPERTY ACQUISITIONS.**

Following the application of the public interest test it was **RESOLVED** pursuant to the Act referred to in minute no. 15 above not to publicise the content of the report as it contained exempt information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Authority holding that information) (Paragraph 14 of Part 4 of Schedule 12A to the Act). The public interest test in respect of this report outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information contained therein as disclosure would put the authority at a material disadvantage in any subsequent negotiations with third parties and potentially harm the public purse.

The Executive Board considered a report which sought permission to purchase affordable homes that would secure nineteen units of accommodation for individuals with learning disabilities or mental health that require support.

**UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED:**

- 18.1** that the purchase of five properties as stated within the report as part of the affordable housing buying private sector homes programme, on the terms as detailed in the report, be agreed.
- 18.2** that the funding of this acquisition by the WG 2020/21 Integrated Care Fund programme and the 2020/21 HRA capital programme, on terms as detailed in the report, be agreed.

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**CHAIR**

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**DATE**

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# EXECUTIVE BOARD

## 12<sup>th</sup> April 2021

### MODERNISING EDUCATION PROGRAMME

### PROPOSAL TO RELOCATE YSGOL HEOL GOFFA TO A NEW SITE AND INCREASE ITS CAPACITY FROM 75 TO 120

#### Recommendations / key decisions required:

It is recommended that the Executive Board:

1. Being satisfied that there are no other related proposals; that the statutory proposal has been consulted upon and published in accordance with the School Organisation Code and contains all the relevant information and, having considered the consultation document and consultation report, and that no objections were received in response to the Statutory Notice recommend to the County Council the implementation of the proposal as laid out in the Statutory Notice.

#### Reasons:

- To comply with statutory procedures and guidance in relation to school re-organisation.

#### Relevant Scrutiny Committee Consulted: YES 17/03/21

The Education & Children Scrutiny Committee unanimously resolved:

- To recommend to the Executive Board the implementation of the proposal to relocate Ysgol Heol Goffa to a new site and increase its capacity from 75 to 120 as laid out in the Statutory Notice.

#### Executive Board Decision Required: YES 12/04/21

#### Council Decision Required: YES 12/05/21

**Executive Board Member Portfolio Holder:** Cllr. Glynog Davies (Education & Children)

**Directorate:**  
Education & Children

**Name of Head of Service:**  
Simon Davies

**Report Author:**  
Sara Griffiths

#### Designations:

Head of Access to Education

Modernisation Team Manager

#### Tel Nos. / E-Mail Addresses:

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**  
**EXECUTIVE BOARD**  
**12 April 2021**

**MODERNISING EDUCATION PROGRAMME**

**PROPOSAL TO RELOCATE YSGOL HEOL GOFFA TO A NEW  
SITE AND INCREASE ITS CAPACITY FROM 75 TO 120**

**Background**

Ysgol Heol Goffa is a special school located in Llanelli and is maintained by Carmarthenshire County Council. The school caters for 75 pupils between the ages of 3-19 years old who have severe learning difficulties (SLD) or profound and multiple learning difficulties (PMLD). All pupils have a Statement of Special Educational Needs or Individual Development Plan (IDP).

Ysgol Heol Goffa is currently over-subscribed and this trend is likely to continue for the foreseeable future. There is increased demand for places which is putting significant pressure on the Local Authority to place pupils. The current capacity of Ysgol Heol Goffa is 75 with 101 pupils on roll as at January 2020 PLASC.

As a result, the Local Authority are currently developing a scheme to increase the capacity of Ysgol Heol Goffa to 120 places for pupils aged 3-19 who have severe learning difficulties (SLD) or profound and multiple learning difficulties (PMLD) by providing a new school with facilities fit for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century on a new site. The proposed new site is located next to the recently completed Ysgol Pen Rhos.

**The Proposal**

The proposal is to relocate Ysgol Heol Goffa to a new site and increase its capacity from 75 to 120.

In accordance with Executive Board's instructions on the 18<sup>th</sup> November 2019 (link to the consultation document and report provided) a formal consultation exercise was undertaken from 21 September 2020 to 1 November 2020. The results of the consultation exercise are contained in the Consultation Report (link provided) and were presented to the ECS Scrutiny Committee and then to the Executive Board for consideration and determination on whether or not to publish a Statutory Notice.

On the 21 December 2020 approval was granted by the Executive Board for the publication of the Statutory Notice. The Statutory Notice (link provided) was published on 11 January 2021. The notice provided objectors with 28 days in which to forward their objections in writing to the Council which ended on the 7 February 2021. No objections were received to the Statutory Notice therefore there is no Objection Report.

The full suite of documents which include: Consultation Document, Consultation Report, the Statutory Notice will be presented to the Executive Board and ultimately will be presented to the County Council for their determination.



This provides the ECS Scrutiny Committee and Executive Board the opportunity to offer comment and a recommendation to the County Council whether or not to implement the proposal as laid out in the Statutory Notice.

Should the County Council agree to implement the proposal, the capacity of Ysgol Heol Goffa will increase from 75 to 120 once the school re-locates to its new school site from September 2023.

### Recommendation

Being satisfied that there are no other related proposals; that the statutory proposal has been consulted upon and published in accordance with the School Organisation Code and contains all the relevant information and, having considered the consultation document and consultation report, and that no objections were received in response to the Statutory Notice recommend to the County Council the implementation of the proposal as laid out in the Statutory Notice.

**DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED?**

**NO**

## 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:



Head of Access to Education

Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities	Legal	Finance	ICT	Risk Management Issues	Staffing Implications	Physical Assets
<b>YES</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>YES</b>

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

Developments are consistent with the Authority's Corporate Strategy and the Modernising Education Strategic Outline Programme.

