

## Place Scrutiny Committee

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Meeting Venue  
**Committee Room A - County Hall,  
Llandrindod Wells, Powys**

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Meeting Date  
**Thursday, 16 June 2016**

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Meeting Time  
**11.30 am or on the later rising of  
County Council**

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County Hall  
Llandrindod Wells  
Powys  
LD1 5LG

For further information please contact  
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9 June 2016

### AGENDA

<b>1.</b>	<b>ELECTION OF VICE CHAIR</b>	<b>PLSC33-2016</b>
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To elect a Vice Chair for the ensuing year.

<b>2.</b>	<b>APOLOGIES</b>	<b>PLSC34-2016</b>
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To receive apologies for absence.

<b>3.</b>	<b>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</b>	<b>PLSC35-2016</b>
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To receive declarations of interest from Members.

<b>4.</b>	<b>DISCLOSURES OF PARTY WHIPS</b>	<b>PLSC36-2016</b>
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To receive disclosures of prohibited party whips which a Member has been given in relation to the meeting in accordance with Section 78(3) of the Local Government Measure 2011.

(NB: Members are reminded that under Section 78 Members having been given a prohibited party whip cannot vote on a matter before the Committee.)

<b>5.</b>	<b>MINUTES</b>	<b>PLSC37-2016</b>
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To authorise the Chair to sign the minutes of the previous meeting.

(Pages 5 - 10)

<b>6.</b>	<b>CRIME AND DISORDER</b>	<b>PLSC38-2016</b>
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To consider the report of the Community Safety Partnership Co-ordinator.  
(Pages 11 - 26)

<b>7.</b>	<b>JOINT VENTURE COMPANY</b>	<b>PLSC39-2016</b>
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To receive a presentation on the JVC.

<b>WORKING GROUPS</b>		
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<b>8.</b>	<b>REGENERATION WORKING GROUP</b>	<b>PLSC40-2016</b>
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To receive the scrutiny summary report.  
(Pages 27 - 28)

<b>9.</b>	<b>WASTE STRATEGY</b>	<b>PLSC41-2016</b>
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To receive a scrutiny summary report.  
(Pages 29 - 30)

<b>10.</b>	<b>JOINT CHAIRS STEERING GROUP</b>	<b>PLSC42-2016</b>
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To receive the notes of meetings of the Steering Group held since the last meeting of the Place Committee.  
(Pages 31 - 56)

<b>11.</b>	<b>WORK PROGRAMME</b>	<b>PLSC43-2016</b>
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**11.1. Work Programme**

To consider the forward work programme and agree the establishment of appropriate working groups and appoint Members to those groups.  
(Pages 57 - 58)

**11.2. Co-option to Working Groups**

To consider delegating authority to the Chair of Place Scrutiny Committee to seek expressions of interest from members not on Place Scrutiny Committee to join working groups and make any such appointments to working groups that are deemed necessary.

<b>12.</b>	<b>CORRESPONDENCE</b>	<b>PLSC44-2016</b>
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To consider any item of correspondence which, in the opinion of the Chair, is of sufficient urgency to warrant consideration.



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**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE PLACE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE HELD AT  
COMMITTEE ROOM A - COUNTY HALL, LLANDRINDOD WELLS, POWYS ON  
THURSDAY, 10 DECEMBER 2015**

**PRESENT**

County Councillor E M Jones (Chair)

County Councillors K W Curry, D O Evans, V E Evans, G Hopkins, D C Jones,  
R H Mills, H Lewis, ET Morgan, D R Price, K S Silk, R G Thomas and S L Williams

In attendance: County Councillors W J T Powell

Officers: Clive Jones, Professional Lead, Trading Standards, Fay Smith,  
Partnership Analyst, Hugo Van Rees, Estate Manager and David Bradley, Senior  
Manager, Regeneration and Property

<b>1.</b>	<b>APOLOGIES</b>	<b>PLSC12-2015</b>
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Apologies for absence were received from County Councillors D H Williams and G Williams.

The Acting Chair paid tribute to the former Chair for his contribution to the work of the Committee.

<b>2.</b>	<b>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</b>	<b>PLSC13-2015</b>
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There were no declarations of interest.

<b>3.</b>	<b>DISCLOSURES OF PARTY WHIPS</b>	<b>PLSC14-2015</b>
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There were no declarations of party whips.

<b>4.</b>	<b>MINUTES</b>	<b>PLSC15-2015</b>
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The Chair was authorised to sign the Minutes of the last meeting, held on 2 October 2015, as a correct record.

