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WEDNESDAY, 2 FEBRUARY 2022

TO: ALL MEMBERS OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL

I HEREBY SUMMON YOU TO ATTEND A **VIRTUAL MEETING** OF THE **COUNTY COUNCIL** WHICH WILL BE HELD **AT 10.00 AM, ON WEDNESDAY, 9TH FEBRUARY, 2022** FOR THE TRANSACTION OF THE BUSINESS OUTLINED ON THE ATTACHED AGENDA

Wendy Walters

CHIEF EXECUTIVE

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County Hall, Carmarthen. SA31 1JP

AGENDA

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.
2. DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTERESTS.
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4. TO APPROVE AND SIGN AS A CORRECT RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THE 19TH JANUARY 2022. 7 - 16
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10. TO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING NOTICES OF MOTION:-
 - 10.1 NOTICE OF MOTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR DARREN PRICE:
'Planning Issues relating to housing developers
Council notes that a number of developers have built housing estates within Carmarthenshire to an unsatisfactory finish. Some developers are regularly subject to planning enforcement action by the Local Planning Authority (LPA) and it seems that there are always outstanding issues relating to their sites.

Issues such as unfinished roads and pavements, lack of street lighting, unsatisfactory drainage on site in breach of planning permission, poor site management and noise pollution during construction, destruction of ecology during construction, damage to public highway drainage systems and back tracking on S.106 agreements are just some examples which result in the local authority or householders facing additional costs.

Despite the significant concern and frustration of local communities, the developers concerned continue to be granted planning permission for new sites.

Council notes that LPAs are currently not allowed to take into account a developer's past record when assessing a planning application and must judge each application on its own merits.

Council further notes that Section 106 contributions play a key role in mitigating some of the pressures brought about by new housing developments. However, once permission is granted, viability reports may be put forward by developers claiming substantial increased costs or reduced estimated market value for housing. As a result it is sometimes agreed to reduce or even scrap the initial Section 106 agreement in full in order to protect the financial viability of the development. As a result, communities miss out on vital contribution to amenities and support for first time home buyers.

Council believes:

That an LPA should have the power to refuse new planning applications by a developer until all outstanding obligations and valid complaints relating to current or past sites have been discharged or resolved fully.

That an LPA should also be granted powers to refuse a planning application if it believes, based on past evidence, that a developer would be unlikely to complete a housing development to the agreed standard, as set out in the planning application.

Council calls on the Welsh Government:

1. To introduce legislative changes which would allow LPAs to take into account a developer's record as a 'material planning consideration'.
2. To prohibit developers from challenging previously agreed S.106 contributions on grounds of 'financial viability'.

10.2 NOTICE OF MOTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR LIAM BOWEN:

'This Council declared a Climate Emergency in February 2019 and

has made a commitment to becoming a net zero carbon local authority by 2030. Steps have been taken across our fleet, buildings and across the county to tackle climate change and we are on track to achieve our targets.

The Welsh Parliament became one of the first parliaments in the world to declare a Nature Emergency in 2021.

This Council calls on the Cabinet to further its commitment by declaring a Nature Emergency and establishing a Cross Party Advisory Panel to support this authority's approach to climate change and nature emergency and incorporate the adoption of the Edinburgh Declaration.'

10 .3 NOTICE OF MOTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR JOHN JAMES:

'That this Council

- 1) Welcomes the increase in the Local Government Revenue Settlement which will see Carmarthenshire County Council's funding allocation increase by 9.2% in 2022/23.
- 2) Agrees with the Leader of this Council when he recently said: *"I very much welcome this settlement from Welsh Government, which is one of the best councils will have seen for a long time. It is testament to the constructive and regular dialogue which has been had with ministers and wider Members of the Senedd, which has certainly been appreciated by council leaders."*
- 3) Supports the Welsh Government's determination to protect local government services as much as possible despite its own budget being £3bn lower by 2024/25 than it would have otherwise been had it increased in line with the economy since 2010/11.
- 4) And subsequently regrets that the Conservative UK Government continues to underfund public services, in general, and those in Wales in particular, and agree that all this Council's Political Group Leaders jointly write to the Chancellor of the Exchequer urging him to restore funding to Welsh Government to at least the real terms equivalent of its 2010 level.'

11. PUBLIC QUESTIONS (NONE RECEIVED).

12. QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS (NONE RECEIVED).

13. TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING CHANGES TO MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES:-

- 13.1 THE INDEPENDENT GROUP HAS NOMINATED COUNCILLOR GILES MORGAN TO FILL ITS VACANT SEATS ON APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE 'A' AND APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE 'B'.**
- 14. TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING CHANGES TO COUNCIL'S ADVISORY PANELS:-**
- 14.1 THE INDEPENDENT GROUP HAS NOMINATED COUNCILLOR EDWARD THOMAS TO FILL ITS VACANCY ON THE CONSTITUTIONAL REVIEW WORKING GROUP;**
- 14.2 THE INDEPENDENT GROUP HAS NOMINATED COUNCILLOR GILES MORGAN TO FILL ITS VACANCY ON THE PAY POLICY ADVISORY PANEL.**
- 15. MINUTES FOR INFORMATION (AVAILABLE TO VIEW ON THE WEBSITE)**
- 15.1 EDUCATION & CHILDREN SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - 23RD DECEMBER, 2021;**
- 15.2 PLANNING COMMITTEE - 6TH JANUARY, 2022;**
- 15.3 POLICY & RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - 14TH JANUARY, 2022;**
- 15.4 SOCIAL CARE & HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - 26TH JANUARY, 2022.**

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WEDNESDAY, 19 JANUARY 2022

PRESENT: Councillor K. Lloyd [Vice Chair in the Chair]

Councillors:

F. Akhtar	S.M. Allen	L.R. Bowen	K.V. Broom
C.A. Campbell	J.M. Charles	D.M. Cundy	S.A. Curry
C.A. Davies	W.R.A. Davies	T.A.J. Davies	G. Davies
H.L. Davies	I.W. Davies	J.A. Davies	K. Davies
E. Dole	J.S. Edmunds	D.C. Evans	H.A.L. Evans
L.D. Evans	R.E. Evans	W.T. Evans	S.J.G. Gilasbey
P. Hughes-Griffiths	A.D. Harries	T.M. Higgins	J.K. Howell
P.M. Hughes	A. James	J.D. James	R. James
D.M. Jenkins	J.P. Jenkins	G.H. John	C. Jones
B.W. Jones	D. Jones	G.R. Jones	T.J. Jones
H.I. Jones	A. Lenny	M.J.A. Lewis	
K. Madge	S. Matthews	A.S.J. McPherson	E. Morgan
A.G. Morgan	S. Najmi	D. Nicholas	B.D.J. Phillips
J.S. Phillips	D. Price	J.G. Prosser	B.A.L. Roberts
H.B. Shepardson	E.M.J.G. Schiavone	A.D.T. Speake	B. Thomas
D. Thomas	E.G. Thomas	G.B. Thomas	G. Thomas
J. Tremlett	D.T. Williams	D.E. Williams	

Also Present:

W. Walters, Chief Executive
J. Morgan, Director of Community Services
P.R. Thomas, Assistant Chief Executive (People Management & Performance)
C. Moore, Director of Corporate Services
L.R. Jones, Head of Administration and Law
N. Daniel, Head of ICT and Corporate Policy; Interim Head of Planning
A. Williams, Head of Waste and Environmental Services
S. Davies, Head of Access to Education
G. Morgan, Head of Democratic Services
E. Evans, Principal Democratic Services Officer
M. Evans Thomas, Principal Democratic Services Officer
S. Rees, Simultaneous Translator
J. Hawker, Digital Support Officer
C.J. Warwick, Digital Support Engineer
L. Jenkins, Executive Board Support Officer
K. Thomas, Democratic Services Officer
J. Owens, Democratic Services Officer
S. Hendy, Member Support Officer
E. Bryer, Democratic Services Officer [Note taker]

Virtual Meeting - 10.00 am - 11.30 am

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors S.L. Davies, P. Edwards, A. Fox, A. Vaughan Williams, J.E. Williams.

2. DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTERESTS.

Councillor	Minute Number	Nature of Interest
S.J.G. Gilasbey	8.1 – Receive the report of the meeting of the Cabinet held on the 6th December, 2021.	Has a personal and prejudicial interest in relation to the review of the Primary Education Provision in the Mynyddygarreg and Gwenllian Areas, a matter within Minute Item 12. Cllr Gilasbey had a dispensation from the Standards Committee to speak on the matter but not vote.
S.J.G. Gilasbey	10 - Question by Cllr. Rob James to Cllr. Glynog Davies.	Schools named in the question are in her ward.
D. Harries	10 – Question by Cllr. Rob James to Cllr. Glynog Davies	Governor of Welsh School / Ysgol Bro Banw

3. CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS.

- The Chair conveyed the sad news that last week Deputy Leader, Councillor Mair Stephens had sadly passed away after a long illness. He expressed his sympathy to the family, particularly her husband Ralph, son Rhys and her mother Dilys.
- Condolences and tributes were also extended by representatives of the political groups. Cllr. Emlyn Dole (on behalf of the Plaid Group), Cllr. Jane Tremlett (on behalf of the Independent Group), Cllr. Kevin Madge (on behalf of the Labour Group), Cllr. Jeff Edmunds (on behalf of the New Independent Group) and Cllr. Shahana Najmi (Welsh Conservative).
- Cllr. Glynog Davies extended his sincere condolences to the family of Joseph Yeandle, a small boy who was suffering from a very rare form of cancer. There had been a big campaign within the area to raise money to take Joseph for innovative treatment in New York. Unfortunately, on the 27th December, Joseph passed away. It is intended to host an annual fair in the village (Josephs' Christmas Fair) to raise money for other charitable causes.
- Cllr. Glynog Davies advised Council that several individuals had come to his attention for sporting achievements. Congratulations were extended to Hanna Jones who is one of the first women to have a professional contract with the Welsh Rugby Union. Congratulation were also extended to Natalia John, Alisha Butchers, Ffion Lewis, Hannah Jones, Jasmine Joyce, Ioan

Cunningham and Keira Bevan The contribution of the Councils 5x60 team was also noted.

- The Leader, with the Chair's permission provided an update on the Covid situation in Carmarthenshire. He advised that should the situation continue to improve Wales would move into level 0 but warned that we should remain cautious. It was noted that the recent changes in testing may not be providing a clear picture and that the reduction in numbers had coincided with the changes to the testing regime. Thanks were extended to those who worked additional days and hours over Christmas and New Year in order to support the roll out of vaccinations and to those who continue to work hard on the front line.

4. TO APPROVE AND SIGN AS A CORRECT RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THE 8TH DECEMBER, 2021

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of Council held on the 8th December, 2021 be signed as a correct record.

5. STANDARDS COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 2020-21

The Chair welcomed to the meeting Mrs Mary Dodd, Chair of the Standards Committee, who had been invited to present to Council the Annual Report of the Standards Committee for the 2020/21 period.

Mrs Dodd thanked the Council for the opportunity of presenting the Annual Report on behalf of the Standards Committee and proceeded to provide an overview of the issues addressed by the Committee during 2020/21. Those included Code of Conduct Complaints, Applications for Dispensation and the Code of Conduct Training for Town and Community Councils.

It was noted that only 7 applications for dispensations had been considered by the committee which was a reduction compared to previous years. She reminded members to consider the need for dispensation and to seek advice when required.

The Chair thanked Mrs Dodd for her presentation and for the work undertaken by the Standards Committee.

RESOLVED that the Annual Report of the Standards Committee for the period 1st April 2020 to 31st March 2021 be received.

6. APPOINTMENT OF LAY PERSONS TO THE GOVERNANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE

Council was informed that the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 required one third of the members of the Governance and Audit Committee to be lay persons and for a lay person to be appointed as Committee Chair.

The Governance and Audit Committee had considered a report on arrangements for the appointment of Lay Persons to the Committee at its meeting held on the 17th December 2021 and was making a recommendation to the Council on the composition of the Committee going forward.

The Chair of the Governance and Audit Committee advised that the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 also stipulated that the chair of the Committee must be one of the elected lay persons and that the changes proposed had already been adopted by some Councils across Wales.

The Chair of the Governance and Audit Committee thanked officers and the vice chair for their support during her period as Chair of the Committee.

The Leader of the Council formally thanked Cllr. Higgins as Chair over the last four and a half years and expressed his gratitude for her work and commitment during this time.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to approve that the Governance and Audit Committee comprise 12 members i.e. 8 elected members (as currently) and 4 lay persons in order to accord with the new requirement arising from the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 for one third of the Governance and Audit Committee membership to be made up of lay persons.

7. TO CONSIDER THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE CABINET IN RESPECT OF THE FOLLOWING ITEMS

7.1. MID-YEAR TREASURY MANAGEMENT AND PRUDENTIAL INDICATOR REPORT - 1ST APRIL 2021 TO 30TH SEPTEMBER 2021

Council was informed that the Cabinet, at its meeting held on the 20th December 2021, had, in accordance with the 2020/21 Treasury Management Policy and Strategy (adopted by Council on the 19th February 2020 – Minute 8 refers), approved an update on the treasury management activities from the 1st April 2021 to the 30th September 2021.

The Cabinet Member for Resources stated that the Bank of England's Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) kept Bank Rate unchanged at 0.10% on 24th September 2021. It also made no changes to its programme of quantitative easing at £895bn.

It was highlighted that the MPC had indicated a concern that increases in prices, particularly in gas and electricity prices in October and due again next April could lead to faster and higher inflation expectations and underlying wage growth. This would in turn increase the risk that price pressures would prove more persistent next year than previously expected. The MPC reaffirmed its commitment to the 2% inflation target. Financial markets were pricing in a first increase in Bank Rate from 0.10% to 0.25% in February 2022, but this looked ambitious as the MPC had stated that it wanted to see what happens to the economy, particularly to employment.

RESOLVED that the following recommendation of the Cabinet be adopted

‘that the Mid-Year Treasury Management and Prudential Indicator Report for 1st April 2021 to 30th September 2021 be adopted’.

8. TO RECEIVE THE REPORT OF THE MEETING OF THE CABINET MEETING HELD ON THE:-

8.1. 6TH DECEMBER, 2021

[NOTE: Cllr. S.J.G. Gilasbey having earlier declared an interest in this item remained in the meeting for its consideration but did not vote. Cllr Gilasbey had received a dispensation from the Standards Committee to speak but not vote.]

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the report of the meeting of the Cabinet held on the 6th December, 2021 be received.

8.2. 20TH DECEMBER, 2021

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the report of the meeting of the Cabinet held on the 20th December, 2021 be received.

9. PUBLIC QUESTIONS.

The Chair advised that no public questions had been received.

10. QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS:-

10.1. QUESTION BY COUNCILLOR ROB JAMES TO COUNCILLOR GLYNOG DAVIES, CABINET MEMBER FOR EDUCATION & CHILDREN

“It is our understanding that there has been a large increase in materials and labour costs since the pandemic, with significant implications for your capital programme inc Modernisation Education Programme. Can you confirm whether all the school proposals in last year’s budget will be progressed as originally planned?”

Response by Councillor Glynog Davies – Cabinet Member for Education & Children:-

“As you all know quite a lot of this was highlighted in our discussion yesterday on the education budget and the review of the MEP programme was also mentioned. The MEP as part of the wider Council budget is monitored and reviewed continually and this is essential. It is important that we as the Cabinet are able to scrutinise our projects and the budget. This programme is extremely important to us and we work well with the government in Cardiff to build schools and recently three new schools were opened namely Rhys Pritchard, Llandovery, Llangadog and Pum Heol. New buildings that are suitable and sustainable accommodation for our learners. Our children in Carmarthenshire deserve this, they deserve the best.

However, I am sure I don't need to remind Councillor James the pandemic has had a significant impact on everything that the Council has been doing with building work coming to end and restrictions to movement. We were forced to relocate staff in order to address priorities as a Council. We have had two extremely challenging years. Costs have increased considerably as a result of the pandemic and also Brexit. We can't forget that. Prices have gone through the roof, to be honest, they've gone higher than that and that's why we took part in a review

by the Welsh Government. A review on costs, on higher costs of our programmes. As a result, Government agreed an increase in the grant allocation in order for us to address some of the additional matters and that we are genuinely thankful for.

This review of the MEP, a review that I personally asked for. Until the review has been completed, I cannot confirm if all the schools and all proposals in last year's budget will be progressed. Because as part of this review we are undertaking a comprehensive review of the programme. We will have to look at sustainable development and net zero carbon, will have to look at budget constraints, inflation in relation to construction. As I've already mentioned, we have to review and re-cost everything that we do. We have to look at the suitability and condition of our buildings and changes to pupil trends.

I'm saying once again, until this review is completed, I cannot confirm if all the proposals regarding schools in last year's budget will be progressed. Thank you Cllr. James."

Supplementary Question by Councillor Rob James

"Fifteen new schools have been identified as part of the draft budget, yet they haven't been submitted to the Welsh Government for funding. Yet capital funding has been allocated next year to be spent on these projects. Do you accept that with your review and with a lack of submission to the Welsh Government that these projects will not be progressed next year?"

Response by Councillor Glynog Davies – Cabinet Member for Education & Children:-

"No, I do not accept that because this review must happen now and I must have the responses of the review before I take any further decisions."

10.2. QUESTION BY COUNCILLOR ROB JAMES TO COUNCILLOR GLYNOG DAVIES, CABINET MEMBER FOR EDUCATION & CHILDREN

"It has been the plan to build new schools in Ammanford for a number of years, with the previous Labour administration allocating capital funding for the project prior to 2015. Could the Cabinet Member provide an update on the new Ammanford schools?"

Response by Councillor Glynog Davies – Cabinet Member for Education & Children:-

"Once again, thanks to Cllr. James. I can't go back to the period before 2015 as it was in 2017 that I joined the Cabinet. Again, I am very aware the plan was originally in Band A and this ran between 2014 and 2019. But, back in 2016, it was decided to move the project to Band B – a year before I became responsible for the portfolio. However, as the plan for Ammanford is developed I'll keep a close eye on everything that's happening.

Basically, we've seen an increase in the number of pupils, partly due to the demand for Welsh primary education in the Ammanford area. This is a good thing.

It was seen the current Bro Banw site and the Welsh School in the town centre was insufficient and it was quite a challenge to find suitable land to cope with that increase. Remember, of course that the number of the children of primary age is considerably large. Over 1000 of them, so we had to consider all kinds of options – and what is suitable for generating a town and the community of Ammanford. Also because of the size of the project we are considering everything as a possible project for MIM, the mutual investment model. I want to emphasise this again, apologies for repeating myself, but maybe not everybody has heard this. But organising primary education in Ammanford is a priority. I have said it in many meetings. It is a priority for myself and it's a priority for the administration and it is within the current MEP. I said this clearly in the Cabinet meeting on the 6th of December. You have just received the minutes. It was a public meeting and members of the opposition are able to be present and join that meeting. I said at that time, completely clearly, that the plans such as Heol Goffa, Bryngwyn, Pembrey, Dewi Sant, Ammanford and Llandeilo would continue at pace. I want to say it once again. These plans will continue quickly. We are developing the projects now. I don't want to say yet how again, how the pandemic has slowed things down because I will just be repeating myself. But everything has been delayed because of it.”

Supplementary Question by Councillor Rob James

“As Glynog has already stated Plaid reduced the priority for Ammanford when they came into power in 2015 from A to B. In the last budget £500,000 was allocated to both schools to draw up proposals with £5 million being allocated for bills this year. It is clear this is not happening as the plans haven't been developed. Can you state how the £500,000 last year was spent and we're still no closer to having new schools in Ammanford?”

Response by Councillor Glynog Davies – Cabinet Member for Education & Children:-

“As I said to Cllr. James, we are developing the project at pace. It's happening now and developing any project costs money. This work is definitely continuing, whatever you want to say. We live in this area and we know that we are serious about new schools for Ammanford Town.”

10.3. QUESTION BY COUNCILLOR ROB JAMES TO COUNCILLOR GLYNOG DAVIES, CABINET MEMBER FOR EDUCATION & CHILDREN

“Could the Cabinet Member indicate whether land has been purchased for the new Ammanford school?”

Response by Councillor Glynog Davies – Cabinet Member for Education & Children:-

“Well Cllr James, I have said this many times in public meetings. The answer is simply yes, land has been purchased.”

Supplementary Question by Councillor Rob James

“I notice that the Cabinet Member hasn't indicated any details on this. Appears that information is already in the public domain with Councillor for Pontaman previously knocking on doors and indicating a petition to stop the purchase of land off Pontaman Road. When will the Council consult on these plans for the land off Pontaman Road?”

Response by Councillor Glynog Davies – Cabinet Member for Education & Children:-

“I was criticised for the way I answered the question. I answered the question that was asked. Had land been purchased? I told you simply that yes, land had been purchased and indeed that land is in Pontaman Road but no decision has been taken yet on which school goes there, but that land is with us ready for development.”

10.4. QUESTION BY COUNCILLOR ROB JAMES TO COUNCILLOR GLYNOG DAVIES, CABINET MEMBER FOR EDUCATION & CHILDREN

“Could the Cabinet Member provide an update on the new Ysgol Dewi Sant?”

Response by Councillor Glynog Davies – Cabinet Member for Education & Children:-

“Well, thank you. We have reached the 4th question and now finally Cllr James is asking a question which is relevant to his ward. The ward that he represents.

I would like to say this first of all about Ysgol Dewi Sant, the school was opened, on the 1st of March 1947. I'm sure that you have counted, like myself that this school will be 75 years old, celebrating 75 years of Welsh medium education in Carmarthenshire. It's an important anniversary. But what makes it more important is the fact that this was the first Welsh language school to be opened by any local authority in Wales. History was created here in Carmarthenshire and thanks to the vision of the Councillors at that time and thanks to the campaign in Llanelli which was led by members of the Labour Party. The Labour Party at that time was leading the way and were opening a Welsh school for 34 children. Breaking new ground today, there is just short of 500 children on the register.

Now, the same Labour party that had the vision in 1947 has opposed at every opportunity of the plans of the administration to give a new home to this school. A site, which was chosen not by ourselves as Councillors but by experts.

The children and their teachers would now be in a new school if this administration would have had its way and they would be able to celebrate this birthday in style. Instead of that, they are in an old school, which is unsuitable for the requirements of the 21st century. Thank you Rob. The work of choosing a purposeful site is difficult, but the work is continuing, and we are working hard on this. We are working with the Environment Department. Because all the factors have to be considered, such as transportation and environment, topography, availability etc. This work has to be done thoroughly. That is what is happening at the moment.”

Supplementary Question by Councillor Rob James

“I shared the Cabinet Member’s opinions when it comes to the importance of Dewi Sant in the area and also being the first Welsh school. There’s been two years since he withdrew plans to build a new school despite numerous attempts I have made to push this Council to consult on the new site. Both the school and the community is still in the dark. Now what we’re looking for is a firm date on when this consultation will begin, so can you tell the people that are connected with this school when they will hear about the proposals for the new school.”

Response by Councillor Glynog Davies – Cabinet Member for Education & Children:-

“It’s just so unfair on those children and staff that they still in that building. And once again, I point a finger at you Rob James. Why all this time? I insist that all the elements I have noted are looked at in as much detail as possible in order to avoid, yes avoid any potential opposition in the future. Opposition that will lead to more delays, and that’s why work is being done thoroughly and I’m waiting now for Stage 1 of the work to be completed very soon.”

10.5. QUESTION BY COUNCILLOR ROB JAMES TO COUNCILLOR GLYNOG DAVIES, CABINET MEMBER FOR EDUCATION & CHILDREN

“Parents, pupils and campaigners ran a successful campaign for both Mynyddygareg and Blaenau to be saved from closure. Both schools could benefit from immediate investment to prove their sustainability going forward. Will you be including capital investment this year to improve the buildings and look at making them 3-11 schools?”

Response by Councillor Glynog Davies – Cabinet Member for Education & Children:-

“Well, you’re having my interpretation on this year when I’m answering. Just come back to the Cabinet meeting that was held on the 6th December 2021. As I said earlier we have just received the minutes and they have been approved. It was unanimously resolved not to publish a Statutory Notice to discontinue Ysgol Gynradd Mynyddygarreg, but this is important - we want to continue with plans to open a new Welsh school in the Kidwelly area. This is desperately needed instead of the one that is there currently (Gwenllian). A school is needed in the area to promote the Welsh language, in the same way we made the same decision regarding Ysgol Y Blaenau. Again, here I said clearly that I want to continue with plans for a new school in the Llandybie area and that was agreed. The decision was delayed on Mynyddygareg and Blaenau and I have spoken with parents and these governing bodies during this time and along with all the other primary schools in Carmarthenshire.

I called, as I’ve already said this morning for a full review, a comprehensive review of the modernising education programme, the MEP. This will give consideration to the age ranges of the schools. Until the review is completed capital investment for repair and maintenance will be allocated to schools on a prioritised basis and I would like to remind everyone who are governors on governing bodies that as tenants they have responsibility for many aspects of the repair and maintenance of schools. There is an allocation provided in the school budget for such matters. In

addition this year as has happened over the last couple of years, the two schools named will receive over £7000 each in addition as repairs grants and maintenance grant from Welsh Government.”

Supplementary Question by Councillor Rob James

“Both Llandybie and Gwellian are in the design phases and not expecting a new school for a number of years. Mynyddygareg and Blaenau, there is no real investment identified going forward. So finally, wouldn't you just agree that Plaid have spent last seven years threatening school closures, finishing the last Labour administration school programmes are failing tragically to progress any new school improvement.”

Response by Councillor Glynog Davies – Cabinet Member for Education & Children:-

“Would I agree with you? My simple answer Rob – No.”

11. TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING CHANGES TO MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES:-

11.1. THE LABOUR GROUP HAS NOMINATED COUNCILLOR DOT JONES TO REPLACE COUNCILLOR AMANDA FOX ON APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE A

In accordance with Corporate Procedure Rule CPR 2(2)(n) the following nomination had been received from the Labour Group and it was:

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the nomination of Councillor D. Jones to replace Councillor A.L. Fox as one of the Labour Group's representatives on Appointments Committee A be approved.

12. MINUTES FOR INFORMATION (AVAILABLE TO VIEW ON THE WEBSITE)

The Chair stated that the minutes outlined on the agenda were available for information on the Council website.

CHAIR

DATE

COUNTY COUNCIL 9TH FEBRUARY 2022

SCHEME OF DELEGATION TO OFFICERS AND PROTOCOL ON REPRESENTATIONS TO THE COUNTY COUNCIL ON PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Purpose:

To consider the recommendations of the cross-party Constitutional Review Working Group on:

- (i) proposed revisions to the Scheme of Delegation to Officers to reflect movement of functions to different Directorates, changes in job titles, new functions arising from new legislation and some additional delegations; and
- (ii) proposed revisions to the Protocol on Representations to the County Council on Planning Applications In order to better clarify the procedures and deadlines for making representations and requesting to speak at Planning Committee and to make more efficient use of the Committee's time.

Recommendations / key decisions required:

That the revisions proposed to the Scheme of Delegation to Officers and the Protocol on Representations to the County Council on Planning Applications be approved.

Reasons:

(i) To have a Scheme of Delegation to Officers which is fit for purpose and reflects the delegations needed.

(ii) to better clarify the procedures and deadlines for making representations and requesting to speak at Planning Committee, and to make more efficient use of the Committee's time.

Relevant scrutiny committee to be consulted NO. The Constitutional Review Working Group is a cross party working group established by Full Council to consider the fitness for purpose of the Council's Constitution and to recommend any changes necessary.

Cabinet Decision Required	YES in relation to executive functions
Council Decision Required	YES in relation to Council functions and changes to the Council's Constitution

CABINET MEMBER PORTFOLIO HOLDER:-

Cllr. Emlyn Dole, Chair of the Constitutional Review Working Group

Directorate:	Designations:	Tel:
Name of Head of Service: Linda Rees-Jones	Head of Administration and Law and Monitoring Officer	Email addresses: LRJones@carmarthenshire.gov.uk
Report Author: Linda Rees-Jones		

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

**COUNTY COUNCIL
9TH FEBRUARY 2022**

SCHEME OF DELEGATION TO OFFICERS AND PROTOCOL ON REPRESENTATIONS TO THE COUNTY COUNCIL ON PLANNING APPLICATIONS

1. Under the Constitution the Monitoring Officer has a duty to keep the Council's Constitution under periodic review. Amongst the documents forming part of the Council's Constitution is the "Scheme of Delegation to Officers" which sets out which decisions Council (in the case of Council functions) has agreed may be taken by officers instead of by the Council and the decisions which the Cabinet (in relation to executive functions) has agreed may be taken by officers instead of by the Cabinet.
2. Over the years various services have been restructured and moved to other Directorates, some job titles have changed and such like, and whilst the delegations are still valid as there is a catch-all provision in the Scheme to cover restructurings and movements across Directorates work has now been undertaken to bring services within their current Directorates and to update the job titles.
3. At the same time some Services have asked for additional delegations to be granted, notably Planning Services, because of new functions arising from new legislation or in order to make the determination of planning applications and planning matters a quicker process. Planning is a Council function and the delegations as asked for will need to be approved by Council.
4. All revisions are highlighted in the revised Scheme of Delegation appended to this report.
5. Planning Services have also asked for amendments to be made to the "Protocol on Representations to the County Council on Planning Applications" in order to better clarify the procedures and deadlines for making representations and requesting to speak at Planning Committee and to make more efficient use of the Committee's time. Again these are highlighted in the appendices.
6. The Constitutional Review Working Group, being the body established by the Council to make recommendations to the Council on Constitutional matters, recommend the revisions be approved.

DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED?

NO, but the revisions to the Scheme are attached.

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: Linda Rees-Jones, Head of Administration and Law and Monitoring Officer

Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities	Legal	Finance	ICT	Risk Management Issues	Staffing Implications	Physical Assets
YES	YES	NONE	NON	YES	NONE	NONE

1. Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities

The Scheme of Delegation to Officers and the Protocol on Making Representations to County Council on Planning Applications form part of the Council's Constitution and set out the decisions which the Council and the Cabinet have delegated to officers, and the procedure for third parties to address the Planning Committee respectively.

2. Legal

The Scheme of Delegation to Officers and the Protocol on Making Representations to County Council on Planning Applications form part of the Council's Constitution and needs to be kept under review in order assist with timely and proper decision making.

5. Risk Management Issues

In exercising delegated decision making authorities officers are required to comply with:

- Any statutory provisions;
- The Council's Constitution;
- The Councils Policy Framework and Budget;
- The Officers Code of Conduct
- The Code of recommended Practice on Local Authority Publicity;
- Agreed arrangements for recording decisions;
- Taking legal or other appropriate professional advice when required;
- The principles of Best Value by using the most efficient and effective means available;
- The need to consult persons or representatives of persons who may be affected by the decision, including where appropriate the local ward member.

CONSULTATIONS

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

Signed: Linda Rees-Jones, Head of Administration and Law and Monitoring Officer

**CABINET MEMBER PORTFOLIO
HOLDER AWARE/CONSULTED**

YES

**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
Scheme of Delegation to Officers	CCCN-000	Within the Councils Constitution, which is available online
Protocol on Making Representations to County Council on Planning Applications	CCCN-0000	Within the Councils Constitution, which is available online
Correspondence from various Departments or Services regarding required delegations.	CCCN-0000	Monitoring Officer, County Hall, Carmarthen

PART 3

SCHEME OF DELEGATION TO OFFICERS

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1. INTRODUCTION

This Scheme of Delegation is maintained under Section 100G of the Local Government Act 1972 and lists the functions that have been delegated to particular officers by either the Council or the ~~Executive Board~~ **Cabinet**. These functions are delegated to officers by the Council under Sections 101 and 151 of the Local Government Act 1972 and by the ~~Executive Board~~ **Cabinet** under Section 15 of the Local Government Act 2000.

All directors are authorised to make arrangements for the proper administration of the functions falling within their responsibility.

- 1.1 The officers described in this Scheme may authorise officers in their Department/service area to exercise on their behalf, functions delegated to them. Any decisions taken under this authority shall remain the responsibility of the officer described in this Scheme and must be taken in the name of that officer, who shall remain accountable and responsible for such decisions. Each department shall maintain a record of these further delegations.
- 1.2 The Scheme delegates powers and duties within broad functional descriptions and includes powers and duties under all legislation present and future within those descriptions. Any reference to a specific statute includes any statutory extension or modification or re-enactment of such statute and any regulations, orders or bylaws made there under.
- 1.3 In exercising delegated powers officers shall comply with:
 - 1.3.1 Any statutory provisions;
 - 1.3.2 The Council's Constitution;
 - 1.3.3 The Council's Policy Framework and Budget;
 - 1.3.4 The Officer's Code of Conduct;
 - 1.3.5 The Code of Recommended Practice on local authority publicity **in Wales**;
 - 1.3.6 Agreed arrangements for recording decisions;
 - 1.3.7 Taking legal or other appropriate professional advice when required;
 - 1.3.8 The principles of Best Value by using the most efficient and effective means available;

- 1.3.9. The need to consult persons or representatives of persons who may be affected by the decision, including where appropriate the local ward member.
- 1.4 The Scheme does not delegate any matter which:
- 1.4.1 Is reserved by law or by this Constitution to the full Council; or
- 1.4.2 Which may not by law be delegated to an officer.
- 1.5 The Scheme places an obligation on officers to keep the appropriate member(s) properly informed of decisions made under these delegations.
- Where an officer makes a significant decision which is based upon a power delegated from the ~~Executive Board~~ **Cabinet**, that decision must be recorded and made available on request to overview and scrutiny committees, individual councillors and to the public, subject to any limitations on exempt or confidential information.
- 1.6 It is always open to the ~~Executive Board~~ **Cabinet** or any Committee of the Council as appropriate to take decisions on any matter falling within the delegated power of an officer, provided that the matter is within their terms of reference.
- 1.7 Where expenditure is involved, such action shall be conditional upon financial provision being included within the approved budget of the Council and Financial Procedure Rules being complied with.
- 1.8 The ~~Executive Board~~ **Cabinet** will review from time to time as may be necessary the general operation of this Scheme of Delegation with any variation or amendment requiring the approval of the Council.
- 1.9 Should the title of an officer be altered from that shown due to a re-organisation of departmental arrangements or any other reason, the approved delegated powers and duties shall be exercisable by the Chief Executive or the relevant Director or Head of Service, as the case may be, responsible for the function in question.
- 1.10 In exercising these delegated powers the Chief Executive or the Director or Head of Service concerned shall have broad discretion subject to complying with all relevant legislation, the Council's Constitution, Council Procedure Rules and Financial Procedure Rules and overall Council policy, to use the most efficient and effective means available, including the deployment of staffing and other resources within their control and the procurement of other resources necessary, whether within or outside the Council.

- 1.11 Officers shall act so as to achieve for their service the policies and objectives of their service area, always having regard to the overall corporate interests of the Council.
- 1.12 In exercising delegated powers, officers shall consult other officers as appropriate and shall have regard to any advice given.
- 1.13 It shall always be open to an officer to consult ~~an Executive Board~~ **a Cabinet** Member, a Committee, or its Chair or Vice-chair before the exercise of the delegated powers. Where a particular matter under delegated authority gives the officer (or the relevant ~~Executive Board~~ **Cabinet** Member or Chair) cause for concern, it should be the subject of a report to the relevant ~~Executive Board~~ **Cabinet** Member or the ~~Executive Board~~ **Cabinet** or Committee.

DELEGATED POWERS TO THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE AND ALL DIRECTORS

General Powers

- Determination of all matters which are not required to be considered by the Council or ~~Executive Board~~ **Cabinet** or which have not been referred to a committee or a sub-committee for determination.
- Determination of any urgent matter in the purview of the Council, the ~~Executive Board~~ **Cabinet** or any committee where it is impractical to convene a meeting of that body to consider the matter.
- To serve requisitions for information under Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 or any other enabling legislation. This power is also delegated to all Heads of Service.
- To approve tenders or award contracts within the terms of the Council's Contract Procedure Rules or Financial Regulations.
- In any disputes or legal proceedings to have authority to take all action in relation to those disputes or proceedings and to prosecute pursue defend appeal abandon or settle those disputes or proceedings, as advised by the Head of Administration and Law.
- To incur expenditure or take any other step in the day to day operation of Council services in accordance with approved budgets of any Service area.
- To set all fees and charges, in consultation with the Head of Financial Services.
- To approve draft recommendations contained in Ombudsman reports.

To take action on behalf of the Council in consultation with the relevant ~~Executive Board~~ **Cabinet** Member in any urgent matter which does not allow for prior authorisation to be obtained where:

- There is a serious risk of significant cost to the Council of loss of income resulting from lack of immediate action;
- The Council's property or staff or persons in its care or for whom it has a responsibility would otherwise be placed at serious risk of suffering harm/damage;
- An emergency or disaster involving destruction or danger to life or property occurs or is imminent or there is reasonable ground for apprehending such an emergency or disaster and such action is calculated to avert, alleviate or eradicate the effects or potential effects of the event.

Legal Proceedings

To instigate legal proceedings and enforce such legislation as may, from time to time, be his/her responsibility to enforce. To issue and serve statutory and other notices, to issue formal cautions, to take default action under all legislation relevant to their functional area and to authorise officers to appear on behalf of the Council before courts, tribunals, review boards and inquiries and also to sign all necessary documents and authorise entry to land in pursuance of statutory powers.

Employment Tribunals and Employment Disputes

To approve compromise settlements **agreements** in relation to any employment dispute, as advised by the Head of Administration and Law and the Assistant Chief Executive (PMP).

Health & Safety at Work

To be responsible for all matters in relation to Health and Safety at work as defined in the Corporate Health and Safety Policy and Arrangements for Implementation.

The Chief Executive shall be entitled to determine any matter otherwise delegated to a Director in the event of that officer's absence or refusal to exercise specific delegated powers.

Proper Officer Functions

Proper Officer functions under the Local Government Act 1972 are delegated as follows:-

- To sign summonses to attend Council, Committee and Sub-Committee meetings-The Chief Executive.
- Section 88 - to convene a meeting of Council to fill a casual vacancy in the office of Chairman of the Council-The Chief Executive.
- Section 100(B) (2)-to exclude reports or parts of reports from the right of public inspection-The Head of Administration and Law.
- Section 225 – to receive and retain deposited documents-The Chief Executive.
- Section 229(5) – to certify documents-The Chief Executive.
- For all matters arising out of Part VA of the Local Government Act 1972 (Access to Information) or the Local Government Act 2000-The Chief Executive.

Other proper officer functions:

- To issue determinations consents licences or notices within the Terms of Reference of the Planning Committee -The Director of ~~Technical Services~~ **Environment** or the Head of ~~Planning~~ **Place and Sustainability**.
- To issue determinations consents licences or notices on behalf of the Council-The Chief Executive or any relevant Director or Head of Service.
- To sign any documents on behalf of the Council relating to land-The Chief Executive or the Head of Administration and Law.
- To attest the Common Seal of the Council as the officer authorised under the Council's Standing Orders-The Chief Executive or the Head of Administration and Law.
- To sign any contractual documents on behalf of the Council relating to any matter-The Chief Executive, the Head of Administration and Law or any relevant Director or Head of Service, subject (as appropriate) to that officer advising and obtaining approval from the Head of Administration and Law of the proposed signing of such document in advance of such signing.

- The Registration of Births, Deaths and Marriages-The Chief Executive.
- To receive declarations of acceptance of Office by County Councillors and Co-opted Members of the Council's Committees-The Chief Executive and the Head of Administration and Law.
- In relation to any other proper officer function not allocated to other officers - The Chief Executive and the Head of Administration and Law.

Staffing

To determine all matters relating to the staffing, structures, employment, conditions of service, development and welfare of employees of the County Council in accordance with National and Local Conditions of Service and policies and procedures.

Appointments

To make appointments within the authorised establishment, other than in relation to Heads of Service, in accordance with the appropriate Recruitment and Selection, Criminal Records Bureau, Welsh Language Scheme policies and other relevant policies and procedures of the County Council.

To determine starting salaries within the grade or grades of a post having regard to equal pay, qualifications and experience, subject to approval by the Assistant Chief Executive (~~Organisational Development~~ **People Management & Performance**).

Gradings

All grades of posts will be determined by the Assistant Chief Executive (~~Organisational Development~~ **People Management & Performance**) using the approved job evaluation process.

To approve progression beyond the bar of a scale subject to the post holder meeting the necessary criteria.

To authorise accelerated increments within an officer's scale on the grounds of special merit or ability, subject to the maximum of the scale not being exceeded, in consultation with the Assistant Chief Executive (~~Organisational Development~~ **People Management & Performance**).