### 2. Legal

Appropriate consultation was initiated in accordance with the relevant statutory procedures and School Organisation Code 2018.

### 3. Finance

Revenue implications will be catered for within the Local Management of Schools Fair Funding Scheme.

### 4. ICT

None

### 5. Risk Management Issues

Continuing with the current capacity of the school would not address the capacity issues. The statutory consultation is required to relocate and increase the capacity of the school.

### 6. Staffing Implications

Staffing implications will be addressed in accordance with the County Council's Policy and Procedures.

### 7. Physical Assets

As a result of the scheme to provide Ysgol Heol Goffa with a new school building, the school will re-locate to a new building with a capacity of 120 places.

# CONSULTATIONS

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

Signed:  Head of Access to Education

1. **Scrutiny Committee** – The Scrutiny Committee were formally notified of the Statutory Notice period.
2. **Local Member(s)** – The local members were formally notified of the Statutory Notice period. No formal objections were received to the Statutory Notice.
3. **Community / Town Council** – The Community and Town Council were formally notified of the Statutory Notice period. No formal objections were received to the Statutory Notice.
4. **Relevant Partners** – All relevant partners were formally notified of the Statutory Notice period.
5. **Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations** – Staff side representatives and other organisation were formally notified of the Statutory Notice period.

**EXECUTIVE BOARD PORTFOLIO  
HOLDER(S) AWARE/CONSULTED**

N/A

YES

## Section 100D Local Government Act, 1972 – Access to Information List of Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:

Title of Document	File Ref No. / Locations that the papers are available for public inspection
Stage 3 (Permission to Implement) – ECS Scrutiny Committee Report	<a href="#">ECS Scrutiny Report 17 March 2021</a>
Stage 2 (Permission to Notice) – Executive Board	<a href="#">Executive Board Report 21 December 2020</a>
Stage 2 (Permission to Notice) – ECS Scrutiny Committee Report	<a href="#">ECS Scrutiny Report 23 November 2020</a>
Stage 1 (Permission to Consult) – Executive Board Report	<a href="#">Executive Board Report 18 November 2019</a>
Stage 1 (Permission to Consult) – ECS Scrutiny Committee Report	<a href="#">ECS Scrutiny Report 15 October 2019</a>
<b>Consultation Document / Consultation Report / Statutory Notice</b>	<a href="https://www.cararthenshire.gov.wales/home/council-services/education-schools/modernising-education-programme/consultation/special-school/ysgol-heol-goffa/">https://www.cararthenshire.gov.wales/home/council-services/education-schools/modernising-education-programme/consultation/special-school/ysgol-heol-goffa/</a>
School Organisation Code 2018	<a href="https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2018-10/school-organisation-code-second-edition.pdf">https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2018-10/school-organisation-code-second-edition.pdf</a>
Cararthenshire's Welsh in Education Strategic Plan	<a href="https://www.cararthenshire.gov.wales/home/council-democracy/strategies-and-plans/welsh-in-education-strategic-plan/">https://www.cararthenshire.gov.wales/home/council-democracy/strategies-and-plans/welsh-in-education-strategic-plan/</a>
21 <sup>st</sup> Century Schools Website	<a href="http://www.21stcenturyschools.org">www.21stcenturyschools.org</a>
MEP Biennial Review	<a href="http://www.cararthenshire.gov.uk">www.cararthenshire.gov.uk</a> Executive Board 20 <sup>th</sup> June 2016

## EXECUTIVE BOARD 12<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2021

### TREASURY MANAGEMENT AND PRUDENTIAL INDICATOR REPORT 1<sup>ST</sup> APRIL 2020 TO 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2020

#### Recommendations / key decisions required:

That the Executive Board considers and approves the report.

#### Reasons:

**To provide members with an update on the treasury management activities from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2020 to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020.**

Relevant scrutiny committee to be consulted **YES**

#### **Policy & Resources Scrutiny Committee 29<sup>th</sup> March 2021**

Exec Board Decision Required YES

Council Decision Required NO

#### EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER PORTFOLIO HOLDER:- Cllr. D.M. Jenkins

Directorate: Corporate Services

Name of Director: Chris Moore

Report Author: Anthony Parnell

Designation: Director of Corporate Services

Designation: Treasury and Pension Investments Manager

Tel No. 01267 224120; E Mail: CMoore@cararthenshire.gov.uk

Tel No. 01267 224180; E Mail: AParnell@cararthenshire.gov.uk

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**  
**EXECUTIVE BOARD**  
**12<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2021**

**TREASURY MANAGEMENT AND PRUDENTIAL INDICATOR REPORT**  
**1<sup>ST</sup> APRIL 2020 TO 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2020**

**1. BRIEF SUMMARY OF PURPOSE OF REPORT.**

To provide members with an update on the treasury management activities from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2020 to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020.

**DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED?**

**YES**

**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:** C Moore Director of Corporate Services

Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities <b>YES</b>	Legal <b>NONE</b>	Finance <b>YES</b>	ICT <b>NONE</b>	Risk Management Issues <b>NONE</b>	Staffing Implications <b>NONE</b>	Physical Assets <b>NONE</b>
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**1. Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities**

Within the requirements of the Treasury Management Policy and Strategy Report 2020-2021

**3. Finance**

The authority's investments during the period returned an average return of 0.22%, exceeding the 7 day LIBID rate.

Gross interest earned on investments for the period amounted to £0.241m and interest paid on loans was £9.89m.

The Authority did not breach any of its Prudential Indicators during the period.