<b>5.</b>	<b>CRIME AND DISORDER</b>	<b>PLSC16-2015</b>
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**Documents:**

- Community Safety Partnership Update
- Changes since last report to Committee

**Issues:**

- Following a scrutiny review into the Enforcement of Dog Fouling, recommendations were put forward to Cabinet following further discussions at Committee. The Cabinet agreed that the existing Memorandum of Understanding with the Police was generally fit for purpose but, as it had been in existence for a number of years it should be

subject to review. Additional training would be provided in the near future with the Police. A communications strategy is being developed and would be issued shortly. A survey of residents would be commenced shortly to inform the process.

- Governance of Community Safety Partnership – the Strategy Group has been reviewed and now meets every 8 weeks. Some issues, including counter terrorism, serious crime, integrated offender management and community cohesion are not mandatory but are dealt with by the Strategy Group in addition to their other functions. It had been intended that the CSP report to the Transformation Board but, following review, it now reports direct to the Local Service Board. The Prevent duty is a new responsibility offering support to those vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism. A multi-agency Channel Panel has been formed, but has not yet had to meet, which would aim to divert anyone who may be at risk.
- Performance information – there has been an increase in crime in the period since January. Across the Force area this increase has been 8.8% with Powys showing an increase of 7.7%. Within the county there has been an increase in robbery – this is an increase of 5 offences. There has been an increase in sexual offences but this is attributed to an increase in confidence in reporting offences following a series of high profile cases. A study of the increase in violence against the person has been undertaken but no ‘hot spots’ have been identified. This is replicated across the Force leading the Police to address this as one of their main priorities. Members were concerned at the increase in figures and questioned whether this could be attributed to current austerity. Whilst this has been reflected in the past, Powys does not have a traditional night-time economy although some crime has been alcohol related. The Welsh Government is undertaking a consultation exercise on the night-time economy together with a separate exercise into minimum unit pricing for alcohol. Anti-social behaviour has decreased by 26% in Powys (25.3% across the Force).
- Road Safety – a slight increase in the number of younger people involved in accidents has been recorded. The CSP are in the process of amending courses to address this. There has been increased motorcycle activity on weekdays and is no longer predominantly weekend. Motorcyclists represent 1% of road users but account for 30% of KSI (killed or seriously injured) accidents. This will make it challenging to meet the Welsh Government target for reduction in accidents. There has been considerable activity in working with bikers from outside the County.
- Domestic Abuse - this cross cutting issue now falls under the Children and Young People’s Partnership (CYPP). The whole service is currently under review although the CSP will continue to undertake homicide reviews.

County Councillor D R Price arrived at 10.30am

- Acquisitive Crime – Ringmaster has proved successful and is likely to develop into a system for the whole of the Dyfed Powys area. Members queried whether there was an actual fall in incidents or if a shortage of resources had led to fewer incidents being reported. It had been expected that data would have been transferred to the Police but there had been some delay. There were further concerns that one of the benefits of Ringmaster was that it concentrated on very local issues and this could be diminished as the system was extended over a wider area. The service works with Social Care to address safeguarding issues. Assets of £3.1M

- have been restrained. Members questioned whether budget cuts would lead to an increase in crime and how funding or proceeds of crime were distributed between partners in joint operations. A priority for the service is to identify income from partner agencies and it was increasingly necessary to be inventive in how to secure funds. Some costs will fall to the Crown Prosecution Service or HMRC and income is not always realised. Prior to a prosecution, a decision is taken as to which partner organisation is best placed to lead the case. A recent operation resulted in 6000 counterfeit cigarettes being seized – more sophisticated crimes are taking place and these are to be addressed on a regional basis.
- Community Cohesion – there are 8 Co-ordinators across Dyfed Powys in this Welsh Government initiative. Their duties include immigration, gypsies and travellers, hate crime and modern slavery. Funding has been agreed for 2016/17.

**Outcomes:**

- An anonymised case study demonstrating IOM work will be provided to the next meeting
- Members asked that the statistic regarding motorcyclists representing 1% of road users but 30% of KSI incidents be advertised

<b>6.</b>	<b>COUNTY FARMS</b>	<b>PLSC17-2015</b>
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The Committee was briefed by the Estate Manager and Portfolio Holder on progress within the Estate.