~~To award performance related payments to Heads of Service in accordance with the authority's performance appraisal scheme, subject to approval by the Chief Executive. Actual payments will be authorised by the Assistant Chief Executive (~~Organisational Development~~ **People Management * Performance**).~~

Staffing Structures/Posts

To approve changes to their departmental structures where they are within approved budgets in accordance with all relevant HR Policies and Procedures of the County Council, following agreement with the Assistant Chief Executive (~~Organisational Development~~ **People Management & Performance**) where a business case has been established.

To approve the deletion of posts or the creation of new posts subject to approval of the grade and conditions of service by the Assistant Chief Executive (~~Organisational Development~~ **People Management & Performance**).

Alternative Working Arrangements

To develop and implement alternative working arrangements in line with corporate developments and following consultation with the Assistant Chief Executive (~~Organisational Development~~ **People Management & Performance**).

To determine internal or interdepartmental secondments where operationally desirable and in consultation with the Assistant Chief Executive (~~Organisational Development~~ **People Management & Performance**).

To agree external secondments to recognised partner organisations subject to operational exigencies.

Temporary Staff

To engage temporary or casual staff for the temporary replacement of existing staff absent on long term sickness, maternity leave etc. and in consultation with the Assistant Chief Executive (~~Organisational Development~~ **People Management & Performance**).

To engage temporary or casual staff additional to the authorised establishment to meet exceptional needs for a period of up to twelve months, subject to the Recruitment and Selection Policy and in consultation with the Assistant Chief Executive (~~Organisational Development~~ **People Management & Performance**).

To approve the creation of temporary posts which are fully funded by external agencies e.g. Government Departments, ~~NAFW~~ **The Senedd, Welsh Government** etc. in consultation with the Assistant Chief Executive (~~Organisational Development~~ **People Management & Performance**).

The above will be subject to evaluation of grades and conditions by the Assistant Chief Executive (~~Organisational Development~~ **People Management & Performance**).

Leave

To grant leave, special leave with or without pay and parental leave without pay in accordance with National Conditions of Service as supplemented by Local Conditions of Service Policies and Procedure

Compassionate Leave

At the discretion of the Chief Officer the provision for compassionate leave for each instance of death or serious illness of immediate family be extended up to five days paid leave from three days paid leave.

Authority to allow unpaid leave of absence on compassionate grounds of up to three months.

Payments for Additional Duties

To approve and process for payment, Honoraria or Acting Up Allowances to Officers temporarily undertaking high graded duties, subject to consultation with the Assistant Chief Executive (~~Organisational Development~~ **People Management & Performance**).

Relocation and Excess Travel Allowances

To authorise the payment of re-location and excess travel allowances to employees appointed to permanent posts in accordance with the Local Conditions of Services.

Post Entry Training

To authorise the attendance of employees on courses of study and to authorise the payment of course fees etc. in accordance with the Authority's post entry training scheme.

Car/Telephone Designations

To approve car/telephone designations in consultation with the Assistant Chief Executive (~~Organisational Development~~ **People Management & Performance**).

Discipline

To initiate suspension of employees, in accordance with the Authority's Disciplinary Procedure or the JNC for Chief Officers Disciplinary Rules in consultation with the Assistant Chief Executive (~~Organisational Development~~ **People Management & Performance**).

An individual's employment with the Authority be terminated following Officer Disciplinary Hearings or Member Appeal Hearings subject to the involvement of the

Assistant Chief Executive (~~Organisational Development~~ **People Management & Performance**) as set out in the Local Conditions of Service Policies and Procedures.

Press and Media Enquiries

The Director to be the Department's nominated officer for press and media enquiries of a strategic nature and Heads of Service to be the department's nominated officers for service specific issues.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S

The Chief Executive shall be the Head of Paid Service under Section 4 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, having responsibility for the following functions:

General

- the strategic direction and management of the Council;
- the manner in which the discharge of the various functions of the Council are discharged;
- the numbers and grades of staff required by the Council to discharge its functions;
- the organisation appointment and proper management of the Council's staff;
- acting as Returning Officer and Electoral Registration Officer for local government, National Assembly for Wales **The Senedd and** Parliamentary and European elections;
- amending election fees for Local Authority elections following the annual NJC pay award or a review of relevant fees by the Home Office;
- those powers and duties relating to election functions that are delegated to the Head of Paid Service by the Council, as set out in part D of table 1 in Part 3 of this Constitution;
- in consultation with the Chair and Vice Chair of Council, in accordance with section 85 of the Local Government Act 1972 to grant approval on behalf of the County Council for members' absence where the reason is related to ill health. (However, in the event of a member being absent for a period of 12 months since the leave of absence was granted then the situation be reported to the Council for consideration.)

Staffing Issues

To approve and sign Certificates of Opinion to accompany applications to the Independent Adjudicator for exempting officers from the application of the political restriction rules in the Local Government and Housing Act 1989.

~~To award performance related payments to Directors in accordance with the Council's performance appraisal scheme. Actual payments will be authorised by the Assistant Chief Executive (People Management & Performance).~~

To extend the Council's Single Status Severance Scheme beyond 31st March 2013, if required ~~(CC-07/03/12).~~

Investigating Panel

To appoint, in consultation with the Leaders of the Political Groups, 5 members to serve on the Investigating Panel for JNC Officer disciplinary issues.

Annual Statement of Internal Control

To act as the Council Officer nominated to sign the Annual Statement of Internal Control following formal approval by the Audit Committee.

Dispersal Order

Delegated authority be vested in the Chief Executive in respect of Dispersal Orders

Council Diary of Meetings

To prepare and implement the Council's programme of ordinary meetings.
~~(CC09/06/10)~~

Single Status Severance Scheme (Removed due to Duplication)

~~The Chief Executive authorised to grant further extension to the scheme if required.
CC07/03/12~~

Councillors' and Co-opted Members' Allowances – Care Allowance Scheme

~~Delegated authority to increase the reimbursement of care provided by family members and friends, in line with increases in the appropriate minimum wage rate per hour and the Council's prescribed rate paid to "responsible siblings" by the same percentage level.~~

~~Delegated authority in consultation with the Leader to approve and publish the Council's Schedule of Members' Remuneration. CC adjourned Meeting 01/06/12~~

Licensing Act 2003 and Gambling Act 2005

Delegated authority to make representations on behalf of the Council acting in its capacity as a responsible authority.

POWERS DELEGATED TO THE HEAD OF ADMINISTRATION AND LAW

The Head of Administration and Law shall be authorised to exercise the following functions:

Monitoring Officer

To be the Monitoring Officer for the County Council under Section 5 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, with power to designate another officer to act as Monitoring Officer in the event of his absence.

To be responsible for undertaking Stage 2 determinations on behalf of the Dyfed Pension Fund.

Head of Administration and Law

To act as Head of Profession for legal functions.

Legal Agreements and Contracts (excluding land)

To sign or attest the seal of the County Council in respect of any contract or legal agreement.

Legal Agreements and Contracts relating to Land

To sign agreements relating to all land transactions and also authority to delegate that power to individual officers in other departments or service areas on such terms and conditions as may be specified.

Litigation

To defend or arrange for the defence of any actions, claims, or proceedings brought against the Council and to incur any necessary expenditure in relation to the legal processes involved including (but not limited to) expenditure in relation to the retention of external advisers including Counsel, experts and external legal advisers and settle claims for damages (including making payments into Court where necessary), subject to consultation where time allows with the appropriate service director, with a report on action taken being submitted to the appropriate ~~Executive Board~~ **Cabinet** Member meeting where the settlement figure exceeds £100,000. To agree the amount of and pay a claimant's legal costs in relation to claims settled up to £30,000 in respect of any one claim.

To authorise the payment of damages and legal costs arising as a result of a Court Order against the Council, to the sum or sums specified in the Court Order.

To institute any legal proceedings for the furtherance of the Council's functions, including proceedings for an injunction, where it is necessary for such proceedings to be commenced as a matter of urgency in order to prevent danger or injury to Council staff or members of the public, to protect Council land and property, to maintain essential services, or for any other purpose where the Council or the public will be seriously prejudiced if such action is not taken, and to settle such proceedings subject to consultation where time allows with the appropriate service director, with a report on action taken being submitted to the appropriate ~~Executive Board~~ **Cabinet** Member meeting where the settlement figure exceeds £100,000.

To provide and accept any undertakings or deal with any other ancillary matter required by the Court during the course of such proceedings.

To settle Employment Tribunal cases subject to consultation where time allows with the appropriate service director and the Assistant Chief Executive (PMP).

Indemnities

To authorise indemnities where they are required to enable the Council to exercise any of its functions provided that where the giving of an indemnity could have exceptional financial implications, the matter shall be referred to the appropriate Member of the ~~Executive Board~~ **Cabinet**.

Retention of Counsel

To seek Counsel's Opinion or other expert advice and to retain Counsel or other experts whenever this is considered to be appropriate.

External Legal Advice

To procure external legal advice and support in relation to any proceedings or matter involving the County Council, or a company or partnership in which the County Council has an interest where that is considered to be appropriate.

Legal Costs

To settle the amount of vendors' legal costs based on the Solicitors Remuneration Order 1972.

Blight Notices

To accept legally binding Blight Notices served on the Council and conforming with the requirements of Section 150 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, requiring the Council to purchase property and land, and to serve Counter Notices where necessary.

Interest in Land

In consultation with the appropriate Director(s) or Head of Service(s) dealing with the matter in respect of which the information is required to serve Notices under Section 16 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976, on persons requiring them to furnish particulars of any interest they may have in land.

Law of Property Act 1925

Head of Housing Services **Homes and Safer Communities**, Head of Planning **Place and Sustainability**, ~~Head of Public Protection~~ and Head of Administration and Law to instigate the necessary action to bring about an enforced sale, including the disposal of the property.

Commons Registration

To consider and determine on their legal merits applications for the registration of Common Land and Village Greens brought under the Commons Registration Act 1965 including the appointment of an inspector and the holding of a public inquiry when advised to do so by Counsel.

Court Appearances

Under Section 223 Local Government Act 1972 to prosecute, defend or appear on behalf of the Carmarthenshire County Council in proceedings before the Magistrates' Court

Under Section 60 County Courts Act 1984 to conduct on behalf of the Council actions in the County Court for both of the following:

- the recovery of possession of houses belonging to the Council;
- the recovery of any rent, mesne profits, damages or other sum claimed by the Council in respect of the occupation by any person of such a house.

Local Settlement of Complaints

To approve draft recommendations contained in Ombudsman reports.

To approve suitable and appropriate payments in settlement of complaints against the Council and in local settlement of Ombudsman complaints, such payments to be made from the appropriate service budget following consultation with the relevant service director.

Children Protection at Work Regulations 1998 (as amended)

To take all relevant procedural steps in order to invoke any necessary byelaws.

Traffic Management Act 2004

To reconsider matters referred back to the Council by the Parking Adjudication Service.

School Appeals Panels

To appoint members of an independent appeals panel to determine:

- (a) appeals against the permanent exclusion of a child from school;

(b) appeals against refusal to admit a pupil to a school;
(c) appeals by governing bodies against decisions by or on behalf of the Council to admit to the school a child to whom Section 87(2) of the Schools Standards and Framework Act 1988 applies.

Powers Delegated to the Head of Regeneration

The functions associated with the delivery of the Council's responsibilities for economic development and regeneration including the approval of any grant that falls within these functions and, including (but not limited to) the functions described below.

Business Support/Implementation Mechanism

In consultation with the Director of Corporate Services to consider each application according to agreed criteria.

Business, Community or Regeneration Related Grants Programmes

To award grants of up to a maximum of ~~£5,000~~ **£10,000** under the above programmes.

Western Valleys Sustainable Hubs Project

~~Chief Executive and Head of Regeneration~~ subject to consultation with the Grant Advisory Panel, to approve grants of up to £25,000 in relation to applications arising out of the Western Valleys Sustainable Hubs Community Regeneration project.

Local Investment Fund

~~Chief Executive and Head of Regeneration~~ authorised to award grants under the Local Investment Fund up to a maximum of £35,000.
(CC 09/11/11)

Dyfed Welsh Church Fund

To make grant awards from the Welsh Church Fund.

Valuations

The **Head of Regeneration's** certified valuation is accepted for all property transactions subject to Council policy as to whether an individual asset is to be disposed, acquired or leased.

Acquisitions

To acquire land for any purpose, subject to the policy of the property requirement being in place and to instruct the Head of Administration and Law to prepare appropriate documentation in relation to any agreement.

Authorised in consultation with the Corporate Management Team and the appropriate ~~Executive Board~~ **Cabinet** Member(s) to purchase small areas of derelict land or derelict buildings which have the potential to become saleable assets in the future (or to be

used by the council), or where ownership of the land will enable clearance work to be carried out to improve the environment. (In accordance with the terms of reference of the Derelict Land Fund).

Notices

To accept and serve notices required under the Agricultural Holdings or any Landlord and Tenants Acts governing the management of rural and urban estates.

Legal Agreements

To complete Wayleave, Easement ~~and~~ tenancy ~~and~~ licence agreements, where it falls within a category of transaction agreed with the Head of Administration and Law as being appropriate for signing, rather than execution under the Council's common seal.

Planning Applications

To submit planning applications in respect of land, to assess its development potential prior to sale, or to carry out a development on behalf of the Authority.

Appropriation of Land

To appropriate land for any purpose under the provisions of Section 122 of the Local Government Act 1972, subject to any statutory limitations and to the written agreement of the relevant Director or Head of Service who has responsibility for the land prior to its appropriation.

Disposals

To dispose of land and buildings no longer required for Council functions, save that decisions relating to the disposal of Strategic land and buildings which will have a major effect on the commercial activity of an area shall be reserved to the ~~Executive Board~~ **Cabinet**. In both cases there shall be a requirement to consult with local members.

To dispose of freehold reversions of residential dwellings as required.

To agree reserve / asking prices and the most appropriate method of property marketing / disposal.

To instruct the Head of Administration and Law to prepare appropriate documentation in relation to any agreement.

Lettings

To approve requests for the assignment of leases and the underletting and sub-letting of property where consent for such requests cannot reasonably be withheld and to instruct the Head of Administration & Law to prepare the appropriate documentation in relation to any such consents.

To let property (lettings to include seasonal licenses and concessions), such property to include commercial, industrial and rural estates, livestock and provisions markets,

surplus or non-operational property etc. and to sign such letting agreements where it falls within a category of transaction agreed with the Head of Administration and Law as being appropriate for signing, rather than execution under the Council's common seal.

To instruct the Head of Administration and Law to terminate, repossess and recover property and any monies due.

To accept surrender of existing interest and re-grant of longer letting periods at revised terms.

To negotiate and agree appropriate tenant's improvements.

Adverse Possession and boundary disputes

To instruct the Head of Administration and Law to recover possession of trespassed land and to resolve boundary disputes affecting Council owned land and property.

Disputes

To attend Courts, tribunals and alternative dispute resolution hearings to settle property disputes, including statutory land compensation matters.

CORPORATE SERVICES

~~RESOURCES~~

The Director of Resources **Corporate Services** shall have delegated authority for the exercise of all Council powers relating to the following matters:

PROPERTY RELATED ISSUES — (MOVED TO CEX / HEAD OF REGENERATION)

Valuations

~~The Head of Corporate Property's certified valuation is accepted for all property transactions subject to Council policy as to whether an individual asset is to be disposed, acquired or leased.~~

Acquisitions

~~To acquire land for any purpose, subject to the policy of the property requirement being in place and to instruct the Head of Administration and Law to prepare appropriate documentation in relation to any agreement.~~

~~Authorised in consultation with the Corporate Management Team and the appropriate Executive Board Member(s) to purchase small areas of derelict land or derelict buildings which have the potential to become saleable assets in the future (or to be used by the council), or where ownership of the land will enable clearance work to be carried out to improve the environment. (In accordance with the terms of reference of the Derelict Land Fund).~~

Notices

~~To accept and serve notices required under the Agricultural Holdings or any Landlord and Tenants Acts governing the management of rural and urban estates.~~

Legal Agreements

~~To complete Wayleave Easement and tenancy agreements, where it falls within a category of transaction agreed with the Head of Administration and Law as being appropriate for signing, rather than execution under the Council's common seal.~~

Planning Applications

~~To submit planning applications in respect of land, to assess its development potential prior to sale, or to carry out a development on behalf of the Authority.~~

Appropriation of Land

~~To appropriate land for any purpose under the provisions of Section 122 of the Local Government Act 1972, subject to any statutory limitations and to the written agreement of the relevant Director or Head of Service who has responsibility for the land prior to its appropriation.~~

Disposals

~~To dispose of land and buildings no longer required for Council functions, save that decisions relating to the disposal of Strategic land and buildings which will have a major effect on the commercial activity of an area shall be reserved to the Executive Board. In both cases there shall be a requirement to consult with local members.~~

~~To dispose of freehold reversions of residential dwellings as required.~~

~~To agree reserve / asking prices and the most appropriate method of property marketing / disposal.~~

~~To instruct the Head of Administration and Law to prepare appropriate documentation in relation to any agreement.~~

Lettings

~~To approve requests for the assignment of leases and the underletting and sub-letting of property where consent for such requests cannot reasonably be withheld and to instruct the Head of Administration & Law to prepare the appropriate documentation in relation to any such consents.~~

~~To let property (lettings to include seasonal licenses and concessions), such property to include commercial, industrial and rural estates, livestock and provisions markets, surplus or non-operational property etc. and to sign such letting agreements where it falls within a category of transaction agreed with the Head of Administration and Law as being appropriate for signing, rather than execution under the Council's common seal.~~

~~To instruct the Head of Administration and Law to terminate, repossess and recover property and any monies due.~~

~~To accept surrender of existing interest and re-grant of longer letting periods at revised terms.~~

~~To negotiate and agree appropriate tenant's improvements.~~

Adverse Possession and boundary disputes

~~To instruct the Head of Administration and Law to recover possession of trespassed land and to resolve boundary disputes affecting Council owned land and property.~~

Disputes

~~To attend Courts, tribunals and alternative dispute resolution hearings to settle property disputes, including statutory land compensation matters.~~

FINANCIAL RELATED SERVICES

Council Tax and Housing Benefit

To undertake the following:

Local Government Finance Act 1992 (unless indicated otherwise)

- To collect the Council Tax - Para. 1
- To determine liability to the Tax - Paras. 6,7
- To determine liability of owners - Para. 8(3)
- To determine joint and several liability - Paras. 8,9
- To determine and allow discounts - Para. 11 Schedule 1
- To determine reductions for disabled people - Para. 1
- To consider and respond to notices from aggrieved persons (regarding liability and any calculations) - Para. 16
- To hold the Valuation List on deposit for public inspection and provide information on the contents of past lists - Paras.22,28
- To provide information required by the Listing Officer (Valuation Officer) for the purpose of maintaining the List - Para. 27
- To impose penalties on persons for failure to supply information or to knowingly supply false information. Schedule 3.
- To quash penalties. Schedule 3.
- To require information from individuals and public bodies
- To approve individual Council Tax reduction applications in accordance with approved guidelines.

Council Tax (Administration and Enforcement Regulations 1992 as amended)

- To notify persons concerned of the valuation of the relevant property
- To ascertain and determine Exempt Dwellings and to notify the relevant persons
- To serve demand notices
- To serve reminder notices
- To serve adjustment notices
- To collect penalties
- To apply for a Liability Order
- To make an Attachment of Earnings Order
- To make an Attachment of Allowances Order

Council Tax Valuation & Liability Appeals

To represent the Council at Local Valuation Tribunal hearings dealing with Council Tax appeals (Section 16 Local Government Finance Act, 1992).

Housing Benefit & Council Tax Benefit

To undertake all functions relating to the assessment, administration and payment of Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit.

Housing Benefit & Council Benefit Payments - Discretionary Housing Payments & Irrecoverable Overpayments

To award Discretionary Housing Payments in respect of Housing Benefit & Council Tax Benefit (The Discretionary Financial Assistance Regulations 2001 - SI.1167 & 2340).

To determine irrecoverable overpayments of Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit [Regulation 100, Housing Benefit (General) Regulations 1987 and Regulation 85 of the Council Tax Benefit (General) Regulations 1992].

Housing Benefit Cheques

- Authorised signatories in respect of Housing Benefit cheques up to a value of £400.
- Authorised to “open” housing benefit cheques up to £400.

Prosecution Proceedings & Fraud Sanctions - Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit Fraud

To instigate prosecution proceedings in relation to Housing Benefits and Council Tax Benefit fraud, in accordance with the authority’s agreed prosecution policy.

To impose formal Cautions or Administrative Penalties in relation to Housing Benefits and Council Tax Benefit fraud.

Benefit Appeals

To represent the Council at Appeals Service Benefit Hearings [Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit (Decisions & Appeals) Regulations 2001].

Fraud Investigations

To issue Certificates of Authorisation to qualifying officers within the Fraud Investigation Unit, to enable them to become authorised officers, in accordance with Section 109 of the Social Security Administration Act 1992.

Non-Domestic Rates & Other Revenues

To undertake all functions relating to the assessment, administration, collection and recovery of Non-Domestic Rates, and Sundry Debt due to the Authority.

Mandatory and Discretionary Rate Relief
[Local Government Finance Act 1988 (unless otherwise stated)]

To:

- Award mandatory rate relief to those businesses that qualify, Sec. 43(5) & 43(6a)
- Award discretionary Rural Rate Relief in accordance with current Council policy. Sec. 47(2a) & (2b) and 47(3a) & (3b)
- Award the appropriate level of discretionary relief to charitable and other non-profit making organisations in accordance with current Council policy
- Grant rate reductions for Partly Occupied Property in accordance with Valuation Officer certificates Sec. 44a,

Recovery Proceedings at Magistrates' Court

To represent the Council at proceedings at Magistrates' Court for recovery of Council Tax and Non-Domestic Rates (Section 223, Local Government Act, 1972).

To lay a Complaint for Liability Order in respect of unpaid Council Tax, Non-Domestic Rates and residual Community Charges under the following Regulations:

Part VI of Council Tax (Administration and Enforcement) Regulations, 1992.

Part III of Non-Domestic Rating (Collection and Enforcement) Regulations, 1989.

Part IV of Community Charges (Administration and Enforcement) Regulations, 1989.

Recovery of Commercial Rents

To instruct bailiffs in the recovery of commercial rents (common law rights).

Recovery Proceedings at County Court

To represent the Council at proceedings at County Court for the recovery of Sundry Debts.

Local Government Reorganisation - Dyfed Debts

To write off pre Local Government Reorganisation Dyfed Debts.

Irrecoverable Debts

To write off irrecoverable debts of value less than £1,500.

To write off debts where the debtor is bankrupt, in liquidation or in administrative receivership.

Pensions Administration

In accordance with The Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 1997 or subsequent amending legislation:

To collect employee and employer contributions from participating employers;

To make payments in respect of scheme benefits;

To collect and make pension transfer payments as elected by scheme members;

To determine non policy related discretions as an Employing/Administering Pension Authority;

To undertake Stage 1 determinations on disputes arising from the Local Government Pensions Scheme or related legislation.

Treasury Management and Banking

To implement and monitor the Treasury Management Policy and Strategy.

The execution and administration of Treasury Management decisions in accordance with the Council's policy statement and Treasury Management Policies and CIPFA's Standard of Professional Practice on Treasury Management.

To borrow and invest money in accordance with the Treasury Management Policy and Strategy and with the Investment Strategy.

To change the balance between borrowing and other long term liabilities.

To remove organisations from or lower the investment limits stated on the "Schedule of Approved Organisations for Investment Purposes" in appendix B of the Treasury Management Policy and Strategy where credit ratings change.

To open and close bank and building society accounts for investment purposes, and to enter into a banking contract.

Payments made in EUROS or other non-Sterling Currencies

To evaluate the relative advantage of discounts offered for payments made in EUROS **or other non Sterling currencies** and to make decisions on paying in Sterling or Euros **other currencies** based on such evaluations .

Technical and Prudential Indicators

To enter into finance leases, operating leases, loan agreements and other credit arrangements on behalf of the Authority.

To monitor the Prudential Indicators in an appropriate manner and to recommend revisions to Indicators where appropriate.

Capital Receipts

To switch funding of capital receipts between the Objective 1 schemes and other approved schemes as necessary, in order to fulfil the aspirations of Council.

Objective Match 1 Capital Grant Funding

To amend the Authority's Capital Programme in accordance with available funding.

Where additional in year Capital Grant is made available by third parties, delegation is provided in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Resources to amend the Authority's Capital programme in accordance with available funding (with the additional funds being retrospectively reported to Cabinet).

Authorised Signatories

Authorised signatory for transactions relating to Carmarthenshire County Council.

Cheque Signatories

To sign cheques and other financial instruments on behalf of Carmarthenshire County Council.

Renewal of Insurance Policies

To negotiate and agree renewal terms with an Insurer, provided that the Agreement does not run longer than the maximum Contract Period (Long Term Agreement) agreed at the commencement of the Policy.

Where there is a proposal to extend outside the maximum length of any Long Term Agreement, the Director of Resources **Corporate Services** will seek the approval of the Executive Board **Cabinet** Member.

Insurance Policies and Settlements Policies

To arrange appropriate insurance cover to minimise the Authority's exposure to losses.

Liability Claims

To approve offers of "Out of Court" settlements on Liability Claims on the recommendation of the Authority's Insurers, nominated Liability Claims Handlers or the Solicitors instructed to defend the relevant claim.

Property Damage Claims

To approve settlements of Property Claims as recommended by the Authority's Property Loss Adjustors.

Small Claims Procedure

To settle Personal Property Damage Claims received from members of the public (excluding Members and employees) up to a maximum of £250* per claim. Claims involving Personal Injury or claims arising from an incident which may give rise to a number of potentially similar claims will be forwarded to the nominated Claims Handlers

- The £250 maximum be subject to an increase in line with RPI.

Approval of Indemnity Claims for Members and Officers up to £5000

In consultation with the Monitoring Officer, to approve indemnity claims that are not covered by the Council's insurance policy, up to a maximum of £5,000.

Employment Tribunal Settlements

To make payments in respect of ~~compromise~~ settlements agreed by the Chief Executive / relevant Directors / Heads of Service in respect of Employment Tribunals.

Welsh Church Fund

Authorised signatory.

Coroners' Removal Expenses

To increase fees in line with inflation.

Letters of Administration

To apply for Letters of Administration on behalf of the Authority.

Boarding Out Allowances to Foster Carers

Following consultation with the Director of ~~Social Care & Housing~~ **Community Services** to review and agree upon the level of annual increases in boarding out allowances to be paid to foster carers.

Business Support / Implementation Mechanism

Following consultation with the Director of ~~Regeneration~~ **Head of Regeneration** to consider each application according to agreed criteria.

~~Cwm Environmental Limited~~

To exercise the functions for which the Council are responsible under the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Company.

To jointly agree with the Director of Technical Services the authority for CWM Environmental Limited, to annually appoint Auditors and enter into transactions in excess of £25,000.00. **(now within Shareholders Board)**

Llanelli Joint Venture

To negotiate any further interim loans pending targeted and contractually committed receipts.

~~(SOCIAL CARE, HEALTH AND HOUSING)~~

COMMUNITY SERVICES

SOCIAL CARE

The Director of ~~Social Care, Health and Housing~~* **Community Services** shall have delegated authority for the exercise of all powers relating to the functions of the County Council as Social Services Authority and under the enactments specified in Schedule 1 to the Local Authority Social Services Act, 1970 (as amended) **and the Social Services Well-Being (Wales) Act 2014.**

Adult Services

The powers of the Director of ~~Social Care, Health and Housing~~ **Community Services** for adults shall include:

- The assessment of need of individuals, and the Care Management of all people who are eligible for support from public funds, as specified in the NHS and Community Care Act 1990 and the Mental Health Act 1983 as amended and where applicable the Mental Capacity Act 2005.
- The assessment of need for Carers in accordance with the Carers (Recognition and Services) Act, 1995, the Carers and Disabled Children Act 2000 and the Carers (Equal Opportunities) Act, 2004.
- Meeting the assessed needs of individuals either through direct provision or by commissioning from the independent Sector or other agencies or bodies in respect of the following:

Residential Care

Non Residential Services

Occupational Therapy

Provision of Aids and Equipment

Employment Services

Social work Services

Grants to Organisations/Individuals

Adaptations

Community Meals

Transport

Direct Payments

Supported Living

Any other service which is ancillary to the above or which may meet the assessed needs of a service user and which is permissible by statute

- Authority to make arrangements and/or enter into contracts for Social Care services.
- Responsibility for the day to day management of premises required by the Council for the delivery of such services.
- Authorisation and appointment of Approved Social Workers and Approved Mental Health Professionals for the purposes of the Mental Health Act 1983 as amended.

- Approval and payment of grants to organisations.

- Collection and recovery of charges for services provided and/or commissioned.
- Acting as agent or broker on behalf of another public body or government agency.
- Facilitating and managing services on behalf of National Health Service bodies.
- Planning, training and professional development of Social Services workforce.
- To make decisions in individual cases where the legislation, regulations, statutory guidance allowed discretion or was unclear, and that he/she be authorised to delegate that responsibility to suitable senior officers, as appropriate, to ensure issues were dealt with efficiently and without unnecessary delay (Residential Social Services – Practice and Policy)

*The Director of ~~Social Care, Health and Housing~~ **Community Services** has delegated all his statutory functions relating to children and young people to the Head of Children's Services. The Director of Education and Children's Services has also delegated certain of his statutory functions relating to children and young people to the Head of Children's Services, as further described in this Scheme.

Care of expectant and nursing mothers and young children.

The Approval and payment of grants to outside bodies organisations.

PUBLIC PROTECTION FUNCTIONS

All the functions of the Council relating to public protection are delegated to the Director of ~~Social Care, Health and Housing~~ **Community Services** and to the Head of ~~Public Protection, Homes and Safer Communities~~ including (but not limited to) all the functions listed below.

Authority to the Head of Public Protection to act as a Proper Officer in respect of:

Food Safety Act 1990;
Local Government Act, 1972 - S's 112, 204, 213, 234 & Sch 25;
Public Health Acts, 1936 – 1961;
Licensing Act 2003.

Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Driver's Licence or Dual Driver's Licence

To determine uncontested applications submitted for a hackney carriage or private hire driver's licence or dual driver's licence.

Licensing Act 2003 and Gambling Act 2005

Delegated authority to make representations on behalf of the Council acting in its capacity as a responsible authority.

European Union Regulations

To enforce the provisions of the following EU Regulations:

Regulation (EC) No 178/2002

Regulation (EC) No 852/2004

Regulation (EC) No 853/2004

Regulation (EC) No 854/2004

(Made under the Treaty establishing the European Community and a number of EU Directives)

General Food Regulations 2004

(Made under the Food Safety Act, 1990 and the European Communities Act, 1972)

Food Hygiene (Wales) Regulations 2006

(Made under the European Communities Act, 1972)

Extent of Delegation

Where it is considered to be expedient for the promotion or protection of the interests of the inhabitants of the area, the powers contained in Sections 222 of the Local Government Act, 1972, to prosecute or defend legal proceedings and to make representations at any public inquiry, are delegated to the Director of ~~Social Care, Health and Housing~~ **Community Services**, Head of ~~Public Protection~~ **Homes and Safer Communities** and Officers of the Department that use specific delegated authority granted by Council, subject to the agreement of the Head of Administration and Law.

Works in Default

To initiate and make arrangements for the execution of works in default.

General Authorisation to Enforce Acts and Regulations or Orders Made Under the Acts

Authority to the Director and to the Head of ~~Public Protection~~ **Homes and Safer Communities** to exercise all powers and duties (to include any enforcement powers and any decisions relating to the appointment of inspectors) relating to any of the following Statutes:

Abandonment of Animals Act 1960

Accommodation Agencies Act 1953

Administration of Justice Acts 1970 & 1985

Agriculture Act 1970

Agricultural (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1968

Agricultural Produce (Grading and Marking) Acts 1928 & 1931

Aids Control Act 1987

Animals Act 1971
Animal Boarding Establishment Act 1963
Animal Health Act 1981
Animal Welfare Act 2006
Anti-Social Behaviour Act 2003

Breeding of Dogs Acts 1973 & 1991
Breeding and Sale of Dogs (Welfare) Act 1999
Broadcasting Act 1990
Building Act 1984
Business Names Act 1985

Cancer Act 1939
Caravan Sites Act 1968
Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act 1960
Celluloid and Cinematograph Film Act 1922
Children and Young Persons Act 1933
Children and Young Persons (Protection from Tobacco) Act 1991
Cinemas Act 1985
Clean Air Act 1993
Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005
Companies Act 1985
Consumer Arbitration Agreement Act 1988
Consumer Credit Act 1974
Consumer Protection Act 1987
Control of Pollution Act 1974
Control of Pollution (Amendment) Act 1989
Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988
Copyright etc. and Trade Mark Offences and Enforcement Act 2002

Criminal Attempts Act 1981
Criminal Justice Acts 1982
Criminal Justice Act 1988
Criminal Justice and Police Act 2001
Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994
Criminal Law Act 1977 Dangerous Dogs Act 1989 & 1991

Dangerous Dogs Act 1991
Dangerous Dogs (Amendment Act) 1997
Dangerous Wild Animals Act 1976
Data Protection Act 1984
Defective Premises Act 1972
Development of Tourism Act 1969
Dogs Act 1906 and the Dogs (Amendment) Act 1928

Education Reform Act 1988
Energy Act 1976
Energy Conservation Act 1981
Enterprise Act 2002
Environment Act 1995

Environment and Safety Information Act 1988
Environmental Protection Act 1990
Estate Agents Act 1979
European Communities Act 1972 and any Regulations made thereunder
Explosives Act-1923
Explosives (Age of Purchase) Act 1976

Fair Trading Act 1973
Farm and Garden Chemicals Act 1967
Forgery and Counterfeiting Act 1981
Food and Environmental Protection Act 1985
Food Safety Act 1990
Fraud Act 2006

Game Act 1831
Gambling Act 2005
Guard Dogs Act 1975

Hallmarking Act 1973
Health Act 2006
Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974
Highways Act 1980
Home Safety Act 1961
House to House Collections Act 1939
Hypnotism Act 1952

Insurance Brokers (Registration) Act 1977

Knives Act 1997

Land Compensation Act 1973
Landlord and Tenant Act 1985
Local Government Act 1972
Local Government Planning and Land Act 1980
Local Government and Housing Acts 1984 & 1989
Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976
Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982
Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2003
Licensing Act 2003

Malicious Communications Act 1988
Medicines Act 1968
Mines and Quarries Act 1954
Misrepresentation Act 1967
Mobile Homes Act 1983
Mock Auctions Act 1961
Motorcycle Noise Act 1987
Motor Vehicles (Safety Equipment for Children) Act 1991

National Lottery Act 1993
 Noise Act 1996
 Noise and Statutory Nuisance Act 1993
 Nurses Agencies Act 1957

 Olympic Symbol etc. (Protection) Act 1995

 Patents, Designs and Marks Act 1986
 Performing Animals (Regulation) Act 1925
 Pesticides (Fees and Enforcement) Act 1989
 Pet Animals Act 1951
 Petroleum (Consolidation) Act 1928
 Petroleum (Transfer of Licence) Act 1936
 Planning and Hazardous Substances Act 1990
 Poisons Act 1972
 Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984
 Police, Factories etc. (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1916
 Pollution Prevention and Control Act 1999
 Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1949
 Prices Acts 1974 & 1975
 Property Misdemeanors Act 1991
 Protection from Eviction Act 1977
 Protection of Animals Act 1911
 Protection of Children (Tobacco) Act 1986
 Public Health Acts 1936 & 1961
 Public Health (Control of Disease) Act 1984

 Radioactive Substances Act 1993
 Refuse Disposal (Amenity) Act 1978
 Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974
 Rent Acts 1957 – 1977
 Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000
 Riding Establishments Acts 1964 & 1970
 Road Traffic Acts 1988 & 1991
 Road Traffic (Consequential Provisions) Act 1988
 Road Traffic (Foreign Vehicles) Act 1972
 Road Traffic Offenders Act 1988

 Safety of Sports Grounds Act 1975
 Sale of Goods Act 1979
 Scotch Whisky Act 1988
 Scrap Metal Dealers Act 2013
 Solicitors Act 1974
 Sunbed (Regulation) Act 2010,
 Sunday Trading Act 1994
 Supply of Goods Act 1979
 Supply of Goods and Services Act 1982

Telecommunications Act 1984
Theft Acts 1968 & 1978
Timeshare Act 1992
Torts (Interference with Goods) Act 1977
Town Police Clauses Act 1847 & 1889
Trade Descriptions Act 1968
Trade Marks Act 1994
Trading Representations (Disabled Persons) Acts 1958& 1972
Trading Scheme Act 1991
Trading Stamps Act 1964

Unfair Contract Terms Act 1977
Unsolicited Goods and Services Acts 1971 & 1975

Vehicle Crime Act 2001
Video Recordings Act 1984
Video Recordings Act 1993
Violent Crime Reduction Act 2006
Water Industry Act 1991
Water Resources Act 1991
Weights and Measures Acts 1976 & 1985

Zoo Licensing Act 1981

Specific Delegated Powers

The following Statutes contain the specific delegated powers required to enable the Public Protection function to operate effectively and efficiently. Each Statute and the relevant power has been identified and described on each page, so that the document can be consulted or revised with ease.

The Advanced Television Services Regulations 1996

That delegated authority be granted to the officers to enforce The Advanced Television Services Regulations:

Regulation 16 and Schedule 2 Paragraph 3(i) Power to test/purchase.

Regulation 16 and Schedule 2 Paragraph 4 Power of search including inspection, seizure and detention.

Regulation 16 and Schedule 2 Paragraph 7 Power to apply to the Courts for forfeiture of seized goods.

That the following officers be authorised for the purposes of the Advanced Television Services Regulations 1996:

Animal Health Act 1981

S.52 To act as an Inspector for the purposes of execution and enforcement of the Act.

S.60 To apprehend a person without warrant for obstruction, impeding or assisting in obstruction or impeding an officer in the execution of the Act.

S.63 To use powers of entry as authorised officers of the Council under the provisions of the Act.

S.64 To use powers of entry as authorised officers of the Council in relation to protecting poultry from unnecessary suffering, under the provisions of the Act.

Animal Welfare Act 2006

S. 51 To appoint a person as an inspector for the purposes of this Act.

Animals, Meat etc. (Examination for Residues etc.) Regulations 1991

To act in matters arising under the Animals, Meat etc. (Examination for Residues etc.) Regulations 1991.

The Bovines and Bovine Products (Despatch Prohibition and Production Restriction) Regulations 1997

To appoint Inspectors in relation to the enforcement responsibilities under the above regulations.

Anti-Social Behaviour Act 2003

The Chief Executive delegates the following powers to the Director of ~~Social Care, Health and Housing~~ **Community Services** and the Head of ~~Public Protection~~ **Homes and Safer Communities**

S. 40 - Closure of noisy premises

S. 41 - Closure of noisy premises: supplemental

Breeding of Dogs Act 1973

S1 To Issue a Licence in respect of a breeding establishment for dogs.

S2 To appoint officers authorised to use powers of entry and inspection under the provisions of the Act.

Breeding of Dogs Act 1991

S1 To apply to a Justice of the Peace for a warrant to enter premises for inspection for the purposes of the Act.

Building Act 1984

S.59 Issue of Notice in respect of unsatisfactory drainage of premises.

S.60 Issue of Notice in respect of the improper use of rainwater pipes for ventilation of soil pipes.

S.64 Issue of Notice in respect of disrepair or insufficient provision of water closets in buildings.

S.65 Issue of Notice in respect of insufficient provision of water closets in workplaces.

S. 95 To appoint officers authorised to use powers of entry under the provisions of the Act.

S. 76 Issue of Notice in respect of Defective Premises.

S. 79 Issue of Notice in respect of Ruinous and dilapidated buildings and neglected sites.

S. 81 Issue of Notice to persons undertaking demolition works.

S. 107 To recover expenses incurred by Authority.

Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act 1960

S. 3 To issue Site Licences with respect to caravan sites.

S. 8 To alter conditions attached to a Caravan Site Licence.

S. 10 To transfer Caravan Site Licences, and transmission of the Licence on death.

S. 26 To appoint officers authorised to use powers of entry under the provisions of the Act.

Children and Young Persons (Protection from Tobacco) Act 1979

5(1) (a) To use powers to develop an enforcement programme under the provisions of section 7(1) of the Children and Young Persons Act 1933 and under sections 3 & 4 of the Act.

5(1) (b) To enforce programmes under the provisions of the Act.

Clean Air Act 1993

S.12 To require information about furnaces and fuel consumed.

S.36 Issue of Notice in respect of obtaining information about air pollution.

S. 56 To appoint officers authorised to use powers of entry and inspection under the provisions of the Act.

S. 58 Issue of Notice in respect of obtaining information.

Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005

S.77 – To appoint officers authorised to exercise powers of entry under the Act.

S.78 – To apply for a Warrant to enter premises.