At the period end the investments included £0.53m of KSF investments.

The administration of KSF is expected to continue for some time again and further updates will be provided in future reports.

## CONSULTATIONS

I confirm that the appropriate consultations have taken in place and the outcomes are as detailed below  
 Signed: C Moore     Director of Corporate Services

1. **Scrutiny Committee** Not Applicable
2. **Local Member(s)** Not Applicable
3. **Community / Town Council** Not Applicable
4. **Relevant Partners** Not Applicable
5. **Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations** Not Applicable

### **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
CIPFA Treasury Management in the Public Services - Code of Practice Revised 2017		County Hall, Carmarthen

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# QUARTERLY TREASURY MANAGEMENT AND PRUDENTIAL INDICATOR REPORT

1<sup>st</sup> April 2020 – 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020

## **A QUARTERLY TREASURY MANAGEMENT REPORT**

### **1. Introduction**

The Treasury Management Policy and Strategy for 2020-21 was approved by Council on the 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2020. Section B 1.1(2) stated that Treasury Management activity reports would be made during the year. This report outlines the Treasury Management activities in the period 1<sup>st</sup> April 2020 to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020 and satisfies the reporting requirement stated above.

### **2. Economic Update**

The Bank of England Monetary Policy Committee met on 17<sup>th</sup> December 2020. All nine Committee members voted to keep interest rates on hold at +0.10% and the Quantitative Easing (QE) target at £895bn. The MPC commented that the successful rollout of vaccines had reduced the downsides risks but they were still sufficiently concerned that they voted to extend the availability of the Term Funding Scheme, (cheap borrowing), with additional incentives for small and medium size enterprises for another six months from 30<sup>th</sup> April 2021 until 31<sup>st</sup> October 2021. (The MPC had assumed that a Brexit deal would be agreed.)

Significantly, there was no mention of negative interest rates in the minutes or Monetary Policy Report, suggesting that the MPC remains some way from being persuaded of the case for such a policy, at least for the next 6 -12 months.

Brexit - The final agreement on 24<sup>th</sup> December 2020 has eliminated a significant downside risk for the UK economy. The initial agreement only covers trade so there is further work to be done on the services sector where temporary equivalence has been granted in both directions between the UK and EU; that now needs to be formalised on a permanent basis. As the forecasts in this report were based on an assumption of a Brexit agreement being reached, there is no need to amend these forecasts.

### **3. Investments**

One of the primary activities of the Treasury Management operation is the investment of surplus cash for which the Authority is responsible. As well as the Authority's own cash the County Council invests School Trust Funds and other Funds, with any interest derived from these investments being passed over to the relevant Fund.

All surplus money is invested daily on the London Money Markets. The security of the investments is the main priority. Appropriate liquidity should be maintained and return on investments the final consideration. It continues to be difficult to invest these funds as the

market continues to be insecure and as a consequence appropriate counterparties are limited.

The total investments at 1<sup>st</sup> April 2020 to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020 analysed between Banks, Building Societies, Local Authorities and Money Market Funds, are shown in the following table:

Investments	01.04.20				31.12.20			
	Call and notice £m	Fixed Term £m	Total £m	%	Call and notice £m	Fixed Term £m	Total £m	%
Banks	19.00	0.53	19.53	27	24.00	7.53	31.53	32
Building Societies	0.00	3.00	3.00	4	0.00	7.00	7.00	7
Money Market Funds	12.00	0.00	12.00	16	20.00	0.00	20.00	20
DMADF (DMO)	0.00	18.00	18.00	24	0.00	24.00	24.00	24
Local Authorities	0.00	21.00	21.00	29	0.00	17.00	17.00	17
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>31.00</b>	<b>42.53</b>	<b>73.53</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>44.00</b>	<b>55.53</b>	<b>99.53</b>	<b>100</b>

Investments on call are available immediately on demand.  
Fixed term investments are fixed to a maturity date.

The £99.53m includes £0.53m (13.2% of original claim) invested in Kaupthing Singer and Friedlander which has been reduced from the original £4.0m by distributions.

During the period the total investments made by the Council and repaid to the Council (the turnover) amounted to £1,833.01m. This averaged approximately £46.66m per week or £6.67m per day. A summary of turnover is shown below:

	£m
Total Investments 1st April 2020	73.53
Investments made during the period	929.50
Sub Total	1,003.03
Investments Repaid during the quarter	(903.50)
<b>Total Investments at 31 December 2020</b>	<b>99.53</b>



The main aims of the Treasury Management Strategy is to appropriately manage the cash flows of the Council, the required short term and longer term market transactions and the risks associated with this activity. Lending on the money market secures an optimum rate of return and also allows for diversification of investments and hence reduction of risk, which is of paramount importance in today's financial markets.

The benchmark return for the London money market is the "7 day LIBID rate". For 2020-2021 the Council has compared its performance against this "7 day LIBID rate". For the period under review the average "7 day LIBID rate" was -0.06% whereas the actual rate the Council earned was 0.22%, an out performance of 0.28%.

This outperformance can be quantified to £308k additional interest earned compared to the "7 day LIBID rate".

The gross interest earned on investments for the period amounted to £241k.

The income from investments is used by the Authority to reduce the net overall costs to the Council taxpayer.

#### **4. Update on the investments with Kaupthing Singer & Friedlander (KSF)**

In December 2020 the Council received a twenty first dividend from the Administrators. This equated to 0.13p in the £ and amounted to £5.2k principal.

As at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020 the sum of £3.47m principal and £213k interest had been received from the Administrators, which equates to 86.8% of the claim submitted. The Administrators estimate total dividends payable to non-preferential creditors at 86.9%.