**Key Issues:**

- Farm Delivery Plan (FDP) has been approved by the Portfolio Holder but has been put on hold pending completion of the Strategic Asset Management Plan (SAMP). When that document is approved by Cabinet a revised Corporate Asset Plan (CAP) will be produced which will include the FDP.
- The existing FDP contains live appendices detailing those holdings subject to review
- Capital receipts of £2.8M are expected within years 1 to 3, £1.625M within years 4 to 6 and £675K in years 7 to 9
- The number of holdings is expected to reduce to 145 in the initial stages, 137 in years 4 to 6 and 132 in years 7 to 9. The majority of disposals will be in Montgomeryshire.
- It is expected that revenue income will be maintained over the life of the Plan
- Condition surveys on 93 holdings have been completed – 57 holdings are in need of urgent attention requiring investment of £237K which will include the removal of asbestos. If this is projected across the entire Estate, it is anticipated that an investment of £615K will be required.
- Surveys have identified costs of £150K for electrical works at the 57 priority holdings which, if typical across the Estate, will require an investment of £389K
- 9 of the 57 properties do not have central heating
- All but one of those 9 properties have been let under pre secure 1995 tenancies

- The Portfolio Holder confirmed that the work would be procured from local contractors
- Members queried the methodology for determining which holdings were to be disposed of. This would tend to be those which were poorly equipped or represented a significant liability, particularly those where there were no agricultural buildings. It was envisaged that the total area of the Estate would remain broadly the same. Local Members would be advised at an early stage if a disposal were to be contemplated in their ward.
- Members recalled that an earlier version of the FDP had sought to encourage installation of renewables either by the Council or by Tenants and sought details of progress. Tenants are consulted regularly and had been advised that the Council would support such installations. Several sites had been considered for renewables but the payback terms had not been adequate. Only one solar system has been installed. The Estate Manager thought that changes in FIT payments would make future installations less likely. Members were of the opinion that the Authority had not been sufficiently proactive in accessing renewables and noted that the FIT scheme had been extended to the end of March 2016.
- Welsh Government initiative to review local authority holdings across Wales – Members were concerned that the project had ceased after only one year and that the Authority had been left with costs of £40K. The consultant appointed had not secured funding from other local authorities as identified in his remit. Members wanted to know what actions had been taken with the Welsh Government to address the injustice. The Portfolio Holder reported that the Welsh Government had insisted funding be repaid as the Plan had not come to fruition. Members were particularly concerned that this issue had been highlighted to Cabinet on previous occasions and by the Internal Audit Working Group yet no action had been taken.
- Tenancies – 60 were farm business tenancies, 25 retirement tenancies and 45 lifetime tenancies. Whilst the service is actively involved if a tenant wishes to vacate, there are no proactive measures to encourage older tenants to move on due to insufficient capital funding being available.
- The feasibility of increasing forestation to provide woodchip for boilers is currently being assessed

**Outcome:**

**A letter be set to the Cabinet regarding the issues surrounding the hosting of a consultant at the request of the Welsh Government and the subsequent costs incurred**

County Councillors K Silk and R Mills left the meeting at 12 noon.

7.	BRECON CULTURAL HUB	PLSC18-2015
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The Committee received a presentation on progress with the Brecon Cultural Hub

**Key Issues:**

- Planning consent was obtained in March 2015



- Construction cost pressures had led to an increase in potential costs of £1.4M over the whole project
- The consultant, design team and contractor developed a plan to reduce costs whilst protecting grant eligible work and satisfying the Brecon Beacons National Park Planning Authority
- A variation of Planning consent was agreed in October 2015
- Currently the market is being tested with completion by February 2016
- A bat license has been applied for
- Alternative funding is being researched although some partners have already agreed to increases in funding. The Heritage Lottery Fund have agreed to accept a submission for additional funding.
- It is still hoped to complete the project by July 2017
- Members queried the prospects for further increases in costs or reduction in the size of the project – it was hoped that a contract price would be fixed in April 2016. There was further concern that the project might fail as there was no additional finance available within the Authority. It was noted that budget proposals contained an inflation figure of 1% but that labour costs were currently running at 7% and construction costs at 20% inflation. The increases were not technically inflation but a national ‘all in tender price index’. Whether this would be revised once the current low price of oil was factored in remains to be seen. It could potentially affect a number of other capital projects. The Committee queried why the cheaper option had not been considered initially – they were advised that there had been considerable negotiation between the Authority, the planning authority and the Design Council of Wales over an 18 month period but that considerable pressure had had to be applied as budgets reduce and costs increase
- Members further queried the accuracy of figures quoted and cited recent examples where quotes had been in excess of the costs actually incurred – a variation of 10 – 15% accuracy either way was considered acceptable in large projects
- The project was estimated to cost £8.5M but a detailed breakdown would be circulated to Members after the meeting