Control of Pollution Act 1974

S. 60 To serve a Notice under Section 60 of the Control of Pollution Act 1974.

Consumer Credit Act 1974

S. 162 Appoint officers authorised to use powers of entry for the purposes of inspection under the provisions of the Act.

S. 164 To test purchase goods, services, facilities and other transactions.

Consumer Protection Act 1987

S. 14 Issue of Suspension Notice.

S. 16 Application to Justices for forfeiture.

S. 28 To test purchase goods, services, accommodation or facilities.

S. 29 To appoint officers authorised to use powers of search under the provisions of the Act.

Copyright Designs and Patents Act 1988

S. 27 To make test purchases.

S. 28 To appoint officers authorised to use powers of entry and inspection under the provisions of the Act.

S. 107A To enforce Section 107 in relation to infringing copies.

198A(1) To enforce Section 198 in respect of illicit recordings.

58A To enforce the provisions of the Act.

Courts and Legal Services Act 1990

S.107 To enforce the provisions of the Act and to appoint officers authorised to use powers of entry under the provisions of the Act.

Dangerous Dogs Act 1991

S. 5 To appoint officers authorised to use powers of entry and powers of seizure in respect of dangerous dogs.

Dangerous Wild Animals Act 1976

S1 To Issue of a Licence in respect of dangerous wild animals.

S. 3 To appoint officers authorised to use powers of entry and inspection as authorised officers of the Council under the provisions of the Act.

S.4 To use powers of seizure and disposal of animals under the provisions of the Act.

Development of Tourism Act 1969

Statutory Instrument – Tourism (Sleeping Accommodation Price Display) Order 1969.

Regulation 5 To appoint officers to use powers of entry and inspection as authorised officers of the Council, in its capacity as a Weights and Measures Authority.

Education Reform Act 1988

Section 215 To appoint officers authorised to use powers of entry, to search premises, to require the production of documents and to make copies and seize anything required as evidence relating to the enforcement of section 214 of the Act.

Energy Act 1976

S.18 Schedule 2 Paragraphs 2 & 3

To appoint officers authorised to use powers of entry and to examine documents under the provisions of the Act.

Energy Conservation Act 1981

S. 20 To appoint officers authorised to use powers of entry as authorised officers under the provisions of the Act.

Environment Act 1995

S. 108 To appoint officers authorised to use powers of entry, inspection, examination, measurement, photography, to take records, samples and to request information, under the provisions of the Act.

S. 109 To use powers of seizure of any article or substance and to render it harmless.

Environmental Protection Act 1990

S. 6 Issue of an Authorisation for a prescribed process.

S. 10 Issue of a Variation Notice in respect of a prescribed process.

S. 11 Issue of a Variation in respect of a prescribed process.

S.12 Revocation of Authorisation for prescribed processes.

S. 13 Issue of an Enforcement Notice in respect of a prescribed process.

S. 14 Issue of a Prohibition Notice in respect of a prescribed process.

S. 19 Issue of Notice in respect of obtaining information from persons.

S.59 – To require removal of controlled waste.

S.71 – To obtain information from persons or authorities in relation to Section 59.

S.78E-To require remediation of contaminated land etc.

S. 80 Issue of an Abatement Notice in respect of a statutory nuisance.

80A* Issue of an Abatement Notice in respect of a statutory noise notice nuisance emitted from or caused by a vehicle, machinery or equipment in a street.

81A Issue of Notice in respect of expenses recoverable from the owner of premises as a result of action taken under the provision of the Act.

S.88 – To issue fixed penalty Notices and appoint officers authorised to exercise powers under the Act.

S.92A – To issue litter clearing notices.

S. 149 To Appoint Officers to deal with the discharge of powers relating to the seizure of stray dogs.

Schedule 3 To appoint officers authorised to use powers of entry under the provisions of the Act.

Estate Agents Act 1979

Section 11 To appoint officers authorised to use powers of entry and inspection under the provisions of the Act.

Estate Agents (Accounts) Regulations 1981

Regulation 8 To use powers for the demand of an Auditor's report relating to clients' accounts.

European Communities Act 1972

Construction Products Regulations 1991

Regulation 10 Issue of Suspension Notice in respect of construction products.

R. 12 To seek forfeiture of construction products.

R16 To make test purchases under the provisions of the Regulations.

Manufacture and Storage of Explosives Regulations 2005

To grant and vary registrations and licences for the storage of explosives and make any necessary arrangements for the administration of the registration and licensing system.

To refuse applications and to revoke or modify registrations or licences of premises.

Eggs (Marketing Standards) Regulations 1995

Reg 4. To enforce the provisions of the Regulations and to appoint officers authorised to use powers of entry.

Electromagnetic Compatibility Regulations 1995

Reg 73 To enforce the provisions of the Regulations.

Electromagnetic Compatibility Regulations 1995

R. 74 To make test purchases.

R. 75 To appoint officers authorised to use powers of entry and search.

R. 76 To seek Justices Warrant.

Medical Devices Regulations 1994

R. 19 To enforce the provisions of the Regulations and to issue Notice in respect of devices bearing an incorrectly applied EC marking.

Package Travel, Package Holidays and Package Tours Regulations 1992

R 23 Paragraphs 3 & 4(1) of Schedule 3

To appoint officers authorised to use powers of entry and to require the presentation of or the seizure or detention of books and documents.

Paragraph 4(2) of Schedule 3 To seek a Justices Warrant.

Personal Protective Equipment (EC Directive) Regulations 1992

R. 3 To enforce the provisions of the Regulations.

Common Agricultural Policy (Wine) Regulations 1955

R7 To enforce the provisions of the Regulations.

8(1) To prohibit movement.

The Aerosol Dispensers (EEC Requirements) Regulations 1997

R. 5 To enforce the provisions of the Regulations.

R.10 To institute legal proceedings.

The Energy Information (Refrigerators and Freezers) Regulations 1994

R. 14 - To enforce the provisions of the Regulations

Schedule 6 Paragraph 6 To issue Notice of remedial action.

R.9 To require information.

R. 10 To make test purchases.

R.11 To appoint officers authorised to use powers of entry and search and seek a Justices Warrant.

Fair Trading Act 1973

S. 28 To test purchase goods and services.

S. 29 To appoint officers authorised to use powers of entry for the purposes of inspection and the seizure of goods and documents under the provisions of the Act.

Food and Environment Protection Act 1985

Section 19(1)(c) To act as an authorised officer of the Council under the provisions of the Act.

For the purposes of the Control of Pesticides Regulations 1986, to appoint officers authorised to use powers of entry to premises, vehicles, vessels, aircraft, hovercraft and marine structures, to require information, to issue Notices in respect of offences and to require remedial action or where a risk of committing an offence exists, to prohibit activities.

Food Safety Act 1990

S. 5 To act as an authorised officer of the food authority, to act generally or specially in matters arising under the Act and in relation to S. 32 in particular.

S. 6(6) To act as an authorised officer of an enforcement authority.

S. 9(1) To appoint officers authorised to inspect food intended for human consumption.

S. 9(3) Issue of Notice in respect of food not to be used for human consumption and seizure of food in order to have it dealt with by a Justice of the Peace.

S. 11 Issue of a Certificate stating that the food authority is satisfied that a health risk condition no longer exists at a food business.

S. 29 Authorisation for the procurement of samples of food.

S. 30 Authorisation for food samples to be analysed.

S. 32 To appoint officers authorised to use powers of entry under the provisions of the Act.

S. 42 To act as Proper Officer for the purposes of the Act.

Game Act 1831

S. 18 Issue of a Licence in respect of dealing in game.

Guard Dogs Act 1975

S. 3 Issue of a Licence in respect of the keeping of guard dog kennels.

Hallmarking Act 1993

S. 9 To enforce the provisions of the Act.

Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974

S. 19 To appoint Inspectors for implementing the relevant statutory provisions.

S. 20 - Powers of Inspectors to carry out their statutory duties

S. 21 To Issue an Improvement Notice in respect of an infraction of any of the relevant statutory provisions.

S. 22 To issue a Prohibition Notice to avert the risk of serious personal injury.

S. 25 To deal with causes of imminent danger.

S. 26 Indemnification of Inspectors.

S.39 Prosecution by an Inspector before a Magistrates Court for an offence under any of the relevant statutory provisions.

Health Act, 2006 - Smoke-free premises etc. (Wales) Regulations 2006

To authorise officers to enforce the provisions of the Regulations.

Law of Property Act 1925

Head of ~~Housing Services~~ **Homes and Safer Communities**, Head of ~~Planning~~ **Place and Sustainability**, Head of ~~Public Protection~~ and Head of Administration and Law to

instigate the necessary action to bring about an enforced sale including the disposal of property.

Local Government and Housing Act 1989

S. 20 Issue of Notice for the provision of sanitary appliances in places of public entertainment and other premises.

To appoint officers authorised to exercise powers of entry under the provisions of the Act.

S. 33 To make arrangements for the restoration or continuation of supply of water, gas or electricity to an occupied dwelling.

S. 35 To Issue a Notice in respect of obstructed private sewer.

Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976

S.33 To restore the supply of water, gas or electricity.

S.35 To issue a Notice in respect of obstructed private sewer.

Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982

S. 29 Issue of Notice to protect buildings against unauthorised entry or those that are likely to become a danger to public health.

Authorisation to use powers of entry as authorised officers of the Council in relation to the protection of buildings against unauthorised entry etc.

Paragraph 14 Authorisation to use powers of entry as authorised officers of the Council under the provisions of the Act.

Under schedule 3 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982 as amended by the Policing and Crime Act 2009 to licence a new category of premises called Sexual Entertainment Venues. The legislation allows the authority to set fee levels which reflect the cost of processing and determining applications, dealing with objections and complaints as well as undertaking enforcement. (CC 07/03/12)

Medicines Act 1968

S. 108 To discharge the Council's functions as a Drugs Authority in respect of the control of medicinal products at non pharmaceutical premises under the provisions of sections 53 & 54, the control of animal medicated feeding stuffs under the provisions of sections 62(1)(b) & 90 of the Act.

S. 111 To appoint officers authorised to use powers of entry in respect of premises, ships, aircraft or hover vehicles under the provisions of the Act.

S. 112 To appoint officers authorised to inspect, take samples, seize goods and documents under the provisions of the Act.

Motor Cycle Noise Act 1984

S. 1 To enforce the provisions of the Act.

Motor Salvage Operators' Regulations 2002

To operate the Motor Salvage Operators' Registration Scheme, including authority to register non-contentious applications.

Noise and Statutory Nuisance Act 1993

S. 2 To Issue Consents for the operation of loudspeakers in streets or roads.

S. 3 Paragraphs 6 & 7 To appoint officers authorised to use powers of entry under the provisions of the Act.

Animal Meat Products (Examination for Residues and Minimum Residue Limits) Regulations 1991

Regulation 20 To inspect medicine records on farms.

Materials and Articles in Contact with Food Regulations 1987

Regulation 12 To enforce the provisions of the Regulations and to appoint officers authorised to use powers of entry.

Performing Animals (Regulation) Act 1925

S.1 To issue Certificates of Registration in respect of the exhibiting or training of performing animals.

S.2 To appoint officers authorised to use powers of entry under the provisions of the Act.

Pet Animals Act 1951

S.1 To issue a Licence in respect of the keeping of a pet shop.

S.4. To appoint officers authorised to use powers of entry and inspection under the provisions of the Act.

Petroleum (Consolidation) Act 1928

S.1 To issue a Licence in respect of the keeping of petroleum spirit.

S.17 To use powers of purchase of samples of petroleum for the purpose of testing.

S.18 To make an application to a Court of Summary Jurisdiction for a warrant to search for petroleum spirit.

Poisons Act 1972

S.9 To act as an Inspector for the purposes of the Act and to appoint officers authorised to use powers of entry under the provisions of the Act.

Pollution Prevention and Control Act 1999

The Pollution Prevention and Control (England and Wales) Regulations 2000

Reg. 10 – Issuing of a permit

Reg. 17 – Variation of conditions of permit

Reg. 18 – Transfer of permits

Reg. 21 – Revocation of permits

Reg. 24 – Enforcement Notice

Reg. 25 – Suspension Notice

Reg. 26 – Power of regulator to prevent or remedy pollution

Reg. 28 - Information

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1949

S.4 To issue a Notice in respect of the destruction of rats and mice or the keeping of land free from rats and mice.

S.6 To exercise powers in relation to groups of premises.

S.22 To appoint officers authorised to use powers of entry under the provisions of the Act.

Proper Officer for Medical Advice

Authority to appoint a Proper Officer for medical advice. The Proper Officer shall have the following delegated powers:

National Assistance Act 1948 - Section 47 BMc

National Assistance (Amendment) Act 1951 - Section 1 BMc

Public Health (Control of Disease) Act 1984 - Sections 21, 22, 24, 26, 28-32, 35-38, 40-43, 48 and 51

Public Health (Infectious Diseases) Regulations 1988

Prices Acts 1974 & 1975

Schedule 1 Paragraph 7 To test purchase goods.

Schedule 1 Paragraph 9 To appoint officers authorised to use powers of entry for the purposes of inspection and the seizure of goods and documents under the provisions of the Act.

Property Misdemeanors Act 1991

Section 3 and Schedule 1 Paragraphs 3 & 4(1) To appoint officers authorised to use powers of entry for the purposes of the inspection of goods and the seizure of documents under the provisions of the Act.

Public Health Act 1936

S. 45 Issue of Notice in respect of buildings having defective closets capable of repair.

S. 50 Issue of Notice in respect of overflowing and leaking cesspools.

S.78 – Removal of waste from any courtyard, or passage which is used in common by occupants of two or more buildings.

S. 83 Issue of Notice in respect of the cleansing of filthy or verminous premises.

S. 140 Application to Court of Summary Jurisdiction to close or restrict use of water from a polluted source of supply.

S. 269 Issue of a Licence in respect of the control of moveable dwellings.

S. 284 Authorisation for the authentication of documents.

To appoint officers authorised to use powers of entry under the provisions of the Act.

Public Health Act 1961

S. 17* Issue of Notice in respect of the repair of drains and to remedy stopped up drains.

S. 34 Issue of Notice in respect of the removal of accumulations of rubbish.

S. 73 Issue of Notice in respect of action to prevent danger from derelict petrol tanks.

Public Health (Control of Disease) Act 1984

S. 18 Proper Officer for the purpose of this section of the Act, for the requisition and receipt of information to be furnished by an occupier of premises in the case of notifiable disease or food poisoning.

S. 20 Proper Officer for the purposes of this section of the Act, for the issue of Notice requiring a person to discontinue work to prevent spread of disease to which S. 28 of the Food Act 1984 applies.

S.23 Proper Officer for the purposes of this section of the Act, for the issue of Notice excluding children from places of entertainment or assembly to prevent spread of disease.

S.61 Authorisation to use powers of entry as authorised officers of the Council under the provisions of the Act.

Refuse Disposal (Amenity) Act 1978

S. 6 Issue of Notice in respect of the removal and disposal of other refuse.

S.8 To appoint officers authorised to use powers of entry under the provisions of the Act.

Riding Establishments Act 1964

S.1* Issue of a Licence in respect of riding establishments.

S. 2 To appoint officers authorised to use powers of entry and inspection under the provisions of the Act.

Road Traffic Act 1988

S.70 To use powers to prohibit the use of an overloaded vehicle under the provisions of the Act.

S.78 To weigh vehicles on behalf of the Highway Authority.

Road Traffic Act 1991

S.47 To determine whether a person is fit and proper to hold a hackney carriage or private hire vehicle drivers licence and to submit an application to the chief officer of police for his observations.

Road Traffic (Foreign Vehicles) Act 1972

S.1 To use powers to prohibit the use of an overloaded vehicle under the provisions of the Act.

S. 2 To make an UK exemption order or to remove a prohibition notice.

Scrap Metal Dealers Act 2013

S. 6 1964 Act To appoint officers authorised to use powers of entry and inspection under the provisions of the Act.

the initial assessment of an application received for a scrap metal dealers licence be delegated to officers

Sheep Scab Order 1997

To act on behalf of the Local Authority under the provisions of the above order.

Solicitors Act 1974

S. 22 To appoint officers authorised to use powers of entry under the provisions of the Act.

Sunbed (Regulation) Act 2010, and any associated Regulations, particularly the Sunbed (Regulation) Act 2010 (Wales) Regulations 2011 from the 31st October 2011

that delegated powers be granted to the Director of ~~Social Care, Health and Housing~~ **Community Services** and the Head of ~~Public Protection~~ **Homes and Safer Communities** to enforce the provisions of the Sunbed (Regulation) Act 2010, and any associated Regulations, particularly the Sunbed (Regulation) Act 2010 (Wales) Regulations 2011 from the 31st October 2011, including the power to appoint Officers as Authorised Officers for the purposes of the Act to exercise powers of entry and use any other enforcement measures or actions prescribed in the Act and Regulations.

Telecommunications Act 1984

S. 30 To enforce the provisions of sections 28 & 29 of the Act.

Timeshare Act 1992

Section 10 and Schedule 1 Paragraph 3

To appoint officers authorised to require the production of books and documents and to use powers for the seizure of books and documents under the provisions of the Act.

Trade Descriptions Act 1968

S.27 To test purchase goods, services, accommodation or facilities.

S.28 To appoint officers authorised to use powers of entry for the purposes of inspection and the seizure of goods and documents under the provisions of the Act.

Trade Marks Act 1994

S.27 To make test purchases.

S.28 To appoint officers authorised to use powers of entry and inspection under the provisions of the Act.

S. 93 To enforce the provisions of section 92 of the Act.

Video Recordings Act 1984

16A To enforce the provisions of the Act within the County of Carmarthenshire and limited offences outside the County with the consent of another Authority.

S. 27 To make test purchases.

S. 28 To appoint officers authorised to use powers of entry and inspection under the provisions of the Act.

Water Industry Act 1991

S. 79 To require a water undertaker to provide a supply of water to premises where supplies are insufficient of unwholesome.

S. 80 To appoint officers authorised to use powers of entry under the provisions of S. 72 of the Act.

S. 80 To issue a Notice in respect of improvements to a private water supply.

S.85 To issue a Notice in respect of obtaining information for the purposes of Chapter III of the Act.

Schedule 6 Paragraphs 1, 2, 3,6,7,8 & 9 to appoint officers authorised to use powers of entry under the provisions of the Act.

Weights and Measures Act 1985

Section 42 To make purchases of goods for the purposes of Parts II, III & IV of the Act.

S. 52 To enforce Part V of the Act.

S.53 and Schedule 8 paragraph 6(1) To make test purchases for the purposes of Part V of the Act.

S.72(1) Authorisation to act and appointment as Chief Inspector of Weights and Measures.

Authorisation to act as Inspectors for the purposes of the Act.

Zoo Licensing Act 1981

S.4 Issue of a licence in respect of zoos.

HOUSING FUNCTIONS

All the functions of the Council acting as a Housing Authority are delegated to the Director of ~~Social Care, Health and Housing~~ **Community Services** and to the Head of ~~Housing~~ **Homes and Safer Communities** to include the allocation of Council properties and also (but not limited to) the functions specified below.

General Authorisation to Enforce Acts and Regulations or Orders Made Under the Acts

To exercise all powers and duties (to include any enforcement powers and any decisions relating to the appointment of inspectors) relating to any of the following Statutes:

Building Act 1984

Caravan Sites Act 1968

Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act 1960

Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994

Environmental Protection Act 1990

Housing Act 1985

Housing Act 1988
Housing Act 1996
Housing Act 2004
Housing Grants, Construction and Regeneration Act 1996
Land Compensation Act 1973
Local Government and Housing Act 1989
Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 & 1982
Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982
Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2003
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1949
Protection from Eviction Act 1977
Public Health Acts 1936 & 1961
Regulatory Reform (Housing Assistance) (England and Wales) Order 2002

Specific Delegated Powers

The following Statutes contain specific delegated powers required to enable the Housing function to operate effectively and efficiently. Each Statute and the relevant power has been identified and described on each page, so that the document can be consulted or revised with ease.

Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act 1960

S. 5 to attach conditions to a caravan site licence.

Crime and Disorder Act 1998

To initiate action against tenants in respect of anti-social behaviour.

Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994

S. 77 to Issue Directions to unauthorised campers to leave land.

S. 78 To make complaint to a Magistrates Court for an Order for the removal of persons and their vehicles unlawfully present on land.

Proposed group repair programme for 2000/01 for the Inner Ammanford, Garnant, Brynaman and South Llanelli Renewal Areas.

Granted delegated authority, in consultation with the Cabinet Member to alter sequencing of the schemes to ensure maximum use of resources.

To act in resolving, controlling and managing trespass by travellers.

Traveller Management Arrangements

To let and terminate licences on Pen-y-Bryn Residential Caravan Site.

Housing Act 1985

79 - To grant secure tenancies and licenses of dwelling houses and to grant non-secure tenancies and licenses in the circumstances set out in Schedule 1 of the Act.

82 – To issue possession proceedings against secure tenants.

82A – To issue proceedings to demote a secure tenancy.

83 - To serve Notices Seeking Possession on secure tenants.

85 – To apply to the County Court for an order staying or suspending the execution of a possession order, to postpone the date for possession, or to amend or set aside a possession order. To attend court to make representations in respect of orders sought by tenants and tolerated trespassers under section 85.

89 – To select a successor where two or more members of a tenant's family are entitled to succeed to a secure tenancy.

92 – To grant or withhold consent to secure tenants wishing to mutually exchange and to serve notice where consent is being withheld.

94 - To grant or withhold consent to secure tenants wishing to sublet or otherwise part with possession of a dwelling house.

96 – To take all steps necessary to comply with regulations made pursuant to section 96(1) of the Act, including the issue a repair notices and payment of compensation in respect of qualifying repairs.

97 - To grant or withhold consent to secure tenants wishing to make improvements to their dwellings, and to give consent subject to conditions imposed in accordance with section 99 of the Act.

99A – Power to compensate for improvements.

100 – Power to reimburse the cost of tenant's improvements.

102 – Power to vary the terms of Introductory and secure tenancies.

103 – To issue a Preliminary Notice and Notice of Variation of a periodic tenancy.

104 – To publish information about the Council's secure tenancies.

105 – To consult with tenants on matter of Housing Management.

106 - To publish information about housing allocation.

121A – To apply to the Court for an order suspending the Right to Buy because of anti-social behaviour.

121AA & 121B – To prepare and provide information to tenants to help them to decide whether to exercise the right to buy.

124 – To determine applications under the legislation and serve notice admitting or denying the Right to Buy.

125 – To serve Notice of the purchase price and other matters.

125E – To serve a notice in default, to extend the period for compliance with the said notice.

128 – Powers to require the value of a property to be re-determined by the District Valuer and to serve the required notices as appropriate.

138 – To instruct the Council's Head of Administration and Law to convey the Freehold or Grant leases in pursuance of the Right to Buy legislation.

Schedule 5 – To serve Demolition Notices.

138C – To compensate secure tenants where a demolition notice is served.

140 – Power to Serve a landlord's First Notice to Complete.

141 – Power to Serve a landlord's Second Notice to Complete.

155A – To demand repayment of such sum as is considered appropriate up to and including the maximum amount specified in the legislation, on the first "Relevant Disposal" (other than an exempt disposal) of a property.

156 – Power to give Consent for a charge in respect of monies advanced to a purchaser and falling within section 156(2A) of the Act to take priority over the Council's own legal charge under section 156(1) of the Act.

156A – To exercise the Council's rights of first refusal and nomination.

157 - To grant or withhold consent to the disposals of dwellings in National Parks and other designated areas falling within this section of the Act, and to enforce covenants restricting the sales of properties in such areas.

S. 189* To Issue of a Notice in respect of an unfit house. (*Amended by Sch. 9, para 1, Housing Act 1988 & Sch. 9, para 1, Local Government and Housing Act 1989).

S. 190* To Issue of a Notice in respect of a house in a state of disrepair but not unfit. (*Amended by Sch. 15, para 2 Housing Act 1988 & Sch. 9, para 2, Local Government and Housing Act 1989).

S.197 Authorisation to appoint authorised officers to use powers of entry as authorised officers of the Council under the provisions of Part VI of the Act.

S. 264 Power to make a Closing Order.

S. 265 Power to make a Demolition Order.

S. 270 Demolition Orders: to Recovery of possession of a building.

S.273 Demolition Orders: to Clearing a building before demolition.

S.274 Demolition Orders: Power to permit reconstruction of a condemned house.

S. 279 Closing Orders: to Substitution e of a Demolition Order with a closing order.

Authorisation to acquire land for clearance.

S.289 Declaration of Clearance Area.

S.289* Issue of Notice in respect of the Council's intent to include a building in a clearance area. (*Amended by Sch. 9, para 25 Local Government and Housing Act 1989).

S. 297 Authorisation to remove or alter apparatus of statutory undertaking in connection with a Clearance Area.

S.300 Authorisation to purchase houses liable to be demolished or cleared, to be used for temporary accommodation.

S.319 Powers of Entry.

S. 319 Authorisation to use powers of entry as authorised officers of the Council under the provisions of Part IX of the Act.

S.335 Power to require information about persons sleeping in dwelling.

S.336 Power to require production of rent book.

S.337 Power of entry to determine permitted number of persons.

S.338 Issue of Notice to abate overcrowding.

S.340 Powers of Entry.

S.346 Registration Schemes.

S.350 Power to require information for the purpose of a Registration Scheme.

S.350 Authorisation to introduce Registration Schemes for houses in multiple occupation.

S. 352 Issue of Notice in respect of the execution of works to render premises fit for the number of occupants.

S.352 Power to require execution of works to render premises fit for number of occupants.

S.352A Recovery of expenses of Notice under Section 352.

- S. 354 Issue of Notice limiting the number of occupants of a house.
- S. 354 Power to require information about occupation of house.
- S.356 Power to require information about occupation of house.
- S. 356 Issue of Notice requiring information about occupation of house.
- S.357 Revocation or variation of direction under Section 354.
- S.358 Issue of Notice in respect of overcrowding in a house in multiple occupation.
- S.363 Revocation and variation of Overcrowding Notice.
- S. 364 Power to require information where Overcrowding Notice is in force.
- S. 366 Issue of Notice in respect of means of escape from fire in a house in multiple occupation.
- S.368 Means of Escape from Fire. Power to secure part of house not used for human habitation.
- S.372 Power to require execution of works to remedy neglect of management.
- S.372* Issue of Notice in respect of the management of a house in multiple occupation. (*Amended by Sch. 9, para 50, Local Government and Housing Act 1989).
- S.375 Authorisation for carrying out of works by Local Housing Authority regarding the non-compliance of a Notice under Section 352 or 372.
- S.377A Works Notices: Improvement of enforcement procedures. Authorisation to give written notice of intention to serve Works Notices prior to the service of a Notice under Section 352 or a Notice under Section 372.
- S.379 Making of a Control Order.
- S. 379 Issue of Notice in respect of a control order for a house in multiple occupation.
- S. 380 Authorisation to rectify Control Order where proprietor resides in part of the house.
- S.386 Authorisation to prepare management scheme subject to Control Order.
- S.388 Authorisation to supply furniture and fittings to a house subject to a Control Order.
- S.392 Authorisation to revoke a Control Order.
- S. 395 Authorisation to use powers of entry as authorised officers of the Council under the provisions of Part XI of the Act.

S. 395 Authorisation to use powers of entry as Authorised Officers of the Council.

S.397 Authorisation to apply for a warrant to authorise entry (if required).

Schedule 10 Demand for Recovery of Expenses incurred by Local Housing Authority.

Housing Act 1996

124 – To grant Introductory Tenancies or Licenses of dwelling houses pursuant to the Councils election to operate an introductory tenancy regime.

125A – To Serve a Notice of Extension and to extend an Introductory Tenancy or license for a further 6 months, in accordance with the relevant procedures in the Act.

127 – To issue Possession Proceedings to end an Introductory Tenancy.

128 – To Issue a Notice of Proceedings.

129 – To review decisions to seek possession of a dwelling house, where possession is being sought on the basis of rent arrears.

133 - To select a successor where two or more members of a tenant's family are entitled to succeed to an Introductory Tenancy.

136 – To publish information about the Council's Introductory Tenancies.

137 – To consult with tenants on matter of Housing Management.

143D - To issue Possession Proceedings to end a Demoted Tenancy.

143E – To serve Notice of Proceedings for Possession of a Dwelling held under a Demoted Tenancy.

143F To review a decision to seek possession of a dwelling, where possession is being sought on the basis of rent arrears.

143H - To select a successor where two or more members of a tenant's family are entitled to succeed to a Demoted Tenancy.

143M – To publish Information about the Demoted Tenancy.

153A – To apply for an Injunction to prohibit/prevent anti-social behaviour.

153B – To apply for an Injunction to prohibit/prevent the unlawful use of premises.

153D – To apply for an Injunction to prohibit/prevent breaches of tenancy.

157 – To apply to Court to vary or discharge an injunction obtained under section 154A, 153B or 153D of the Act.

166 - To provide advice and information to people in the County in accordance with the Council's obligations under this section.

167 – To process Housing Applications and allocate Housing Accommodation in accordance with the Part VI of the Housing Act 1996, and the Council's Allocations Policy.

168 – To publish information about the Council's Allocation Scheme.

171 – To prosecute people who make false statements or withhold information.

179 – To provide advice and information to people in the County about homelessness and the prevention of Homelessness.

180 – To provide grants, loans or other assistance to voluntary organisations concerned with homelessness or matters relating to homelessness.

181 – To serve Notice on a voluntary organisation where the Council intends to recover monies.

184 – To make inquiries to cases of homelessness or threatened homelessness, determine applications in accordance with the requirements of Part VII of the Act and notify Applicants of the Council's decision.

188 – To discharge the Council's duty to provide temporary accommodation to applicants in cases of apparent priority pending a decision about the duty owed to them, and the Council's power to provide temporary accommodation pending the decision on any review.

To discharge the Council's duties under section 189, 192, 193 and 195 of the Act, in accordance with the requirements of Part VII of the Act.

198 – To refer homelessness cases to another local housing authority.

200 – To discharge the Council's duties to homeless applicants whose cases are being considered for referral to another Authority and to exercise the Council's power to provide temporary accommodation pending the decision on any review.

202 – To carry out Homelessness Reviews.

204 & 204A– To defend any County Court Appeals arising from the Council's homelessness decisions.

206 - Discharge of Functions by Local housing Authorities.

208 - Discharge of Functions: Out of Area Placements.

209 - Discharge of Functions: arrangements with Private Landlords.

210 - Discharge of Functions: Suitability of Accommodation.

211 & 212 - To discharge the Council's duties and exercise the Council's powers to protect property belonging to homeless people and people threatened with homelessness.

213 – To seek the applicant's consent and refer certain matters involving children to social services.

214 - To prosecute people who make false statements, withhold information or fail to disclose change of circumstances.

Housing Grants, Construction and Regeneration Act 1996

S. 13 Renovation Grants: Approval of Applications.

S.18 Common Parts Grants: Approval of Applications.

S. 24 Disabled Facilities Grants: Approval of Applications.

S. 28 HMO Grants: Approval of Applications.

S. 76 Authorisation to give Home Repair Assistance in the form of a grant or the provision of materials for the carrying out of works of repair, improvement or adaptation to a dwelling.

S. 81 & 82 Power to Serve Deferred Action Notices.

S.84 Power to review a Deferred Action Notice.

S.86 Unfitness for Human Habitation: Power to improve enforcement procedures.

S.87 Unfitness for Human Habitation: Power to change for Enforcement Action.

S.88 Authorisation to recover the charge for Enforcement Action.

Housing Act 2004

To sign all notices/licences relating to Housing Standards.

Law of Property Act 1925

Head of ~~Housing Services~~ **Homes and Safer Communities** Head of Planning **Place and Sustainability**, ~~Head of Public Protection~~ and Head of Administration and Law to instigate the necessary action to bring about an enforced sale, including the disposal of the property.

Local Government and Housing Act 1989

S.112 Determination of Approval in respect of house renovation grant applications to render certain dwellings fit for human habitation.

S.113 Determination of Approval in respect of house renovation grant applications arising out of certain statutory notices.

S. 114 Determination of Approval in respect of house renovation grant applications to provide certain facilities for the disabled.

S.115 Determination of Approval in respect of discretionary house renovation grant applications.

S. 116 Issue of Notices of Approval or Refusal in respect of house renovation grant applications.

Appoint authorised officers to exercise powers of entry under the provisions of the Act.

LAND COMPENSATION ACT 1973

29 – To make home loss payments and discretionary payments to displaced Council tenants.

Protection From Eviction Act 1977

To initiate legal proceedings under Section 6 of the Protection from Eviction Act 1977 for offences under Section 1(2), 1(3) and 1(3A) and for the Service of Notices under Section 7 of the Act.

In severe and urgent cases to apply to the Court for a warrant for the arrest of the perpetrator.

Other Powers

To serve Notice to Quit to bring non-secure licenses and tenancies to an end, and to lodge copies of notices with the Public Trustee where appropriate.

To serve Notice and Issue Possession Proceedings to remove trespassers from Council owned dwellings.

To apply to Court to enforce warrants of possession obtained in respect of Council owned dwellings.

~~REGENERATION AND LEISURE~~
**(moved to Chief Executive's, Environment and
Community Services)**

Licensing Act 2003 and Gambling Act 2005

Delegated authority to make representations on behalf of the Council acting in its capacity as a responsible authority.

ECONOMIC AND REGENERATION FUNCTIONS

The functions associated with the delivery of the Council's responsibilities for economic development and regeneration are delegated to the Director of Regeneration and Leisure including the approval of any grant that falls within these functions and, including (but not limited to) the functions described below.

Business Support/Implementation Mechanism

In consultation with the Director of Resources to consider each application according to agreed criteria.

Business, Community or Regeneration Related Grants Programmes

To award grants of up to a maximum of £5,000 under the above programmes.

Western Valleys Sustainable Hubs Project

Director of Regeneration and Leisure/Head of Economic Development, subject to consultation with the Grant Advisory Panel, to approve grants of up to £25,000 in relation to applications arising out of the Western Valleys Sustainable Hubs Community Regeneration project.

Local Investment Fund

Director of Regeneration and Leisure and the Head of Economic Development authorised to award grants under the Local Investment Fund up to a maximum of £35,000.

CC 09/11/11

Dyfed Welsh Church Fund

To make grant awards from the Welsh Church Fund.

PLANNING AND BUILDING CONTROL FUNCTIONS

The functions associated with the Council's responsibilities for planning and building control are delegated to the Director of Regeneration and Leisure and the Head of Planning, including (but not limited to) all the functions described below:

Determination of Planning Applications

The Head of Planning has delegated powers to deal with the determination of all planning (and other planning related) applications or an application or consent to display an advertisement, functions and procedures relating to Town and Country Planning as

contained within the following Acts (as amended where applicable) and including all subordinate legislation:-

- ~~Planning and Compensation Act 2004~~
- ~~The Town and Country Planning Act 1990~~
- ~~The Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990~~
- ~~The Planning (Hazardous Substances) Act 1990~~

The exceptions being:-

- ~~Applications where the Local Member submits a request to the Head of Planning for it to be considered by the Planning Committee, and this is made in writing within 21 days of receipt of the consultation and outlining material planning reasons;~~
- ~~Applications submitted by serving Councillors or their immediate family or employees of the Development Control Service or their immediate families;~~
- ~~Applications submitted by, or on behalf of, the Council or involving land owned by the Council and where the Council has a significant financial interest in such an application.~~

- ~~Minor applications where there is more than one letter of objection to the proposal from different households and the recommendation is to approve the application, unless:~~
 - ~~where a material issue had been debated by the committee at the outline stage and there were no changes in material circumstances between the outline and detailed application;~~
 - ~~where persistent objections were received in respect of an on-going development which had previously been considered by the Planning Committee and which raised no new material planning considerations.~~
- ~~Major applications where there is more than five letters of objection to the proposal from different households or businesses or a petition and the grounds of objection are considered to be material planning considerations to the proposal and the recommendation is to approve the application, unless~~
 - ~~where a material issue had been debated by the committee at the outline stage and there were no changes in material circumstances between the outline and detailed application;~~
 - ~~where persistent objections were received in respect of an on-going development which had previously been considered by the Planning Committee and which raised no new material planning considerations.~~

All exceptions will be reported to Planning Committee as long as they strictly comply with the proposed amended scheme of delegation.

For the purposes of this protocol “Major developments” are those defined in article 1(1) of the General Development Procedure Order 1995 being:-

(a) minerals development

~~(b) waste development~~

~~(c) 10 or more dwelling houses or the site concerned is of 0.5 hectares or over~~

~~(d) a building with 1000 square metres or more of floor space~~

~~(e) development on land of 1 hectare or over~~

~~“Minor developments” for the purposes of this protocol are to be defined as meaning all other developments.~~

~~CC12/10/11~~

~~To also determine planning applications in the following instances:~~

- ~~• where a material issue had been debated by the Committee at the outline stage and again at the detailed stage and if there were no changes in material circumstances between the outline and detailed application;~~
- ~~• where persistent objections were received in respect of an on-going development which had previously been considered by the Planning Committee and which raised no new material planning considerations.~~

~~Administration~~

~~Undertake statutory and non-statutory publicity and consultations.~~

~~Add conditions to planning consents once approved by the Planning Committee.~~

~~Amend or add reasons for refusals and conditions on approvals by Committee broadly consistent with the general tenure of decisions determined by the Planning Committee.~~

~~Issue planning decision notices.~~

~~Issue building regulations decision notices.~~

~~Respond to Hedgerow Removal Notice Orders.~~

~~Issue Tree Preservation Orders and Building Preservation Orders.~~

~~Serve emergency tree preservation orders and building preservation notices following consultation with the appropriate Executive Board Member and the local ward member(s).~~

~~Determine consent for work on trees covered by Tree Preservation Orders (including works on trees in a Conservation Order).~~

~~To process procedural matters relating to applications for review of conditions at mineral workings.~~

~~Approve details of minor developments within mineral workings under the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 1995.~~

~~Determine requests for screening opinion under regulation 5 of The Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) (England and Wales) Regulations 1999.~~

~~Consultation on applications under Section 38 of the Electricity Act 1989.~~

~~Head of Planning will have responsibility for the appointment of an independent surveyor in the adjudication of disputes relating to The Party Wall Act 1996.~~

~~To undertake the necessary investigations into allegations of unauthorised development, and to instigate any appropriate enforcement action under Part VII of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.~~

Planning and Building Regulations

~~Delegated authority to the Head of Planning to consider prior notification of permitted developments received by the local planning authority and issuing of the necessary notices.~~

~~To issue necessary enforcement and other action relating to the enforcement of planning and listed building legislation.~~

~~To undertake the necessary investigations into allegations of unauthorised development, and instigate any appropriate enforcement action under Part VII of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 and Listed Building Act 1990.~~

~~To determine Tree Preservation Order applications made under Sections 198 and 211 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.~~

~~To enter into planning obligations regulating development or use of land under Section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, and to negotiate, modify or discharge such obligations.~~

~~To agree minor changes to the Carmarthenshire Unitary Development Plan or any subsequent plan which does not fundamentally alter the plan's basic strategy as agreed by County Council. Authority to the Head of Planning to amend the policies where there are cartographical errors, typographical errors, omission of objections or amendments to reflect emerging policies and guidelines from WAG.~~

~~To determine applications received for a Certificate of Lawful Development.~~

~~To determine applications for Certificates of Alternative Appropriate Development, Listed Building applications and Conservation Area consents, Tree Preservation Notices, Building Preservation Notices, Hedgerow Regulation Notices and amendments to the Common Land Register.~~

~~Authority to the Head of Planning to appoint officers and elected members to exercise the right of entry onto land, as determined by:~~

~~Section 196 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990;
Section 324 and 325 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990;
Section 11 of the Planning and Compensation Act 1991;~~

~~Section 88 of the Planning (Listed Building and Conservation Area) Act 1990;
Section 95 of the Building Act 1984.~~

~~To take action under the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994.~~

~~Street naming and numbering under the provisions of Sections 17, 18 and 19 of the Public Health Act 1925, Sections 64 and 65 of the Town and Improvement Clauses Act 1847 and the relevant provisions of the Public Health Act 1875, to include the power to erect names of public streets and ensure that names and/or numbers of buildings are properly displayed.~~

~~Authority to the Head of Planning to determine applications for a screening opinion under the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations 1999 and to screen submitted applications.~~

~~To act as the Appointing Officer for the purposes of the Party Wall etc. Act 1996.~~

Law of Property Act 1925

~~Head of Housing Services, Head of Planning, Head of Public Protection and Head of Administration and Law to instigate the necessary action to bring about an enforced sale, including the disposal of the property.~~

BUILDING REGULATIONS

~~Delegated authority is granted to the Head of Planning and Building Control Manager to determine all building regulation duties, including the determination of building regulations' applications, enforcement and measures relating to dangerous buildings. Authorisation to sign the necessary statutory notices.~~

Hedgerow Regulations

~~To issue a Hedgerow Retention Notice and where appropriate to consult with Local Member(s), Community Council, Countryside Commission for Wales and Cambria Archaeology.~~

~~To issue and enforce Hedgerow Replanting Notices in accordance with agreed County Council guidelines.~~

~~To grant the removal of a hedgerow in accordance with statutory requirements.~~

COUNTRYSIDE, RECREATION AND ACCESS

~~All statutory powers and duties relating to footpaths and bridleways are delegated to the Director of Regeneration and the Head of Leisure and Sport (including powers relating to enforcement and entry to land), including those relevant powers and duties arising under the following enactments:~~

~~Countryside Act 1968~~

~~Highways Act 1980~~

~~Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981~~

~~Cycle Tracks Act 1984~~
~~Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984~~
~~Rights of Way Act 1990~~
~~Town and Country Planning Act 1990~~
~~Road Traffic Act 1988~~
~~Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000.~~

~~TECHNICAL SERVICES~~

ENVIRONMENT

Powers delegated to the Director of (~~Technical Services~~) Environment

To Manage the County Council's technical and operational direct service organisations, in so far as not located within any other department. To determine all matters relating to the ~~Technical Services~~ **Environment** Department on a day to day basis.

