

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held on 18 March 2013

PRESENT: Councillor Bryan Owen (Leader)(Chair)
Councillor K P Hughes(Vice-Chair)

Councillors W J Chorlton; R LI Hughes; T Lloyd Hughes; O Glyn Jones;
G O Parry, MBE; R G Parry, OBE.

IN ATTENDANCE: Chief Executive
Deputy Chief Executive
Director of Community
Director of Lifelong Learning
Director of Sustainable Development
Head of Function (Resources)
Head of Service (Adults' Services) (Items 12-14 only)
Head of Service (Finance)
Head of Service (Policy) (Items 4-6 only)
Head of Service (Property) (Item 19 only)
Head of Service (Housing) (Items 10 and 11 only)
Principal Valuation Officer (DE) (Item 19 only)
Policy Strategy Manager (CWO) (Items 5 and 6 only)
Committee Services Manager

ALSO PRESENT: Councillors A Mummery; Selwyn Williams.

1 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

None to declare.

2 URGENT MATTERS CERTIFIED BY THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OR HIS APPOINTED OFFICER

None to declare.

3 MINUTES

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Executive held on 11th and 18th February, 2013 be confirmed as true records.

4 THE EXECUTIVE'S FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

Submitted – The report of the Head of Service (Policy) seeking approval of the updated work programme for the period April to September 2013.

RESOLVED to confirm the updated work programme for the period April to September 2013.

5 ANNUAL EQUALITY REPORT

Submitted - The report of the Head of Service (Policy) seeking the Executive's approval of the Authority's Annual Equality Report for 2011-12, for which the Public Sector Equality Duty required that all public authorities covered under the Equality Act 2010 Statutory Duties (Wales) Regulations 2011 should produce an annual equality report by 31 March each year. This was the first annual report since the introduction of the new general and specific equality duties. The views of the Corporate Scrutiny Committee held on 4th March, 2013 were made known to the Executive at the meeting.

RESOLVED

- **To take note of the observations made by the Corporate Scrutiny Committee on 4th March, 2013;**
- **To approve the Annual Equality Report 2011-12 for publication by 31st March 2013.**

6 VOLUNTARY SECTOR COMPACT

Submitted - The report of the Head of Service (Policy) seeking the Executive's approval to the updated Compact between this Council and the third sector based on Welsh Government guidance. The Compact, which provided the basis for developing the Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee's work programme, had been accepted by the Liaison Committee and now needed to be ratified by the Executive.

RESOLVED to approve the revised Anglesey Compact Agreement and draft Volunteering Policy.

7 PROPOSED REGIONAL EMERGENCY PLANNING SERVICES

Submitted - The report of the Chief Executive seeking the Executive's approval to the final business case on a collaborative approach to a Regional Emergency Planning Service as was being promoted by the Welsh Government Local Government Compact. The regional partners had identified the service as one for a convenient and effective collaboration model with the aims of improving prevention of and preparation for emergencies, standardisation of common policies and plans and having a more resilient service through the shared and flexible use of expertise and limited human resources.

Concern was expressed by some of the Members that some of the emergency services on the Island were finding it difficult to meet their response targets as a result of under manning within those services. It was felt that the matter should be investigated further by the Corporate Scrutiny Committee as part of its work programme.

RESOLVED

- **To approve the final business plan to join a regional emergency planning service in accordance with the terms listed in the report.**
- **That concerns raised at the meeting regarding response targets associated with the Fire, Ambulance and the Coastguard be referred to the Corporate Scrutiny Committee for further investigation.**

8 DISCRETIONARY RATE RELIEF POLICY

Submitted - The report of the Head of Service (Finance) on mandatory and discretionary reliefs that are available from payment of business rates for charities and non-profit making organisations and seeking Executive approval to approve a scheme for those organisations effective from 1st April, 2013.