<b>8.</b>	<b>STREET LIGHTING</b>	<b>PLSC19-2015</b>
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**Documents:**

- Scrutiny summary report

**Issues:**

- The Portfolio Holder for Finance had requested that work be undertaken to assess the effects of the switch of streetlights on crime and accident statistics
- The Group studied research from across the country and within Powys and could find no evidence to suggest that there had been an increase in crime or accidents following the switch off of streetlights
- The Committee was informed that there had been a reduction in energy consumption of two thirds following the initial switch off and subsequent replacement of some traditional sodium lights with LEDs

<b>9.</b>	<b>WORK PROGRAMME</b>	<b>PLSC20-2015</b>
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**Documents:**

- Work Programme

**Issues:**

- The Committee had an extensive remit and Members were concerned that the current salami slicing approach to reducing budgets could have a significant impact on services
- It was believed that scrutiny should be concentrating on the effects of budget cuts on services rather than costs per se
- Members considered there was a lack of direction to officers
- Members believed they would have no alternative but to agree a budget
- The Finance Scrutiny Panel was in the process of monitoring the budget setting process and would be making recommendations to Cabinet shortly
- There were further concerns regarding IT systems as Member had noticed a number of failures in recent notifications. Furthermore, there was concern that the Cabinet were now being issued with iPads and queried the cost and reasoning of this decision.

<b>10.</b>	<b>CORRESPONDENCE</b>	<b>PLSC21-2015</b>
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There were no items of correspondence.

**County Councillor E M Jones (Chair)**

# PLSC38-2016

## CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL

### ENVIRONMENT, INFRASTRUCTURE AND CRIME AND DISORDER SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

16<sup>th</sup> June 2016

**Report Author: Fay Smith, CSP Co-ordinator**

**Subject: Community Safety Partnership Update**

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#### REPORT FOR: INFORMATION

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#### 1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The Community Safety Partnership has a duty to report biennially to the Scrutiny Committee on its work. The Partnership has a range of associated organisations all of whom report basic statistical information to the CSP Co-ordinator who assembles them and reports them to relevant bodies.
- 1.2 Attached as **Appendix 1** is the Activity Report for the relevant period – it contains details about most recent crime statistics; the current priorities of the CSP; amongst other matters of interest; plus additional CSP duties including CONTEST; IOM (Integrated Offender Management); Serious & Organised Crime; and Community Cohesion.

#### 2. DOG FOULING

##### 2.1 Summary

2.2 Members will be aware that a number of papers have been presented to various Committees over the past 24 months regarding this subject. The Community Safety Partnership is seen as the vehicle within the authority that can best develop the strategies required to tackle the problem as an Anti-Social Behaviour issue that communities can deal with from within.