To oversee all operational matters in relation to the following functional areas:

- Consultancy.
- Professional Design Services ~~and Dwr Cymru contracts.~~
- Transport.
- ~~Construction Services-~~ Highway Maintenance,
- Building Maintenance **and Asset Management** ,
- Grounds Maintenance,
- Waste Management,
- **Land Drainage**
- **Sustainable Drainage Approval Body**
- **Coastal Protection**
- **Flood Mapping**
- Street Cleansing
- Municipal Services.
- **Planning**
- **Building Control**
- Emergency Planning
- **Ammanford Cemetery.**
- **Public Rights of Way**

To nominate officers authorised to sign documents, certificates, letters, invoices, orders and all other financial and administrative correspondence and documents, on such terms as the Director may specify.

~~Section 104 Agreements - Water Industry Act 1991~~

~~To formally adopt sewers under Section 104 of the Water Industry Act 1991.~~

Annual Tenders

To obtain spot prices for the provision of services when it was considered that this might be advantageous to the Authority.

Cwm Environmental Limited

To exercise the functions for which the Council are responsible under the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Company.

To jointly agree with the Director of Resources the authority for CWM Environmental Limited, the appointment of Auditors and enter into transactions in excess of £25,000. **(now within Shareholders Board)**

Ammanford Cemetery- (MOVED TO MUNICIPAL SERVICES MANAGER)

To act as the Authority's Proper Officer under Section 112 of the Local Government Act 1972 and as the Registrar of Burials.

Powers Delegated to the Head of Transport and Engineering

To be the Authority's Traffic Manager

To appoint officers authorised to determine informal challenges and formal representations to the issue of Parking Contravention Notices and Notices to Owners.

On and Off Street Traffic Regulation Orders

To commence the statutory process for the making of On and Off Street Traffic Regulation Orders.

Temporary Traffic Regulation Orders

To authorise the making of temporary traffic regulation orders, subject to the approval of local members.

Residents' Parking Permits and Access Permits

To sign and issue Residents' Parking Permits and access permits.

Land Acquisition for Transport Infrastructure Schemes

To instruct the Head of ~~Corporate Property~~ **Regeneration** to open negotiations for the purchase of land required for transport infrastructure schemes provided that the scheme is included within the Council's Local Transport Plan, Regional Transport Plan or within a programme approved by Council.

Request from Associations and the General Public for Partial Use of a Car Park Owned by the Authority for Alternative Activities

To authorise, in consultation with the ~~Executive Board~~ **Cabinet** Member of Environment and local member(s), to consider requests received for alternative temporary partial use of County Council owned car parks.

To authorise the Director of ~~Technical Services~~ **Environment** and his or her nominated officers to lay information and instruct the Head of Administration and Law to conduct proceedings in the Magistrates' Court on behalf of the County Council in relation to alleged offences under the Carmarthenshire County Council (Off Street Parking Places)

(Llanelli) (Amendment) Order 2000 and the Carmarthenshire County Council (Off Street Parking Places) (Carmarthen) (Amendment) Order 2000.

Home to School Transport

To constitute an Officer Home to School Transport Appeals Panel (comprising representation from Legal, Education and Transport and Engineering Divisions) in order to hear and determine appeals relating to home to school transport.

Entry onto land for surveys in connection with Transport Infrastructure Schemes

To be authorised to serve notices of entry under Section 289 of the Highways Act 1980 for the purpose of surveying on land (including boreholes and trial pits) in connection with the development of transport infrastructure schemes.

Street Scene

Land Acquisition for Highways, Bridge maintenance and remedial earthworks Schemes

To instruct the Head of ~~Corporate Property~~ **Regeneration** to open negotiations for the purchase of land required for highways, bridge maintenance and remedial earthworks schemes provided that the scheme is included within a programme approved by Council.

Entry onto land for surveys in connection with Highways, Bridge maintenance and remedial earthworks Schemes

To serve notices of entry under Section 289 of the Highways Act 1980 for the purpose of surveying on land (including boreholes and trial pits) in connection with the development of highways, bridge maintenance and remedial earthworks schemes.

Highways Act (1980), New Roads and Street Works Act, Land Drainage Act, Traffic Management Act 2004 (Commencement No.1) (Wales) Order 2006, Environmental Protection Act 1990, Clean Neighbourhood and Environment Act 2005.

Powers to deal with all statutory powers under the various sections of the above Acts.

Land acquisition for minor improvement, bridge maintenance, remedial earthworks and road safety schemes

To instruct the Head of ~~Corporate Property~~ **Regeneration** to purchase small parcels of land required for small highway improvements, bridge maintenance, remedial earthworks and road safety schemes up to a value of £5,000 (subject to valuation), to be funded from the revenue maintenance budget.

Highways Act 1980 section 151

Delegated authority to enforce the provisions of the above section of the Act.

COUNTRYSIDE, RECREATION AND ACCESS (Moved from Regeneration and Leisure)

All statutory powers and duties relating to footpaths and bridleways are delegated to the Director of Environment and Head of Transportation and Highways (including powers relating to enforcement and entry to land), including those relevant powers and duties arising under the following enactments:

Countryside Act 1968
Highways Act 1980
Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981
Cycle Tracks Act 1984
Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984
Rights of Way Act 1990
Town and Country Planning Act 1990
Road Traffic Act 1988
Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000.

Powers Delegated to the Head of Waste and Environmental Services

Charges for the collection of household and commercial waste.

Delegated powers in consultation with the ~~Executive Board~~ **Cabinet** Member for Environment, to set charges for the collection of household and commercial waste as described in regulation 4 and schedule 2 and regulation 6 and regulation 4 of the Controlled Waste Regulations 1992

Dog Fouling of Pavements

Delegate powers to action the Dog Fouling of Land (Act) 1996 under the terms of Section 101 of the Local Government Act 1972.

Powers to tackle litter and refuse on land

Delegated powers to investigate and proceed with prosecutions under Section 101 of the Local Government Act 1972 in order to tackle litter and refuse on land under Section 33, 34, 46, 59,60,73, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 94,99 of the Environmental Protection Act, Section 215 of the Town and Country Planning Act, Section 22(3) and 23 of the Control of Pollution Act 1974, Section 78 of the Public Health Act 1936, Section 34 of the Public Health Act 1961, Sections 2, 3,4, 6, 7 and 8 of the Refuse Disposal Amenity Act 1978, Section 5(9) of the Litter Act, Section 148 and 149 of the Highways Act Schedule 3A, Paragraph 7(2) Environmental Protection Act 1990.

Powers to tackle litter, refuse, graffiti and fly posting

Delegated Powers to investigate and proceed with prosecution under:

Section 71 of the Environmental Protection Act 1990.

Section 5 and 6 of the Control of Pollution (Amendment Act) 1989.

Sections 43, 45, 47, 48, 49, 55, and 56 of the Anti Social Behaviour Act 2003.

Section 108 of the Environment Act 1995.

Section 137, 138, 139, 140,143,143, 154,169, 170, 171 and 180 of the Highways Act 1980.

Section 16 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976.

Section 4 of the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1949.

Neighbourhood and Environment Act

Part 2 Nuisance Vehicles - Sections 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16 and 17.

Part 3 Litter and Refuse - Sections 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26 and 27.

Part 4 Graffiti and other Defacement - Sections 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33 and 34.

Part 5 Waste - Sections 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52 and 53.

Part 6 Dogs - Sections 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67 and 68.

Part 9 Miscellaneous - Sections 96, 97, 98, 99 and 100.

Default Works

Where an infraction of legislation continued following the service and expiration of a Notice requiring works to be undertaken, delegated powers be granted to the Director of Technical Services **Environment**, the Head of Street Scene **Waste and Environmental Services** and the Street Care Manager to initiate and make arrangements for the execution of works in default, to the monetary limit specified in Council Standing Orders currently in force.

Bylaws

Delegated authority to enforce the following byelaws:

1994 Carmarthen District Bylaws for the Regulation of Dogs on land fronting the beach at Llansteffan;

1996 Carmarthen District Bylaws for the Regulation of Dogs on the seashore at Llansteffan.

~~Highways Act 1980 section 151~~(MOVED TO HEAD OF TRANSPORT AND ENGINEERING)

~~Delegated authority to enforce the provisions of the above section of the Act.~~

Powers Delegated to the Head of Planning Head of Place and Sustainability

The functions associated with the Council's responsibilities for planning and building control are delegated to the Director of ~~Regeneration and Leisure~~ **Environment** and the Head of ~~Planning~~ **Place and Sustainability**, including (but not limited to) all the functions described below

Determination of Planning Applications

The Head of ~~Planning~~ **Place and Sustainability** has delegated powers to deal with the determination of all planning (and other planning related) ~~applications or an application or consent to display an advertisement~~, functions and procedures relating to Town and Country Planning as contained within the following Acts (as amended where applicable) and including all subordinate legislation:-

- The Town and Country Planning Act 1990
- The Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990
- The Planning (Hazardous Substances) Act 1990
- *Planning and Compensation Act 2004
- ***Planning (Wales) Act 2015**
- ***The Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2016**
- * **The Dyfed Act 1987**

The exceptions being:-

- Applications where the Local Member submits a request to the Head of ~~Planning~~ **Place and Sustainability** for it to be considered by the Planning Committee, and this is made in writing within 21 days of receipt of the consultation and outlining material planning reasons.
- Applications submitted by **or on behalf of** serving Councillors or their immediate family or employees of the Development **Control** Service or their immediate families;
- Applications submitted by, or on behalf of, the Council or involving land owned by the Council and where the Council ~~has~~ **will receive** a significant financial interest in such an application ~~receipt as a result of the development~~.
- Minor applications where there is ~~are more than one~~ **three** letters of objection to the proposal from different households **or businesses, or petitions of three signatures from different households or businesses or more, and the grounds of objection are considered to be material planning considerations to the proposal** and the **officer** recommendation is to approve the application, unless:

- where a material issue(s) had been debated by the committee at the outline stage and there were no changes in material circumstances between the outline and detailed (**reserved matters**) application;
- **where a material issue(s) had been debated by the Committee at the original planning application stage and there were no changes in material circumstances between the original and Section 73 (Removal/ variation) application;**
- where persistent objections were received in respect of an on-going development which had previously been considered by the Planning Committee and which raised no new material planning considerations.
- Major applications where there is **are more than five seven** letters of objection to the proposal from different households or businesses, **or petitions of seven signatures from different households or businesses or more, and the grounds of objection are considered to be material planning considerations to the proposal** and the **officer** recommendation is to approve the application, unless:
 - where a material issue(s) had been debated by the committee at the outline stage and there were no changes in material circumstances between the outline and detailed (**reserved matters**) application;
 - **where a material issue(s) had been debated by the Committee at the original planning application stage and there were no changes in material circumstances between the original and Section 73 (Removal /Variation) application;**
 - where persistent objections were received in respect of an on-going development which had previously been considered by the Planning Committee and which raised no new material planning considerations.
 - **Applications that the Head of Place and Sustainability considers should be dealt with by the Planning Committee.**

The above listed exceptions do not apply to the following applications and/or consents:

Prior Notifications

Applications relating to a Local Development Order

Non-Material Amendments

Discharge of Conditions

Modified / Discharge of Planning Obligations

Advertisement Consent

Listed Building Consent

Conservation Area Consent

Hedgerow Removal Notices

Works to Trees in a Conservation Area

Works to Tree Preservation Orders

CLEUD (Certificate of Lawful Existing Use or Development)

CLOPUD (Certificate of Proposed Lawful Use or Development)

Certificates of Alternative Appropriate Development

Overhead Line Notifications

All exceptions will be reported to Planning Committee as long as they strictly comply with the ~~proposed~~ amended scheme of delegation.

For the purposes of this protocol “Major developments” are those defined in article 4 2(1) of the ~~General Development Procedure Order 1995~~ **Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure)(Wales) Order 2012** being:-

- (a) minerals development
- (b) waste development
- (c) 10 or more dwelling houses or the site concerned is of 0.5 hectares or over
- (d) a building with 1000 square metres or more of floor space
- (e) development on land of 1 hectare or over

“Minor developments” for the purposes of this protocol are to be defined as meaning all other developments.

CC12/10/11

~~To also determine planning applications in the following instances:~~

- ~~• where a material issue had been debated by the Committee at the outline stage and again at the detailed stage and if there were no changes in material circumstances between the outline and detailed application;~~
- ~~• where persistent objections were received in respect of an on-going development which had previously been considered by the Planning Committee and which raised no new material planning considerations.~~

Determination of Building Regulations Applications

The Head of Place and Sustainability has delegated powers to deal with the determination of all building regulation applications, functions and procedures relating to the following Acts and including all subordinate legislation

The Building Act 1984

The Building Regulations 2010

Administration

Undertake statutory and non-statutory publicity and consultations.

~~Add conditions to planning consents once approved by the Planning Committee.
(duplication – covered by next delegation)~~

Amend or add reasons for refusals and conditions on approvals by Committee broadly consistent with the general tenure of decisions determined by the Planning Committee **prior to issuing the decision notice.**

Issue planning decision notices.

Issue building regulations decision notices.

Respond to Hedgerow Removal Notice Orders.

Issue Tree Preservation Orders and Building Preservation Orders.

Serve emergency tree preservation orders and building preservation notices following consultation with the appropriate **Cabinet** Member and the local ward member(s).

Determine consent for work on trees covered by Tree Preservation Orders (including works on trees in a Conservation Order).

To process procedural matters relating to applications for review of conditions at mineral workings.

Approve details of minor developments within mineral workings under the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 1995.

Determine requests for screening opinion under regulations **6 & 8-5** of The Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) (~~England and Wales~~) Regulations ~~1999~~ **2017**.

Determine requests for scoping opinion under regulation 14 of The Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Wales) Regulations 2017

Consultation on applications under Section 38 of the Electricity Act 1989.

Head of ~~Planning~~ **Place and Sustainability** will have responsibility for the appointment of an independent surveyor in the adjudication of disputes relating to The Party Wall Act 1996.

To undertake the necessary investigations into allegations of unauthorised development, and to instigate any appropriate enforcement action under Part VII of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.

Planning and Building Regulations

To enter into planning obligations regulating development or use of land under Section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 and to negotiate, modify or discharge such obligations.

To refuse applications where Planning Committee has resolved to approve subject to a legal agreement and such an agreement has not been signed within 12 months from the date of the Planning Committee resolution.

To determine applications received for a CLEUD **or CLOPUD**

To determine non-material amendment applications.

To determine applications to discharge planning conditions

To determine applications for Advertisement Consent

To determine applications for certificates of Alternative Appropriate Development

To determine Listed Building Applications

To determine Conservation Area consents

To consider prior notification of permitted developments received by the local planning authority and issuing of the necessary notices.

To determine applications for screening / **scoping** under the Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment)(Wales) Regulations **2017**.

To formulate responses to Development of National Significance under the Planning (Wales) Act 2015 and Development of National Significance Procedure Regulations 2016

To formulate responses to Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects under the Planning Act 2008

To consider and respond to statutory pre-application enquiries under the Town and Country Planning (Pre-Application Services)(Wales) Regulations 2016.

To issue necessary enforcement and other action relating to the enforcement of planning and listed building legislation.

To undertake the necessary investigations into allegations of unauthorised development, and instigate any appropriate enforcement action under Part VII of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 and Listed Building Act 1990.

To undertake the necessary investigations into complaints in respect of High Hedges and issue any appropriate remedial notices under Part 8 of the Anti Social Behaviour Act 2003.

To determine Tree Preservation Order applications made under Sections 198 and 211 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.

To issue Tree Preservation Notices

To issue Building Preservation Notices

To issue Hedgerow Regulation Notices

To issue amendments to the Common Land Register

To agree minor changes to the Carmarthenshire Unitary Development Plan or any subsequent plan which does not fundamentally alter the plan's basic strategy as agreed by County Council. Authority to the Head of **Planning Place and Sustainability** to amend the policies where there are cartographical errors, typographical errors, omission of objections or amendments to reflect emerging policies and guidelines from WG.

Authority to the Head of **Planning Place and Sustainability** to appoint officers and elected members to exercise the right of entry onto land, as determined by:

Section 196 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990;
Section 324 and 325 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990;

Section 11 of the Planning and Compensation Act 1991;
Section 88 of the Planning (Listed Building and Conservation Area) Act 1990;
Section 95 of the Building Act 1984.

To take action under the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994.

Street naming and numbering under the provisions of Sections 17, 18 and 19 of the Public Health Act 1925, Sections 64 and 65 of the Town and Improvement Clauses Act 1847 and the relevant provisions of the Public Health Act 1875, to include the power to erect names of public streets and ensure that names and/or numbers of buildings are properly displayed.

To act as the Appointing Officer for the purposes of the Party Wall etc. Act 1996.

Law of Property Act 1925

Head of ~~Housing Services~~ **Homes and Safer Communities**, Head of Planning **Place and Sustainability**, ~~Head of Public Protection~~ and Head of Administration and Law to instigate the necessary action to bring about an enforced sale, including the disposal of the property.

Building Regulations

Delegated authority is granted to the Head of Planning **Place and Sustainability** and Building Control Manager to determine all building regulation duties, including the determination of building regulations' applications, enforcement and measures relating to dangerous buildings. Authorisation to sign the necessary statutory notices.

Hedgerow Regulations

To issue a Hedgerow Retention Notice and where appropriate to consult with Local Member(s), Community Council, Countryside Commission for Wales and Cambria Archaeology.

To issue and enforce Hedgerow Replanting Notices in accordance with agreed County Council guidelines.

To grant the removal of a hedgerow in accordance with statutory requirements.

Powers Delegated to the Municipal Services Manager

Ammanford Cemetery

To act as the Authority's Proper Officer under Section 112 of the Local Government Act 1972 and as the Registrar of Burials.

EDUCATION AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES

DIRECTOR

To exercise all powers relating to the functions of the County Council as the Local Education Authority.

The Director of Education and Children's Services is the Lead Director for children and young people, as required by the Children Act 2004, and has responsibility for co-ordinating and overseeing the promotion of local co-operation between the Council and other relevant partners and bodies, and also in publishing plans setting out the Council's strategy in relation to children and young people.

In addition, operational responsibility for children, young people and families' social services functions are specifically delegated from the Director of Community Services to the Director of Education and Children's Services.

Licensing Act 2003 and Gambling Act 2005

Delegated authority to make representations on behalf of the Council acting in its capacity as a responsible authority.

Student Support

~~To determine eligibility for Student Support in accordance with Government, WAG and Council regulations and policies.~~

Charitable Trust Funds

To determine, in consultation with Trustees, applications received for financial support from Charitable Trust Funds administered by the Authority on behalf of Trustees.

School Closures

Notice of Closure

To deal with schools with no registered pupils on the statutory January census date (a "small school") and that such schools be subject to an immediate notice of closure. (County Council decision 15 April 2014).

HEAD OF CURRICULUM AND WELLBEING

Youth Justice under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998.

Youth Support under The Learning and Skills Act 2000 – provision, securing the provision of, or participating in the provision of youth support services.

Delivery of the Welsh Government Youth Engagement and Progression Framework.

HEAD OF EDUCATION AND INCLUSION SERVICES

Local Management of Schools (LMS) Scheme

To vire funds within the education budget to comply with the LMS Scheme and WG Regulations and guidance.

School Reorganisations – Treatment of Balances of Closing Schools

To determine whether new schools should be allocated some additional funding to reflect the benefit of the balances of closing schools affected by reorganisations.

Parent Governors

Returning Officer for the election of Parent Governors and to determine the arrangements for the elections.

Statements of Special Educational Needs

To authorise Statements of Special Educational Needs in accordance with statutory regulations.

Free School Meals and Milk

To determine applications for Free School Meals and Milk in accordance with National and Council Policies.

Financial Support

To provide financial support to children and families in need under ~~Section 17 of the Children Act 1989~~ **Part 3 and 4 of the Social Services and Wellbeing Act 2014**.

HEAD OF ACCESS TO EDUCATION SERVICES

Admission of Pupils to Schools

To undertake the role of Admissions Authority for all Community and Voluntary Controlled schools, in accordance with published guidelines.

Disposal of Redundant School Sites & Buildings

To instruct the Head of ~~Corporate Property~~ **Regeneration** to dispose of redundant school sites and buildings following closure, in line with agreed Council policy.

21st Century Schools Programme ~~Tranche 3 bids~~

Authority to determine the most appropriate prioritisation of school modernisation projects ~~at Carreg Hirfaen, Ysgol Y Strade and Goedcae and others~~ within the Modernising Education Programme for submission under ~~Tranche 3 Band A and Band B Outline Funding Programmes~~ following further discussion with ~~Assembly Welsh~~

Government officials (~~CC 12/05/10~~) (**Band A – EB 20/06/2016**), (**Band B – EB 18/12 2017**)

HEAD OF CHILDRENS SERVICES

Child Protection

To commence Care Proceedings and other proceedings under the Children Act 1989.

To authorise the detention of a child or young person in secure accommodation for a period of up to 72 hours, under Section 25 of the Children Act 1989.

Adoption

To be the Council's Agency Decision Maker in relation to the approval of adopters, the placement of children for adoption, and the matching of children with adopters.

To ensure that there is appropriate representation on the ~~West Wales~~ **Regional** Adoption Panel in consultation with the ~~Executive Board~~ **Cabinet** and partner authorities.

Fostering

To be the Council's Agency Decision Maker in relation to the approval and de-registration of foster carers.

To review and decide upon the level of annual increases in boarding out allowances to be paid to foster carers, in accordance with the Council's financial procedures and regulations

Looked After Children

To place Looked After Children outside Carmarthenshire, and/or with a non-Local Authority provider, when appropriate, and to make provision for any associated costs.

Children's Homes

To ensure that the statutory requirements are met as required by the Care and Social Services Inspectorate Wales.

Pupils' Non-Attendance at School

To instigate proceedings, and represent the Council in prosecutions at Magistrates' Courts, in respect of pupils' non-attendance at school.

Child Employment

To licence the employment of children.

To determine applications received for clothing grants.

PART 5 CODES & PROTOCOLS

PART 5.3 REPRESENTATIONS TO THE COUNTY COUNCIL ON PLANNING APPLICATIONS

PROTOCOL

The authority advise members of the public and ~~Town and Community Councils~~ (the correspondent) of the entitlement to address the Planning Committee when objections or comments are received, and when acknowledging correspondence.

The correspondent is advised to contact the case officer (the name of which will be provided) to discuss the protocol and the likely date and venue of the Committee meeting at which the application will be discussed.

~~The officer's report will be made available three days before the date of the meeting to all interested parties who request a copy.~~ The officer's report will also be **made** available via the authority's internet pages at www.carmarthenshire.gov.uk three days before the date of the meeting.

~~Any objector who raises a material planning consideration will be entitled to address the Committee.~~ **A maximum of two objectors from different addresses who have raised material planning considerations will be entitled to address the Committee.** The Head of **Place and Sustainability** ~~Planning~~ will determine whether the issue raised is a material planning consideration.

~~In the event of a disagreement on this point, the Head of Administration and Law, the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Committee will determine whether the correspondent has a right to address the Committee.~~

Should more than two requests be received to address the Planning Committee on a planning application it shall be the first two requests received in time that shall be given the right to address the Committee.

~~Two objectors per planning application may address the Committee, and the request is to be received in writing by the Head of Planning by mid-day three clear working days before the Committee meeting.~~

~~Requests by the Town and Community Councils to address the Committee must be received in writing by the Head of Planning by mid-day three clear working days before the Committee meeting.~~ **Requests to speak from objectors shall be received in writing by the Head of Place and Sustainability before the Planning Committee meeting as follows:**

Committee Day	Request to speak deadline (12 noon)
Monday	Preceding Wednesday
Tuesday	Preceding Thursday
Wednesday	Preceding Friday

Thursday	Preceding Monday
Friday	Preceding Tuesday

The applicant or his/her representative has the right to respond to objections; but may not speak simply to promote the scheme. In the absence of any objection the applicant shall not have the right to address the Committee. ~~The applicant will be advised of the method and means of appeal if a refusal notice is issued.~~

The applicant shall be advised at least 24 hours before the meeting that an objector/s wishes **has registered** to speak.

The Local Members shall be advised that a members of the public or ~~Town and Community Council~~ wish to address the Committee.

Local Members who may wish to address the Planning Committee (in accordance with their rights under Section 2.6 of Part 5.2 of the constitution namely the Code of Conduct for Councillors and Officers in Planning Matters) are advised to contact the Case Officer and / or Chair of the Planning Committee 24 hours before the meeting.

In the event that an application is to be deferred a maximum of two objectors per application will be given the option of either addressing the original Committee or the subsequent Committee. Objectors who have already spoken on the application at the original Planning Committee will not be able to address the subsequent Committee.

THE ORDER OF PRESENTATION TO THE COMMITTEE SHALL BE:

- ◆ Opening remarks, background and report by the officer
- ◆ Objector/representative - two speakers per planning application (maximum of 5 minutes each)
- ◆ Applicant/agent
 - ◆ Local member(s) - local county councillor(s) ~~and one representative from the local town/community council~~ (maximum of 5 minutes each, or 5 minutes **per local member for a dual/multi ward**)
- ◆ Committee member question and comment
- ◆ Summary by officer
- ◆ Decision

NOTES

The protocol shall be available for the public to view at all meetings and the Chair shall outline the process at the beginning of the meeting.

Items on which the public ~~and/or Town and Community Council~~ wish to address the Committee shall be brought forward on the Agenda in an order determined by the Chair.

The Chair, Head of ~~Planning~~ **Place and Sustainability**, and legal representative prior to circulation shall vet any late representations. All late material considerations shall be recorded in the minutes and circulated if relevant to the issues being discussed.

Deferral of the proposal on request of the applicant will only occur if the information received relates to material/additional issues not covered in the report.

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COUNCIL
9TH FEBRUARY 2022

CARMARTHENSHIRE PETITIONS SCHEME

RECOMMENDATIONS / KEY DECISIONS REQUIRED:

To recommend to Council the adoption of a petition scheme for the Authority.

REASONS:

It is a requirement of the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 for each local authority to make a petition scheme, and for the scheme to be in place by May 2022.

CRWG considered a draft petition scheme and recommends the petition scheme to Council.

Scrutiny Committee consulted	Not applicable
Cabinet Decision Required	NO
Council Decision Required	YES

Cabinet Member Portfolio Holder(s): Cllr Emlyn Dole - Leader

Directorate

Name of Head of Service:
Linda Rees Jones

Report Author:
Linda Rees Jones
Gaynor Morgan

Chief Executive's

Designations:
Head of Administration & Law

Head of Democratic Services

Tel Nos.

01267 224012 LRJ
01267 224026 GM

E Mail Addresses:

Lrjones@carmarthenshire.gov.uk
gmorgan@carmarthenshire.gov.uk

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
COUNCIL
9TH FEBRUARY 2022**

CARMARTHENSHIRE PETITIONS SCHEME

Part 3 of The Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 places a duty on principal councils to promote public participation in their decision making.

To that end, amongst other things, requires each principal council to make and publish a petition scheme (a “petition scheme”) setting out how the council intends to handle and respond to petitions (including electronic petitions).

A petition scheme must, in particular, set out—

- (a) how a petition may be submitted to the council;
- (b) how and by when the council will acknowledge receipt of a petition;
- (c) the steps the council may take in response to a petition received by it;
- (d) the circumstances (if any) in which the council may take no further action in response to a petition;
- (e) how and by when the council will make available its response to a petition to the person who submitted the petition and to the public.

This Council’s Council Procedure Rules (Standing Orders) have long since provided a right for any member of the Council or any local government elector of the County to submit a petition, although to date this has been a paper petition in that no electronic petition facility has been available. The threshold is currently 50 signatures or more. Eligible petitions may be referred to Council for debate, although petitions on executive functions will ultimately be decided by the Cabinet or Cabinet Member. This provision in Standing Orders will now need to be drafted as a Scheme, to include an electronic petition facility.

This gives the Authority an opportunity to revisit its arrangements. No Guidance is currently available on the development of a Petition Scheme under the 2021 Act. Guidance in England to English Authorities some years ago suggested that the threshold be no more than 5% of the County’s population, but encouraged the threshold to be set at less. Senedd Cymru’s threshold is 250 for a petition to be discussed by its Petitions Committee (Carmarthenshire County Council does not have a Petitions Committee) and 10,000 for it to be debated in the Senedd.

A principal council must review its petition scheme from time to time and, if the council considers it appropriate, revise the scheme.

If a principal council revises or replaces a petition scheme, it must publish the revised or new scheme.

This report includes a draft petition scheme considered by CRWG for recommendation to

Council. As part of the scheme CRWG

- Considered a number for triggering a petition to council (currently 50 registered Carmarthenshire electors)
- a time period for electronic petitions to be open; and
- a time period during which similar petitions will not be considered.

**DETAILED REPORT
ATTACHED?**

**YES – Draft Petition Scheme
CPR10 Part B - Petitions**

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: Linda Rees Jones, Head of Administration & Law

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

Legal

It is a legal requirement for a principal council to establish a petition scheme in accordance with the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021.

CONSULTATIONS

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

Signed: Linda Rees Jones, Head of Administration & Law

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
Council Constitution – Part 4.1		http://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/media/2027081/part4-1.pdf
Local Government & Elections (Wales) Act 2021		https://www.legislation.gov.uk/asc/2021/1/contents/enacted

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Carmarthenshire County Council

Petition Scheme

Helping to increase public participation in Local Government

Carmarthenshire County Council welcomes petitions and recognises that petitions are one of many ways in which people can let us know their concerns and engage in the democratic process.

Democratic Services, Carmarthenshire County Council, County Hall, Carmarthen.
01267 224028 / Democraticservices@carmarthenshire.gov.uk

Introduction

We welcome petitions and recognise that they are just one of many ways in which you can let us know about your concerns and participate in the democratic process. This guidance summarises our petitions scheme and applies to all petitions submitted that fall within the scheme.

Petitions are not the only way to resolve an issue or to make your views known. You could also:

- contact the relevant service or officer directly
- contact your local ward councillor
- contact the relevant Cabinet Member
- ask a scrutiny committee to look into the matter
- make a complaint to us

Guidelines and how to submit a petition

Anyone who lives or works in Carmarthenshire can organise or sign a petition, including those under the age of 18.

There are two types of petitions:

- Petitions which are signed by fewer than 50 registered electors in respect of paper copies or fewer than 300 electors in respect of e-petitions will automatically be referred to the department responsible for the service area, who will respond directly to the petitioner.
- Petitions submitted to the Council meeting (under Council Procedure Rule 10B) must include 50 registered elector signatures for paper copies and 300 registered elector signatures for e- petitions.
- Each petition must state the name, address and postcode of the petition organiser. In these circumstances:
 - a) The petition organiser must be either a local government elector of the county or a Carmarthenshire County Councillor. If the petition is not accompanied by contact details, including an address for the petition organiser we will contact the first signatory on the petition to agree who should act as the petition organiser. The contact details of the petition organiser will not be placed on the council's website.
 - b) Paper Petitions for a Council meeting must be delivered in writing to the Chief Executive no later than 10.00 a.m. 7 clear working days (NB clear days does not include the day the

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petition is received or the day of the meeting) before the day of the meeting it is proposed to be presented at.

- c) For e-petitions once 300 registered elector signatures have been received, this petition will automatically be included on the agenda of the next available Council meeting if a debate at Council was requested when the petition was created.

If you submit a petition, it must include: -

- a) a petition title/subject
- b) a short, clear statement outlining what the petition is about and the action you are asking the Council to take
- c) the name, address (including post code) email and telephone number of the petition organiser
- d) the names and addresses (including post code) of those who have signed the petition
- e) and relate to a function that is within the Council's powers or duties, or affects the area of the Authority or part of it, or the inhabitants of that area or some of them.

Paper petitions can be submitted to the Chief Executive via the Head of Democratic Services, Chief Executive's Department, Carmarthenshire County Council, County Hall, Carmarthen. SA31 1JP.

E-petitions can be submitted through the Council's e-petitions website and must clearly include the starting and closing date of the petition, and whether there is a paper petition collecting signatures in conjunction with the e-petition. Further information on completing an e-petition can be found on our e-petition page. (**LINK TO BE INCLUDED**). Petitions will not be accepted from other on-line petition systems. E-Petitions will be live on the Authority's website for two months.

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Exceptions to the Petitions Scheme

The majority of petitions we receive will be accepted but there are some circumstances where we will not be able to deal with your petition under this scheme.

- Petitions that fall outside of this scheme include:
 - Any matter that the Council is not directly responsible for or has no influence over. We will return the petition to you and where possible direct you to the correct organisation.
 - Any matter relating to a planning decision – These will be dealt with using existing planning procedures. For further information about making representations about planning decisions, please contact the planning team at planningconsultations@carmarthenshire.gov.uk
 - Any matter relating to a licensing application – These will be dealt with using existing procedures. For further information about making representations, please contact the licensing team at schlicensing@carmarthenshire.gov.uk
 - A statutory petition (for example a petition for a directly elected mayor).
 - Any matter where there is already an existing right of appeal or a separate complaints process. These will be dealt with using existing procedures.
 - Any specific issues that the Council is carrying out a formal consultation on. These will be dealt with under a different process.
 - A petition where we have received another petition on the same issue within the previous 12 months. In these circumstances, we will write to the petition organiser and include a copy of the response to the first petition received.
 - Petitions which are considered to be vexatious, abusive, repetitive or otherwise inappropriate will not be accepted.
 - Any petition that is asking the Council to do anything unlawful.
 - Any petition relating to the subject of any legal action taken by the Council or an individual.
 - A petition which contains confidential information for example about a specific individual.
 - In the period immediately before an election or referendum we may need to deal with your petition differently – if this is the case we will explain the reasons and discuss the revised timescale which will apply.

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What you cannot put in a petition

Petitions must not contain

- Language which is offensive, intemperate or provocative. This not only includes obvious profanities, swear words and insults, but any language which a reasonable person would regard as offensive
- Potentially false or potentially defamatory statements
- Information which is prohibited from being published by an order of a court or a body or person with similar power
- Material which is potentially confidential, commercially sensitive, or which may cause personal distress or loss
- Any commercial endorsement, promotion of any product, service or publication or statements that amount to advertisements;
- The names of officials of public bodies, unless they are part of the senior management of those organisations;
- The names of family members of elected representatives or officials of public bodies;
- The names of individuals, or information where they may be identified, in relation to criminal charges;
- Issues for which a petition is not the appropriate channel (for example, correspondence about a personal issue).

What happens once we receive the petition:-

- An acknowledgement will be sent to the petition organiser within five working days of receiving the petition. It will let them know what we plan to do with the petition and when they can expect to hear from us again.
- The petition will be published on the Council's petitions register on our website.
- If the Council considers it can meet what the petition asks for, the acknowledgement may confirm what action has been taken on the request and the petition will be closed. If some other action is proposed or intended, the acknowledgement will explain this.
- If the petition has enough signatures to trigger a Council debate then the acknowledgment will confirm this and tell you when and where the meeting will take place.

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- If the petition has less than 50 registered electors of the County in respect of a paper copy or 300 registered electors of the County on an e-petition then the petition will be referred to the service department to respond.
- If a petition does not follow the guidelines as set out, the Council may decide not to do anything further with it. In that case, you will receive a written explanation of the reasons.
- The Council reserves the right to verify signatories as required. Petitioners should ensure that a valid address and postcode is included for all petitioners that relates to a home address (if living in Carmarthenshire) or work address (if working or running a business in Carmarthenshire). These details will be taken into account when identifying if there are enough signatories to refer the petition for a debate at Council.

Petitions debated at Council meetings

In the case of a petition on a Council function the petitioner will be invited to present the petition formally to the Council save that in the case of a petition on a Council function delegated to a Council Committee (e.g. a planning or licensing matter) where the petitioner will be given a choice to elect to formally present their petition to that relevant Committee. Where the petitioner elects to present the petition to the relevant Committee, Council shall nevertheless debate the matter at its meeting and refer the petition and its deliberations upon it to the next meeting of that relevant Committee to inform its decision in the matter

In the case of a petition on an executive function the petitioner will be given a choice to elect to formally present their petition to the County Council, the Cabinet or where relevant, the relevant Cabinet Member save that the eventual Cabinet decision shall be a matter for the Cabinet or Cabinet Member. Where the petitioner elects to formally present the petition to the Cabinet or Cabinet Member, Council shall nevertheless debate the matter at its meeting and refer the petition and its deliberations upon it to the next meeting of the Cabinet or Cabinet Member to inform its decision on the matter.

In the case of a petition being referred to a Cabinet Member, he/she will meet the petitioners, accept the petition and make a brief response. He/she will then refer the petition to the relevant officers to prepare a report on the matter for consideration at one of his/her decisions meetings

Petitions placed before Council will be discussed at a meeting which all Councillors can attend.

Petitions will be placed on the agenda in the order in which they were received.

The petition organiser will be given five minutes to present the petition at the meeting. The petitioner shall be confined to reading out or summarising the prayer of the petition, indicating

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the number and description of the signatories, and making such further supporting remarks to the petition as the person presenting it shall think fit

At a meeting of Council or a relevant committee the Leader or the relevant Cabinet Member or Committee Chair shall be entitled to make a brief response to the presentation. There will be no debate on the petition at full Council.

How long we retain personal information in a petition

The names and contact information of signatories on a petition will be retained by the Authority for 3 months in accordance with our retention period. After that time the information will be destroyed.

What can I do if I feel my petition has not been dealt with properly?

If you feel that we have not dealt with your petition properly, please contact the Monitoring Officer who will review your complaint and will advise you of the action which is intended. Please provide a short explanation of the reasons in your communication with us.

Monitoring Officer
Carmarthenshire County Council
County Hall
Carmarthen
SA31 1JP.

LRJones@carmarthenshire.gov.uk

Tel 01267 224010

Democratic Services, Carmarthenshire County Council, County Hall, Carmarthen.
01267 224028 / Democraticservices@carmarthenshire.gov.uk

Template for Petitions

Guidance notes:

Please find a suggested template for your petition, please ensure each page has the petition subject at the top of the page.

The petition organiser must live, work or own a business in Carmarthenshire.

If you wish to sign this petition, please put down your Carmarthenshire address if you live, work or own a business in the County as this will count towards any threshold for debate at Council meetings (where all Councillors attend).

Signatories from outside the County of Carmarthenshire will not be taken into account for presenting a petition to a Council meeting for formal debate.

Contact Details of the Petitioner (the person who has organised the petition and will present it at a Council meeting)

Full Name:	
Address for Correspondence:	1st Line: _____ 2nd Line: _____ 3rd Line: _____ Post code: _____
Telephone No:	
Email address:	
Signature	

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PETITION TO CARMARTHENSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Petition subject:

We the undersigned petition Carmarthenshire County Council to:

Summary of action already taken (if applicable)

	Full Name	Home or Work/Business Address (including postcode)	Signature	Email address (if possible)
1				
2				
3				

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	Full Name	Home or Work/Business Address (including postcode)	Signature	Email address (if possible)
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				

Democratic Services, Carmarthenshire County Council, County Hall, Carmarthen.
01267 224028 / Democraticservices@carmarthenshire.gov.uk

	Full Name	Home or Work/Business Address (including postcode)	Signature	Email address (if possible)
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
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21				
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24				
25				

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	Full Name	Home or Work/Business Address (including postcode)	Signature	Email address (if possible)
26				
27				
28				
29				
30				
31				
32				
*				

*Continue as necessary.