A further update will be provided in future reports.

#### **5. Security, Liquidity and Yield (SLY)**

Within the Treasury Management Strategy Statement for 2020-2021, the Council's investment priorities are:

- Security of Capital
- Liquidity and
- Yield

The Council aims to achieve the optimum return (yield) on investments commensurate with proper levels of security and liquidity. In the current economic climate it is considered appropriate to keep investments short term to cover short term cash flow needs but also to seek out value available in significantly higher rates in periods up to 12 months with highly credit rated financial institutions.

Attached in Appendix 1 is the Investment Summary and Top 10 Counterparty Holdings (excluding the £0.53m in KSF) as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020.

## 6. Borrowing

One of the methods used to fund capital expenditure is long term borrowing. The principal lender for Local Authorities is the Public Works Loan Board (PWLB).

Under the Treasury Management Strategy it was agreed to borrow when interest rates are at their most advantageous.

The total loans at 1<sup>st</sup> April 2020 and 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020 are shown in the following table:

Loans	Balance at 01.04.20 £m	Balance at 31.12.20 £m	Net Increase/ (Net Decrease) £m
Public Works Loan Board (PWLB)	425.42	415.38	(10.04)
Market Loan	3.00	3.00	0.00
Salix, Invest to Save, HILS & TCL	4.11	3.36	(0.75)
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>432.53</b>	<b>421.74</b>	<b>(10.79)</b>

The Salix interest free loans have been provided by an independent publicly funded company dedicated to providing the public sector with loans for energy efficiency projects.

This interest free Invest-2-Save funding is to assist in the conversion of traditional street lighting to LED, which will help deliver a legacy of reduced energy costs and associated carbon taxes.

The Home Improvement Loan Scheme (HILS) repayable funding is provided by the Welsh Government to help individual home owners, small portfolio landlords, developers and charities to improve homes and increase housing supply.

The Town Centre Loan (TCL) repayable funding is provided by the Welsh Government to provide loans to reduce the number of vacant, underutilised and redundant sites and premises in town centres and to support the diversification of the town centres by encouraging more sustainable uses for empty sites and premises, such as residential, leisure and for key services.

### 6.1 New Borrowing

No new loans were borrowed during the period.

### 6.2 Interest Paid

Interest paid on loans in the period was:

<b>PWLB Interest Paid £m</b>	<b>Market Loan Interest Paid £m</b>	<b>Total Interest Paid £m</b>
9.75	0.14	9.89

## **7. Rescheduling and Premature Loan Repayments**

No rescheduling opportunities arose during the period and there were no premature repayments of debt.

## **8. Leasing**

No leases were negotiated in the period ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020.

## **9. Conclusion**

The Treasury Management function for the period ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020 has been carried out within the policy and guidelines set in the Treasury Management Policy and Strategy 2020-2021.

## **B. QUARTERLY PRUDENTIAL INDICATOR REPORT**

### **1. Introduction**

As part of the 2020-2021 Budget and the Treasury Management Policy and Strategy 2020-2021 Council adopted a number of Prudential Indicators. These Indicators are designed to ensure that any borrowing or other long-term liabilities entered into for capital purposes were affordable, sustainable and prudent.

The Indicators are required by the Local Government Act 2003 and the Revised Prudential Code of Practice in order to control Capital Finance. The Prudential Code also required that those Prudential Indicators that were forward looking should be monitored and reported. Some of the indicators are monitored by officers monthly, and are only reported if they are likely to be breached, others are to be monitored quarterly by the Executive Board.

### **2. The Monitored Prudential Indicators**

#### **2.1 Affordability Prudential Indicator**

##### **2.1.1 Ratio of Financing Costs to Net Revenue Stream**

The indicator set for 2020-2021 in the Budget was:

	2020-2021 %
Non –HRA	4.74
HRA	33.93

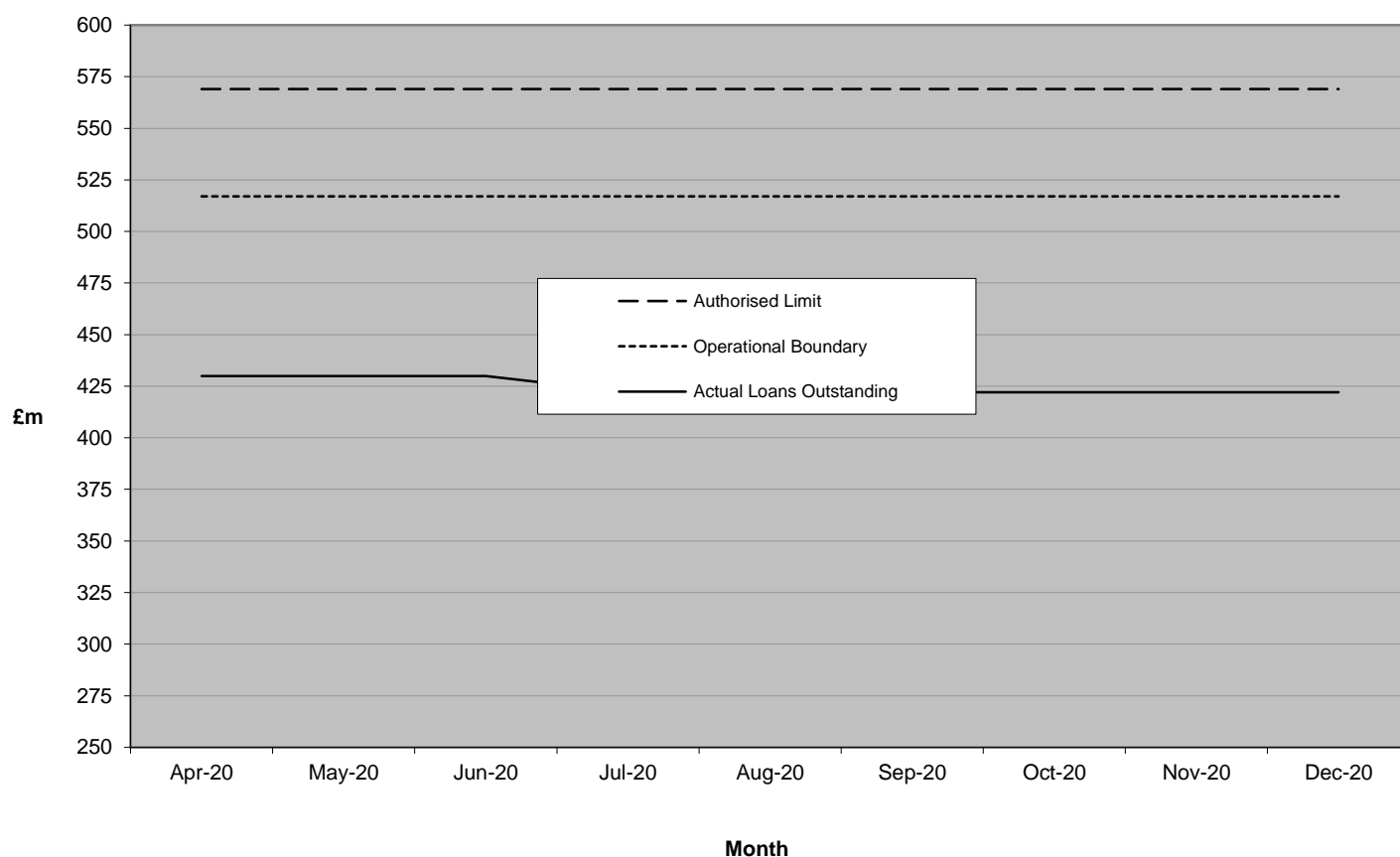
An examination of the assumptions made in calculating this indicator concluded that there have been no changes in the period.

## **2.2 Prudence Prudential Indicators**

### **2.2.1 The Gross Borrowing and Capital Finance Requirement (CFR) indicator**

The indicator set by the Budget for Gross Borrowing and CFR was that the Section 151 Officer envisaged no difficulty in meeting the requirement of the Gross Borrowing being less than the accumulated CFR for 2020-2021. An examination of assumptions made when calculating the Prudential Indicator show that there have been no material changes.

### **2.2.2 Authorised Limit and Operational Boundary**



The actual value of loans outstanding must not exceed the Authorised Limit and operational activity actual loans outstanding should be close but less than the Operational

Boundary. The Operational Boundary can be breached in the short term due to adverse cash flows.

	<b>Apr-20 £m</b>	<b>Jun-20 £m</b>	<b>Sep-20 £m</b>	<b>Dec-20 £m</b>
Authorised Limit	569	569	569	569
Operational Boundary	517	517	517	517
Loans Outstanding	430	430	422	422

Neither the Authorised Limit nor the Operational Boundary have been breached.

## **2.3 Treasury Management Prudential Indicators**

### **2.3.1 Interest Rate Exposure**

Position as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020:

	<b>Fixed Interest Rate £m</b>	<b>Variable Interest Rate £m</b>	<b>TOTAL £m</b>
Borrowed	418.74	3.00	421.74
Invested	(55.53)	(44.00)	(99.53)
<b>Net</b>	<b>363.21</b>	<b>(41.00)</b>	<b>322.21</b>
Limit	510.00	51.00	
<b>Proportion of Net Borrowing Actual</b>	<b>112.72%</b>	<b>(12.72)%</b>	<b>100.00%</b>
Limit	125.00%	5.00%	

The authority is within limits set by the 2020-2021 indicators.

### **2.3.2 Maturity Structure Of Borrowing**

	<b>Structure at 31.12.20 %</b>	<b>Upper Limit %</b>	<b>Lower Limit %</b>
Under 12 months	3.02	15	0
12 months to 2 years	3.73	15	0
2 years to 5 years	6.90	50	0

5 years to 10 years	9.45	50	0
10 years to 20 years	18.31	50	0
20 years to 30 years	18.84	50	0
30 years to 40 years	23.65	50	0
40 years and above	16.10	50	0

The authority is within the limits set by the 2020-2021 indicators.

### **2.3.3 Maximum principal sums invested longer than 365 days**

	<b>2020-2021 £m</b>
Limit	10
Actual as at 31 <sup>st</sup> December 2019	NIL

### **3. Conclusion**

For the period 1<sup>st</sup> April 2020 to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020 the actual Prudential Indicators to be monitored by the Executive Board are within the limits set by the Budget 2020-2021 and the Treasury Management Policy and Strategy 2020-2021. This is also true for the indicators being monitored by officers.