#### 3 Recommendations presented to Scrutiny in December 2015

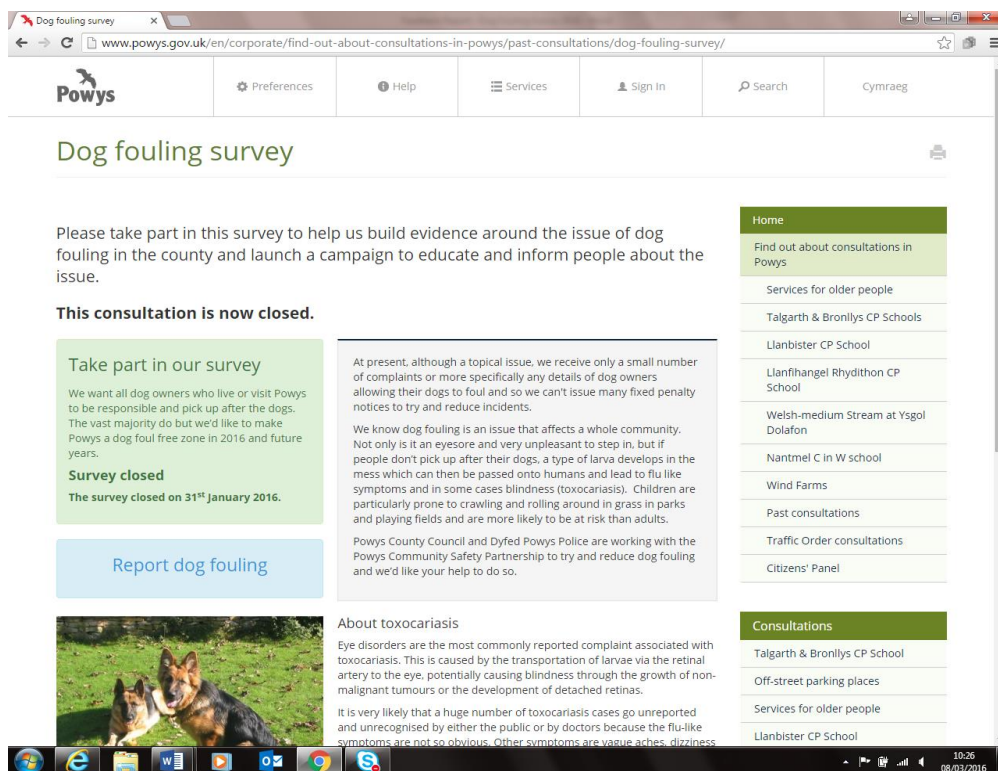
Recommendation:	Reason for Recommendation:
1. That Cabinet acknowledges that the Council cannot proceed with the Police and Crime Commissioner's request that PCSO be authorised to issue Fixed Penalty Notices and on this basis there is no merit in changing the current legislative framework.	<b>The Dyfed Powys Police Authority will not support one local authority pursuing PCSO's issuing Fixed Penalty Notices unless a regional approach is taken</b>

<p>2. That Cabinet notes that the existing Memorandum of Understanding with Dyfed Powys Police is currently in the process of being reviewed but is generally `fit for purpose`.</p>	<p><b>That existing arrangements are fit for purpose and so we can continue to work with the police on intelligence gathering and where necessary taking enforcement action</b></p>
<p>3. That the proposed communication and education strategy detailed in this report is invoked by the Local Authority.</p>	<p><b>To assist in the delivery of a change in culture in relation to dog fouling</b></p>
<p>4. That Cabinet acknowledges the role that County Council, Town and Community Councillors have to play in reducing the anti-social behaviour of dog owners who do not clean up after their animals</p>	<p><b>Communities need to be encouraged to adopt an approach where this issue can be tackled locally</b></p>

3.1 The above report was presented to Cabinet on the 10<sup>th</sup> November 2015. The recommendations were accepted.

## 4 Update & next steps

4.1 An on-line and paper Dog Fouling Survey was conducted post-Christmas 2015 and closed on 31<sup>st</sup> January 2016. There was a total of 644 responses.



4.2 Analysis of the responses has been undertaken and a report is being prepared for Cabinet in July. An update will be provided to the next Scrutiny Committee in December.

<b>Recommendation</b>	<b>Reason for Recommendation</b>
The Committee notes the contents of the Report	For Information only

<b>Relevant Policy (ies) :</b>			
<b>Within Policy</b>	<b>Y/N</b>	<b>Within Budget</b>	<b>Y/N N/A</b>

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## Responsible authorities:

Dyfed Powys Police                      Powys Teaching Health Board                      Powys County Council  
 Youth Justice Service                      Mid & West Wales Fire & Rescue Service  
 National Probation Service & Community Rehabilitation Company

## Statutory Responsibilities of the CSP – updates:

- **Crime**

There has been a 14.7% increase in crime for Powys during the 12 months April 2015 – March 2016, compared to an increase of 11.8% for the Dyfed-Powys Force.

## Mar 2016 YTD: Crime Totals by UA Area

Unitary Authority Area	No. Offences YTD	Per 1000 Pop	SPLY	Change in Crimes	% Change
Carmarthenshire	8,128	44.2	7,334	794	10.8%
Ceredigion	2,978	39.6	2,587	391	15.1%
Pembrokeshire	5,002	40.8	4,597	405	8.8%
Powys	5,115	38.4	4,461	654	14.7%
<b>Total</b>	<b>21,223</b>	<b>41.2</b>	<b>18,979</b>	<b>2244</b>	<b>11.8%</b>

Unitary Authority Area Crime Category	Powys		
	12 Month Total	% Change	Vol Change
Arson & Criminal Damage	830	14%	103
Burglary Dwelling	154	36%	41
Burglary Non Dwelling	228	0%	0
Drug Offences	612	-13%	-95
Miscellaneous Crimes Against Society	124	31%	29
Possession of Weapons	50	52%	17
Public Order Offences	251	29%	57
Robbery	9	13%	1
Sexual Offences	264	58%	97
Theft	983	16%	139
Vehicle Offences	196	-15%	-35
Violence Against the Person	1414	27%	300
<b>Total</b>	<b>5115</b>	<b>15%</b>	<b>654</b>