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CPR 10 - QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC AND PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS PART B – PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS

10.11 Any member of the Council or any local government elector of the County may, forward to the Chief Executive a written petition which is relevant to some matter in relation to which the authority have functions, or which affects the area of the authority, or part of it, or the inhabitants of that area, or some of them provided however that such written petition must be signed by not fewer than fifty registered electors of the County who are not members of the Council and that it has been delivered in writing to the Chief Executive no later than 10.00 a.m. 7 clear working days (i.e. clear days does not include the day the petition is received or the day of the meeting) before the day of the meeting it is proposed to be presented at.

10.12 The Chief Executive shall indicate the receipt of any request for presentation of a petition in the agenda of the relevant meeting of Full Council in the order in which he /she received those requests.

10.13. In the case of a petition on a Council function the petitioner will be invited to present the petition formally to the Council save that in the case of a petition on a Council function delegated to a Council Committee (e.g. a planning or licensing matter) the petitioner will be given a choice to elect to formally present their petition to that relevant Committee. Where the petitioner elects to present the petition to the relevant Committee Council shall nevertheless debate the matter at its meeting and refer the petition and its deliberations upon it to the next meeting of that relevant Committee to inform its decision in the matter.

10.14. In the case of a petition on an executive function the petitioner will be given a choice to elect to formally present their petition to the County Council, the Executive Board, or where relevant, the relevant Executive Board member save that the eventual executive decision shall be a matter for the Executive Board or Executive Board Member. Where the petitioner elects to formally present the petition to the Executive Board of Executive Board Member Council shall nevertheless debate the matter at its meeting and refer the petition and its deliberations upon it to the next meeting of the Executive Board or Executive Board member to inform its decision on the matter.

10.15 In the case of a petition being referred to an Executive Board Member he/she will meet the petitioners, accept the petition and make a brief response. He/she will then refer the petition to the relevant officers to prepare a report on the matter for consideration at one of his/her decisions meetings.

10.16 The presentation of a petition at a meeting of the Council, Executive Board, relevant Committee or to the relevant Executive Board Member shall be limited to not more than five minutes, and shall be confined to reading out or summarising the prayer of the petition, indicating the number and description of the signatories, and making such further supporting remarks to the petition as the person presenting it shall think fit

10.17 At a meeting of Council or a relevant committee the Leader or the relevant Executive Board Member or Committee Chair shall be entitled to make a brief response to the presentation

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COUNCIL
9TH FEBRUARY 2022

CARMARTHENSHIRE DEMOCRATIC PUBLIC PARTICIPATION STRATEGY		
RECOMMENDATIONS / KEY DECISIONS REQUIRED:		
To consider and adopt a public participation strategy for the Authority.		
REASONS:		
It is a requirement of the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 that each principal Council prepare and publish a strategy (“a public participation strategy”) specifying how it proposes to comply with the duty in section 39 of the Act.		
The Democratic Public Participation Strategy needs to align with the Corporate Participation /Engagement Strategy.		
Scrutiny Committee consulted	Not applicable	
Cabinet Decision Required	NO	
Council Decision Required	YES	
Cabinet Member Portfolio Holder(s): Cllr Emlyn Dole - Leader		
Directorate Name of Head of Service: Linda Rees Jones Report Author: Linda Rees Jones Gaynor Morgan	Chief Executive’s Designations: Head of Administration & Law Head of Democratic Services	Tel Nos. 01267 224012 LRJ 01267 224026 GM E Mail Addresses: Lrjones@carmarthenshire.gov.uk gmorgan@carmarthenshire.gov.uk

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
COUNCIL
9TH FEBRUARY 2022**

**CARMARTHENSHIRE DEMOCRATIC PUBLIC
PARTICIPATION STRATEGY**

The Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 provides a duty on principal councils to encourage participation in decision making in local government.

Each principal council must prepare and publish a strategy (“a public participation strategy”) specifying how it proposes to comply with the duty in section 39.

A public participation strategy must, in particular, address—

- (a) ways of promoting awareness among local people of the principal council’s functions;
- (b) ways of promoting awareness among local people of how to become a member of the principal council, and what membership entails;
- (c) ways of facilitating access for local people to information about decisions made, or to be made, by the principal council;
- (d) ways of promoting and facilitating processes by which local people may make representations to the principal council about a decision before, and after, it is made;
- (e) arrangements made, or to be made, for the purpose of the council’s duty in section 62 of the 2011 Measure (bringing views of the public to attention of overview and scrutiny committees);
- (f) ways of promoting awareness among members of the principal council of the benefits of using social media to communicate with local people.

A public participation strategy may address how a principal council proposes to comply with a duty imposed by any enactment.

The Democratic Public Participation Strategy will need to align with Corporate Participation Strategy currently being developed.

The report presents a draft public participation strategy for members’ consideration, which can then be incorporated within the Corporate document.

DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED?	YES – Democratic Participation Strategy
----------------------------------	--

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: Linda Rees Jones, Head of Administration & Law

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

Policy

The Democratic Public Participation Strategy needs to align with Corporate Participation Strategy.

Legal

It is a requirement of the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 that each principal Council prepare and publish a strategy (“a public participation strategy”) specifying how it proposes to comply with the duty in section 39 of the Act.

CONSULTATIONS

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

Signed: Linda Rees Jones, Head of Administration & Law

- 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
Council Constitution – Part 4.1		http://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/media/2027081/part4-1.pdf

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Carmarthenshire County Council

Democratic Public Participation Strategy

Helping to increase public participation in Local
Government

This document forms part of the Carmarthenshire County Council Public Participation Strategy which can be viewed here [\(ADD LINK\)](#)

This document applies from 1st May 2022.

Democratic Services, Carmarthenshire County Council, County Hall, Carmarthen.
01267 224028 / Democraticservices@carmarthenshire.gov.uk

This Democratic Public Participation Strategy details how Carmarthenshire County Council aims to promote: -

- awareness among local people of the principal council's functions;
- awareness among local people of how to become a member of the principal council, and what membership entails;
- ways of facilitating access for local people to information about decisions made, or to be made, by the principal council;
- ways of promoting and facilitating processes by which local people may make representations to the principal council about a decision before, and after, it is made;
- arrangements made, or to be made, for the purpose of the council's duty in bringing views of the public to attention of overview and scrutiny committees
- ways of promoting awareness among members of the principal council of the benefits of using social media to communicate with local people

This document applies from 1st May 2022.

Democratic Services, Carmarthenshire County Council, County Hall, Carmarthen.
01267 224028 / Democraticservices@carmarthenshire.gov.uk

What are the Council's functions?

HOW THE COUNCIL OPERATES

All councillors meet together as the Council. Meetings of the Council are normally open to the public, but occasionally the Council will resolve to go into private session if confidential or exempt business is to be transacted. Private sessions of Council are rare. At Council meetings councillors decide the Council's overall policies and set the budget each year. The Council has a Cabinet which is responsible in turn for implementing policies agreed by the Council and taking executive decisions on matters which are not the responsibility of the Council or of one of its committees.

HOW THE COUNCIL WORKS

The Council comprises 75 elected Councillors representing 51 Electoral Wards. The Council normally meets on a monthly basis and has a list of functions including adopting and changing the Constitution, approving and adopting the Budget and Policy Framework, appointing the Leader, determining and agreeing Committees and their terms of reference.

Up to ten of the Council's members make up the Cabinet (the Executive), including the Leader of the Council. The Cabinet is responsible for carrying out all the local authority functions which are not the responsibility of the Council. Cabinet Members are responsible for decision making within specific areas of interest, known as portfolios.

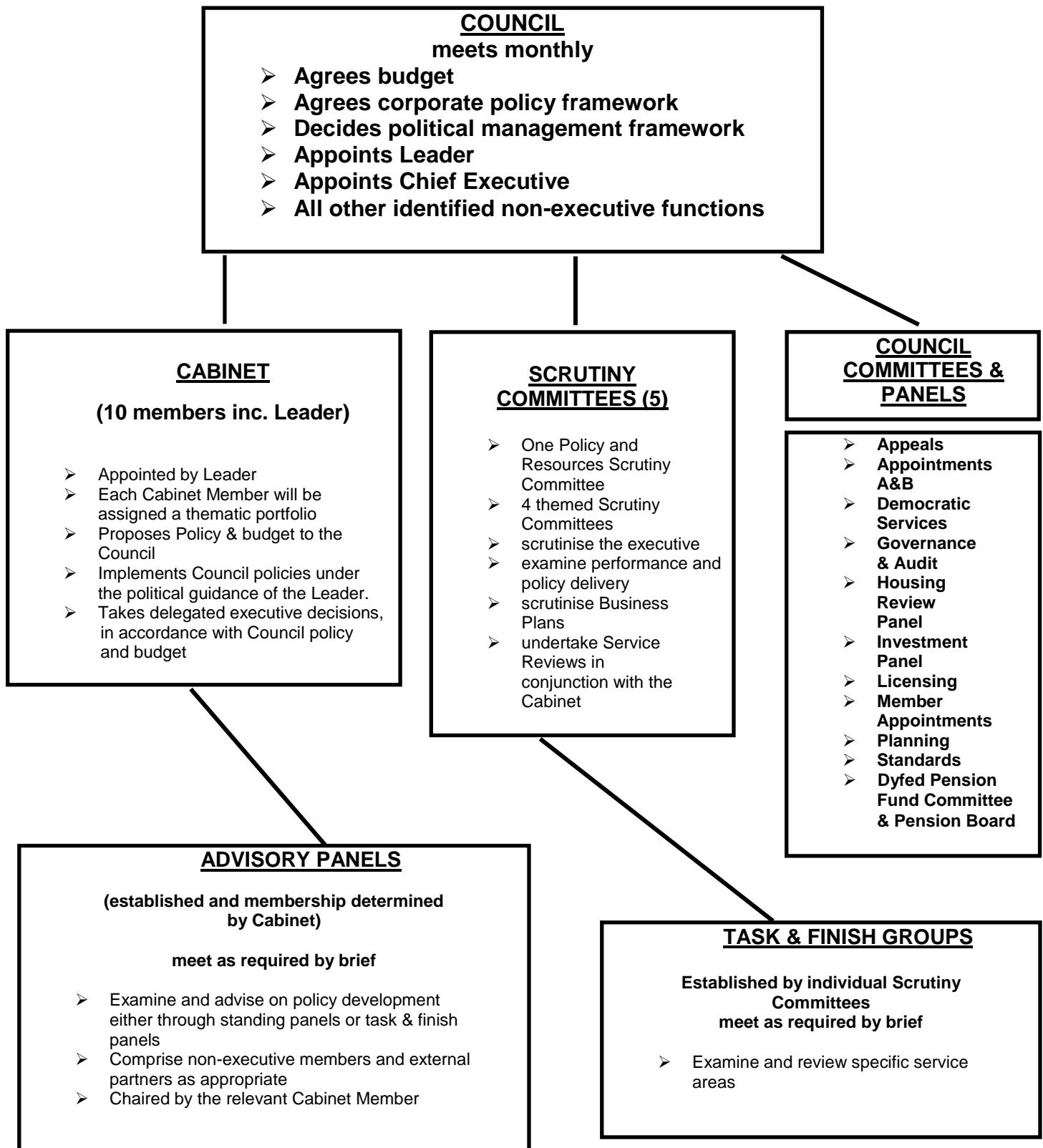
Scrutiny Committees act as a 'critical friend' to the Cabinet and other decision makers in order to promote better services, policies and decisions. Working in a similar way to parliamentary select committees, scrutiny involves councillors who are not in the cabinet.

The Planning Committee, Licensing Committees and Governance & Audit Committee make the Council's regulatory decisions. Planning Committee determines planning applications, Licensing Committee determines licences to drive a hackney carriage or a private hire vehicle (taxis), public entertainment licences for premises amongst others, and Governance & Audit Committee reviews and scrutinises the Council's financial affairs. Democratic Services Committee reviews the adequacy of provision by the Authority to discharge the democratic services function and there is also a Standards Committee to promote high standards of conduct and support Councillors to comply with the Code of Conduct.

This document applies from 1st May 2022.

Democratic Services, Carmarthenshire County Council, County Hall, Carmarthen.
01267 224028 / Democraticservices@carmarthenshire.gov.uk

Council's decision making structure:-



This document applies from 1st May 2022.

Democratic Services, Carmarthenshire County Council, County Hall, Carmarthen.
01267 224028 / Democraticservices@carmarthenshire.gov.uk

How to become a member of the Council and what it entails

HOW TO BECOME A COUNCILLOR

The next Local Government Elections will be held in May 2027. This section provides you with information on how to stand for election and what is expected of you should you be elected as a Councillor for Carmarthenshire County Council.

STANDING AS A CANDIDATE

A candidate for election must complete a set of nomination papers that must be signed by the candidate in the presence of a witness who must attest the signature. You then need to win a majority of the votes cast at the ballot box, if there is a contest for the seat. The number of votes you need to win depends on the electoral division in which you choose to stand for election. Some electoral divisions are two or three member divisions.

Nomination packs will be available early in 2027. If you would like to register your interest please contact [Electoral Services](#) on 01267 228609.

If you are thinking of standing as a candidate for a particular political party, then you should first get in touch with that party's local organisation. If you plan to stand for election as an independent Councillor, contact us and we will be pleased to give you more information.

Councillors receive a salary which is determined annually by the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales and can also claim travel and subsistence costs (subsistence is paid for 'out of county' meals and accommodation only) when undertaking official duties. Councillors can also claim towards the costs of care and personal assistance in order for them to carry out their approved duties.

The Welsh Government has approved funding for a pilot scheme to fund reasonable adjustments and support for disabled candidates seeking election to the Local Government elections. Further information can be found [here](#).

Further information on allowances can be viewed by clicking on the following Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales web page:

[Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales](#)

This document applies from 1st May 2022.

Democratic Services, Carmarthenshire County Council, County Hall, Carmarthen.
01267 224028 / Democraticservices@carmarthenshire.gov.uk

WHAT HAPPENS IF I AM ELECTED?

The Council is composed of 75 Councillors who are elected every five years. Councillors are democratically accountable to residents of their electoral division. The overriding duty of councillors is to the whole community, but they have a special duty to their constituents, including those who did not vote for them.

Councillors are entitled to a basic salary (currently £14,368 per annum 2021-22)). Senior Salaries and other allowances/expenses are paid dependant on the roles and responsibilities you may have following election. Further information on payments can be obtained from the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales (IRPW). A copy of the draft determinations for 2022-23 can also be found on the IRPW website.

Councillors are also entitled to travel allowances and those with caring responsibilities can also receive reimbursement of costs of care.

Once elected Councillors are expected to attend various training and development sessions during their term of office. An induction session is provided for all new and returning Councillors during the first 12 months in office with further training provided on an ongoing basis through member development events.

If you are elected, you should be prepared to set aside the first two weeks after the election for the member Induction Session in May/June 2027

Councillors are expected to attend meetings and committees and are bound to observe the provisions of the Councillor's Code of Conduct.

As local representatives, councillors have responsibilities towards their constituents and local organisations. These responsibilities and duties often depend on what the councillor wants to achieve and how much time is available and may include: attending governing body meetings of schools within their ward, attending meetings of local organisations such as tenants' associations, bodies affecting the wider community, raising issues on behalf of members of the public, holding surgeries for residents to raise issues and meeting with individual residents in their own homes.

HOW MUCH TIME DOES IT TAKE UP?

If you are in employment and intend to stand as a candidate you may wish to ask your employer what provisions they may have in place to allow you to attend to Council business. It is estimated that on average, councillors spend the equivalent of three to four days a week on council business. Obviously, there are some councillors who spend more time than this - and some less.

The Welsh Local Government Association has produced a Be a Councillor Be the Change in association with local authorities which is a useful guide for prospective candidates.

This document applies from 1st May 2022.

Democratic Services, Carmarthenshire County Council, County Hall, Carmarthen.
01267 224028 / Democraticservices@carmarthenshire.gov.uk

COUNCILLOR FACILITIES AND SUPPORT

The Democratic Services Unit administers meetings of the Council and provides a dedicated support service, providing advice on the law and practice of meetings to Councillors, officers and the public and assistance to all Councillors with queries and admin related requests.

Councillors, once elected, will be provided with a tablet device, laptop and an @carmarthenshire.gov.uk email address which must be used when conducting Council business. All Council meetings are paperless and it is recommended that all candidates are able to use IT confidently or are willing to undertake training.

The Council is a bilingual Authority and, as a Councillor, you will be able to operate in your chosen language, be that Welsh or English, and interpretation facilities are available at all Council meetings to facilitate this. Welsh language training is also available for any Councillors wishing to learn the language.

How to access information about decisions that are or have been made by the Council

NOTICES OF MEETING

The Council will give at least three clear days' notice of any meeting by posting details electronically on the Council's web site. However, an exception will arise where the Council has received an application from the Police under section 53A of the Licensing Act 2003 for the summary review of a premises licence (The Council being required to decide on whether to take any preliminary measures within 48 hours of receiving the application), the Council may give less than 3 clear days' notice of the meeting of the Licensing Committee meeting called to consider the application.

ACCESS TO AGENDA AND REPORTS BEFORE THE MEETING

The Council will make copies of the agenda and reports open to the public available for inspection on the Council's website. If an item is added to the agenda later, the revised agenda (where reports are prepared after the summons has been sent out, the Chief Executive will make each such report available to the public as soon as the report is completed and sent to Councillors) will be open to inspection for the time the item was added to the agenda.

This document applies from 1st May 2022.

Democratic Services, Carmarthenshire County Council, County Hall, Carmarthen.
01267 224028 / Democraticservices@carmarthenshire.gov.uk

ACCESS TO MINUTES ETC. AFTER THE MEETING

The Council will make available to view on its website copies of the following for a period of six years after a meeting: (a) the minutes of the meeting or record of decisions taken by the Cabinet , excluding any part of the minutes of proceedings when the meeting was not open to the public because exempt or confidential information was being considered; (b) a summary of any proceedings not open to the public where the minutes open to inspection would not provide a reasonably fair and coherent record; (c) the agenda for the meeting; and (d) reports relating to items when the meeting was open to the public. A decision note which details, attendance, any interests declared and decisions will be published on the Authority's website within 7 days of the meeting.

ACCESS TO VIEW MEETINGS*

The Council will ensure members of the public can attend or view meetings that are open to the public either:-

- in person (social distancing regulations permitting and part of the meeting includes physical attendance)
- through video conferencing if making representations /asking questions
- by watching a meeting live via our webcast page or in archive (the webcast will be available to view for 6 months) Requests for copies of archived webcasts beyond 6 months can be made through Democratic Services – a small administrative charge may apply for this service.

(*This does not apply when exempt or confidential information is being discussed).

This document applies from 1st May 2022.

Democratic Services, Carmarthenshire County Council, County Hall, Carmarthen.
01267 224028 / Democraticservices@carmarthenshire.gov.uk

How to participate and make representations to the Council before and after a decision has been made;

COUNCIL & CABINET

Members of the public, provided that they are residents of the County, own a business located within the County or are employed within the County can ask questions at Full Council Meetings, meetings of the Cabinet and at Scrutiny Committee meetings.

To ask a question you need to deliver your question in writing or by electronic mail to the Chief Executive (e-mail chiefexecutive@cararthenshire.gov.uk) no later than 10.00 a.m. 7 clear working days before a meeting (NB clear days does not include the day the question is received or the day of the meeting).

When submitting your question, you must include your name and address (include your business name and address if you own a business located in Carmarthenshire or work in Carmarthenshire but live elsewhere) and you must name the member of the Council to whom it is to be put.

The Council also welcomes petitions and recognizes that petitions are one of many ways in which people can let us know their concerns and engage in the democratic process. A copy of the Council's petition scheme can be found here. (ADD LINK)

SCRUTINY

Getting involved in scrutiny is one of the best ways to influence decision making at the Council, as Councillors will hear your experiences first hand. There are a number of ways you can get involved in the work of scrutiny at the council:

- Asking a question or attending a Scrutiny meeting
- Keeping up-to-date with what's happening in scrutiny
- [Suggesting a topic for review](#)
- Contribute evidence for scrutiny reviews

Further information on participation in Scrutiny can be found later in this document and or/on our [Scrutiny pages](#) .

This document applies from 1st May 2022.

Democratic Services, Carmarthenshire County Council, County Hall, Carmarthen.
01267 224028 / Democraticservices@cararthenshire.gov.uk

REPRESENTATIONS AT PLANNING AND LICENSING COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The Council has a set process for making representations at both Planning and Licensing Committees:-

To find out more about making representations at Planning and Licensing Committee meetings please click on the following links:-

[Representations at Planning Committee meetings.](#)

[Representations at Licensing Committees](#)

How to bring the views of the public to attention of scrutiny committees

HOW CAN I BECOME INVOLVED IN SCRUTINY?

The involvement of local residents, community organisations and partners is an important part of the Carmarthenshire scrutiny process and our Councillors are committed to responding to the views and concerns of residents.

Getting involved in scrutiny is one of the best ways to influence decision making at the Council, as Councillors will hear your experiences first hand. There are a number of ways you can get involved in the work of scrutiny at the council:

- Attending a Scrutiny meeting
- Keeping up-to-date with what's happening in scrutiny
- Suggesting a topic for review
- Contribute evidence for scrutiny reviews

All scrutiny meetings are open to the public except where exempt information has to be discussed. A list of meeting dates and agenda items can be found on the council's [meeting diary](#). If you would like to attend a meeting simply come along to the meeting venue (stated on the front of the agenda).

Scrutiny provides the opportunity for the public to become involved in the Council's activities. You can request that an item be placed on the agenda and if you are a resident of Carmarthenshire or own a business or are employed within Carmarthenshire you may ask questions at Scrutiny meetings. Further information is included in our [Scrutiny Procedure Rules 10. \(3\) and \(4\)](#) or contact us for further information

KEEPING UP-TO-DATE WITH WHAT'S HAPPENING IN SCRUTINY

There are a number of ways you can keep up to date with what is happening in Scrutiny, you can:-

This document applies from 1st May 2022.

Democratic Services, Carmarthenshire County Council, County Hall, Carmarthen.
01267 224028 / Democraticservices@carmarthenshire.gov.uk

- Subscribe to RSS feed on our website which will automatically update you when agendas and minutes are published. **RSS** stands for "Really Simple Syndication" and is a easily way to keep updated on Scrutiny Committee work. The subscribe button is at the top of this page.
- Download the [mod.gov app](#) which will allow you to automatically download and view meeting papers.
- Check our [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) feeds for regular updates.

SUGGESTING A TOPIC FOR REVIEW

- If you think there is an issue that scrutiny should look at, then let us know. You can suggest a topic for review by emailing us, or by downloading and posting our [topic suggestion form](#).

CONTRIBUTE EVIDENCE FOR SCRUTINY REVIEWS

When undertaking in scrutiny work, especially in depth reviews, Councillors hope to receive a wide-range of evidence from a number of sources. Submitting evidence will help ensure that your voice is heard and that the Councillors make recommendations that will improve the services from an user's perspective. If you are interested in any issues and would like to submit evidence, please contact us:-

Democratic Services Unit, Carmarthenshire County Council, County Hall, Carmarthen,
SA31 1JP

Tel: 01267 224028 | E-mail: scrutiny@carmarthenshire.gov.uk

This document applies from 1st May 2022.

Democratic Services, Carmarthenshire County Council, County Hall, Carmarthen.
01267 224028 / Democraticservices@carmarthenshire.gov.uk

The benefits to Councillors of using social media to communicate with local people.

Social media has become a powerful tool for councillors, helping them to engage with communities, raise awareness of community issues, events, or council initiatives and to seek views and receive feedback.

Social media has changed how politics works, it makes politicians and public institutions more accessible, allows individuals to have their voices heard and helps share ideas or promote campaigns.

By using social media you can:-

- Learn about local issues, and concerns within your ward.
- Find the latest news and publications from Carmarthenshire County Council, other local authorities, the Welsh Government and organisations such as the Welsh Local Government Association.
- Promote your role and what you do on a day to day basis.
- Social media is instant, you can share information quickly and gain opinions of your constituents.

Many councillors already use social media however as a councillor, there are additional things to consider when using it, including the Code of Conduct and managing expectation.

Once elected, Councillors are invited to attend an induction session on using social media and the Council also has an e-learning module available. As a Councillor you will be personally responsible for the content you publish and you must abide by the Code of Conduct when posting information as the Code of Conduct applies to online and social media content, and by referring on line to your role as Councillor you will be deemed to be acting in your 'official capacity' and the Code will apply,.

The Welsh Local Government Association has provided free guidance for Councillors along with some tips and advice in terms of handling on-line abuse.

[WLG A Information on Social Media and Online Abuse](#)

This document applies from 1st May 2022.

Democratic Services, Carmarthenshire County Council, County Hall, Carmarthen.
01267 224028 / Democraticservices@carmarthenshire.gov.uk

COUNTY COUNCIL

9TH FEBRUARY 2022

COMPOSITION OF THE COUNCIL'S SCRUTINY, REGULATORY AND OTHER COMMITTEES AND THE APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO SERVE UPON THEM

REVIEW FOLLOWING THE SAD PASSING OF COUNCILLOR MAIR STEPHENS

RECOMMENDATIONS/KEY DECISIONS REQUIRED:

That as a result of changes to the overall political composition of the Council,

1. To adopt the changes to the number of seats held by the Independent Group as detailed within Tables 1, 2 and 3 of the report.
2. To note that there will be two vacant seats on the Council until the Local Government Elections in May 2022.
3. In accordance with Corporate Procedure Rule CPR 2 (2) (n) to approve changes in Committee membership as a result of recommendation 1 above (as detailed within the report).
4. To note that there are no changes to the number of seats held by the Plaid Cymru Group, Labour Group, New Independent Group and unaffiliated members on the Council.
5. In accordance with Part 6 of the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011 to note that the existing arrangements for the allocation of the 5 Scrutiny Chairs remains unchanged.

REASONS:

Section 15 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, requires a review of the arrangements for the allocation of seats to political groups.

Relevant Scrutiny Committee Consulted N/A

Cabinet Decision Required NO

Council Decision Required YES

Cabinet Member Portfolio Holder – Cllr Emlyn Dole (Leader)

Directorate	Chief Executive's	Tel Nos.
Name of Head of Service:	Designations:	01267 224012 LRJ
Linda Rees Jones	Head of Administration & Law	01267 224026 GM
Report Author	Democratic Services Manager	E Mail Addresses:
Gaynor Morgan		Lrjones@carmarthenshire.gov.uk
		GMorgan@carmarthenshire.gov.uk

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
COUNTY COUNCIL
9TH FEBRUARY 2022

**COMPOSITION OF THE COUNCIL'S SCRUTINY, REGULATORY
AND OTHER COMMITTEES AND THE APPOINTMENT OF
MEMBERS TO SERVE UPON THEM**

REVIEW FOLLOWING THE SAD PASSING OF COUNCILLOR MAIR STEPHENS

In accordance with the Constitution, the Council is required to appoint members to serve on its committees and to allocate those seats so that they reflect the overall political composition of the Council.

The allocation of seats on the Council's regulatory, scrutiny and other committees should therefore be made to reflect as closely as possible the political composition of the Council as a whole.

Councillor Mair Stephens the Deputy Leader of the Authority and a member of the Independent Group sadly passed away on Sunday 9th January 2022. In accordance with the requirements of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) regulations 1990, as amended, and the Local Government Wales (measure) 2011, the Council is required to review the membership of committees and to allocate those seats so that they reflect the overall political composition of the Council, as far as possible.

The attached report sets out the suggested revised Committee allocations together with changes in Committee membership put forward by the Independent Group.

DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED?

YES

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: Linda Rees Jones, Head of Administration & Law

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

Legal

Committees are to be appointed in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) regulations 1990, as amended, and the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011.

The Council is required to appoint members to serve on its committees and to allocate those seats so that they reflect the overall political composition of the Council.

The Council's constitution sets out arrangement for appointment to fill vacancies on Committees.

CONSULTATIONS

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

Signed: Linda Rees Jones, Head of Administration & Law

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:

Title of Document	File Ref No.	Locations that the papers are available for public inspection
Local Government and Housing Act 1989 – Sections 15 and 16		https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1989/42/part/1/crossheading/political-balance-on-committees-etc
The Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990		https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/1990/1553/contents/made
The Local Government Act 2000		https://www.legislation.gov.uk/mwa/2011/4/contents
The Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011		https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2000/22/contents

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REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE
COUNCIL MEETING 9TH FEBRUARY 2022
REVIEW OF THE COMPOSITION OF THE COUNCIL'S COMMITTEES AND THE
APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO SERVE UPON THEM

1. INTRODUCTION

Councillor Mair Stephens the Deputy Leader of the Authority sadly passed away on Sunday 9th January 2022. As a result and in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) regulations 1990, as amended, and the Local Government Wales (measure) 2011, the Council is required to appoint members to serve on its committees and to allocate those seats so that they reflect the overall political composition of the Council, as far as possible. Councillor Stephens passed away within 6 months of the Local Government elections in May 2022, whilst the Authority will publish a notice of vacancy there is no legal requirement on the Council to convene an election therefore the political balance will be considered by Council once the new Council is in place and the vacancy has been filled.

2. POLITICAL BALANCE AND COMPOSITION OF COMMITTEES

2.1. Composition of Committees and Panels of the Council

The membership of the political groups as at 10th January 2022 is as follows :-

Political Group	Number of Members (+/- seats in brackets)	%of Council Membership
Plaid Cymru	37	50
Labour	17	22.97
Independent	13 (-1)	17.57
New Independent Group	4	5.41
Unaffiliated	2	2.70
Vacancy	1	1.35
TOTAL	74	100%

Council at its meeting held on the 24th May 2017 decided that the total number of seats available on Committees is 168 and these seats must be distributed amongst the political groups and unaffiliated member on a politically balanced basis with the seats on committees also being allocated to reflect, as far as possible, the political balance of the Council as a whole.

The Council democratic structure comprises:

Cabinet	10 members
5 X Scrutiny Committees	68 Members (Non Executive Members)
Regulatory and other Committees	100 Members

Note:

- *Executive Members cannot serve on Scrutiny Committees, the remaining 64 members must therefore be allocated the 68 Scrutiny seats.*
- *The members serving on the Standards Committee do not need to reflect the political balance of the Council as a whole but they have been included within the above figures.*
- *It is not a statutory requirement to ensure that the Governance & Audit Committee is politically balanced however the Authority has chosen to include the Governance & Audit Committee in its calculations Only one member of the Cabinet can serve on the Governance & Audit Committee and this must not be the Leader of the Council.*
- *Only one member of the Cabinet can serve on the Democratic Services Committee and this must not be the Leader of the Council.*

TABLE 1

ALLOCATION OF SEATS ON REGULATORY, SCRUTINY AND OTHER COMMITTEES AND THE PENSION COMMITTEE	% COUNCIL MEMBER-SHIP	168 (+/- Seats in brackets)
Plaid Cymru	50	84
Labour	22.97	39 (38.59)
Independent	17.57	30 (-2) (29.51)
New Independent Group	5.41	9 (9.08)
Unaffiliated Member	2.70	4** (4.54)
Vacancy	1.35	2 (+2) 2.27
TOTAL NO OF SEATS	100%	168

(**seats rounded down as there is no requirement to ensure proportionality to unaffiliated members but they have historically been included in the calculation)

Note:

- 1. If the allocation of seats on committees is not made on a politically balanced basis then the decision by council to do this must be unanimous “without any member of the authority or committee voting against them.” S17(b) of the Act.*
- 2. In accordance with the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, there is a requirement to ensure proportionality across political groups, this does not extend to members who have chosen to be unaffiliated. The Authority has however historically assigned any remaining unallocated seats to the unaffiliated members.*

2.2. Allocation of Seats

In order to reflect the new arrangements, the Independent Group’s representation on Committees will be reduced by 2 seats from 32 to 30, and there will be two vacant seats on the Council. There is no change to the Plaid Cymru, Labour, New Independent Group or unaffiliated member allocations.

To accommodate the Independent Group reduction in membership and the change in the political composition of the Council, the Independent Group will need to relinquish 1 Scrutiny and 1 regulatory seat.

It is suggested that the composition of Committees within the democratic decision making structure be amended as shown in Tables 2 and 3 below with the Seats allocated, to reflect as far as possible, the political balance of the Council as a whole. Resultant membership changes put forward by the Independent Group are included within this report.

TABLE 2a - Scrutiny Committees (68 seats)

5 SCRUTINY COMMITTEES	(+/- seats in brackets)	
Political Group	Number of Seats	Allocation of seats on scrutiny Committees
	68	
Plaid Cymru	34	4 X 7 SEATS & 1 X 6 SEATS
Labour	16	1 X 4 SEATS AND 4 X 3 SEATS
Independent	12 (-1) (11.95)	2 X 3 SEATS & 3 X 2 SEATS
New Independent	4 (3.68)	4 X 1 SEAT
Unaffiliated Member	1** (1.84)	1 SEAT
Vacancy	1 (0.92)	1 SEAT
	68	

(** rounded down)

It therefore suggested that the allocation of elected member seats on the Scrutiny Committees should remain unchanged.

TABLE 2B

SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	TOTAL NO OF SEATS	PLAID CYMRU GROUP	LABOUR GROUP	INDEPENDENT GROUP	NEW INDEPENDENT GROUP	UNAFFILIATED	VACANCY
Community & Regeneration	13	7	3	2	0	0	1
Education & Children	14 + 5 (co-opted)	7	3	2	1	1	0
Environmental & Public Protection	14	7	3	3	1	0	0
Policy & Resources	13	6	3	3	1	0	0
Social Care & Health	14	7	4	2	1	0	0
Total	68	34	16	12	4	1	1

Following discussion, the Independent Group have agreed to relinquish 1 x Seat on the Community & Regeneration Scrutiny Committee (Seat previously held by Councillor Irfon Jones)

There will therefore be a vacant seat on the Community & Regeneration Scrutiny Committee until the Local Government Elections in May 2022

TABLE 3 - REGULATORY AND OTHER COMMITTEES (100 SEATS)

It is therefore suggested that the allocation of elected member seats on the Regulatory/Other Committees should be amended as follows:-

COMMITTEE/ PANEL	TOTAL NO OF SEATS	PLAID CYMRU GROUP	LABOUR GROUP	IND GROUP	NEW INDEPENDENT GROUP	UNAFFILIATED	VACANCY
Appeals	6	3	1	1	1	0	0
Appointments A Directors (Leader + 6 EBM's + 9 non executive members)	16	8	5	3	0	0	0
Appointments B Heads of Service (4 EBM's + 6 non- executive members)	10	5	2	2	1	0	0
Governance & Audit	8	4	2	1	1	0	0
Democratic Services	5	3	1	1	0	0	0
Housing Review Panel +1 sub per group	8	4	1	1	1	1	0
Dyfed Pension Fund Committee + 1 permanent sub	3	1	1	1	0	0	0
Licensing	14	7	4	3	0	0	0

Members' Appointments	7	3	1	1 (-1)	1	0	1 (+1)
Planning	20	10	4	4	0	2	0
Standards (+ 4 Independent & 1 Community Rep)	3	2	1	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	100	50	23	18 (17.57) 19-	5	3	1 (1.35) (+1)

Following discussion, the Independent Group have agreed to relinquish 1 x Seat on the Member Appointments Committee (Seat previously held by Councillor Anthony Davies).

There will therefore be a vacant seat on the Member Appointments Committee until the Local Government Elections in May 2022

3. POLITICAL BALANCE AND APPOINTMENT OF PERSONS TO CHAIR OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEES

Part 6 of the Local Government Wales 2011 Measure deals with sets out the requirements for the appointment of Persons to Chair Overview and Scrutiny Committees.

The Measure states that in respect of Council's with two or more political groups and multiple scrutiny committees the political groups represented in the executive can only appoint as many chairs as are proportionate to their combined share of the council's overall membership, **rounding down** if this does not equal a whole number of chairs. It is for the executive groups together to decide upon the allocation of their entitlement to chairs between them. The rest of the Scrutiny Chairs are the "property" of those groups not represented in the Executive. If there is only one such group, that group is entitled to all the remaining Chairs, if there is more than one non-executive group, each gets a share of the chairs in proportion to their membership, rounding to the nearest whole number including zero.

Allocation of the 5 Scrutiny Chairs:-

Plaid Cymru and Independent Executive 67.57% = **3**
(3.38 - rounded down)

Labour 22.97% = **1**
(1.15 % rounded to nearest whole number)

New Independent Group 5.41% = **0**
(0.27 – rounded to nearest whole number)

As there is one unallocated Chair following the above calculation, then, under the Measure, the Chair is appointed by the members of that Committee.

Having taken into account the revised political composition, the allocation of the 5 Scrutiny Chairs is **unchanged**.

COUNCIL 9TH FEBRUARY 2022

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO SERVE ON COUNCIL ADVISORY PANELS AND OUTSIDE BODIES SUBJECT TO POLITICAL BALANCE REQUIREMENTS

REVIEW FOLLOWING RESIGNATION OF COUNCILLOR S. NAJMI FROM THE NEW INDEPENDENT GROUP

RECOMMENDATIONS/KEY DECISIONS REQUIRED:

That as a result of changes to the overall political composition of the Council,

1) the allocation of seats on the Pay Policy Advisory Panel (6) be amended as follows:-

Plaid Cymru (3) Labour (2) Independent (1)

2) As a result of recommendations 1 above the New Independent Group have relinquished their seat to the Labour Group as detailed within the report.

3) To note that there are no changes required to the allocation of seats for the:
Dyfed Powys Police & Crime Panel, Brecon Beacons National Park Authority, Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Authority, and the Constitutional Review Working Group.

REASONS:

Councillor Shahana Najmi resigned from the New Independent Group in October last year Under section 15 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, the Council is required to undertake a review of the arrangements for the allocation of seats to political groups.

Relevant Scrutiny Committee Consulted **N/A**

Cabinet Decision Required **NO**

Council Decision Required **YES**

Cabinet Portfolio Holder: N/A

Directorate

Chief Executive's

Tel Nos.

Name of Head of Service:

Designations:

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
COUNCIL
9TH FEBRUARY 2022**

**APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO SERVE ON COUNCIL
ADVISORY PANELS AND OUTSIDE BODIES SUBJECT TO
POLITICAL BALANCE REQUIREMENTS**

As a result of the decision by Councillor Shahana Najmi to resign from the New Independent Group the Authority is required to review membership of the Council Advisory Panels and Outside Bodies, which are subject to political balance requirements.

There is no change in seat allocation to the Dyfed Powys Police & Crime Panel, Brecon Beacons National Park Authority, Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Authority, and the Constitutional Review Working Group however there is a requirement for the New Independent Group to relinquish a seat on the Pay Policy Advisory Panel to the Labour Group.

Following discussion with the Groups, the New Independent Group has relinquished the seat held by Councillor Jeff Edmunds and the Labour Group have nominated Councillor Deryk Cundy to take this seat.

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: Linda Rees Jones, Head of Administration & Law

Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities	Legal	Finance	ICT	Risk Management Issues	Staffing Implications	Physical Assets
NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE

CONSULTATIONS

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

Signed: Linda Rees Jones, Head of Administration & Law

- 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:

THERE ARE NONE

Council 9th February 2022

SOUTH WEST WALES REGIONAL ECONOMIC DELIVERY PLAN		
Cabinet Recommendations: That the South West Wales Regional Economic Delivery Plan be adopted as the Council's over-arching economic regeneration policy.		
Reasons: To secure adoption of the new Regional Economic Delivery Plan for South West Wales by Council (to replace the 2013 Swansea Bay City Region Economic Regeneration Strategy).		
Relevant scrutiny committee to be consulted No		
Cabinet Decision Required		YES
Council Decision Required		YES
CABINET MEMBER PORTFOLIO HOLDER:- Cllr. Emlyn Dole - Leader		
Directorate: Name of Head of Service: Jason Jones Report Author: Jason Jones	Designations: Head of Regeneration	E Mail Address: JaJones@carmarthenshire.gov.uk

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
COUNCIL
9TH FEBRUARY 2022

South West Wales Regional Economic Delivery Plan

1. Introduction

- 1.1 It has been eight years since the publication of the Swansea Bay City Region Economic Regeneration Strategy in 2013, and the economic and policy context has changed considerably at the Welsh and UK level since then, particularly in light of the UK's decision to leave the European Union and the impact of the covid-19 pandemic. In addition, the regional landscape is changing with the advent of the new Corporate Joint Committees, and the preparation of new Regional Economic Frameworks by Welsh Government that set out visions and high level priorities for each region in Wales.
- 1.2 To respond to changing circumstances, the four local authorities in South West Wales, in partnership with Welsh Government, commissioned SQW to produce a new Regional Economic Delivery Plan (REDP). This will replace the previous Swansea Bay City Region Economic Regeneration Strategy.
- 1.3 The REDP commission included:
- A thorough analysis of the evidence base on the region's economy, labour market and infrastructure to determine its strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats
 - Interpretation of the strategic policy context at local, regional and national level
 - Development of detailed strategic aims and objectives that respond to the economic opportunities for the region and complement the shared regional vision as articulated in the Regional Economic Framework
 - Preparation of Regional Economic Delivery Plan that includes actions that need to be taken to achieve the vision and objectives
- 1.4 The Regional Economic Delivery Plan is attached at Appendix A
- 1.5 The REDP complements the new Welsh Government Regional Economic Framework (REF) and provides a further layer of detail below the REF, outlining the objectives and actions that will deliver against the high level vision in the REF.
- 1.6 The REDP also complements the Carmarthenshire Economic Recovery & Delivery Plan (April 2021)
- 1.7 The REDP sets out an ambitious 'route map' for the development of the region's economy over the next ten years, identifying priorities for intervention and setting out how business, government, education, voluntary/ community organisations, social enterprises and other partners can work together to bring them forward.