Totals		
<b>Total</b>	<b>£99,000,000</b>	
<b>Calls &amp; MMFs</b>	£44,000,000	44%
<b>Fixed Deposits</b>	£55,000,000	56%
<b>Specified</b>	£99,000,000	100%

Weighted Average		
<b>Yield</b>		0.08%
<b>Maturity (Days)</b>		
Total Portfolio	Total Portfolio	22.01
<b>Long Term</b>	<b>Short Term</b>	
AAA	-	1.00
AA	F1	25.20
A	F1	29.63
BBB	F2	0.00
CCC	C	0.00

Risk Factors		
< 1 year	£3,372	0.003%
1 - 2 years	£0	0.000%
2 - 3 years	£0	0.000%
3 - 4 years	£0	0.000%
4 - 5 years	£0	0.000%
<b>Total Portfolio</b>	<b>£3,372</b>	<b>0.003%</b>

Maturity Structure		
< 1 Week	£54,000,000	55%
< 1 Month	£22,000,000	22%
2 - 3 Months	£23,000,000	23%
3 - 6 Months	£0	0%
6 - 9 Months	£0	0%
9 - 12 Months	£0	0%
12 Months+	£0	0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>£99,000,000</b>	<b>100%</b>

## SLY Model

Carmarthenshire County Council

31/12/2020

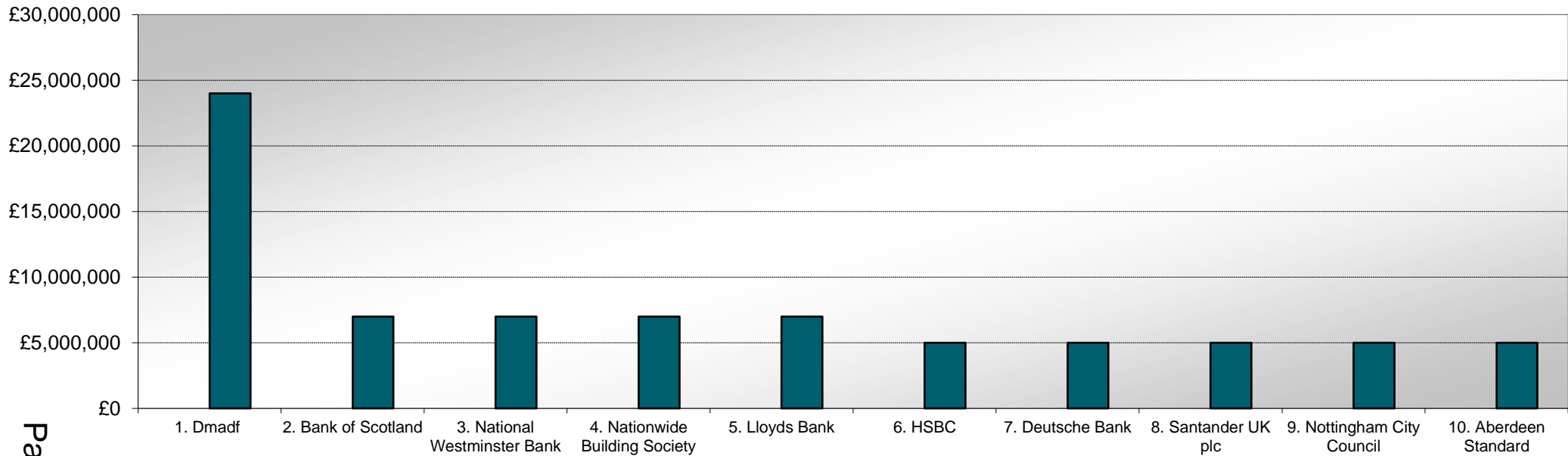
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Top 10 Counterparty Holdings

Carmarthenshire County Council

Counterparty	Principal	% of Total Holding	WAM (Days)	WAYield	WADefault
1. Dmadf	£24,000,000	26.09%	13	-0.01%	0.001%
2. Bank of Scotland	£7,000,000	7.61%	1	0.00%	0.000%
3. National Westminster Bank	£7,000,000	7.61%	87	0.04%	0.022%
4. Nationwide Building Society	£7,000,000	7.61%	71	0.07%	0.018%
5. Lloyds Bank	£7,000,000	7.61%	1	0.10%	0.000%
6. HSBC	£5,000,000	5.43%	1	0.03%	0.000%
7. Deutsche Bank	£5,000,000	5.43%	1	0.01%	0.000%
8. Santander UK plc	£5,000,000	5.43%	1	0.58%	0.000%
9. Nottingham City Council	£5,000,000	5.43%	90	0.20%	0.004%
10. Aberdeen Standard	£5,000,000	5.43%	1	0.04%	0.000%



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## EXECUTIVE BOARD

12<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2021

### BUSINESS RATES – RETAIL, LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY RATES RELIEF SCHEME 2021/22

#### Purpose:

To consider the adoption of a rate relief scheme being made available to billing authorities by Welsh Government for 2021/22

#### RECOMMENDATIONS / KEY DECISIONS REQUIRED:

It is recommended that the 2021/22 Retail Leisure and Hospitality Rates Relief scheme outlined in this report be adopted by Executive Board

#### REASONS:

The proposed scheme will reduce the 2021/22 business rates liability for qualifying businesses, at no cost to the Authority.