The areas which have seen over 35% change increases are:

- Sexual offences – there has been an increase in the reporting “old” offences due to confidence in reporting following the high profile cases which have been highlighted in the media over the past couple of years (e.g. Jimmy Savile etc.)
- Possession of Weapons – Possession of Weapons offences have seen an increase due to offender/s being under the influence of Alcohol. 26% deemed Alcohol related in 2015/2016 compared to 21% in 2014/2015. It is important to note that the overall total

for the year for the whole of Powys is only 50 – so each month of the year is only in single figures, and the overall increase for the entire year is 17.

- Burglary Dwelling – There has been a steady increase in offences since October 2015 through to February 2016. Newtown and Llandrindod Wells have recorded the most offences. The majority of offences within Llandrindod Wells occur in flats, where as in Newtown properties targeted were unoccupied detached dwellings.

It is pleasing to note that there has also been some significant decreases also:-

- Drug offences have decreased by 13% (95 offences)
- Vehicles offences decreased by 15% (35 offences)

- **Anti-Social Behaviour**

**Recorded Anti-Social Behaviour  
12 Months ending Mar 2016: ASB Totals by UA Area**

Storm_County	ASB 12 year e...	Per 1000 Pop	ASB SPLY	Per 1000 pop	Change in ASB	% Change
Carmarthenshire	6,443	35.0	7,624	41.4	-1,181	-15.5%
Ceredigion	1,727	22.9	2,069	27.5	-342	-16.5%
Pembrokeshire	4,057	33.1	5,063	41.3	-1,006	-19.9%
Powys	3,188	24.0	3,839	28.8	-651	-17.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>15,415</b>	<b>29.9</b>	<b>18,595</b>	<b>36.1</b>	<b>-3,180</b>	<b>-17.1%</b>

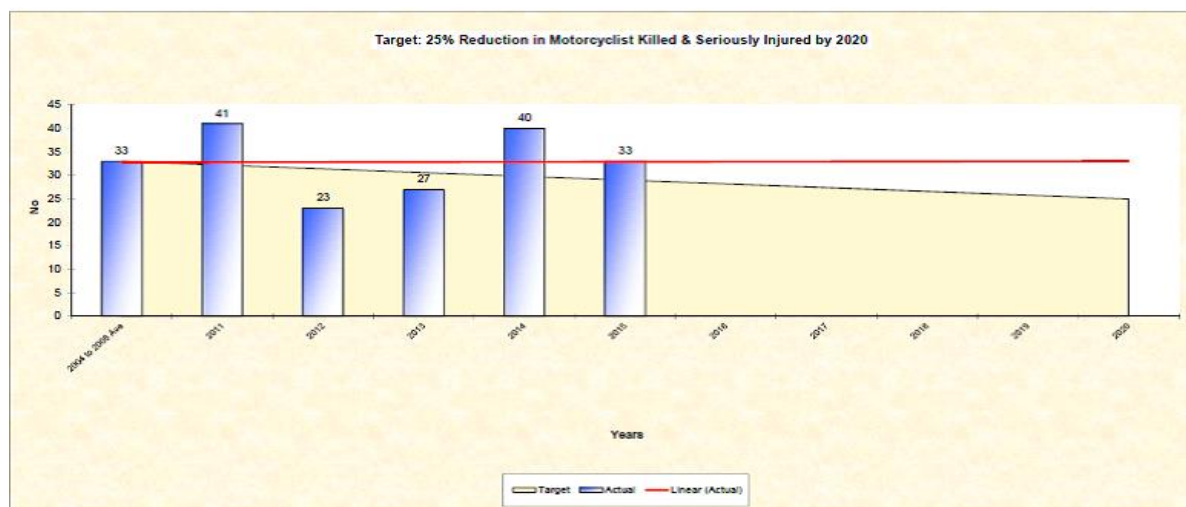
There has been a reduction of 17% in ASB referrals for Powys.

The Dyfed-Powys Force has seen a reduction of 17.1%.