2. South West Wales Regional Economic Delivery Plan

- 2.1 The REDP identifies that South West Wales has a diverse economy and a unique set of natural and cultural assets, underpinned by the quality of its coastal and rural environment, industrial heritage and university presence.

2.2 The economic analysis shows:

- In the years leading up to the Covid-19 pandemic, the South West Wales economy performed strongly in generating new jobs: by 2019, there were 322,000 jobs in the region, an impressive increase of 20,000 on the 2013 figure.
- The productivity gap with the rest of the UK has narrowed slightly over time but is still substantial, with regional productivity (GVA per filled job) standing at 80% of the UK level in 2018.
- Economic activity rates in South West Wales have improved at a faster pace than the rest of the UK over the past 15 years, but the rate continues to fall behind the UK average: the economic activity rate in South West Wales was 73.8% in 2018, compared with 78.9% across the UK.
- There has been a steady improvement in qualification levels with 35% of the working age population qualified to NVQ level 4+ (degree level) compared to 22% in 2004, and the proportion with no qualifications has halved over the same period, but in relative terms there is still a gap with the rest of the UK
- The business base grew in the years leading up to the pandemic but the number of enterprises relative to the working age population (enterprise density) and start up rates remain lower than the rest of the UK.
- There is a widely recognised gap between demand and supply for industrial premises, with low rental levels affecting the viability of private sector led developments.
- Across the region concentrations of disadvantage are significant, principally in the urban centres of Swansea, Llanelli, Neath, Port Talbot, Pembroke Dock and upper Western Valleys.

2.4 Overall, the review of economic performance suggests good progress over recent years, especially in terms of job creation, but there is a persistent gap in outcomes between the region and the rest of the UK. This reflects the 'structural' nature of many of the region's challenges linked to the long-term processes of industrial change (which in some respects are still ongoing), and are shared with other regions in Wales and the UK.

2.5 The review has also identified a series of distinctive strengths and opportunities in South West Wales, especially linked with the region's energy potential (particularly green energy and the net zero opportunity), university-industrial links, strong cultural identity, environmental assets and quality of life offer. The REDP aims to build on these distinctive regional strengths and opportunities to develop a more prosperous and resilient South West Wales economy.

2.6 Unlike the previous Economic Regeneration Strategy, which was predominantly focused on improving productivity, the REDP recognises that 'Transformational' growth opportunities need to be balanced with the conditions for incremental improvements in resilience, capacity and capability across the whole of the economy. This was a key theme that emerged from consultation with regional partners during the preparation of the Plan. While there are distinctive opportunities to pursue at the 'leading edge', long-term employment resilience and wage growth is going to depend on the sustainability, productivity and expansion of the wider stock of regional businesses.

2.7 To help plan for the future, the REDP sets out three 'Ambitions' which set out the nature of the South West Wales economy that we want to work towards. These are:

- Resilient and sustainable
- Enterprising and ambitious
- Balanced and inclusive

- 2.8 The ambitions are supported by three complementary Missions, which will guide activity over the next ten years:
- Mission 1 – Establishing South West Wales as a UK leader in renewable energy and the development of a net zero economy: Taking forward the region’s major energy related projects and driving the benefits through the region (via industrial decarbonisation, supply chain opportunities, university-linked innovation, etc.).
 - Mission 2 – Building a strong, resilient and embedded business base: Understanding and growing the business stock, supporting widespread social and commercial entrepreneurship, creating stronger supply chain and innovation networks, making public sector support sustainable; driving forward technology adoption and diffusion.
 - Mission 3 – Growing and sustaining the ‘experience’ offer: Linking environmental quality, quality of life and community character to create a region that retains and attracts talent and investment, and to promote this consistently and powerfully to the outside world
- 2.9 The REDP sets out some initial key action areas to deliver against the ambitions and missions. These actions will form the basis of a ‘living’ action plan document that will be regularly reviewed by regional partners and will evolve to embrace new investment proposals as they emerge.
- 2.10 The new Regional Economic Delivery Plan will be owned and overseen by the new South West Wales Corporate Joint Committee (CJC). Once the CJC is formally constituted, it is proposed that the REDP will be presented for adoption as the regional strategy for economic wellbeing. Supporting the CJC, the Regional Regeneration Directors will keep track of progress and will be responsible for developing business cases, securing investment and ensuring delivery on the CJC’s behalf.

3. Recommendation

- 3.1 It is recommended that the South West Wales Regional Economic Delivery Plan is adopted as the Council’s over-arching economic regeneration policy.

DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED?

Yes - South West Wales Regional Economic Delivery Plan (September 2021)

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: Jason Jones

Head of Regeneration

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

Policy

The Well-being of Future Generations Act 2015 requires public bodies in Wales to consider the long-term impact of their decisions across all aspects of wellbeing. The Act outlines seven ‘wellbeing goals’ – and public policy should contribute to all of them, not just one or two. Delivering on the ambitions of the regional economic delivery plan and delivering “a prosperous region”, means that we should also contribute to a region that is more resilient, equal, healthy, cohesive and globally responsible, and which enjoys a vibrant culture and Welsh language.

One of the plans 3 strategic missions is to establish South West Wales as a UK leader in renewable energy and the development of a net zero economy, which will support this Council’s ambition of becoming net zero carbon by 2030 and the UK and Welsh Government commitments to decarbonisation and the achievement of ‘net zero’ by 2050.

The plan complements the Carmarthenshire Economic Recovery & Delivery Plan (April 2021), providing the platform for future growth opportunities beyond our recovery horizon.

CONSULTATIONS

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

Signed: Jason Jones

Head of Regeneration

1. Scrutiny Committee N/A

2. Local Member(s) N/A

3. Community / Town Council N/A

4. Relevant Partners

Proposals have been developed in partnership with Neath Port Talbot County Council, Swansea City Council, Pembrokeshire County Council and Welsh Government.

5. Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations N/A

CABINET PORTFOLIO HOLDER(S) AWARE/CONSULTED

YES

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

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

THERE ARE NONE

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South West Wales Regional Economic Delivery Plan



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Executive Summary

Background

1. South West Wales has a diverse economy and a unique set of natural and cultural assets, underpinned by the quality of its coastal and rural environment, industrial heritage and capacity and university presence. In 2014, partners in South West Wales jointly published an Economic Regeneration Strategy, setting the strategic groundwork for the Swansea Bay City Deal, a £1.3 billion investment package supported by the UK and Welsh Governments.
2. Seven years on, much has been achieved. However, there is more to be done to unlock the region's potential and to ensure that growth is resilient, sustainable and inclusive. In December 2020, the South West Wales local authorities, working closely with the Welsh Government, commissioned a new **Regional Economic Delivery Plan**. Looking ahead to the next ten years, this sets out an ambitious 'route map' for the development of the region's economy, identifying priorities for intervention and articulating how business, government, education, voluntary, community and social enterprise organisations and other partners should work together to bring them forward.

The economic and policy context

3. In the years leading up to the Covid-19 pandemic, the South West Wales economy performed strongly in generating new jobs: By 2019, there were some 322,000 jobs in the region, an impressive increase of 20,000 on the 2013 figure. However, there is still a large and persistent productivity gap with the rest of the UK.
4. Analysis of the region's economy highlights that:
 - **The region's economic weaknesses are largely structural**, linked with long-term processes of industrial change (which in some respects are still ongoing), and are shared with other regions in Wales and the UK.
 - **However, the region has a series of distinctive strengths and opportunities.** These are especially linked with the region's energy potential, university-industrial links, strong cultural identity, environmental assets and quality of life offer..
 - **There is a 'window of opportunity' to build on and capture some of these**, especially in relation to the green energy and net zero opportunity, where the region has specific advantages, but where other parts of the UK (and beyond) also have ambitious plans and technology and the dynamics of investment are changing rapidly. **Having the capacity to exploit these opportunities will be important and the timing of this matters greatly.**
 - **The region contains much diversity**, especially within the rural/ urban dimension. Despite diversity across the region, there is substantial commonality, and some of the big opportunities have a region-wide footprint. However, some of them extend beyond the

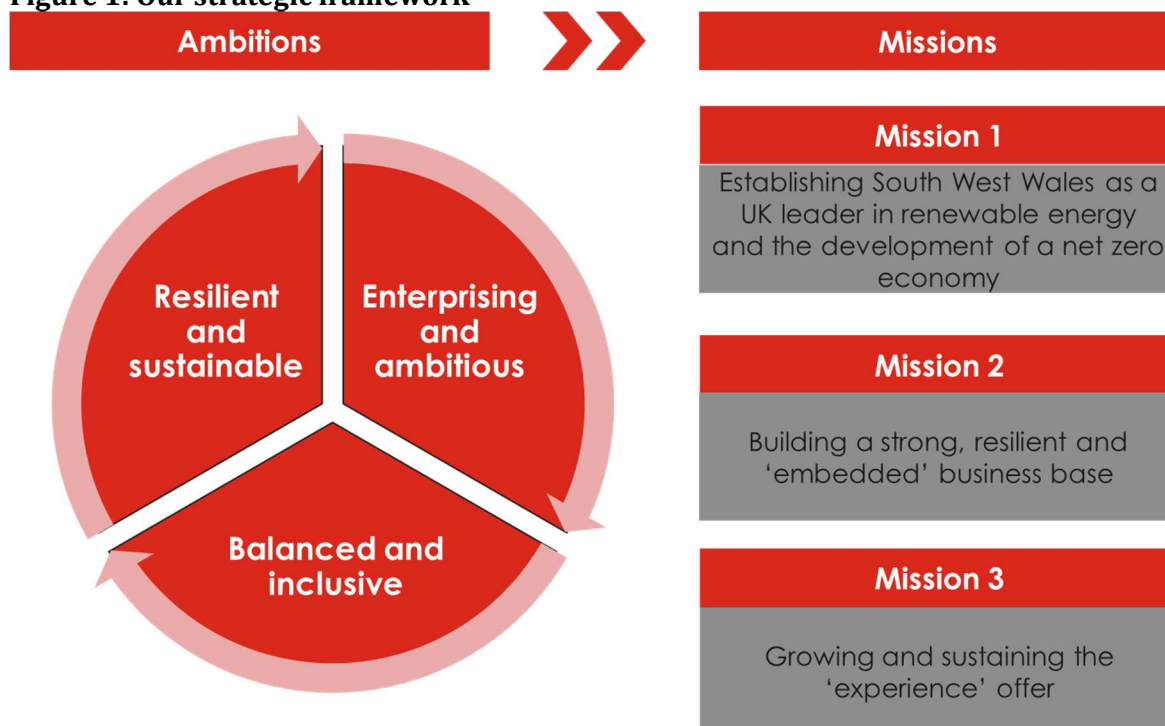
region itself, and ‘out-of-region’ links (for example, the South Wales Industrial Cluster and the links through to Cardiff Capital Region) will be of relevance.

- **‘Transformational’ growth opportunities need to be balanced with the conditions for incremental improvements in resilience, capacity and capability across the economy.** This was a key theme emerging from consultation as part of this Plan. There are distinctive opportunities at the ‘leading edge’ – but long-term employment resilience and wage growth will depend on the sustainability, productivity and expansion of the wider stock of regional SMEs.
5. The Plan has also been developed against the backdrop of a rapidly evolving policy context, as the region recovers from the Covid-19 pandemic and adjusts to a new trading and funding landscape following Brexit. However, looking to the next ten years, the climate emergency, the pace of (and adaption to) technology change and the need to ensure that the benefits are captured locally and are widely distributed will be central to economic strategy.

Our Ambitions and Missions for the next ten years

6. Over the next ten years, we will build on our distinctive strengths and opportunities summarised above to develop a more prosperous and resilient South West Wales economy.
7. To help plan for the future, we have identified three **Ambitions** (statements about the nature of the South West Wales economy that we want to work towards), supporting three complementary **Missions**:

Figure 1: Our strategic framework



Source: SQW 2021

8. Our three ‘Missions’ will guide future activity over the next ten years and beyond. They are designed to give a clear direction of travel, while remaining sufficiently broad to accommodate a wide range of potential investments that will come forward over time. The three high-level Missions are as follows:
- **Establishing South West Wales as a UK leader in renewable energy and the development of a net zero economy:** Taking forward the region’s major energy related projects and driving the benefits through the region (via industrial decarbonisation, supply chain opportunities, university-linked innovation, etc.).
 - **Building a strong, resilient and embedded business base:** Understanding and growing the business stock, supporting widespread social and commercial entrepreneurship, creating stronger supply chain and innovation networks, making public sector support sustainable; driving forward technology adoption and diffusion.
 - **Growing and sustaining the ‘experience’ offer:** Linking environmental quality, quality of life and community character to create a region that retains and attracts talent and investment, and to promote this consistently and powerfully to the outside world.

Delivering the Plan

9. To translate our Missions into practical interventions, we have prepared a **project pipeline**. This sets out a schedule of interventions, describing how they contribute to our Ambitions and Missions, their current development status and the actions that need to be taken to bring them forward. This will be kept ‘live’: it will regularly be reviewed by regional partners and will evolve to embrace new investment proposals as they emerge.
10. Currently, the projects within the pipeline have a combined value of around £3 billion. While some are at an early stage of development, and costs will be determined through the business case process, this gives an indication of the scale of the opportunity ahead. Building on the success of the current Swansea Bay City Deal, we will pursue the creation of a further, flexible **Investment Fund** to co-invest alongside the private sector in projects that will deliver our Missions, where business cases are robust.
11. To oversee the strategic direction of the Plan, a new **South West Wales Corporate Joint Committee (CJC)** has been established, enabling the four local authorities to work closely together alongside the Welsh Government and to share resources. Building on our recent success, and alive to the immediacy of our current challenges and opportunities, the CJC will drive forward our Delivery Plan – building a South West Wales that is *“resilient and sustainable; enterprising and ambitious; and balanced and inclusive”*.

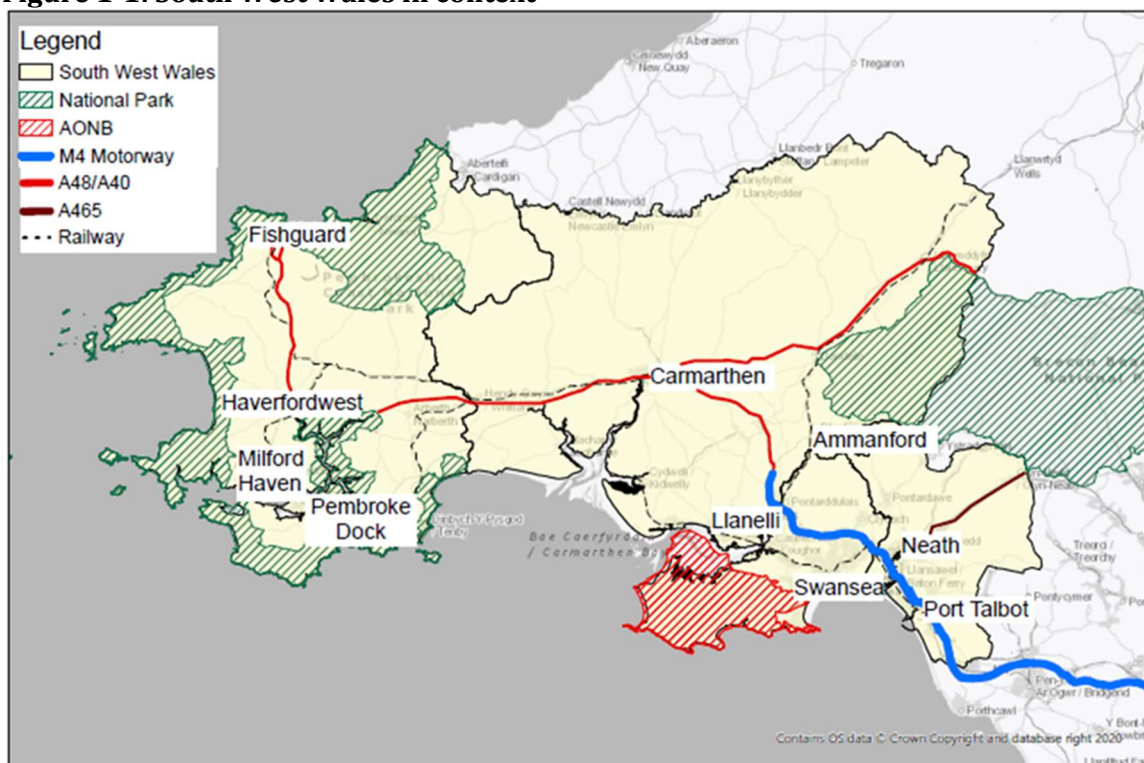
1. Introduction

Welcome to the **Regional Economic Delivery Plan** for South West Wales. Looking ahead to 2030, this Plan sets out our ambitions for a resilient, broad-based and sustainable economy – and outlines where we will focus our efforts in the next few years to realise them.

Introducing South West Wales

- 1.1 Extending from Neath Port Talbot in the east to Pembrokeshire in the west, via Swansea and Carmarthenshire, South West Wales has a diverse economy and a unique set of natural and cultural assets.
- 1.2 Economically, our industrial heritage combines with some of the UK's most significant marine energy potential, driving major opportunities for decarbonisation and the growth of the UK's Green Economy. Environmentally, the coastline and countryside – including the Pembrokeshire Coast and Brecon Beacons National Parks and the Gower Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty – contribute to a superb visitor offer and quality of life. Culturally, the region encompasses the dynamic, growing university city of Swansea, a diverse and distinctive network of rural towns and an increasingly vibrant Welsh language.

Figure 1-1: South West Wales in context



Source: Produced by SQW 2021. Licence 100030994. Contains OS data © Crown copyright [and database right] (2020)

A bold and inclusive new economic delivery plan

- 1.3** In 2014, partners in South West Wales jointly published an **Economic Regeneration Strategy**, setting the strategic groundwork for the Swansea Bay City Deal, a £1.3 billion investment package supported by the UK and Welsh Governments.
- 1.4** Seven years on, much has been achieved. The region’s knowledge and research capacity has been supported through the delivery of major facilities such as the Swansea Bay Campus and continued investment in industry-academic links. The economic opportunities associated with the growth of the health economy have been reinforced through the development of the new Institute of Life Sciences and the start of work on the Pentre Awel health and wellbeing campus in Llanelli. S4C’s new headquarters has opened in Carmarthen, accompanied by a concentration of creative media businesses; substantial investment has continued to flow into Pembrokeshire’s offshore renewable opportunities; and Swansea city centre’s ambitious regeneration programme is well underway. There has been major investment in our digital connectivity, with exciting plans for a more sustainable regional transport system through Swansea Bay and South West Wales Metro.
- 1.5** This provides a strong platform for future growth. However, as the analysis in Chapter 2 makes clear, there is more to be done to unlock the region’s potential and to ensure that growth is resilient, sustainable and inclusive. Looking to the next ten years and beyond, the South West Wales local authorities, working closely with the Welsh Government, have prepared this **Regional Economic Delivery Plan** to ensure that we make the most of the exciting growth opportunities that are ahead of us.

Combining strategic clarity with delivery flexibility

- 1.6** In developing the Plan, we have followed a sequential approach. First, we started with a fresh view of the **evidence**, considering the ‘state of the region’ and the outlook for the future. This informed our high-level **objectives**, setting out “*what we want our economy to be (more) like*”. These provided a framework for a series of clearly-defined **missions**: key areas of focus for the next ten years, and the **interventions**, or project activities, needed to achieve them:

Figure 1-2: Regional Economic Delivery Plan logic sequence



Source: SQW

- 1.7** However, we live in an uncertain and dynamic world, and over the lifetime of this Plan, we will need to respond to new challenges and opportunities (and new ideas and investments that are yet unforeseen). **A resilient plan is a flexible and agile plan:** while this document

provides strategic clarity and focus on our priorities, we anticipate that project actions and investments will evolve over time.

Navigating the changing strategic context

1.8 This Plan is developed in the context of (and contributes to) a range of plans and strategies developed at local, national and UK level. Looking across the strategic landscape, a number of themes are especially relevant to this Plan:

- First, the **Well-being of Future Generations Act 2015** requires public bodies in Wales to consider the long-term impact of their decisions across all aspects of wellbeing. The Act outlines seven ‘wellbeing goals’ – and public policy should contribute to all of them, not just one or two. For an economic plan, that means that in delivering “a prosperous region”, we should also contribute to a region that is more resilient, equal, healthy, cohesive and globally responsible, and which enjoys a vibrant culture and Welsh language¹. The principles of the Act are explicitly embedded in the Welsh Government’s *Economic Resilience and Reconstruction Mission*² (and its principles of “Prosperous, Green and Equal”) and are central to this Delivery Plan.
- Second, there is an overarching and firm **commitment to decarbonisation and the achievement of ‘net zero’ by 2050**. The UK and Welsh Government is legally committed to net zero carbon emissions (over a 1990 baseline) by 2050, a process that will involve far-reaching changes in industrial processes, transport networks and heating systems. The Welsh Government’s *Programme for Government* commits to “acting decisively to tackle the nature and climate emergency”³, and this is reinforced in the establishment of the Minister of Climate Change portfolio and (for example) in the clear prioritisation of sustainable and active travel within *Llwybr Newydd*, the new transport strategy. From an economic strategy perspective, the decarbonisation imperative creates opportunities for innovation and technology development, as well as an urgent need for adaptation to support industrial resilience.
- Third, a broader policy focus on the **opportunities and challenges presented by technological and demographic change** featured in the UK Government’s former *Industrial Strategy* and remains prominent in its successor, the *Plan for Growth*. A series of reports to the Welsh Government have also set out approaches to digitalisation⁴ and the adoption of an innovation strategy focused around meeting societal need⁵.
- Fourth, **the response to the UK’s exit from the European Union**. Over the coming years, we will need to adapt to changing patterns of trade. The impact of this is not yet fully

¹ Future Generations Commissioner for Wales, [Well-being of Future Generations Act \(Wales\) 2015](#)

² Welsh Government (February 2021), *Our Economic Resilience and Reconstruction Mission*

³ Welsh Government (June 2021), [Programme for Government](#), p.3

⁴ Welsh Government (September 2019), [Wales 4.0: Delivering economic transformation for a better future of work](#)

⁵ Rick Delbridge, Dylan Henderson and Kevin Morgan (May 2021), [Scoping the future of innovation policy in Wales](#)

apparent, although for some sectors will be far-reaching (for example, the adaptation of agriculture to the new Environmental Land Management system). Brexit also means a significant change for South West Wales in terms of the public investment available for economic development: historically, the region has been one of the UK's largest beneficiaries from EU funding. Looking to the future, it is likely that we will need a new, perhaps more 'investment and return' based approach.

- Finally, this Plan is developed in the context of a wider approach to **regional economic development** in Wales, with South West Wales forming one of the regional 'building blocks' of *Future Wales*, the new national spatial development plan⁶. Plans have also been advanced for new approaches to regional governance and delivery (described in Chapter 5), as well as the Regional Economic Framework, which has been developed by the Welsh Government in conjunction with the local authorities alongside this Plan.

Plan structure

1.9 The remainder of this Plan is structured in six chapters:

- Chapter 2 sets out the **economic landscape** within which the Plan has been developed, outlining the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats facing the regional economy and the key issues that need to be addressed.
- Chapter 3 introduces our **strategic framework**, setting out our ambitions for the future and the type of economy that we want to help develop.
- Building on this, Chapters 4-6 explain our three **key 'missions'**: the specific goals that we want to achieve over the next decade.
- Finally, Chapter 7 sets out **how we will deliver the Plan**, including the role of the Corporate Joint Committee and options for future implementation arrangements.

1.10 In addition, **Annex A** provides a summary SWOT analysis. **Annex B** provides an assessment of this Plan against the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act (Wales) 2015. **Annex C** explains the process of developing the Plan, and how partners were engaged and priorities identified.

1.11 Two supplementary documents support the Plan:

- First, an **Evidence and Policy Landscape Review** provides further detail in support of the narrative in Chapter 2

Second, while this Plan takes a long-term view, specific actions will evolve over time as business cases are progressed and new investment opportunities come forward. Alongside the Plan, we have prepared a **supplementary Project Pipeline document**, setting out known and emerging interventions and the next steps involved in taking them forward.

⁶ Welsh Government (February 2021), [Future Wales: The National Plan 2040](#)

2. South West Wales: The economic landscape

South West Wales has performed strongly in recent years in generating new jobs and driving forward priority investments. Despite continuing productivity challenges, there are major opportunities ahead for sustainable growth, linked with our energy, innovation, business and community assets. This chapter sketches a picture of the region's economy, outlining recent economic performance, key strengths and assets, and the major 'transformational' trends that will impact on future growth.

Places and connections: The region's economic geography

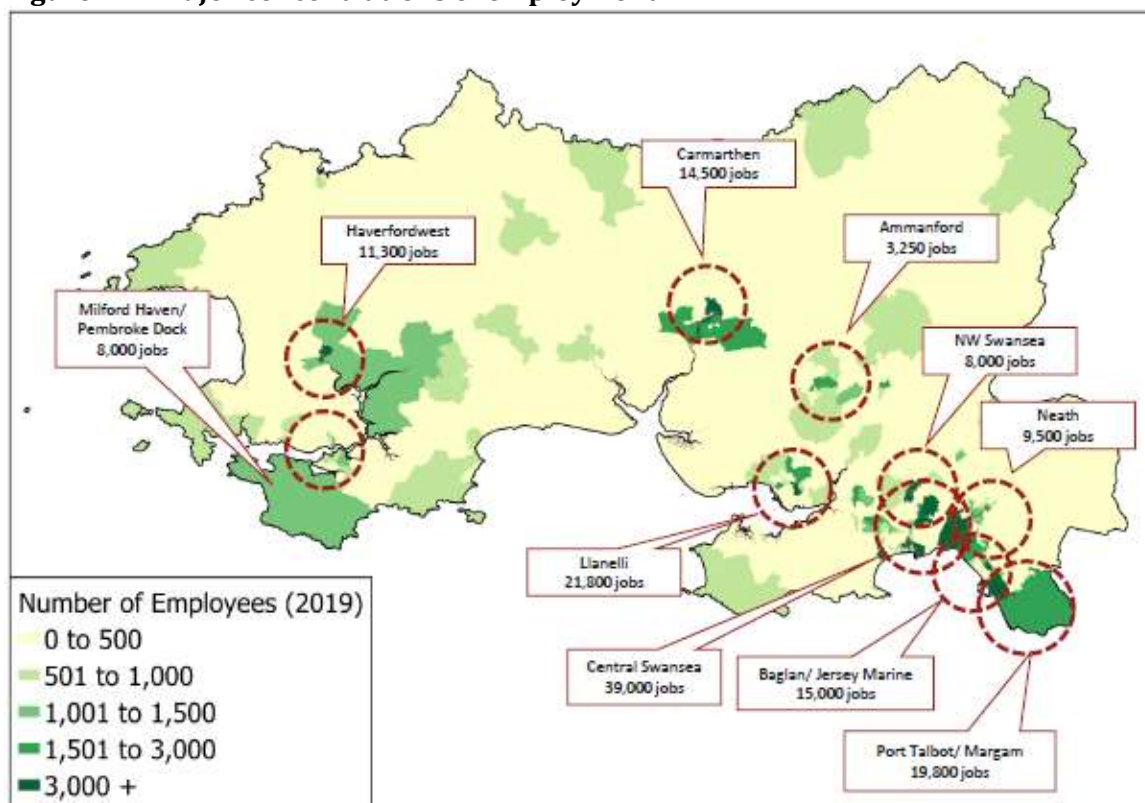
A distinctive heritage and a diverse economy...

- 2.1** With a population of around 705,000 across four counties, South West Wales is a diverse region. Historically, much of the area was an industrial pioneer, driven initially by the coal and metals industries and later by petrochemicals and manufacturing. Over the past 40 years, economic change has meant a challenging period of readjustment, which is to some extent still underway. But our industrial heritage has bequeathed an important legacy, including some of our leading research and innovation capabilities, our large advanced manufacturing sector and the character and form of our towns and cities.
- 2.2** Reflecting the region's population distribution and historic industrial development, the largest concentrations of employment are in the east, around Swansea Bay, as Figure 2-1 illustrates. Swansea itself accounts for around 40% of jobs in South West Wales (and is its main commuter destination), and the area around Swansea Bay and Llanelli is defined in *Future Wales* as a 'National Growth Area' for new jobs and housing⁷. The east of the region also contains a distinctive and extensive concentration of manufacturing activity at Port Talbot, including the UK's largest steel plant and the Port Talbot Waterway Enterprise Zone.
- 2.3** Further west, around 20% of national energy supplies enter Britain via Pembrokeshire, with the Haven Waterway a major centre for existing energy infrastructure and the exploitation of new opportunities. More broadly, Carmarthen and Haverfordwest have important roles as regional centres, supporting an extensive rural economy and food production industry. Reflecting the environmental quality highlighted in Chapter 1, the region enjoys extensive environmental designations, including the two National Parks and AONB and special protections along much of the coast. This environmental quality supports a large, important

⁷ Welsh Government (February 2021), [Future Wales: The National Plan 2040](#), Policy 28. Policy 29 defines Carmarthen and the Haven Towns (Haverfordwest, Milford Haven, Pembroke and Pembroke Dock) as 'Regional Growth Areas'

and growing visitor economy as well as delivering significant wellbeing benefits to our local residents.

Figure 2-1: Major concentrations of employment



Source: Produced by SQW 2021. Licence 100030994 Contains OS data © Crown copyright [and database right] [2020]

2.4 Across the region, around 208,000 people speak Welsh – about 31% of the total population, and an increase of around 23% in the decade to 2020⁸. The Welsh Government’s *Cymraeg 2050* strategy sets out a positive strategy to develop “a thriving, sustainable economy in rural areas” and to promote the Welsh language through the media and the growth of the cultural sector – a goal recently reinforced by investment in S4C’s headquarters presence in Carmarthen.

... with important links beyond the region

2.5 Connections beyond the region are important too. The ports at Fishguard and Pembroke Dock provide the main gateway between the south of the UK and Ireland. Looking east, there are strong links (and important commuter flows) between the manufacturing clusters at Port Talbot and neighbouring Bridgend; shared issues across the Western and Central Valleys and the South Wales industrial base; and relatively easy access to opportunities in Cardiff and beyond. While our Plan focuses on what is needed *for* the region and *within* the region,

⁸ Reflecting the region’s diversity, the proportion of Welsh speakers is substantially higher in Carmarthenshire, at over 50% of the population.

economic boundaries are fluid: the key point is that South West Wales is not self-contained and homogeneous; it is outward facing and diverse, and it makes sense to work together.

The medium-term economic outlook

- 2.6** This Plan has been developed following the substantial economic shock precipitated by the Covid-19 pandemic. The UK economy contracted by 9.9% in 2020 – an unprecedented fall in annual output in modern times – as public health restrictions effectively closed some sectors (notably hospitality, a key industry in South West Wales). Across the region, the claimant count was 74% higher in December 2020 than it had been at the start of the year, with the full employment impact mitigated by the furlough scheme and the extensive series of business grant, loan and rates relief measures brought in by the Welsh and UK Governments.
- 2.7** At the time of writing, **the outlook for economic recovery from the pandemic is positive.** In July 2021, independent forecasters anticipated UK GDP growth of 6.9% in 2021 and 5.5% in 2022, sufficient to restore the economy to its pre-pandemic size⁹. In South West Wales, the percentage of employments furloughed fell from 12.5% in December 2020 to around 5% in June 2021¹⁰, the claimant count had started to fall, and many employers were reporting staff shortages.
- 2.8** However, the pandemic has accelerated disruptive trends that are likely to have longer-term impacts. Structural changes in the retail sector have impacted on town and city centre uses. Remote working has expanded and is likely to become more permanent – presenting opportunities for people to access a wider range of jobs, but also potentially creating additional housing and service delivery pressures in rural and coastal areas. At the time of writing, the Covid crisis has not come to a conclusion and its consequences are still not yet fully known – but they are likely to have a longer-term influence over the period of this Plan.

The state of the region: Recent economic performance

- 2.9** Looking back over a longer period, the regional economy has grown since the previous Economic Regeneration Strategy was prepared. But on many indicators, there is still a significant gap between outcomes in South West Wales and the rest of the UK. The *Economic and Strategic Landscape Review* which accompanies this Plan explores our recent economic performance in more detail: the following paragraphs provide a snapshot of the ‘state of the region’.

We have seen growth in jobs and economic activity, but there is capacity for more

- 2.10** The 2014 Strategy anticipated a relatively slow recovery in employment terms from the recession following the 2008/09 financial crisis. However, **performance has been much**

⁹ HM Treasury (July 2021), *Forecasts for the UK Economy: A comparison of independent forecasts*

¹⁰ Slightly below the Wales and UK averages, and accounting for around 14,400 employments furloughed.

stronger than anticipated. By 2019, there were some 322,000 jobs in the region, an increase of 20,000 on the 2013 figure. Despite some net job losses in 2016, growth until the start of the pandemic was stronger than in the rest of Wales.

2.11 However, there is still ‘spare capacity’ in the labour market. Although the ‘jobs density’ (the number of jobs per working age resident) has grown steadily, it is still lower than the UK and Wales averages¹¹. Notably, despite Swansea’s importance as a regional centre and inbound commuter destination, the city’s jobs density is low relative to Cardiff and Newport¹².

2.12 There have been steady improvements in the economic activity rate over the past 15 years – at a faster pace than in the rest of the UK. However, **South West Wales’ economic activity rate continues to fall behind the UK average** (and slightly behind the Wales average). If the gap between the 2019 regional economic activity rate (73.8%) and the UK rate (78.9%) could be bridged, it would bring an additional 21,000 people back into the labour market.

Economic output has grown, within the context of structural change

2.13 Economic output (measured in gross value added) was around £13 billion in 2018 – equivalent to 21% of total Welsh output. The region’s GVA increased by around £630 million in 2013-18 (representing growth of about 5% over the period). Within this overall expansion, some sectors grew strongly: combined, wholesale and retail; warehousing; real estate; information and communications; and health and care contributed an additional £689 million to GVA. But some sectors contracted over the period, with the metals, electrical products and machinery sector reducing its output by around £322 million.

2.14 This suggests a continuing process of adjustment within the economy, which is also reflected in employment growth (and a strengthening share of employment) in hospitality, health, distribution and administrative activities. Nevertheless, manufacturing is of fundamental importance to the regional economy, accounting for 13.6% of total output (and over 25% of output in Neath Port Talbot).

There is still a large productivity gap, which impacts on local prosperity

2.15 Productivity (the amount of GVA generated for every filled job) was around £45,100 in South West Wales in 2018. The gap with the rest of the UK has narrowed slightly over time. But it is still substantial: in 2018, productivity was around 80% of the UK level.

2.16 Our analysis of productivity in South West Wales leads to three observations, which are critical to the strategy advanced within this Plan:

- **Productivity growth isn’t ‘everything’ But it is *necessary* for long-term economic wellbeing, even if it isn’t *sufficient*.** More ‘productive’ activities ought to lead to higher

¹¹ 0.75 jobs per resident aged 16-64 in South West Wales in 2019 (compared with 0.77 in Wales overall and 0.86 in the UK).

¹² Swansea’s jobs density was 0.8 in 2019, compared with 0.98 in Cardiff and 0.91 in Newport.

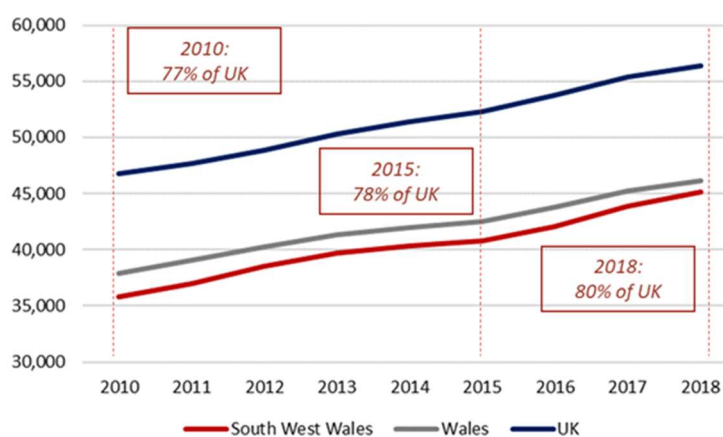
average pay¹³ and more opportunities for people to build careers and businesses in the region. But productivity can be seen as a somewhat abstract measure: a highly 'productive' economy might not necessarily be a sustainable or equitable one, and not everything that society values generates high levels of monetised output. So, as well as generating higher output per worker, **the key challenge is ensuring that the productivity gain is captured locally in pay, conditions and business opportunities.**

- **Productivity growth is not just about growing 'more productive' sectors, or those firms at the leading edge.** The structural shift in South West Wales from relatively high value-added manufacturing to lower value services has presented a long-term challenge. Part of the gap is also explained by the type of activities that take place in different locations within the same industry –

with headquarters activities, research and development and so on typically contributing to higher value output per worker¹⁴. But recent research also highlights the gains that can be made in all sectors (including those within the 'foundational economy' as well as within 'export'-like industries) through investment in management capacity, technology adoption, supply chain capabilities, skills development and so on¹⁵. This is likely to be especially important in South West Wales: in a region with relatively few large firms, **a broad-based approach that supports SME growth and entrepreneurship across the board and increases the local 'stickiness' of investment is likely to be important.**

- **Productivity growth is likely to be gradual over time.** It may be accelerated by major transformational investments – but 'narrowing the gap', and ensuring the gain is captured regionally in higher pay and local business growth, is a long-term endeavour, demanding sustained investment across the economy¹⁶.

Figure 2-2: Productivity: GVA per filled job (£), 2010-18



ONS, Subregional productivity: labour productivity by local authority district and labour productivity by UK NUTS2 and NUTS3 subregions, 2010-18

¹³ Currently, gross median pay in the South West Wales local authority areas ranges between 86% and 92% of the UK average.

¹⁴ Welsh Government (2018), *Welsh Budget 2018: Chief Economist's Report*, p.12

¹⁵ Jurgen Maier (2017), *Made Smarter Review: Report to the UK Government*; Institute for Government (2021), [Productivity: Firing on all cylinders – why restoring growth is a matter for every UK sector](#)

¹⁶ Note also the challenges in 'narrowing the gap': other regions will also grow at the same time, and some (principally London and the Greater South East) will have more favourable starting-points.

The evidence reveals mixed progress against wider drivers of productivity

2.17 Linked with the region's overall productivity performance, there has been mixed progress in relation to wider 'drivers of productivity':

In relation to skills...

2.18 Recent years have seen a strong emphasis on strengthening links between providers and employers, with the Regional Learning and Skills Partnership playing an increasingly important role in brokering relationships, identifying employer need and providing better labour market intelligence¹⁷.

2.19 **Over time, there has been a steady improvement in qualification levels:** in 2019, 35% of the working age population was qualified to NVQ4+, compared with 22% in 2004, and the proportion with no qualifications halved over the same period (partly as new entrants to the labour market gradually replace those who leave). But in *relative* terms, there is still a gap with the rest of the UK¹⁸, and substantial variation across the region¹⁹.

In relation to connectivity...

2.20 **There has been transformational progress in the delivery of digital connectivity** since the 2014 Regeneration Strategy. Commercial investment and public support through Superfast Cymru and successor programmes have increased access to superfast broadband to over 90% of premises. However, beyond superfast, there is still a significant rural/urban digital divide, with ultrafast penetration in Pembrokeshire among the lowest in the UK²⁰. The Digital Infrastructure programme across South West Wales aims to address this – but applications for new technology continue to advance rapidly: staying ahead of the curve will be important as digital technology transforms working practices and business models.

2.21 The picture is perhaps less positive in relation to **transport connectivity**. There has been some disappointment in the scaling back of plans to electrify the South Wales Mainline to Swansea. However, proposals are being advanced to take forward the **Swansea Bay and South Wales Metro** as the core of a better-integrated regional transport system (highlighted further in Chapter 4); Transport for Wales plans to increase services between Swansea and Manchester from 2022; and work progresses in taking forward active travel measures across the region. While the future policy presumption is against new strategic road schemes, investment has started on much-needed improvements to the A40 in Pembrokeshire and

¹⁷ See South West Wales RLSP (2019), [Regional Employment and Skills Plan 2019](#)

¹⁸ Between 2004 and 2019, the gap between South West Wales and the UK actually widened, from 3.6pp to 4.8pp.,

¹⁹ For example, in 2019, only 29% of the Neath Port Talbot 16-64 population was qualified to NVQ4+, compared with 37% in Swansea.