#### Relevant scrutiny committee to be consulted - NA

Exec Board Decision Required YES

Council Decision Required No

Directorate: Corporate Services

#### Executive Board Member:

Cllr. David Jenkins

#### Name of Head of Service:

Helen Pugh

#### Report Author:

Ann Thomas

#### Designations:

Head of Revenues & Financial  
Compliance

Revenue Services Manager

#### Tel No.

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AnThomas@sirgar.gov.uk

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

## Executive Board

12<sup>th</sup> April 2021

### Business Rates – Retail, Leisure and Hospitality Rates Relief Scheme 2021/22

#### **1. Background**

- 1.1. As a result of the national non-domestic rates revaluation many ratepayers were faced with an increase in their rates liability with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2017. Some increases were very significant and to support ratepayers Welsh Government introduced a 'Transitional Relief Scheme' whereby ratepayers that occupy small premises (less than £12,000 Rateable Value) and in receipt of 'Small Business Relief' in 2016/17 will have any increase arising from the revaluation, "dampened". i.e. the increase is limited to 25% in 2017/18, 50% in 2018/19 and 75% in 2019/20.
- 1.2. In addition to the Transitional Relief Scheme, which ended in 2019/20 Welsh Government also introduced a "High Street Rate Relief Scheme" for 2017/18, 2018/19, 2019/20 and 2020/21. Unlike previous years, the 2019-20 scheme was not limited to high street premises but included all properties within Wales meeting the wider retail criteria.
- 1.3. In response to the Coronavirus emergency in 2020/21 Welsh Government announced that it would introduce the 'Retail, Leisure and Hospitality Rates Relief Scheme', which in effect replaced the 'High Street Rate Relief Scheme', to increase the discount to 100%, and in addition to retail sector, extend it to include leisure and hospitality sectors for example shops, pubs and restaurants, gyms, performance venues and hotels.
- 1.4. Welsh Government has recently confirmed that the Retail, Leisure and Hospitality Rates Relief Scheme Rate Relief scheme will be extended to 2021/22.
- 1.5. Welsh Government has indicated the types of business that they consider appropriate for this relief, and those which are not. The non-exhaustive list of business types is given in **Appendix A**
- 1.6. This is a temporary measure which means Welsh Government is not making any legislative changes but instead will allow billing authorities to grant relief under the general discretionary relief powers available under section 47 of the Local Government (Finance) Act 1988. However, being a discretionary power, it is necessary for the Local Authority to formally adopt the scheme.
- 1.7. The scheme is fully funded and therefore at no cost to the authority provided relief is granted in accordance with the Welsh Government guidelines.

#### **2. Retail, Leisure and Hospitality Rates Relief scheme 2021/22**

- 2.1. The Welsh Government will provide grant funding to the 22 local authorities in Wales to provide the Retail, Leisure and Hospitality Rates Relief Scheme to eligible ratepayers for 2021-22.
- 2.2. The scheme aims to provide support for eligible occupied properties by offering a discount of 100% on the non domestic rates bill for a property, to all eligible premises.
- 2.3. The scheme will apply to all eligible ratepayers with a rateable value of £500,000 or less

### **3. Other Factors**

- 3.1. The scheme guidelines also confirm that there are a number of further types of hereditaments which the Welsh Government believes should not be eligible for relief:
- i. Hereditaments with a rateable value of more than £500,000
  - ii. Not reasonably accessible to visiting members of the public
  - iii. Hereditaments that are not occupied
  - iv. Hereditaments that are owned, rented or managed by a local authority

#### **Appendix A**

- 3.2. As the granting of relief is discretionary, authorities may choose not to grant the relief if they consider that it would go against the authority's wider objectives for the local area.
- 3.3. Qualifying properties must be occupied and used *wholly or mainly* used for the qualifying purpose, it is therefore a test on use rather than occupation
- 3.4. Relief will be granted to each eligible business as a reduction to its rates bill based on occupation between 1.4.21 and 31.3.22.
- 3.5. Ratepayers who occupy more than one property will be entitled to Relief for each of their eligible properties.
- 3.6. Retail, Leisure and hospitality properties which are excluded from Small Business Rates Relief due to the multiple occupation rule are eligible for this relief scheme. Ratepayers who occupy more than one property will be entitled to Retail, Leisure and Hospitality Rates Relief for each of their eligible properties.
- 3.7. In instances where the local authority is notified retrospectively of change of occupier, if it is clear that the ratepayer was in occupation on or after 1.4.21, the local authority may use its discretion in awarding relief.
- 3.8. Empty properties becoming occupied after 1.4.21 will qualify for this relief.
- 3.9. If there is a change in occupier part way through the financial year, after relief has already been awarded to the hereditament, the new occupier will qualify for the relief on a pro-rata basis.
- 3.10. A new hereditament created as a result of a split or merger during the financial year, or where there is a change of use should be considered afresh for the discount on that day.
- 3.11. Hereditaments which closed temporarily due to the government's advice on Covid-19 should be treated as occupied for the purposes of this relief.
- 3.12. Ratepayers that occupy premises with a Rateable Value exceeding £500,000 will not qualify for this relief.
- 3.13. The total amount of government funded relief available for each property under the scheme for 2021-22 is 100% of the remaining bill, after mandatory reliefs and other discretionary reliefs funded by section 31 grants have been applied, excluding those where local authorities have used their wider discretionary relief powers, introduced by the Localism Act 2011 which are not funded by section 31 grants. Retail, Leisure and Hospitality Rates Relief should be applied against the net bill after other reliefs have been applied.
- 3.14. Ratepayers will be able to opt out of receiving the relief if they are of a view that they have been able to continue trading at a substantial level during Coronavirus restrictions and as such would be inclined to not accept the relief.

3.15. Following the end of the transition period for the UK leaving the European Union on 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020, EU State Aid regulations only apply in limited circumstances. As relief is not funded by EU residential funds, EU State Aid regulations no longer apply for this scheme. As of 1<sup>st</sup> January 2021 the UK Subsidy Regime came into force. The scheme has been viewed to be outside the scope of any international trade agreements as measures are focused locally within Wales

#### 4. Scheme Adoption

4.1. As this is a temporary measure Welsh Government are providing the relief by reimbursing local authorities that use their discretionary powers under Section 47 of the Local Government Finance Act 1988, it is appropriate for the Council to formally adopt the scheme.