- **Road Safety**

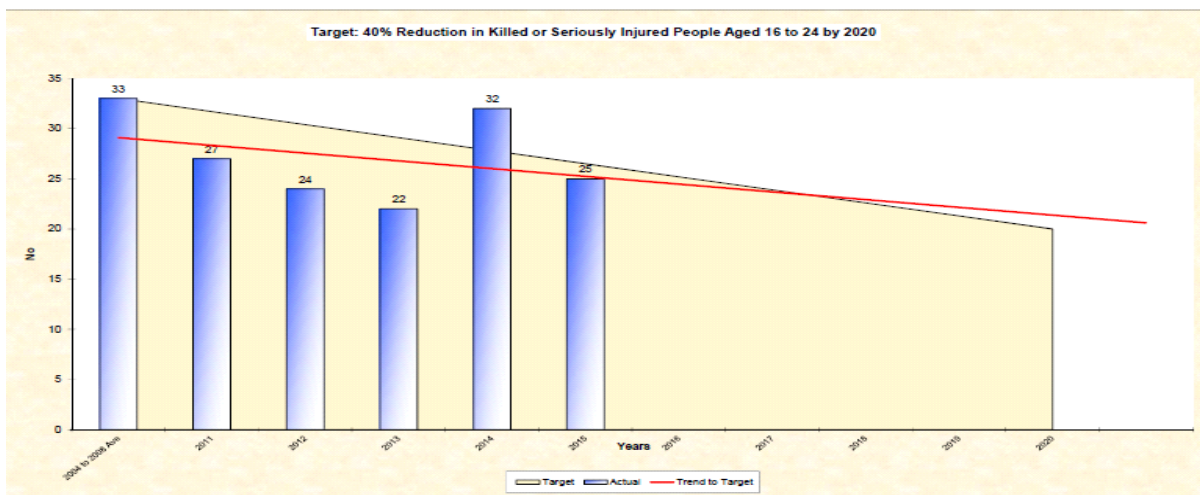
The Local Authority Road Safety department has just undergone a restructure. There is now reduced capacity within this team. The Road Safety Partnership has been assured that the Road Safety Work will continue, but strategic and analytical capabilities have been reduced, therefore the data within this report contains information in relation to the Welsh Government KPIs only.

**Target – 25% reduction in Motorcyclists Killed or Seriously Injured by 2020**

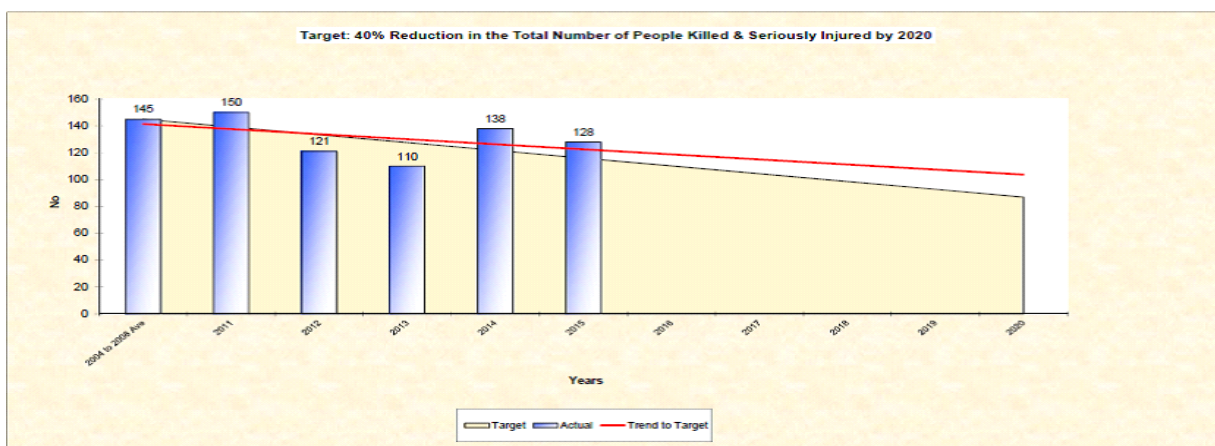




**Target – 40% Reduction in Killed or Seriously Injured People Aged 16 to 24 by 2020**



**Target – 40% Reduction in the Total Number of People Killed & Seriously Injured by 2020**



Continuing Local Authority Road Safety Dept. priorities, which are Welsh Government funded:-

- Curb Craft
- Mature Drivers
- Young Driver
- Fatal 4
- Motor bikes

Dyfed-Powys Police have received funds from the Police & Crime Commissioner for a research project into older driver casualties:-

**Research Project – 2 initiatives**

- 1 Older drivers – research will look at the specific data.
- 2 Referral scheme, drivers aged 70+ who have been stopped by Police referred for driving assessment.