²⁰ In September 2020, around 77% and 58% of premises in Swansea and Neath Port Talbot respectively were able to access 'ultrafast' download speeds of up to 300 Mbps, although this is largely confined to urban areas where it is commercially viable.

beyond the region, major improvements on the A465 Heads of the Valleys road are improving connectivity with the English Midlands.

In relation to the business stock...

2.22 The size of the region's business base grew in the years leading up to the start of the pandemic. In 2020, there were around 23,800 active enterprises in South West Wales, a number that had steadily increased over the preceding five years – and survival rates keep pace with the rest of Wales and the UK. But the region's 'enterprise density' (the number of enterprises relative to the working age population) and the start-up rate remain lower than in the rest of the UK²¹. Recent research has highlighted that while overall entrepreneurial activity in Wales is broadly in line with the rest of the UK, there is a shortfall in perceptions of the availability of good start-up opportunities²².

In relation to sites and premises for business growth...

2.23 South West Wales benefits from some substantial sites for industrial expansion, including the large strategic site at Baglan Energy Park, future phases of the Cross Hands development in Carmarthenshire, and key sites at Felindre and Fabian Way in Swansea and the Haven Waterway. However, **there is a widely-recognised gap between demand and supply for industrial sites and premises**, as low rents (and in some cases high remediation and infrastructure costs on ex-industrial land) make viability challenging, especially west of Swansea. The evidence is that this acts as a brake on business expansion, both to new investors and to existing local businesses seeking 'grow-on' space²³.

Inequalities remain significant

2.24 Despite jobs growth over time and improvements in economic activity, recent research highlights the extent to which rising living costs (especially housing costs) have impacted on the real incomes of the lowest paid, a situation which has accelerated during the pandemic²⁴.

2.25 Across the region, concentrations of disadvantage are significant, principally in the main urban centres of Swansea, Llanelli, Neath, Port Talbot and Pembroke Dock, and in the upper Western Valleys. Many of these concentrations are persistent over time and reflect the long-term impact of industrial change: while they highlight the importance of 'supply-side' measures to reduce economic inactivity and bring people back into the labour market, most

²¹ In 2020, there were 11 business starts to every 100 active enterprises, compared with 14 in the UK overall.

²² Karen Bonner *et al* (2018), [Global Entrepreneurship Monitor UK: Wales report 2018](#)

²³ SQW/ Welsh Government (March 2020), [Commercial Property: Market analysis and potential interventions](#)

²⁴ Bevan Foundation (June 2021), [A snapshot of poverty in spring 2021](#)

households on low incomes are already in work²⁵. For a regional economic strategy, **driving demand and creating “better jobs, closer to home” is a key goal and challenge**²⁶.

Building on strengths: Key assets

2.26 Overall, the review of economic performance over recent years suggests good progress, especially in terms of job creation. But there is a persistent gap in outcomes between the region and the rest of the UK. This is partly because most change is incremental: the investment secured through City Deal (for example) will not yet have translated into improvements in the economic data. It also reflects the ‘structural’ nature of many of the region’s challenges, some of which (including the productivity deficit) are shared with other parts of Wales and the North of England.

2.27 However, South West Wales contains some **distinctive economic strengths and opportunities** which provide a good platform for future growth. Realising each of these presents a challenge for future strategy, which we have set out below.

We have nationally and internationally significant university research assets

2.28 There is a strong higher education presence in the region, anchored by Swansea University and University of Wales Trinity St David’s campuses in Carmarthen and Swansea²⁷. Both universities have expanded in recent years, have made an important contribution to the region’s physical regeneration (e.g., through the Swansea Bay campus and the SA1 development in Swansea city centre) and are key economic ‘drivers’ in their own right.

2.29 Beyond this, Swansea University’s research is ranked as ‘world leading’ in several (mostly STEM-related) subjects²⁸. Across both universities, key research capabilities relate to:

- **Advanced data science**, where Swansea’s assets include the Computational Foundry (bringing together computer science and mathematical expertise, and working with industry) and the CHERISH-DE Digital Economy Centre.
- **Health and medicine**, with a strong focus on the application of data science in health, linked with wider computer science expertise, and including one of six Health Data Research UK (HDR-UK) sites nationally.
- **Engineering and manufacturing**, especially in materials research, and with relevance to the energy and decarbonisation opportunities discussed further below.

²⁵ Joseph Rowntree Foundation (November 2020), [Briefing: Poverty in Wales 2020](#) (Annex A)

²⁶ “Better jobs, closer to home” is a stated Welsh Government objective, as set out in the *Economic Action Plan* and the Valleys Task Force strategy *Our Valleys, Our Future*.

²⁷ In addition to a smaller University of South Wales presence at the Hydrogen Centre in Baglan.

²⁸ Swansea University is assessed as ‘world-leading’ in 14 units of assessment within the 2014 Research Excellence Framework.

2.30 There is a long history of collaboration between both universities and local industry, especially in the manufacturing sector. Examples of recent programmes include ASTUTE 2020, supporting industrial research, development and innovation in manufacturing businesses; and UWTSD's Manufacturing for Advanced Design Engineering (MADE) programme, designed to support collaboration with SMEs. Many industrial collaboration initiatives have been supported with European funding: as this draws to a close, **it will be important to maintain the momentum and capacity that has been built up in recent years, while expanding opportunities for collaboration across the wider regional SME base.**

2.31 The commercial research base is somewhat smaller. But there has been investment in recent years (for example, TWI's Technology Centre Wales and Advanced Engineering Materials Research Institute at Baglan), adding value to the university-based presence.

Our energy infrastructure is extensive, and we have some of the UK's greatest low carbon energy generation potential

2.32 South West Wales has long had an important energy sector, especially associated with Pembrokeshire's oil and gas industry. The infrastructure and skills associated with this will be important in taking advantage of the region's vast potential in renewable energy. Several opportunities are currently being developed through the emerging South West Wales Regional Energy Strategy. These include:

- **Wave and marine energy off the Pembrokeshire coast**, with a series of commercial and pre-commercial projects underway and in the pipeline
- **The proposed Dragon Energy Island** scheme in Swansea Bay, offering scope for tidal, wave and potentially solar energy generation
- **Onshore capacity**, including the UK's largest onshore wind farm at Pen-y-Cymoedd and a range of opportunities in wind, biomass and waste-to-energy.

2.33 There is also substantial research and development capacity to support the region's renewable energy potential. The Offshore Renewable Energy (ORE) Catapult has a presence at Pembroke Dock and, with several other universities, is engaged in progressing new opportunities off the Pembrokeshire Coast. Swansea University's SPECIFIC Innovation and Knowledge Centre has expertise in the capture and storage of solar energy, while the University of South Wales' Hydrogen Centre at Baglan is supporting the experimental production of hydrogen energy storage systems.

2.34 Our energy potential is therefore a key asset to exploit – both for South West Wales and indeed the rest of Wales and the UK. **The challenge over the next few years will be in realising the opportunity, recognising that some technologies remain relatively nascent – and in ensuring that the benefits can be captured locally.** A long-term perspective will also be important in developing business cases for some of the region's major energy projects –

recognising that while they have the potential to be transformational, the full benefits may take several years to be realised

Our business community offers scope for growth

- 2.35** We noted earlier the region’s relatively low levels of enterprise density and its relatively low start-up rate. But **business is central to future economic strategy** – put simply, employment is either created by existing businesses expanding, new businesses starting up, or businesses from elsewhere deciding to locate in the region.
- 2.36** Recent years have seen the loss of some larger, externally-based firms (note, for example, recent job losses in some of the region’s automotive supply chain). We retain relative strengths in manufacturing, food production and hospitality, with evidence of start-up and inward investment activity linked with the data science strengths highlighted above²⁹. However, the region’s business stock is broadly-based: ‘high growth’ SMEs are quite widely distributed across sectors (and across the region)³⁰; ownership models are diverse³¹; and there are opportunities for productivity growth across the sectoral landscape³². Following our analysis of the ‘productivity deficit’ above, **the challenge is to strengthen the ‘breadth and depth’ of the business base, recognising scope for growth across the economy, including (but not just) in those activities at the ‘leading edge’ of technology and innovation.**

Environmental quality and ‘sense of place’ are key assets

- 2.37** South West Wales’ combination of ‘place-based’ assets is distinctive and rich, including the National Parks, the coastline, the sport and leisure offer and a university city offering both ‘compactness’ and a wide range of metropolitan amenities.
- 2.38** Beyond this range of functions and amenities, **the region’s distinctive identity forms an important part of the offer.** There are two aspects to this:
- First, **‘quality of life’ offer clearly forms part of the proposition to visitors, investors and potential new residents**, and one which plays a key economic role. There is an important balance to be struck between environmental quality and community and environmental sustainability.
- Second, **the region’s identity relates to the importance of ‘community’, the associations that businesses and other institutions have with the places in which they are based**, and the stake that they have locally. This is harder to pin down in conventional economic terms, but relates to the extent to which value and ownership can

²⁹ See the *Evidence and Strategic Landscape Review* for further examples.

³⁰ SQW analysis of regional distribution of [FastGrowth 50](#) award winners, 2009-20; Beauhurst records of ‘fast growth’ firms in South West Wales

³¹ Consultation as part of the development of this Plan. See also [Co-operatives Wales](#)

³² Institute for Government (2021), [Productivity: Firing on all cylinders – why restoring growth is a matter for every UK sector](#)

be captured or embedded locally and the challenges in growing the business and employment base highlighted above³³.

Looking to the future: Key transformational trends

2.39 Future strategy will also be influenced by wider ‘transformational’ factors that will impact all aspects of economic life. While these apply to all advanced economies, the way in which they are addressed and how they interact with our existing economic structure and strengths will be fundamental. Three ‘macro trends’ are especially important, relating to **decarbonisation**, **digitalisation** and **demographic change**. We consider each in turn below.

Decarbonising South West Wales

2.40 As we highlighted in the earlier overview of the policy context, the UK and Welsh Governments’ commitment to net zero by 2050 will have an impact on all aspects of policy.

2.41 In headline terms, Wales has been successful in reducing carbon emissions while maintaining economic growth: between 1990 and 2018, total CO₂ emissions fell by 20%, and the country was on track to meet its 2020 carbon reduction targets³⁴. However, around 85% of the cut in emissions came from the power sector³⁵. While most other sectors also achieved reductions (especially manufacturing), these were substantially smaller, and the surface transport sector actually generated a net increase. Looking to the future and the net zero commitment, the Climate Change Committee recommended a “*leadership driven pathway*” requiring far-reaching action over the next thirty years³⁶.



The actions required to achieve the targets – including full decarbonisation of the power sector, full switchover to electric vehicle sales, installation of low-carbon heating, and decarbonisation of manufacturing – go beyond those required from the world on average, in line with Wales’ responsibility as a richer nation with larger historical emissions.



Climate Change Committee

2.42 This presents South West Wales with some distinct challenges. Currently, **regional carbon emissions are much higher than the Wales and UK average**. These mostly reflect the role of the huge Tata works at Port Talbot, an industrial installation of national significance that remains reliant on coal inputs. **The challenge for future strategy is enabling the transition of the region’s industrial base, while ensuring wider action to decarbonise the transport, housing and manufacturing systems** – and making sure that South West Wales

³³ This is also at the centre of discussions about the concept and role of the foundational economy. See Joe Earle *et al* (2017), [What Wales Can Do: Asset-based policies and the foundational economy](#) (CREW/ Foundational Economy)

³⁴ Climate Change Committee (December 2020), [Progress Report: Reducing emissions in Wales](#)

³⁵ Principally through the decommissioning of the Aberthaw coal-fired power station

³⁶ Climate Change Committee (December 2020), [Advice Report: The path to a net zero Wales](#)

remains competitive with other regions. Our renewable energy potential will play an important role in this, which we explain further in Chapter 4.

Digital transformation

2.43 **'Digitalisation'** refers to the transformation of the economy through massively increased use of data and the development of digital technologies such as artificial intelligence, machine learning and robotics. Digitalisation isn't about change within a single industry; rather, it is about the use of 'general purpose' technologies with a wide range of applications across industries.

2.44 Digital transformation is not new: the period since the publication of the last Swansea Bay Economic Regeneration Strategy has seen a transformation in the everyday use of new digital technologies, and it has been recognised as a key driver of economic strategy for some time. Three aspects of the transformational impacts of digitalisation are especially relevant:

- **Disruptive effects on industry:** Use of digital technology leads to greater efficiency, with firms that have the capacity and capability to invest and adopt more likely to benefit from productivity gains and improved competitiveness. But its 'transformative' power is in the convergence of technologies to drive entirely new industries (wearable devices or gaming, for example), which in turn drive applications elsewhere. A consequence is the breakdown of traditional industry sectors and markets, leading to a recognition of digitalisation as the 'fourth industrial revolution'.
- **Impacts on the labour market:** Estimates of the potential impact of automation on jobs vary greatly, although most studies suggest that while new technologies will substitute for labour in some sectors, this is likely to be more than offset by job creation³⁷. However, technology is changing the way in which work is done, with the potential for positive and negative impacts on working conditions; the need and opportunity for job changes over the course of the working life; changing demand for skills; and the ability to work remotely.
- **Impacts on services,** potentially helping to overcome relative remoteness, and including the development of new ways of accessing health and care, which in turn impact on the development of new goods and services and demand for jobs.

2.45 Across all of these, the message for future strategy is that responding to digitalisation is not just about ensuring the 'supply' of new technology and connectivity (although that is important). It is also about **driving economic demand for new skills and technologies** – both at the 'leading edge' of innovation and throughout the economy.

³⁷ Welsh Government (September 2019), [Wales 4.0: Delivering economic transformation for a better future of work](#) (Professor Philip Brown's review of digital innovation for the economy and the future of work in Wales), pp.22-26

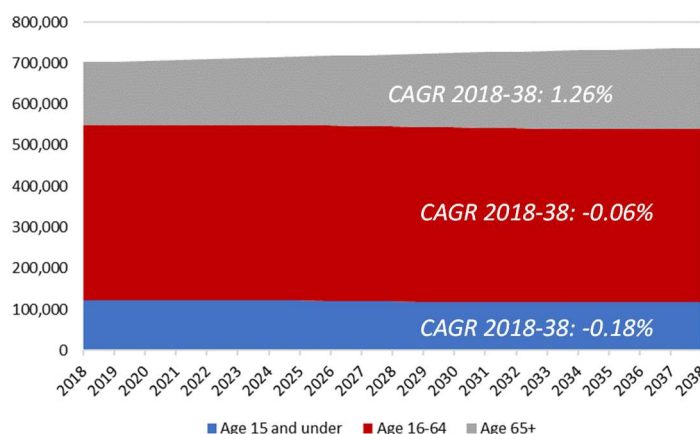
Responding to demographic change

2.46 South West Wales has a growing population. However, the ‘working age’ population has fallen slightly over the past decade. Over the next 20 years, the ‘working age’ population is expected to fall by around 1%, representing a net loss of around 4,700 people aged 16-64 over the period³⁸.

2.47 The gradual ageing of the population is a long-term trend. Key implications for future economic strategy include:

- Changing working lives:** The concept of ‘working age’ is becoming increasingly fluid, as people work for longer, and more flexibly (although individuals’ ability to work for longer will depend on job type and conditions and the ability to adapt to new roles and technologies over time).
- Changes in service demand:** As the analysis of recent economic performance demonstrates, there has been strong growth in employment and output associated with health and social care, as demand increases from an ageing population. Changing demographics will support changes in wider demand for goods and services as well.
- Rising dependency ratios:** While changing demographics are driven by life expectancies and birth rates, they also partly reflect the balance of migration, with gradually falling populations in some post-industrial and rural communities, and in-migration, especially from older people, along parts of the coast³⁹. This is a gradual process – but retaining and attracting younger people also helps to support community resilience and sustainability, and itself depends on generating local economic activity and demand.

Figure 2-3: Population change (compound annual growth rates) by age group, 2018-38



Source: StatsWales, 2018-based population projections

Bringing it together: key issues for the Delivery Plan

2.48 Summarising the ‘state of the region’, our key assets and the long-term ‘macro’ trends that will impact across the economy, we can see that:

³⁸ Although note that the picture varies across the region, with a sharp projected fall in the working age population in Pembrokeshire, but continued growth in Swansea.

³⁹ Gerald Holtham (June 2021)), [Rejuvenating Wales](#) (Hodge Foundation/ CLEC)

- **The region's weaknesses are largely 'structural'**. They are linked with processes of long-term industrial change, are shared with many other parts of the UK, and map onto the region's relatively low productivity.
- Set against this, **there has been strong progress in recent years**, especially in creating new jobs and in driving forward transformational projects. This provides a strong foundation on which to build.
- **South West Wales enjoys some distinctive strengths and opportunities** – especially linked with the region's renewable energy potential, university - industrial links and its quality of life offer. These also have the potential to make a positive impact in relation to the long-term environmental, technological and demographic trends.
- **There is a 'window of opportunity' to build on and capture some of these strengths.** Some are still at a relatively early stage (for example, elements of the renewable energy opportunity and the potential for industrial decarbonisation), but the technology is developing fast, and some other regions will offer fierce competition for investment.
- **We are a very diverse region**, with a distinctive balance of urban, rural, national park, coastal and industrial assets. But there is substantial commonality across South West Wales, and some of our big opportunities have a region-wide footprint. Some also extend beyond the region itself, and outward-facing links will be important.
- **'Transformational' growth opportunities need to be balanced with the conditions for incremental improvements in business resilience and capacity** across the regional economy. There are some distinctive opportunities at the 'leading edge' – but long-term employment resilience and wage growth will depend on the sustainability, productivity and expansion of the wider stock of regional SMEs – not just the 'pioneer' firms.

2.49 Based on this understanding of our economy and its potential, the next chapter introduces our strategic framework, to guide our actions over the next decade.

3. Our ambitions to 2030

Building on the evidence base, this chapter introduces our ambitions for the South West Wales economy. It explains the changes that we want to see over the next decade and introduces the three 'Missions' that will guide our shared activity.

From the evidence to a strategic framework...

- 3.1** Over the next ten years, we seek to build on the distinctive strengths and opportunities identified in the previous chapter to develop a more prosperous and resilient economy. To help plan for the future, we have identified three **Ambitions** (statements about the nature of the South West Wales economy that we want to work towards), supporting three **Missions** (priority areas on which our shared **Delivery Plan actions** will be focused):

Figure 3-1: Our Ambitions and Missions



Source: SQW 2021

Unpacking our Ambitions

- 3.2** Our three Ambitions are broadly cast. They recognise that achieving sustainable, long-term prosperity and the “South West Wales we want” is about more than the pursuit of economic growth as a goal for its own sake – and that prosperity will itself be enabled by progress across a number of fronts.
- 3.3** Our Ambitions seek an economy that is, over the long term, more resilient and sustainable; enterprising and ambitious; and balanced and inclusive.

Table 3-1: Unpacking our Ambitions: The economy we want**Resilient and sustainable**

- **Resilient to technology change and the impacts of digitalisation:**
 - Supporting firms in adopting and adapting to new technology
 - Building labour market resilience through the skills system from schools through to adult learning
- **Resilient to climate change and decarbonisation:**
 - Increasing the resilience of the region's manufacturing base (including in its (currently) relatively carbon-intensive foundation industries)
 - Supporting adaptation and adoption throughout the economy (across sectors and through the building stock and transport system)
 - Delivering robust digital connectivity to support changing working practices and better access to employment.
- **Supporting resilient and more 'embedded' firms and supply chains**
 - Developing the local business base through access to support, finance, networks and procurement
 - Embedding best practice and resilience throughout the supply chain
 - Continuously building management capacity and capability.

Enterprising and ambitious**Enterprising and ambitious**

- **Ambitious in relation to our long-term energy opportunity**
 - Ensuring capacity to drive forward our potential
 - Integrating our natural renewable energy advantages with our university and industrial strengths
- **Enterprising in relation to changing market conditions, technology and opportunities**
 - Investing in the skills system across the economy and driving demand for higher level and technical skills, as well as influencing supply
 - Investing in the commercial property stock – for local businesses scaling up as well as new investors
- **Driving new investment, innovation and funding models**
 - Developing sustainable alternatives to European funding
 - Promoting the region as a location to invest, work and visit

Balanced and inclusive**Balanced and inclusive**

- **Balanced between innovation at the leading edge and sustainable growth across the economy**
 - Developing opportunities for 'new to the firm' innovation, as well as R&D and new technology and product development
 - Recognising the opportunity for a diverse range of business and ownership models
- **Balanced spatially, across the region**
 - Celebrating regional diversity and a wide distribution of opportunity
- **Creating long-term growth, while sustaining and enhancing core environmental and community assets**
 - Recognising and enhancing the inherent value of the environment to the quality of life and quality of place proposition
 - Supporting community ownership of economic assets, where this can support local opportunity and generate a sustainable return.

Realising our Ambitions

- 3.4** The Ambitions set out above are extensive, and are consistent with the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act. They are also all interlinked: they are not so much ‘themes’ as a vision of how we want the economy to evolve. Over the next ten years, **all the actions that the South West Wales local authorities take in support of regeneration and economic development will contribute to achieving them** – whether they are delivered at regional scale, or are more locally focused.
- 3.5** But to deliver our overall goal of a more “resilient and sustainable; enterprising and ambitious; and balanced and inclusive” economy, there are clear actions on which we will need to focus over the next decade. We have called these our three **Missions**, which we will use to guide delivery. These are:
- Establishing South West Wales as a UK leader in renewable energy and the development of a net zero economy
 - Building a strong, resilient and ‘embedded’ business base
 - Growing and sustaining the experience offer.
- 3.6** The following chapters explain each Mission, setting out what we seek to achieve, the opportunities, challenges and risks that we need to address, and the solutions and projects that we aim to progress. Although we explain each Mission in turn, they should be seen as integrated: establishing South West Wales as a UK leader in renewable energy and a net zero economy is, for example, a key aspect of the other two Missions.

4. Mission 1: A UK leader in renewable energy and the net zero economy

Looking to 2030, we aim to make South West Wales a UK leader in renewable energy. That means taking advantage of our natural assets and our industrial and R&D capabilities to build an internationally-significant presence in future fuel technologies and to drive the decarbonisation of our industrial base and the wider economy.

Figure 4-1: Summary of assets, opportunities, challenges and actions

Current assets	Next opportunities	Key challenges	Key actions
Concentration of onshore and offshore opportunities at different stages of market readiness Emerging Regional Energy Strategy and Welsh Government support University R&D assets and growing corporate capacity for industrial decarbonisation	Linking energy generation with industrial decarbonisation Making the most of opportunities presented by the existing knowledge/research base Translating early stage projects into investable propositions	Countervailing pressure of existing high carbon intensity industry Securing/ maintaining capacity to drive the strategic agenda, and major projects forward Competition from (and establishing collaborations with) other regions Securing Government support	Additional capacity to drive forward the agenda Progressing the region's major renewable energy generation projects Attracting and driving forward new industrial investment Decarbonising transport and the housing stock

Understanding the case for the Mission: the core rationale

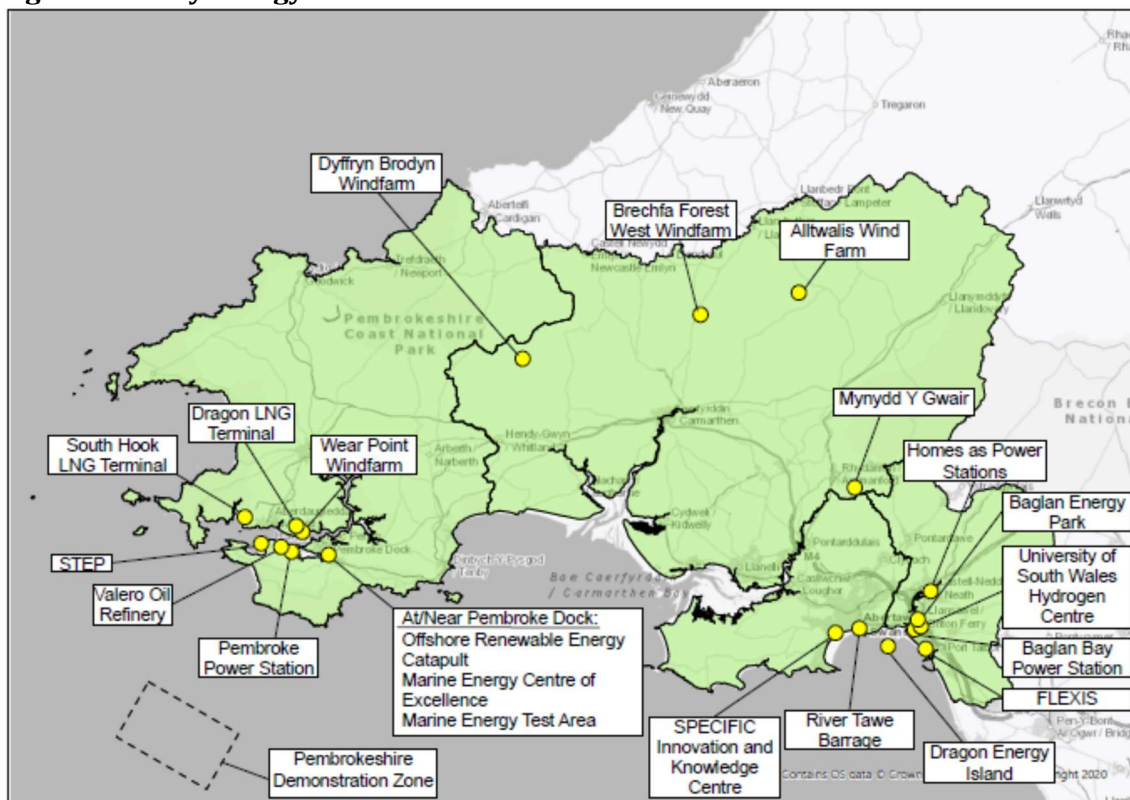
- 4.1** As set out in the evidence base the decarbonisation imperative is global, and in Wales is mandated by the UK and Welsh Governments' net zero commitments and the need to take urgent action now. There is a clear overall policy direction, which has been reinforced by the emerging suite of strategies at UK Government level ahead of COP26 in autumn 2021⁴⁰ and by the renewed and re-emphasised climate change focus of the Welsh Government. With a clear and compelling direction of travel, there is an opportunity for South West Wales to capitalise on its renewable energy assets and ensure that it is on the 'front foot' in adapting to change.

Delivering the region's low-carbon energy projects at scale

- 4.2** In South West Wales, our potential is clearly articulated, and is linked with both our natural environmental assets and infrastructure and skills base resulting from our long history in energy-related activity. The range of existing and emerging projects and assets is extensive, as illustrated in Figure 4-2:

⁴⁰ For example, the new [UK Hydrogen Strategy](#) (August 2021)

Figure 4-2: Key energy assets



Source: Produced by SQW 2021. Licence 100030994 Contains OS data © Crown copyright [and database right] [2020]

4.3 Key renewable energy assets include the combination of marine energy activity associated with **Pembroke Dock Marine** and the proposed tidal, wind and potentially solar energy scheme at **Dragon Energy Island** in Swansea Bay. They also include a range of onshore wind and waste-from-energy schemes across the region, and a potential nuclear fusion prototype scheme in Pembrokeshire. The **Hydrogen Centre** at Baglan focuses on experimental development of renewable hydrogen production and storage, as well as R&D in hydrogen vehicles, fuel cell applications and energy systems. The **Flexible Integrated Energy Systems (FLEXIS)** project is delivering a smart energy demonstration zone in Port Talbot, focused on local energy systems, heat recovery and the adoption of low emission vehicles.

4.4 However, while the scale of activity is substantial, there is a risk that the potential may not be fully realised, for three reasons:

- **Technologies are, in some cases, at a relatively early stage.** They are also complex, and in many cases will require long-term funding, commercially or from Government. Some of this will need to come forward in conditions of some uncertainty: for example, the Welsh Government's *Hydrogen Pathway* notes that *"there is uncertainty regarding the exact role hydrogen will have in supporting decarbonisation in Wales.... [but despite this], there is still an urgent need to take the first steps to develop the skills, expertise and supply chain for hydrogen scale-up in Wales"*⁴¹.

⁴¹ Welsh Government (January 2021), [Hydrogen in Wales: A pathway and next steps for developing the hydrogen energy sector in Wales](#). (consultation document), p,11

- **Competing areas and technologies may move faster** within this dynamic technology environment. South West Wales has distinctive assets – but if additional capacity and investment is directed elsewhere, some of these advantages could diminish.
- **Local benefits are not *automatically* captured through the energy generation process.** The good news is that there is a solid R&D base in South West Wales to capitalise on the opportunity (see, for example, the Hydrogen Centre referred to above; Swansea University’s SPECIFIC Centre), as well as schemes (such as the Marine Energy Engineering Centre for Excellence project at Pembroke Dock) to build supply chain opportunities with SMEs. It will be important that these are driven hard, to ensure that the region benefits from the added value of renewable energy investment.

4.5 Delivering the region’s renewable energy opportunities at scale – and ensuring that they are integrated with wider policy and maximise local benefits for local businesses and communities will be central to regional strategy over the coming years:

Key action areas

- **We will build capacity and expertise to maximise South West Wales’ renewable energy and net zero potential.**

There are several public bodies with knowledge and expertise, including (for example) the Welsh Government Energy Service and Marine Energy Wales, as well as UK Government agencies such as the ORE Catapult. But the agenda is complex: establishing a regional ‘decarbonisation system’ could help to address region-wide goals (including in relation to skills and infrastructure) and coordinate investment priorities beyond the delivery of specific initiatives.

- **We will seek to secure new investment in renewable energy infrastructure**

Linked with the capacity building described above, we will work with the Welsh and UK Governments and with the private sector to make the case for investment in ‘nationally significant’ schemes such as Dragon Energy Island and the Pembrokeshire marine proposition, as well as smaller-scale schemes, including on public land.

- **We will work to deliver the Regional Energy Strategy**

The Regional Energy Strategy has been developed in parallel with this Plan and will be published in 2021. We will work to take forward pilot and successor Local Energy System projects (such as the pilot currently underway at Milford Haven Energy Kingdom), and we will seek to link the energy system objectives of the Energy Strategy with opportunities for local business engagement and supply chain development.

Decarbonising our industrial base

- 4.6** The high carbon intensity of some of South West Wales’ industrial activity is a vulnerability: while the region’s relatively high carbon emissions in the data is largely caused by the steel industry, oil and gas are also important to the region, as well as our large manufacturing base.
- 4.7** Work is currently underway to develop a programme for industrial decarbonisation through the **South Wales Industrial Cluster (SWIC)** initiative, funded by UK Research and Innovation and including several energy and heavy industrial firms in South West Wales (including Tata, Valero and RWE, the operator of the Pembroke refinery)⁴². The focus of the programme is on the production and use of hydrogen and on mechanisms to secure large-scale industrial decarbonisation through ‘fuel switching’: as with some of the initiatives discussed above, the proposition is in its relatively early days, although achieving large-scale change will be important for the region’s future competitiveness. More broadly, there is an opportunity to attract additional investment into the region, beyond the decarbonisation of the existing stock: ‘transformational’ projects such as the forthcoming **Global Centre for Rail Excellence** provide examples of investments supported with public funds, but the existing combination of energy-related activity will be an important factor in attracting new business locations.
- 4.8** Building on the region’s growing presence in renewable energy and the current focus on industrial decarbonisation:

Key action areas

- **We will progress the opportunity presented by SWIC and seek to secure future investment to support the region’s future industrial competitiveness**

As with other aspects of the low carbon agenda, technology is developing rapidly and the scale of investment in demonstration projects and initiatives such as SWIC is substantial. Through our increased capacity to drive forward the decarbonisation agenda, we will seek to secure sequential investment, working with the UK and Welsh Governments as appropriate.

- **We will grow the wider low carbon industrial base and promote the region’s potential to new investors**

Linked with actions to promote the region as an investment destination, we will highlight our potential to new investors (including our university presence, skills base and access to sites and premises) and will press forward major proposed investments such as the GCRE.

⁴² <https://www.swic.cymru/news>

Decarbonising the wider economy

4.9 Decarbonisation will extend beyond the industrial base, and will impact on housing and domestic heating, non-domestic properties and the transport network. Much is already underway:

- In relation to the **housing stock**, Pobl Housing is leading one of the UK's largest community-based retrofit, energy generation and smart energy management projects at Penderry, Swansea, the outcomes of which will inform the larger, City Deal-funded Homes as Power Stations scheme.
- In relation to **transport**, all the local authorities are engaged in programmes of fleet decarbonisation, and the **Swansea Bay and South West Wales Metro** will be at the core of the region's lower carbon, more sustainable transport system.
- In relation to **re-using and preventing waste**, Wales already has some of the world's highest municipal recycling rates – with all South West Wales authorities (and Wales as a whole) experiencing a rapid increase in recycling rates over the past twenty years⁴³.

4.10 Linked with the Regional Energy Strategy, over the coming years:

Key action areas

- **Building on existing schemes, we will progress the decarbonisation of the housing and business stock**

From an economic development perspective – and our wider ambitions to secure a more 'embedded and resilient' business base, this should provide opportunities for local supply chain development and community-based employment solutions (as well as, in some cases, local community ownership).

- **We will press forward the development of Swansea Bay and South West Wales Metro**

As well as the Metro itself, this will lead to a better integrated and more sustainable transport network through the incorporation of bus and active travel services and the development of opportunities to work and access services closer to home.

- **We will work to achieve a circular economy**

Building on our performance in reducing waste and transforming recycling rates, there are opportunities to increase re-use of goods and materials offering potential for community-based solutions to increase repair and the use of technology to increase the scope for re-use of materials and reduced food waste.

⁴³ Welsh Government (2019), [Beyond Recycling: A strategy to make the circular economy in Wales a reality](#); StatsWales (2021), [Combined municipal re-use, recycling and composting rates](#)

5. Mission 2: Building a strong, resilient and embedded business base

Business is at the centre of our strategy to 2030: it will be through the expansion of existing firms and the start up and attraction of new ones that new employment will be generated and productivity growth secured. That means supporting sustainable business growth– both at the ‘leading edge’ of technology and innovation and across the economy.

Figure 5-1: Summary of assets, opportunities, challenges and actions

Current assets	Next opportunities	Key challenges	Key actions
<p>Strong university-industrial links</p> <p>Local business networks, emerging clusters and some anchor businesses</p> <p>Growing policy interest in encouraging locally ‘embedded’ businesses and local supply chains</p> <p>Wales-wide institutions (e.g., Development Bank)</p>	<p>Supporting dynamism (through entrepreneurship and early-stage expansion)</p> <p>Supporting resilience (through technology adoption, management capacity and succession)</p> <p>Supporting local supply chain development</p> <p>Building an effective (and broad) innovation ‘ecosystem’</p>	<p>Weak ‘infrastructure’ offer (e.g., commercial property, impeding start-up and expansion)</p> <p>Skills and capacity challenges</p> <p>Limited private sector support base</p> <p>Access to growth finance</p> <p>Barriers to commercialisation</p> <p>Limited business density and ‘leakage’ out of region</p>	<p>Accelerated adoption and innovation support (linked with recommendations of Wales 4.0 in relation to business, skills and innovation support)</p> <p>‘Progressive procurement’ within a local business and supply chain development system</p>

Understanding the case for the Mission: the core rationale

- 5.1** The review of the evidence in Chapter 2 highlighted positive employment outcomes in recent years, growth in the business stock, and a strong record in translational research activities between the university knowledge base and industry.
- 5.2** However, the economy remains to some extent in a process of ‘restructuring’, away from traditional strengths in parts of the manufacturing sector and towards growth in areas such as information and communications and health care (as well as in activities linked with the growing energy sector highlighted in Mission 1). Changing trading relationships also present challenges (notably, but not only, in agriculture and food production), some of which have yet to fully work through)⁴⁴.
- 5.3** This transition will bring opportunities within those sectors that are growing – and as highlighted earlier, opportunities for growth and productivity gain are cross-sectoral. However:

⁴⁴ Janet Dwyer (2018), [The implications of Brexit for agriculture, land use and rural areas in Wales](#) (Wales Centre for Public Policy)

- Even where job losses in one industry are replaced with jobs in another, there is the risk that they may not generate the same level of output (and therefore command the same pay).
- The wider economy of South West Wales has a *relatively* narrow business base: business density is relatively low, and there are few indigenous large or larger medium-sized businesses. However, the prospect of inward investment at scale has reduced over the past twenty years. The risk is that as the economy evolves, losses may not be fully offset by gains, and the ‘productivity gap’ remains or widens.

5.4 In response, our Mission to create a “**strong, resilient and embedded business base**” seeks to encourage a continued focus on innovation and the growth of capabilities at the ‘leading edge’, balanced with an approach aimed at achieving greater resilience, growth potential and capacity for sustained employment across the region’s wider business base, linked with the decarbonisation imperative in Mission 1.

Growing the innovative edge and accelerating diffusion

5.5 Innovation policy in Wales is at a point of transition, as the European funding that has sustained several major programmes (including the ‘core’ SMART programmes delivered via the Welsh Government⁴⁵ and the wide range of sector or thematic schemes (such as, in South West Wales, ASTUTE and RICE⁴⁶) come to an end; and the range of actors involved in innovation policy (including, potentially, a more active role for UK Government), increases.

5.6 At the same time, there is a consensus, highlighted in a recent review for the Welsh Government, that the role of innovation policy has evolved, to be less narrowly focused on technology, and more embracing of actions focused on addressing social challenges (perhaps especially important given the growth of the health and care sector and the long-term demographic challenges highlighted in Chapter 2) and the impact of climate change⁴⁷. The review also emphasises a need to further develop translational research activities and to link innovation support activity more clearly with the range of finance, advisory, networking and other programmes that contribute to a successful innovation ‘ecosystem’.



Today, innovation is about so much more than science and technology



Future of Innovation Policy report

⁴⁵ SMART Innovation (advice and support to business); SMART Cymru (financial assistance to business); and SMART Expertise (financial support to higher education).

⁴⁶ Reducing Industrial Carbon Emissions (RICE) is led by University of South Wales and Swansea University and works with Welsh supply chain companies to test how CO2 produced from heavy industrial processes can be used to make high value products and industrial chemicals.

⁴⁷ See Kevin Morgan, Dylan Henderson and Rick Delbridge (May 2021), [Scoping the future of innovation policy in Wales](#) (Cardiff University, Centre for Innovation Policy Research)

- 5.7** It will be important that regional activity in South West Wales adds value to and aligns with evolving Welsh national policy (and the wide range of programmes and institutions at UK level). Over the next few years:

Key action areas

- **We will explore a better-integrated regional innovation offer, in the form of a ‘virtual Research and Technology Organisation’ for South West Wales**

The universities are key regional assets and have a strong history of translational research with industry. However, the wider landscape is somewhat fragmented, and may become increasingly so as current programmes come to an end. We aim to achieve a model where there is “no wrong door”, making the most of our university capabilities and enabling them to meet industry need. This could extend across a range of sectors and technologies, linked with (for example) future plans for the development of the research and development offer linked with Pentre Awel at Llanelli, and the close involvement of University of Wales Trinity St David and the development of Yr Egin and its associated creative cluster. It may also embrace wider innovation capabilities, including support in management skills and capacity and (linked with our wider approach to regional skills development) access to talent to enable innovative SMEs to reach their potential.

There may be several options in taking this proposal forward – but the key point is that we maximise the value of our shared assets to deliver a joined-up service across government, higher education and the private sector.

Growing productivity and resilience across the economy

- 5.8** Across the wider business stock, there have been changes in the support landscape since the last Regeneration Strategy was produced. Nationally, Business Wales provides a central gateway to a range of support products, and since 2017, the Development Bank of Wales has consolidated publicly-backed loan and equity support into an ‘arms-length’ and widely-recognised vehicle. In addition, the Welsh Government provides some direct investment (generally in relation to larger, often manufacturing firms), and all the South West Wales local authorities offer support services (in addition to the often university-linked innovation services highlighted above).
- 5.9** A recent review of the Welsh business support landscape highlighted three challenges, which are relevant to the strategy set out in this Plan⁴⁸:
- First, Wales’ **relative vulnerability to economic shocks**: a function of the continuing process of restructuring highlighted in the evidence base. This has contributed to the

⁴⁸ Jack Watkin (February 2021), [A Better Balance: Business support policy for the foundational economy](#) (CREW/ Institute of Welsh Affairs)

more recent policy focus on indigenous business growth. However, while economic ‘shocks’ are often seen through large ‘one-off’ events (plant closures, redundancy programmes, and so on), economy-wide technology-driven transformation is larger in its overall impact, and the ability to adapt and respond will be important across firm sizes and sectors.