It is therefore recommended that:

- a) The Retail Leisure and Hospitality Rates Relief Relief Scheme be adopted for 2021/22
- b) Relief be granted in accordance with the Welsh Government guidelines
- c) Applications that are not specifically covered by the guidelines or otherwise require specific consideration, to be determined by the Executive Board Member for Resources

**DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED?**

**No**

## 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:** Chris Moore

**Director of Corporate Resources**

Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities	Legal	Finance	ICT	Risk Management Issues	Staffing Implications	Physical Assets
<b>NONE</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>NONE</b>

### 2. Legal

The decision on whether or not to adopt these schemes is an Executive function.

### 3. Finance

The relief granted under the scheme is fully funded, provided Welsh Government guidelines in terms of qualifying ratepayers, are adhered to.

## CONSULTATIONS

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

**Signed:** Chris Moore

**Director of Corporate Resources**

**1. Scrutiny Committee N/A**

**2. Local Member(s) N/A**

**3. Community / Town Council N/A**

**4. Relevant Partners N/A**

**5. Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations N/A**

**Section 100D Local Government Act, 1972 – Access to Information  
List of Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:**

**THESE ARE DETAILED BELOW**

<b>Title of Document</b>	<b>File Ref No.</b>	<b>Locations that the papers are available for public inspection</b>
<b>Business Rates – High Street Rate Retail Scheme</b> (various documents)	<b>N/A</b>	<b>File Plan (Finance/Local Taxation/Retail Rate Relief)</b>

## **Appendix A -**

### **Qualifying & Non-Qualifying Premises (extract from Welsh Government Guidelines)**

*“It is intended that, for the purposes of this scheme, retail properties such as, “shops, restaurants, cafes and drinking establishments” will mean the following (subject to the other criteria in this guidance).*

#### **i. Hereditaments that are being used for the sale of goods to visiting members of the public**

- Shops (such as florists, bakers, butchers, grocers, greengrocers, jewellers, stationers, off-licences, newsagents, hardware stores, supermarkets, etc)
- Charity shops
- Opticians
- Pharmacies
- Post offices
- Furnishing shops or display rooms (such as carpet shops, double glazing, garage doors)
- Car or caravan showrooms & Second hand car lots
- Markets
- Petrol stations
- Garden centres
- Art galleries (where art is for sale or hire)

#### **ii. Hereditaments that are being used for the provision of the following services to visiting members of the public**

- Hair and beauty services
- Shoe repairs or key cutting
- Travel agents
- Ticket offices, eg. for theatre
- Dry cleaners & Launderettes
- PC, TV or domestic appliance repair
- Funeral directors
- Photo processing
- DVD or video rentals
- Tool hire
- Car hire
- Cinemas
- Estate and letting agents

#### **iii. Hereditaments that are being used for the sale of food and / or drink to visiting members of the public**

- Restaurants
- Drive-through or drive-in restaurants
- Takeaways
- Sandwich shops
- Cafés
- Coffee shops
- Pubs & Bars or Wine Bars



*It is intended that, for the purposes of this scheme assembly and leisure will mean the following (subject to the other criteria in this guidance).*

**i Hereditaments that are being used for the provision of sport, leisure and facilities to visiting members of the public (including for the viewing of such activities) and for the assembly of visiting members of the public.**

- Sports grounds and clubs
- Sports and leisure facilities
- Gyms
- Tourist attractions
- Museums and art galleries
- Stately homes and historic houses
- Theatres
- Live Music Venues
- Cinemas
- Nightclubs

**ii. Hereditaments that are being used for the assembly of visiting members of the public**

- Public Halls
- Clubhouses, clubs and institutions

*It is intended that, for the purposes of this scheme hotels, guest and boarding premises and self catering accommodation to mean (subject to the other criteria in this guidance).*

**i Hereditaments where the non-domestic part is being used for the provision of living accommodation as a business:**

- Hotels, Guest and Boarding Houses
- Holiday Homes
- Caravan Parks and sites

“The list set out above is not intended to be exhaustive as it would be impossible to list all the many and varied retail, leisure and hospitality uses that exist,

There will also be mixed uses. However, it is intended to be a guide for local authorities as to the types of uses that the Welsh Government considers for this purpose to be eligible for this relief. Local authorities should determine for themselves whether particular properties not listed are broadly similar in nature to those above and, if so, to consider them eligible for the relief. Conversely, properties that are not broadly similar in nature to those listed above should not be eligible for the relief”

### **Types of hereditaments that are not considered to be eligible for the high street relief**

The list below sets out the types of uses that the Welsh Government does not consider to be retail, leisure or hospitality use for the purpose of this relief and would not be deemed eligible for the relief. However, it will be for local authorities to determine if hereditaments are similar in nature to those listed below and if they would not be eligible for relief under the scheme.

***Hereditaments that are being used wholly or mainly for the provision of the following services to visiting members of the public***

- Financial services (eg. banks, building societies, cash points, ATMs, bureaux de change, payday lenders, betting shops, pawn brokers)
- Medical services (eg. vets, dentists, doctors, osteopaths, chiropractors)
- Professional services (eg. solicitors, accountants, insurance agents, financial advisers, tutors)
- Post office sorting office
- Children's play centres
- Day nurseries
- Kennels and catteries
- Casino and gambling clubs
- Show homes and marketing suites
- Employment agencies

There are a number of further types of hereditaments which the Welsh Government believes should not be eligible for the high street relief scheme:

***ii. Hereditaments with a rateable value of more than £500,000***

***iii. Hereditaments that are not reasonably accessible to visiting members of the public***

***iv. Hereditaments that are not occupied***

***v. Hereditaments that are owned, rented or managed by a local authority***