

# CABINET

**MONDAY, 28 NOVEMBER 2022**

**PRESENT:** Councillor D. Price (Chair)

**Councillors (In Person):**

C.A. Davies

L.D. Evans

G. Davies

P.M. Hughes

G.H. John

A. Lenny

J. Tremlett

A. Vaughan Owen

**Councillors (Virtually):**

E.G. Thomas

**Also Present (In Person):**

W. Walters, Chief Executive

J. Morgan, Director of Community Services

G. Morgans, Director of Education & Children's Services

A. Williams, Director of Place and Infrastructure

L.R. Jones, Head of Administration and Law

J. Jones, Head of Regeneration

C. Higginson, Media Manager

L. Jenkins, Cabinet Support Officer

J. Owens, Democratic Services Officer (minute taker)

**Also Present (Virtually):**

C. Moore, Director of Corporate Services

S. Rees, Simultaneous Translator

K. Thomas, Democratic Services Officer

**Chamber - County Hall, Carmarthen. SA31 1JP and remotely - 10.00 - 10.34 am**

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

There were no apologies for absence.

**2. DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST**

Councillor	Minute Number	Nature of Interest
A. Lenny	6. Local Innovation Strategy	A close relation works for a company noted within the report.

**3. TO SIGN AS A CORRECT RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CABINET HELD ON THE 14TH NOVEMBER 2022**

**UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet held on the 14<sup>th</sup> November, 2022 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. LOCAL INNOVATION STRATEGY**

[NOTE: Councillor A. Lenny, having earlier declared their interest in this item, left the meeting during its deliberation and voting thereof].

The Cabinet considered a report on the Council's proposals to adopt a Local Innovation Strategy to support the recovery and restructuring of Carmarthenshire's economy through innovation opportunities within the areas of Digital Innovation, Health, Foundational Economy and the Circular Economy.

The strategy detailed the innovation prospects for Carmarthenshire within the context of the multi-level policy landscape, together with the local and regional framework for innovation.

Reference was made to the figures presented on pages 37 and 39 of the report pertaining to the agriculture sector which were subject to change as a result of the progress made since publication of the report in relation to the post-Brexit sustainable farming scheme.

The transition towards a circular economy business model approach as a means of improving resource efficiency, collaboration and competitiveness was emphasised to members.

#### **UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that**

- 6.1 The Local Innovation Strategy be endorsed.**
- 6.2 The four innovation opportunities identified in the strategy, in the areas of Digital; Health & Wellbeing; Foundational Economy; and Circular Economy be agreed.**
- 6.3 The innovation opportunities be further explored by officers for implementation where possible.**

#### **7. MID-YEAR TREASURY MANAGEMENT AND PRUDENTIAL INDICATOR REPORT 1ST APRIL 2022 TO 30TH SEPTEMBER 2022**

The Cabinet considered an update report on the treasury management activities and the prudential indicators for the period 1st April 2022 to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2022.

The Cabinet Member for Resources reported that the Interest Rate Exposure indicator had been increased from 125.00% to 150.00% to accommodate the Authority's continued increased level of investment balances.

**UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the Treasury Management and Prudential Indicator Update Report for 1st April 2022 to 30th September 2022, including changes to the limits for Interest Rate Exposure, be approved.**

## **8. SUSTAINABLE DRAINAGE APPROVAL BODY (SAB) PRE APPLICATION FEES AND CHARGES**

Consideration was given to a report which sought the Cabinet's approval to enable the Sustainable Drainage Approval Body (SAB) to charge fees, under section 93 of the Local Government Act 2003, for pre-application advice and guidance associated with the SAB application process.

It was recognised that the introduction of a charging scheme would ensure that the SAB was economically robust and resilient to manage compliance with the statutory duty going forward.

Consideration was given to Regulation 2A, Schedule 4 of the Town and County Planning Regulations 2016, appended to the report, which set out the charges that would be applied by the SAB. The Cabinet noted that implementation of the proposed charging scheme would provide a fair and transparent approach, which was consistent with many other Welsh Local Authorities.

**UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED:**

**8.1 That the Sustainable Drainage Approval Body (SAB) be allowed to charge fees for pre-application advice and guidance associated with the SAB application process.**

**8.2 That the fees be applied with immediate effect**

## **9. RECLASSIFICATION OF THE A476 CROSS HANDS**

The Cabinet was advised that the Cross Hands Economic Link Road had recently been completed which provided a more direct link between the A48 Trunk Road at Cross Hands and the A476 to the north of Gorslas.

The Cabinet noted the benefits that would be derived in terms of relieving congestion pressure points, as well as facilitating access to existing and future development sites. Accordingly, the Cabinet's approval was sought to designate the new Economic Link Road as part of the A476 and to reclassify a section of the existing A476 through Gorslas as a 'B' class road. This reclassification would enable the route north from the A48 along the A476 to Llandeilo to be signed from the grade separated junction to the east of Cross Hands rather than through the existing roundabout.

**UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the reclassification of the A476 be approved.**

**10. 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.

**11. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC**

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

**12. CAPITAL RECEIPTS STRATEGY**

Following the application of the public interest test it was **RESOLVED** pursuant to the Act referred to in minute no. 11 above not to publicise the content of the report as it contained exempt information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Authority holding that information) (Paragraph 14 of Part 4 of Schedule 12A to the Act). The public interest test in respect of this report outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information contained therein as disclosure would significantly undermine the commercial interests of the Council in future negotiations and risk a reduction in the capital receipts realised.

The Cabinet considered a report which provided an update and detailed proposals in respect of the Council's capital receipts.

**UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED:**

- 12.1 That the report be received.**
- 12.2 That the recommendations as detailed within the report, be endorsed.**

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**CHAIR**

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**DATE**