RESOLVED

- **That the current policy guidelines be readopted for a further 12 months up to 31st March, 2014;**
- **That organisations and charities are advised of this decision before 31st March, 2013 and also that the policy will come to an end on 31 March 2014;**
- **To note that there will be a review of the policy and a consultation on revised policy guidelines during 2013-14 in respect of discretionary business rates relief having regard to the Welsh Government's own review. A new or revised discretionary rate relief policy to be adopted as a consequence from 1 April 2014.**

9 ADOPTION OF A LOCAL DISCRETIONARY HOUSING PAYMENT POLICY SCHEME

Submitted - The report of the Head of Service (Finance) seeking the Executive's approval to a revision to the Discretionary Housing Policy taking into account changes that had occurred to the benefits system by the UK Government. The Head of Service advised that changes to government policy had been announced between the drafting of the report and the date of the meeting and that it was possible that further changes would follow. She recommended that authority be delegated to her to amend the policy to reflect changes in policy and regulations.

RESOLVED to adopt the Discretionary Housing Policy Scheme as set out in Appendix A of the report and to delegate to the Head of Service (Finance) the authority to amend the policy to take account of changes being made to benefits regulations.

10 PUBLIC SECTOR HOUSING CAPITAL PROGRAMME AND ALLOCATION BUDGET 2013-14

Submitted - The report of the Head of Service (Housing) seeking Executive approval for the 2013-14 Public Sector Planned Maintenance Programme amounting to £4.15m. In addition to the schemes outlined in the report, the Head of Service referred to work including lining chimneys, upgrading the current telecare systems within the Council's sheltered accommodation and the possibility of re-modelling of a sheltered accommodation scheme where there is a number of hard to let properties, as part of the modernisation of adult social care services.

RESOLVED to approve the 2013-14 Public Sector Capital Programme as detailed in Appendix 1 of the report.

11 COMMON ALLOCATIONS POLICY

Submitted - The report of the Head of Service (Housing) seeking Executive approval for a number of amendments to be made to the Council's Housing Allocation Policy and that consultation thereon then takes place with the Council's partner registered social landlords.

RESOLVED

- To authorise a review of the Allocations Policy, in conjunction with those registered social landlords with which the Council has nomination arrangements, to take place in 2012-13 after 3 May, 2013;
- To agree to amend the Allocation Policy with immediate effect, so as to incorporate those amendments contained in the Draft Housing Allocation Policy (Version 1), specifically:-
 - replacing references to the 2003 statutory guidance with the 2012 guidance;
 - incorporating, at Section 1 of the policy, provisions relating to the Council's duties under the Equalities Act 2010.
- To agree that those registered social landlords with which the Council has nomination arrangements shall be consulted after 2 May 2013 on those proposed amendments contained in the Draft Housing Allocation Policy (Version 2), specifically:-
 - new criteria for determining the number of bedrooms for which applicants are entitled (should they receive an allocation), and corresponding criteria by which it is determined whether applicants are overcrowded or under-occupying their present accommodation;
 - additional priority for those applicants who are homeless, are temporarily accommodated, and have been owed the main duty for between 18 months and five years;
 - a new provision for restricting the opportunity for homeless persons to exercise choice and preferences in connection with the areas in which they may be offered accommodation.

12 ADULTS' SAFEGUARDING IMPROVEMENT JOURNEY

Submitted - The report of the Head of Service (Adults' Services) seeking Executive approval to endorse the progress achieved by the Service in respect of local safeguarding activity within a national framework of expectations and in endorsing the priorities underpinning the next phase of improvement.

RESOLVED

- To endorse the significant progress achieved to date around our local safeguarding improvement journey;
- To endorse the key priorities underpinning the next phase of improvements in adult safeguarding as we prepare for the evolving national framework (as detailed at Paragraph 3.5 of the report).

13 CARERS STRATEGIES (WALES) MEASURE 2010

Submitted - The report of the Director of Community seeking Executive approval for the North Wales Carers Information and Consultation Strategy for 2012-15 and in supporting

the regional, partnership approach with the BCUHB, other North Wales local authorities and the third sector as regards the implementation of the requirements of the Measure.