- Second, the **scale** of the support offer, and the relatively small number of firms that it reaches (the inference being that there is a much wider range of SMEs that could benefit from interaction with the support system, were the reach to be greater).
- Third, **dissemination of benefits**, in particular the extent to which gains in business performance are captured in wages and tax and in which benefits to the supply chain accrue regionally. The Welsh Government has placed a greater emphasis on this in recent years, through the development of the ‘economic contract’ proposed in the *Economic Action Plan*

5.10 Over the coming years, we want to create a better integrated system across local and national government, within which a strengthened ‘support’ offer is linked with the supply of skills and premises, the role of the public sector as a purchaser and commissioner within the local economy and in ensuring that there is widespread access to fair and sustainable work:

Key action areas

- **We will seek a better co-ordinated support package for business**

The scope of this, and the interaction between delivery at different geographical levels, will need to be explored. But the proposition is that there is a need to drive business density, start-up rates and entrepreneurship, and resilience and ‘adaptability’ to change across the SME base – recognising that ‘enterprise’ embraces a range of organisational types and ownership models⁴⁹.

- **We will link this with public sector purchasing power**

Recently, there has been a focus on the role that public procurement can play in supporting local economic growth. This has been reflected in the Welsh Government’s review of procurement, which has explored the concepts of ‘community wealth-building and the ‘anchor institutions’ in the procurement process⁵⁰, and the South West Wales local authorities are all committed to the proactive and progressive use of procurement. The aim here is to ensure that local SMEs are able to successfully tender for work (linked with the business support offer above), and to use this as a springboard for future growth.

⁴⁹ Including social enterprises, employee-owned businesses, and so on.

⁵⁰ Welsh Government (2020), [Progress towards the development of a new procurement landscape in Wales](#)

Key action areas

- **We will invest in bringing forward access to sites and premises**

The evidence shows that there is a persistent market failure in the delivery of commercial property. This has the effect of blocking the expansion of local SMEs (as well as presenting a barrier to attracting larger investors). Across the local authorities and Welsh Government, we will seek to bring forward development on the region's key strategic sites at Baglan, Port Talbot Waterfront, Fabian Way, Felindre, Cross Hands and the Haven Waterway, as well as within the wide range of smaller sites that will help to support distributed growth across the region, consistent with our wider decarbonisation objectives. We will also work to bring forward new city centre office accommodation in Swansea city centre, building on recent investment and continuing the city's transformation.

- **We will actively promote South West Wales as an investment location**

While the focus of this Mission is on growing our locally-based business stock, inward investment has historically been important in South West Wales, and it remains a key driver of skills and employment and a source of demand for local suppliers. We welcome new investment: we will actively promote the region's assets (linked with its quality of life and visitor economy offer described in Mission 3) and we will work with investors to ensure access to skills and supply chain links, embedding them further in the local economy.

- **We will continue to invest in the region's skills capacity**

Recent years have seen an improvement in the region's skills profile, and we have a strong track record in building an understanding of employer demand and linking it clearly with provision. Alongside the measures within this Plan to increase skills demand and employer engagement, we will continue to invest in strengthening supply at all levels, through specialist infrastructure, investment in access to employment and a continued focus (building on the region's Skills and Talent Programme) on responding to local economic demand and opportunity.

- **Across all our actions, we will improve access to fair and secure employment**

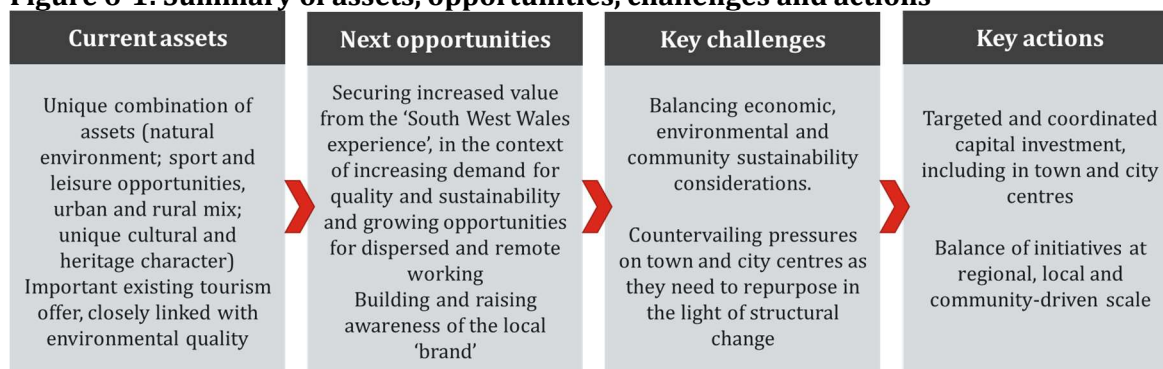
Despite the region's success in creating jobs, economic inactivity remains higher than in the rest of the UK. While in-work poverty is a significant issue - and one which our focus on productivity and resilience across all sectors seeks to tackle - there is strong evidence that being in work supports positive outcomes across a range of measures⁵¹. Building on our experience of successful programmes such as Workways+, we will ensure a range of support to enable people to enter and progress in the labour market.

⁵¹ Welsh Government (2019), [Employability Plan](#), p,9

6. Mission 3: Growing and sustaining the South West Wales ‘experience’ offer

South West Wales enjoys a superb environment and a unique ‘quality of life’ offer. This is a key asset for the region, and one which we must protect and enhance. We will make South West Wales known for the quality and breadth of its ‘experience offer’, bringing together urban and rural environmental quality, ‘quality of life’ and culture. This will support a high-value visitor economy – but it will also be locally owned and a central part of our investment proposition.

Figure 6-1: Summary of assets, opportunities, challenges and actions



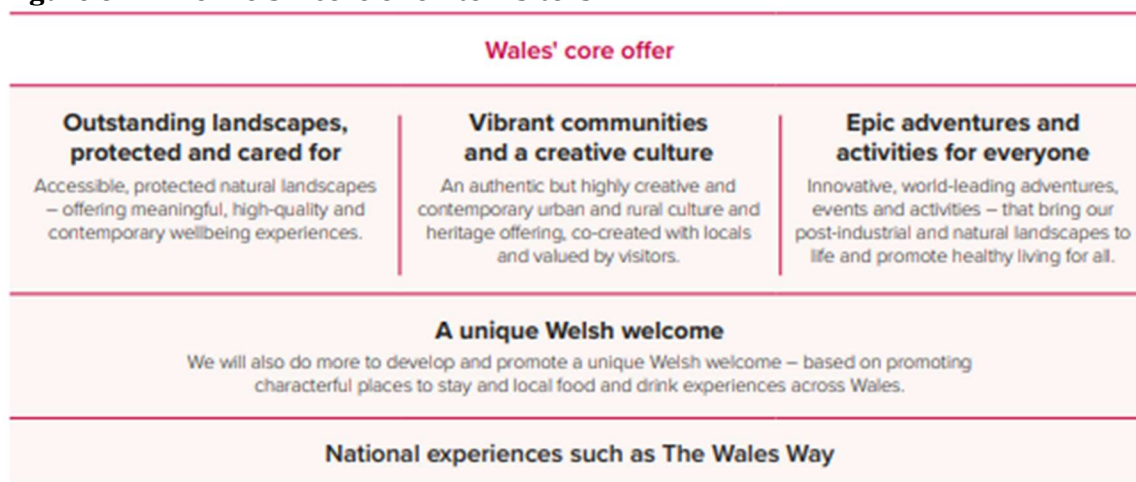
Understanding the case for the Mission: the core rationale

- 6.1** South West Wales’ ‘experience offer’ is a key strength. It is also multifaceted and interlinked: while it includes the region’s substantial visitor economy, it recognises that the visitor economy is itself dependent on the quality of the region’s cultural and environmental offer. At a national level, this is reflected with the statement of ‘Wales’ core offer’ within the Welsh Government’s *Priorities for the Visitor economy* (set out in Figure 6-2). This highlights the importance of ‘sense of place’ within the Welsh offer, with the visitor economy helping to act as a showcase for local food and drink and celebrating the Welsh language as a central part of local and national identity⁵².
- 6.2** In South West Wales, the range of experiences the region has to offer is diverse and impressive. It is this diversity that provides much of the region’s distinctiveness: the proximity of the university city of Swansea to the beaches of the Gower for instance, or the region’s range of landscape types (including the Pembrokeshire Coast and Brecon Beacons National Parks) and network of smaller rural towns. This also makes the region attractive as a place to live, and ought to be a central part of the region’s investment proposition. This

⁵² Welsh Government (January 2020), *Welcome to Wales: Priorities for the visitor economy, 2020-25*, p.9.

Mission focuses on **investment** in the ‘experience economy’ and how we can **promote** it to new and diverse audiences.

Figure 6-2: The Welsh ‘core offer’ to visitors



Source: Welsh Government (2020), *Welcome to Wales: Priorities for the visitor economy, 2020-25*

Investing in our experience economy

- 6.3** The ‘good news’ is that several visitor economy trends coincide with some of South West Wales’ inherent strengths: in particular, the increased interest in sustainability, green tourism and nature and a desire for ‘authentic’ experiences. These, and the inherent value of local communities and identity, form part of the wellbeing ‘offer’ to residents as well. However, with the exception of Swansea, all parts of the region are forecast to see falling working age populations over the next twenty years. New employment opportunities should help to reverse this – but there is also an opportunity through the acceleration of remote working and increasing flexibility to retain more of our young people and university graduates, and to attract a wider demographic to the region.
- 6.4** Over the next decade, this will mean investment focused both on the quality of the visitor offer and the appeal of South West Wales as a place to live and work – recognising that these are inherently interconnected:

Key action areas

- **We will invest in the region’s ‘experience infrastructure’**

We will seek to broaden the range of attractions and opportunities across the region, especially where they contribute to an increasingly sustainable offer, linked with the region’s heritage (including in relation to local food and drink produce), culture and natural environment. This will include ensuring that the delivery of key national

Key action areas

initiatives (such as the proposed National Forest) contribute to our wider economic ambitions.

- **We will invest in our city, town and community centres**

Our towns and cities are the gateways to our region, and the focal points for community, commercial and civic life. Much investment has taken place and much is underway – with (for example) the Swansea Arena and its bridge link to the city centre opening in 2021, creating a further milestone in the city’s regeneration. However, there is more to do: across the region, many of our town and community centres have been impacted by structural change in the retail sector – with the process of repurposing requiring complex action on a number of fronts.

Building on our experience of working together across the region, and in the spirit of the Welsh Government’s Transforming Towns initiative, we will prioritise further investment in our town and city centres, ensuring that they are sustainable focal points for the long term.

- **We will make the ‘experience economy’ work for everyone**

Not all parts of the region benefit from the excellent quality of life that the region has to offer – and in some places, our ability to retain and attract younger people is impacted by deteriorating housing affordability (an issue which has the potential to worsen further in an economy increasingly characterised by remote working). Linked with our decarbonisation and net zero objectives, we will continue to invest in affordable housing solutions and long-term community renewal.

Promoting the region

- 6.5** The quality of South West Wales’ assets present an opportunity to better promote the region – to visitors and investors and to raise the region’s profile on the wider stage. This should extend to encompass the renewable energy potential and industrial opportunities highlighted earlier: the region’s future in a greener economy (and the opportunities that presents) combining with its cultural and environmental quality:

Key action areas

- **We will take a more coordinated approach to promoting the South West Wales opportunity**

Recognising that each part of the region has a distinct identity and ‘brand’, we will work to ensure coordination across the visitor, education, local produce and investor

Key action areas

marketing channels to ensure that South West Wales has a clearer 'external' profile and a complementary offer.

- **We will invest in quality**

Welcome to Wales, the Welsh Government's strategy for the visitor economy, places a strong emphasis on *quality* of the whole experience offer – accommodation, food and drink, the public realm, environment, and so on – as the route to a higher-value, more sustainable economic base. Across all of the actions above, we will invest – with business – in quality and excellence.

7. Moving forward: Delivering the Plan

This Plan provides a framework for taking forward the priorities that we have identified in our Ambitions and Missions over the long term. Delivery will depend on a range of investment sources and the coordination over time of specific projects which combine to deliver our objectives. This chapter explains our approach to funding and delivery, and how we will prioritise and monitor our progress.

From a framework to a pipeline of complementary projects...

- 7.1** This Plan takes a long-term view. Recognising that new opportunities will emerge over time, it is intended to be flexible, with specific actions described at a relatively high level.
- 7.2** To convert these into practical interventions, we have prepared a **project pipeline**. This sets out a schedule of interventions, describing how they contribute to our Ambitions and Missions, their current development status and the actions that need to be taken to bring them forward. This will be kept 'live' and will be regularly reviewed by regional partners. This will enable new interventions to come forward where opportunities arise (for example, commercial proposals may lead to propositions that have not yet been identified), and for project information to be updated as schemes progress.
- 7.3** The projects within the pipeline are at different stages of development. Consistent with the approach used by HM Treasury and the Welsh Government (and adopted by the City Deal), projects will be brought forward through the business case process set out in the 'Green Book' appraisal guide. In summary, this means that projects will be considered against the following headings:

Table 7-1: Project business case considerations

Consideration	Description
Strategic fit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How strong is the evidence of economic demand or need? • Does the project add 'net regional value' (i.e., is it additional to activity already taking place in the region, and if there is any duplication, is this mitigated?) • Does the project contribute to the overall strategic framework (i.e., will it support delivery of an economy that is "resilient and sustainable; balanced and inclusive; and enterprising and ambitious"?)
Options appraisal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have a range of options been considered, and is there a clear case for the preferred option?
Value for money	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does the project represent good value, in terms of the outputs and outcomes it will achieve, relative to anticipated public costs?

Consideration	Description
Affordability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does funding for the project exist, and/ or is there a clear route to funding? • Is the funding model compliant with Subsidy Control and other regulations?
Deliverability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have procurement options been considered and is there a clear route to successful procurement? • Are governance and management arrangements in place, and is there sufficient delivery capacity?

Source: SQW

It will be important that the action plan is seen as a dynamic document and that it is regularly updated by partners. In broad terms, projects include:

- **Region-wide initiatives to build capacity to take advantage of the opportunities identified in the Plan.** These are highlighted within each Mission, and include:
 - Building capacity and expertise to maximise South West Wales' 'net zero' potential
 - The creation of a 'virtual innovation agency' to coordinate and galvanise links between industry and the knowledge base, especially as European funding comes to an end
 - Support at scale for enterprise and entrepreneurship
 - Public investment in the commercial property offer, to enable investment, business growth and greater environmental sustainability
 - Delivering a coordinated approach to investment marketing and support, linked with the 'experience' economy.
- **High profile strategic capital investments**, such as the Swansea Bay and South West Metro

7.4 Major local projects contributing to the overall objectives and Missions. Not all will *directly* benefit all parts of the region. However, in aggregate they will offer substantial regional benefit.

Funding the Plan: A longer-term investment fund

7.5 Funding to take forward the Regional Economic Delivery Plan and its component projects will come from multiple sources, and some individual funding packages are likely to be complex. At the time of writing, there is some uncertainty regarding future funding, as European sources (historically an important part of the funding mix in South West Wales) draw to a close. However, potential sources may include:

- Private investment, especially in bringing forward some of the energy related investments set out in relation to Mission 1, and in respect of major regeneration and development schemes

- The proposed Shared Prosperity Fund (or alternative successors to the European Structural Funds)
- Joint investment across the local authorities, or between the local authorities and the Welsh Government
- UK Government funds (such as the Strength in Places Fund and the Levelling Up Fund).

Key action areas

- **We will seek to secure a devolved regional Investment Fund**

The nature of the funding sources identified above will change over time. However, given the scale of the opportunity (and the regional challenge) in South West Wales, we will seek to secure a devolved **regional investment fund**, which would offer the region the ability to lever in additional funding and bring projects forward on a flexible basis. Such a fund could be structured to give a partial financial return on investment, as well as an economic and social return, depending on the nature of the project. This would require investment expertise and capacity, but could lead to the development of a regional portfolio of projects, derived from the emerging project pipeline and building on the successful implementation of the existing City Deal. Currently, the projects within the pipeline have a total value of around £3 billion over the coming decade: while costs will be determined through the business case process, this provides an indication of the scale of the challenge and opportunity ahead.

Monitoring progress

- 7.6** Our proposed projects are all currently at different stages of development. Through the business case process, we will set out a series of performance indicators against which progress can be monitored. These are likely to include:

Table 7-2: Indicative performance measures

Indicator	Description
Private investment	Additional private investment secured in the region as a result of public support through the REDP
Gross value added	Estimated additional GVA generated as a result of investment
Firm creation and survival	New business starts as a result of REDP-backed activity and survival rates over time
Jobs	Jobs created and safeguarded as a result of investment. The REDP emphasises the quality of jobs (in line with the Economic Contract) and this should be reflected in the performance measure (e.g., employment at or above Real Living Wage and sustained over time).

Indicator	Description
Access to employment	People entering employment (or increasing hours) as a result of intervention
Innovation	Research and development into new products, goods and services as a result of intervention. Adoption of 'new to the firm' products or processes as a result of intervention
Carbon reductions	CO2 savings as a result of investment
Modal shift	Increased journeys on public transport/ increased use of active travel as a result of investment.
Visitor spend	Increased visitor spend as a result of investment

Source: SQW

Governance

- 7.7** The Regional Economic Delivery Plan will be 'owned' and overseen by the **South West Wales Corporate Joint Committee (CJC)**. This will be one of four CJCs established in Wales under new legislation, enabling the constituent local authorities to exercise joint functions relating to strategic planning, transport and measures that will improve the economic wellbeing of their regions.
- 7.8** Supporting the CJC, the Regional Regeneration Directors will keep track of progress and will be responsible for developing business cases, securing investment and ensuring delivery on the CJC's behalf. It will be important to secure sufficient capacity – within individual partner authorities and jointly – to do this, given the scale of the opportunities and challenges. The CJC will also establish mechanisms for a strong non-government voice (e.g., from business and the third sector) in influencing priorities and maintaining oversight.

Annex A: Summary SWOT analysis

A.1 The Evidence and Strategic Landscape Review prepared to inform this Plan contained an analysis of the region's strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats. This formed the basis for the analysis within Chapter 2 of the Plan, and is summarised below:

Table A-1: Summary SWOT analysis

Strengths	Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nationally and internationally significant university research assets, with a strong record of industrial collaboration in the region and recent and planned investment in new university facilities • Outstanding natural environment, supporting quality of life and a distinctive location proposition for visitors and investors • Relatively strong record in job generation and in increasing economic activity • Some established sectoral strengths (e.g., engineering and advanced manufacturing; food production) • Some major site development opportunities • Growing and diverse SME base • Community strengths and capacity and strong sense of identity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Projected decline in working age population and rising dependency ratio • Relatively low productivity, reflected in relatively low wages • Relative peripherality, leading to weak transport and digital connections in some places, and viability constraints on physical developments • Few large firms and company headquarters • Some constraints on firm expansion, linked with workforce skills shortfalls (although qualifications levels are rising) and limited commercial property options • Market change impacting on viability and vitality of town and city centres • Persistent concentrations of disadvantage
Opportunities	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Talent pool generated by the region's universities and further education system; opportunity to retain and grow the skilled workforce and business stock • Opportunities for growth in areas of activity relevant to the region's historic strengths (e.g., advanced manufacturing) and in current research and technology capabilities • Opportunity for location-specific growth in the energy sector and in decarbonisation more broadly • Distance might become less important as remote working becomes 'normal' (potentially increasing the appeal of SW Wales' quality of life offer and helping to change perceptions) • Closeness to the natural environment and ability to offer unique sporting, cultural and environmental offer – helping to retain and attract young and talented people 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High carbon intensity of part of the industrial base • Risk of loss of major employers, with potentially significant labour and spatial impacts • Risk of outflow of talent and of younger workers, if there are insufficient opportunities locally • Wider Brexit-related uncertainties relating to export markets, port-related activity and future farm payments • Impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic, including higher unemployment as mitigation measures wind down and accelerate changes in the role of High Street/ town centre functions • Risk that existing inequalities could be exacerbated.

Strengths	Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Opportunities to build on a track record of collaboration between the public sector, academia and industry• Potentially significant infrastructure investments (e.g., Swansea Bay Metro)• Economic policy innovation in Welsh policy context• Major site opportunities (e.g., Baglan Energy Park) and ambitious plans for investment and development, including as part of Swansea Bay City Deal• Opportunities for business innovation	

Source: SQW

Annex B: Well-being of Future Generations Act assessment

Contribution to the Well-being Goals

- B.1** The Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 (WFGA) identifies seven Well-being Goals: a Prosperous Wales; a Resilient Wales; a Healthier Wales; a More Equal Wales; a Wales of Cohesive Communities; a Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language; and a Globally Responsible Wales. Guidance on the application of the WFGA states that policy should seek to contribute to all seven Well-being Goals, not just the one that most closely approximates to the central purpose of the initiative.
- B.2** The table below summaries how this Plan contributes to the Well-being Goals:

Table B-1: Contribution of the REDP to the Well-being Goals

Goal	Contribution
A Prosperous Wales	Direct contribution The Plan contributes to increasing productivity and economic growth, to support the creation and safeguarding of more, better paid jobs, opportunities for business starts and growth, and further links between the knowledge base and industry.
A Resilient Wales	Direct contribution The Plan places an increased emphasis on economic sustainability through focus on the need to decarbonise the economy; resilience to future technology change through emphasis on responding to and harnessing digitalisation
A Healthier Wales	Indirect contribution The Plan is not directly concerned with health matters. However, greater prosperity (especially where more equally distributed) leads to better health outcomes. The Plan also notes the importance of the health and care sector and the opportunity to link it with economic growth.
A More Equal Wales	Direct contribution The Plan recognises the need to build an 'inclusive growth' model into the strategy, via efforts to support skills outcomes, resilience to automation, or mechanisms to support greater wealth retention within the community
A Wales of Cohesive Communities	Indirect contribution Better economic inclusion outcomes should improve cohesion, where linked with programmes and mechanisms that focus on local community involvement and engagement.
A Wales of Vibrant Culture and Thriving Welsh Language	Indirect contribution Measures to support the growth of the creative economy (including associated with the Welsh language) should directly support, and could be an important part of the SW Wales investment proposition. More

Goal	Contribution
	broadly, the Plan seeks to support the economic vibrancy of the region, including principally Welsh-speaking communities.
A Globally Responsible Wales	Indirect contribution Achieving over time a decarbonised growth model will contribute to this The Plan also highlights openness to new ideas (and investment) from elsewhere

Delivering against the National Well-being Indicators

B.3 The Welsh Government has adopted 46 **National Indicators**, against which progress against the goals of the Well-being of Future Generations Act can be measured. As set out in the core of the REDP, while increasing productivity (gross value added per filled job, or hour worked) is an important measure, success will be measured against a number of other indicators as well. The key relevant indicators are listed below (with the number against each one corresponding to the indicator number published in the Welsh Government list), along with a description of how the Ambitions and Missions in the Plan are likely to contribute to their achievement:

Table B-2: Assessment of contribution to meeting the National Well-being Indicators

Indicator	Route to impact: Enabled through...
04. Levels of nitrogen dioxide pollution in the air	Large scale decarbonisation (Mission 1)
08. Percentage with adults with qualifications at different levels of the National Qualifications Framework	Measures to raise the supply of workforce skills, and improved engagement with employers, over time (across all Missions) Measures to raise demand for skills (across all Missions, but especially relevant to Missions 2 and 1)
09. Gross value added per hour worked relative to UK average	All Missions. This is a measure of productivity, which the Plan overall seeks to address. Note however that 'success' in achieving a relative measure in respect of the rest of the UK depends on the pace of growth elsewhere in the UK (hence the challenges in 'closing the gap' without very large-scale investment)
10. Gross disposable household income per head	All Missions. Note however that this data is not available at the South West Wales geography (it is published at ITL 1 and 2)
11. Percentage of businesses which are innovation active	Measures to increase interaction between business and the knowledge base, and to strengthen the innovation ecosystem (principally Mission 2)
12. Capacity (MW) of renewable energy equipment installed	Developing our renewable energy potential (Mission 1)
16. Percentage of people in employment who are on permanent	Measures to increase economic activity and the supply of higher paid employment. Delivered across all Missions.

Indicator	Route to impact: Enabled through...
contracts (or on temporary contracts and not seeking permanent employment) and who earn more than 2/3 of the UK median wage)	
18. Percentage of people living in households in income poverty relative to the UK median	Measures to increase access to employment, especially at higher rates of pay. Across all Missions
21. Percentage of people in employment	Key measure of economic success; relevant to all Missions
22. Percentage of people in education, employment or training measured for different age groups	Measures to improve access to, and demand for, education and training (across all Measures)
26. Percentage of people satisfied with their area as a place to live	Consequential measure arising from the success of measures to improve 'quality of place' (especially relevant to Measure 3)
33. Percentage of properties with adequate energy performance.	Measures to achieve a 'net zero' economy and to improve the energy efficiency of the housing stock as part of that (Mission 1)
42. Emissions of greenhouse gases within Wales	Measures to support decarbonisation (Measure 1)

Annex C: Developing the Plan: The process

C.1 The Regional Economic Delivery Plan was developed in 2021 with the support of SQW, through a sequential process that worked from a fresh analysis of the economic evidence to identify the key opportunities and challenges facing the region, and based on that, the Ambitions and Missions reflected in the Plan:

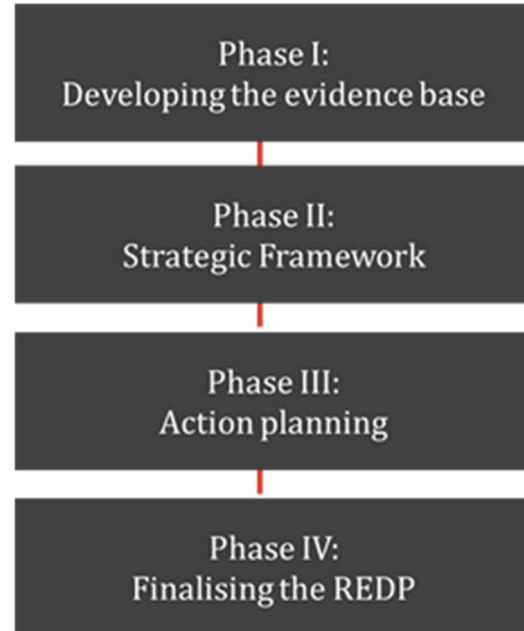
- **Phase I** resulted in the development of a detailed **Evidence and Strategic Landscape Review**. This provides an overview of the region's economy and the policy context, informing an overall SWOT analysis. The Evidence and Strategic Landscape Review has been produced as a separate supporting document and informed the analysis in Chapter 2 of this Plan.
- Based on the outcomes of Phase I, **Phase II** involved the preparation of a '**strategic framework**' for the Plan, which identified the set of Ambitions and Missions that we have set out. As part of this, we analysed the outcomes of the SWOT analysis to consider the region's distinctive challenges, and we developed a series of future scenarios.
- In **Phase III**, we developed an initial pipeline of projects to meet the goals of the Ambitions and Missions. This involved a 'call for proposals' with the South West Wales local authorities and other stakeholders, and the development of a **Project Pipeline Supplement**, which will be kept 'live', as set out in Chapter 7.
- Based on the outcomes of the preceding phases, **Phase IV** involved the finalisation of the Plan, which was produced in draft in August 2021.

Consultation and engagement

C.2 The development of the Plan was led by the South West Wales local authorities, and regular dialogue took place with a steering group involving the four authorities and the Welsh Government, and with the Regional Directors. The strategic framework and contents of the Plan was also considered by South West Wales Leaders and Chief Executives.

In developing the Plan, consultation took place with over 50 stakeholders from business, local and Welsh national government, leaders within the region's Enterprise Zones and local

Figure C-1: Developing the Plan: Phases



business partnerships, and the third sector. This included bilateral consultations throughout the process; discussions at county-level economic partnership boards, the Regional Learning and Skills Partnership, and the Economic Strategy Group of the Swansea Bay City Deal; and a stakeholder consultation workshop which took place in June 2021.

CABINET

MONDAY, 17TH JANUARY, 2022

PRESENT: Councillor E. Dole [Chair]

Councillors:

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

Also in attendance:

Councillor D.M. Cundy

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
 P. Thomas - Assistant Chief Executive (People Management & Performance)
 N. Daniel - Head of ICT and Corporate Policy; Interim Head of Planning
 J. Fearn - Head of Housing, Property & Strategic Projects
 R. Hemingway - Head of Financial Services
 J. Jones - Head of Regeneration
 L. Rees-Jones - Head of Administration and Law
 L. Morris - Senior Press Officer
 L. Jenkins - Executive Board Support Officer
 M. Evans Thomas - Principal Democratic Services Officer [Note Taker]
 M. Davies - Democratic Services Officer
 J. Owens - Democratic Services Officer
 S. Hendy - Member Support Officer [Webcasting]
 S. Rees - Simultaneous Translator

Virtual Meeting : 10:00 am - 11:45 am

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND OTHER MATTERS

There were no apologies for absence. Councillor P.M. Hughes was present from 10.45 a.m.

The Leader and other members of the Cabinet expressed their condolences to the family of the late Councillor Mair Stephens and paid tribute to her contribution to the Council as both Deputy Leader of the Council and Leader of the Independent Group

All members stood in silent tribute to Councillor Stephens.

2. DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST

Councillor	Minute Number	Nature of Interest
Ann Davies	9 – Five Year Capital Programme	The Dyffryn Tywi Cycle Path passes through their farm land.

3. TO SIGN AS A CORRECT RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CABINET HELD ON THE 20TH DECEMBER, 2021

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet held on the 20th December, 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. SOUTH WEST WALES REGIONAL ECONOMIC DELIVERY PLAN

The Cabinet considered a report detailing proposals to replace the existing Swansea Bay City Region Economic Regeneration Strategy with the new South West Wales Regional Economic Delivery Plan.

It was noted that whilst the existing Strategy had been in place since 2013, the economic and policy context had changed considerably since that time at both Welsh and UK level, particularly in light of the UK's decision to leave the European Union, the impact of the covid-19 pandemic and changes regionally with the advent of the new Corporate Joint Committees and the preparation of new Regional Frameworks by the Welsh Government setting out visions and high level priorities for each Welsh Region.

In response to those changing circumstances, the four Local Authorities in South West Wales, in partnership with the Welsh Government, had commissioned the development of a New Regional Economic Delivery Plan, as detailed in Appendix A to the report, which included:-

- A thorough analysis of the evidence base on the region's economy, labour market and infrastructure to determine its strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats;
- Interpretation of the strategic policy context at local, regional and national level;
- Development of detailed strategic aims and objectives that responded to the economic opportunities for the region and complemented the shared regional vision as articulated in the Regional Economic Framework;
- Preparation of Regional Economic Delivery Plan that included actions that needed to be taken to achieve the vision and objectives.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND TO COUNCIL THAT the South West Wales Regional Economic Delivery Plan be adopted as the Council's over-arching economic regeneration policy.

7. PRIMARY TOWN CENTRE ECONOMIC RECOVERY PLANS - AMMANFORD, CARMARTHEN & LLANELLI

The Cabinet considered a report on the proposed Economic Recovery and Delivery Plans, post covid, for the three primary towns within Carmarthenshire namely Ammanford, Carmarthen and Llanelli. The plans had been formulated working closely with the Ammanford Task Force, the Carmarthen Town Centre Forum and the Llanelli Task Force, all of which comprised membership of key town stakeholders together with representatives from key internal council departments.

The plans set out the impact of covid, highlighting key issues/opportunities and providing a delivery framework of be-spoke interventions for each centre. If adopted, it was envisaged the plans would be owned and delivered by the stakeholders in the three towns' respective Task Force/Forum with the Council working with potential funders in both Welsh Government and Westminster to lever funding when opportunities arose and to utilise corporate funding identified within the Council's capital programme to facilitate implementation of the three plans.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the Economic Recovery and Delivery Plans for Ammanford, Carmarthen and Llanelli be noted and endorsed.

8. REVENUE BUDGET STRATEGY 2022/23 TO 2024/25

The Cabinet considered a report providing an overview of the Revenue Budget Strategy for 2022/23 and the following two financial years. The report provided details of the budget process, the current Welsh Government provisional settlement and the final settlement timetable and identified the validation and budget pressures that needed to be considered by members in setting next year's revenue budget. The report would also form the basis of the budget consultation process to be undertaken during January and February 2022.

The report indicated that, after adjustments for WG identified transfers, the increase in the provisional settlement for Carmarthenshire was 9.2% (£26.335 million). The Aggregate External Finance (AEF) had therefore increased to £311.957 million in 2022/23 which included £302k in respect of the Social Care Workforce Grant.

It was noted that whilst significant work had already been undertaken in preparing the budget, the report was only an initial position statement which would be updated over the coming months as the budget was further developed, council members were engaged, public consultation took place and the final settlement was expected to be received from Welsh Government on 2nd March 2022.

While the Budget Strategy proposed a Council Tax of 4.4% for 2022/23, in line with the Medium Term Financial Plan, that proposal would be considered as part of the budget finalisation process over the next month and where the Authority received further clarification on cost and grant funding with a view to limiting the Council Tax increase as far as possible. Final budget proposals would then be presented to the Cabinet late February, to ensure a balanced budget was presented to County Council.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED

8.1 To note the contents of the report and approve the three-year

Budget Strategy as a basis for consultation specifically, seeking comments from consultees on the efficiency proposals in Appendix A;

- 8.2 To note the unallocated sum of £757k in the current strategy, would be given further consideration at the completion of the consultation, as noted in paragraph 4.4 of the report;**
- 8.3 To approve the proposal to allocate £500k from forecast current year underspends to accelerate current Decarbonisation Plans in the forthcoming year.**

9. FIVE YEAR CAPITAL PROGRAMME (COUNCIL FUND) - 2022/23 TO 2026/27

[NOTE: Councillor A. Davies had earlier declared an interest in this item.]

The Cabinet considered a report detailing the latest proposals for the Five-Year Capital Programme (Council Fund) 2022/23 to 2026/2027 which would form the basis of the budget consultation process with members and other relevant parties. Feedback from this consultation process, along with any updates on the settlement figures and grant applications, would inform the final Capital Programme budget report which would be presented to the Cabinet on the 21st February 2022 and County Council in March 2022.

The proposed gross expenditure on the capital programme for 2022/23 was £144.844m with the projected funding being £52.249m from the County Council's own resources through the use of borrowing, reserves and general capital grant and the balance of funding of £92.595m coming from external sources. Those figures included projects delayed in 2021/22, mainly because of Covid-19 restrictions, that had been carried over and built into the budgets of future years.

The capital programme was projected to be fully funded over the five years. It included projected expenditure on the Swansea Bay City Region Deal projects against which the Authority would borrow, with the funding being returned from both Welsh and UK governments over a 15 year period (from 2018/19).

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to endorse the report as a provisional capital programme for consultation purposes, including consideration by the Policy and Resources Scrutiny Committee at its meeting to be held on 2nd February, 2022.

10. COUNCIL'S REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING REPORT

The Cabinet considered the revenue budget monitoring report which provided the latest budgetary position as at 31st October 2021, in respect of 2021/2022. Whilst the scale of Covid-19 response was reducing, the budget position recognised the ongoing financial pressures faced by the Authority as well as the additional funding support provided by Welsh Government.

Overall, the monitoring report forecast an underspend for the year at departmental level of £1,726k with a forecast underspend on the Authority's net revenue budget of £1,279k. At a high level, this was due to a combination of:

- additional Covid-19 related costs and lost income which was largely refunded under the Welsh Government hardship scheme;

- some services were either paused or impacted by lockdown measures and social distancing during quarter 1;
- utilisation of some capital financing underspends, due to some significant pressure points on in-year capital project budgets, approved as part of a separate report.

Cabinet Members noted that during the first half of the year (April – September) additional expenditure and income loss totalling approximately £13 million had been claimed under the Welsh Government hardship scheme.

The Cabinet's attention was drawn to the fact that the risk to Council Tax collection rates and increased applications under the Council Tax Reduction Scheme would continue to be monitored closely, particularly as the furlough scheme had now ended.

The Housing Revenue Account reported a predicted underspend of £1,337k for 2021/22, details of which were provided within Appendix B appended to the report.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that:

- 10.1 The Budget Monitoring report be received, and the budgetary position and appropriate corrective action taken be noted.**
- 10.2 Chief Officers and Heads of Service critically review options available to them to limit the forecasted overspend of budgets, whilst recognising the ongoing impact which Covid-19 measures has placed on the Authority's overall budget.**

11. CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2021/22 UPDATE

The Cabinet received a report which provided the latest budgetary position for the 2021/22 capital programme, as at the 31st October 2021 and detailed new projects for noting and Cabinet approval.

It was reported that departmentally, a net spend of £74,790k was forecast compared with a working net budget of £105,168k giving a -£30,378k variance.

The net budget included the original H.R.A. and General Fund capital programmes approved by Council on the 3rd March, 2021 and slippage from 2020/21 and amendments approved by Cabinet on 25th October, 2021. It was noted that some budgets had also been amended to account for differences in actual grant allocations compared with the anticipated allocations at the time the programme was approved

It was noted that Appendix B detailed the main variances within each department.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that:

- 11.1 the capital programme update report 2021/22 be received;**
- 11.2. the new projects as detailed within the report be noted and agreed.**

12. LOCAL TOILETS STRATEGY INTERIM PROGRESS REPORT

The Cabinet considered the Local Toilets Interim Progress Report produced in accordance with the requirements of Part 8 of the Public Health (Wales) Act 2017 that placed a duty on each Local Authority in Wales to prepare and publish a local Toilets Strategy for its area and to publish an interim progress report within six months of the 2 year publication anniversary of the original Local Toilet Strategy. In Carmarthenshire's case, as the original strategy had been produced in August 2019, an interim report required publication by February 2022.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the Draft Local Toilets Strategy Interim Progress Report be endorsed.

13. POSSIBLE AMENDMENT TO THE PRIVATE SECTOR RENEWAL POLICY

The Cabinet considered a report produced in accordance with the Welsh Government's request for Local Authorities to use their powers under the Regulatory Reform Order 2002 on amending the Council's Private Sector Renewal Policy to include Disabled Facilities Grants (DFG's) for small and medium adaptations without applicants having to undertake a means test.

The report outlined 4 potential options for consideration to respond to the WG's request and recommended the adoption of option 4. If adopted, it was intended that a review would be undertaken on the impact of the proposed change after the first 6 months and provide a further report should any concerns be identified

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the Council's Private Sector Renewal Policy be amended to include Disabled Facilities Grants and that option 4 be adopted, with applicants being given a choice of:

- proceeding with option 2, with no means test and 10 years repayment conditions attached to a discretionary DFG or,
- to apply for a mandatory DFG and be means tested

14. NOTICE OF MOTION REFERRED FROM COUNCIL (10TH NOVEMBER 2021) JAPANESE KNOTWEED

Cabinet received a report detailing a Notice of Motion (as amended by Council) on Japanese Knotweed which was referred to the Cabinet by Council on the 10th November, 2021.

The report detailed the powers available to Local Authorities to address the issue of invasive weeds, such as Japanese Knotweed i.e. the Antisocial Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 (Community Protection Notices (CPNs) and the main concerns in their use, together with the provisions of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 that made it an offence for anyone to cause species to grow in the wild and was enforceable by the Police.

The report further detailed alternative approaches to enforcement by way of a CPN and, given the impact of enforcement action on householders, both in terms of cost and possible criminal sanction, the following options were presented to Cabinet for consideration:-

- Continue with the current practice of advising affected landowners and signposting them to sources of guidance, being the approach adopted by most Local Authorities and;
- Viewing the situation as a commercial opportunity to offer Japanese Knotweed treatment services to the public, either directly on a cost recovery basis or more commercially through a potential trading company. However, expertise in that area would be required to develop and implement.

Concern was expressed about the problems being experienced in the county with Himalayan Balsam and it was felt that any guidance and enforcement action should also contain reference to Himalayan Balsam.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the Council continue with the current practice of advising affected landowners and signposting them to sources of guidance

**15. NOTICE OF MOTION REFERRED FROM COUNCIL (15TH SEPTEMBER 2021)
VENTILATION IN SCHOOLS**

Cabinet considered a report detailing a Notice of Motion on Ventilation in Schools referred to Cabinet by Council on the 15th September, 2021.

The report reproduced the Notice of Motion calling on the Welsh Government to urgently consider approving, tendering and funding Ultra Violet and/or High Efficiency Particulate Air Filters in schools

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the Notice of Motion be supported.

16. 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.

CHAIR

DATE

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