RESOLVED

- **To approve the North Wales Carers Information and Consultation Strategy for 2012-15 as a three year strategic response to the requirements of the Carers Strategies (Wales) Measure 2010;**
- **To support the regional partnership approach with the Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board, other North Wales local authorities and the Third Sector as regards the implementation of the requirements of the Measure;**
- **To note local performance against key national performance indicators within this service area of Social Care;**
- **To endorse the priority given to developing a local commissioning strategy for carers over the coming months.**

14 INDEPENDENT SECTOR CARE HOME FEES 2013-14

Submitted - The report of the Head of Service (Adults' Services) seeking Executive approval on fee levels for independent sector residential and nursing homes for 2013-14.

RESOLVED

- **To adopt the evolving North Wales fees methodology as implemented hitherto in Denbighshire, Flintshire and Wrexham to underpin fee setting on the Isle of Anglesey during 2013-14;**
- **To endorse Option 2 in relation to the 2013-14 fee setting (as detailed in Paragraph 8 of the report);**
- **That the established quality elements continue to be subject to a negative fee differential of -£36/week as at present. This will be the subject of a fundamental review of our quality contract framework during 2013-14 as the Authority prepares for the implementation of a North Wales pre-placement agreement underpinning residential/nursing placements;**
- **That the current practice for Service user groups other than older people be maintained as outlined in paragraphs 11 and 12 of the report.**

15 TAITH CONSTITUTION

Submitted - The report of the Head of Service (Highways and Waste Management) seeking Executive approval to proposed changes to the transport consortium for North Wales (TAITH) constitution with particular regard to the delivery of bus funding that requires to be in place from 1st April 2013.

RESOLVED to approve the change to the Constitution of TAITH as detailed within the report.

16 UPDATE ON COLLABORATION ON HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

Submitted - The report of the Head of Service (Highways and Waste Management) seeking Executive approval to agree to Business Cases being developed for the 10 high level workstreams recommended for further investigation over a two year period, before being brought back to local authorities for formal approval should the Strategic Programme Case for Change be proven.

RESOLVED

- **That the Strategic Programme for Change report and further exploration of the 10 workstreams contained therein be approved;**
- **That further reports are brought to the Executive and to Scrutiny for consideration of the Business Cases, before any changes to current working practices are introduced.**

17 PAYMENT TO OUTSIDE BODIES 2012/13

Submitted – The report of the Director of Lifelong Learning seeking Executive approval for the proposed allocation of grants for 2012-13, to external organisations involved with the provision of a range of educational and youth service related services together with local arts and culture organisations.

RESOLVED to delegate the decisions on the recommendations set out below, for this year only, to the Director of Lifelong Learning / Head of Service(Leisure and Culture) in consultation with the Head of Service (Finance):-

- **Grants to the Arts 2012-13 – that the grant awarded to the local organisations is maintained at the 2011-12 level. The overall allocation be reduced by 5% as a consequence of reducing the Leisure and Culture Service’s expenditure against certain headings;**
- **Youth Service and Community 2012-13 – that the grant awarded to the organisations is maintained close to the 2011-12 level. The grant aid to both Urdd Gobaith Cymru and the Anglesey Federation of Young Farmers Clubs is subject to a formal agreement. The overall allocation be reduced by 4%;**
- **Schools Discretionary Exceptions Budget 2012-13 – that the grant awarded to the local organisations is maintained at the 2011-12 level.**

18 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, to exclude the press and public from the meeting during discussion on the following items on the grounds that they may involve the disclosure of exempt information as defined in Schedule 12A of the said Act and in the attached Public Interest Tests.

19 REDEVELOPMENT OF WENDON CAFÉ, BENLLECH

Submitted - The report of the Head of Service (Property) seeking Executive approval in respect of options available to the Council to establish the preferred option of achieving the full potential of a redevelopment scheme along with the acquisition of a suitable project budget in line with the spend to save initiative.

RESOLVED to agree to proceed with Option 2 (demolition or redevelopment) as detailed in the report and that a budget of £45,000 be established accordingly.

The meeting concluded at 11.50 am

**COUNCILLOR BRYAN OWEN
CHAIR**