- **Domestic Abuse**

Domestic Abuse now sits under the CYPP (Children and Young People's Partnership).

- The LA's Senior Partnership Manager has been leading on a full review of Domestic Abuse services throughout Powys.
- There is a Domestic Abuse Project Board in place to undertake this work.
- Currently the Board is on the brink of going out to the Market to re-commission services.
- A Strategic Commissioning Manager for VAWDA&SV (*Violence against Women, Domestic Abuse & Sexual Violence*) has been appointed.

Domestic Abuse is NOT a statutory responsibility of the Community Safety Partnership – rather it is a cross-cutting issue as incidents of abuse can equal a crime. Crime and reduction of re-offending is a statutory responsibility of the CSP.

To ensure continued partnership working, the CSP Co-coordinator now sits on the Domestic Abuse Project Board.

- **Substance Misuse – Area Planning Board**

Substance Misuse has been re-commissioned within Powys.

The contracts have been awarded to:-

- Kaleidoscope for the Adult services
- CAIS for the Young People services

Two new posts within the Local Authority are currently with Job Evaluation, they are:-

- Substance Misuse Commissioning & Area Planning Board Manager
- Substance Misuse Commissioning & Area Planning Board Support Officer

The Powys Area Planning Board Substance Misuse Commissioning Strategy 2015-20 is available via the Powys Community Safety Partnership:-

<http://www.powys.gov.uk/en/democracy/how-the-council-works-in-partnership/powys-community-safety-partnership/>

- **Acquisitive Crime**

Trading Standards is adopting an Intelligence operating model to prioritise its work to cope with increased pressures on services whilst they see the vulnerable need to be protected from rogue traders and scammers. The model will look at strategies and other plans across areas of work involving:

- Preventative actions
- Intelligence systems/actions
- Enforcement activities
- Systems improvement

The following provides an update on each of these areas:

### **Preventative**

A program of Consumer Engagement events are underway to raise awareness of current scams and consumer fraud issues. This work is carried out alongside partners at various events.

- There are 12 Rogue Trader Control Zones across Powys, these zones aim to deter cold callers, empower householders and reduce the numbers of rogue trader incidents.
- Dyfed Powys Community Messaging Service, the new messaging system set up by the Crime Commissioner and Dyfed Powys Police is live at [www.dpcm.co.uk](http://www.dpcm.co.uk). Trading Standards have staff trained as super users and will devise a process to engage with partners to increase membership. Over 2000 members from Ringmaster, our previous messaging system have been provided with information on how to switch to the new Service.
- The National Scams Team has identified over 500 victims of Mass Mailing Fraud living in Powys. Officers of this service will visit these victims and link with local partners to protect victims from further scams, whilst also feeding back intelligence to the national team.
- Powys Trading Standards is now a member of the Wales against Scams Partnership (WASP), which launched in March 2016. WASP is a coalition of police forces, police and crime commissioners, Trading Standards, banks, utility companies, local government, Age Cymru and the Older People's Commissioner for Wales and is the first venture of its kind in the UK.
- Work linked to the above is being scoped with Social Services Adult Team and others to Safeguard Adults from Financial Exploitation, this work will be targeted at vulnerable adults and will fit with the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014, and the duty placed on local government.

### **Intelligence systems**

- All intelligence is fed to partners as we are working to an intelligence operating model to determine our work priorities
- Usual high levels of rogue trader activity reported – current issues on ecrime issues rogue builders and rogue tarmac contractors-mostly South Powys

### **Enforcement activities**

- Large scale operations underway on rogue companies with a view to gaining compensation for victims and tackling criminal assets - Operation **SLICK** involves farms being targeted by a nationwide tarmac gang. We are leading this investigation with help from Scam Busters Wales as it involves activity on a nationwide scale. This matter is coming to fruition with some assets restrained and the victims nationally running at 22 (Powys 8). A recent other tarmac incident in Llandrindod involved the Consumer Fraud team providing a rapid response to ensure a vulnerable 80 year old male did not pay out £3K. The following day the suspects were allegedly involved in an armed robbery in Ceredigion - demonstrating the switching methods rogue trader criminals adopt.
- There are still problems with illicit products - the quantities are high with 50,000 counterfeit cigarettes seized over the last 12 months (Operation **DATE**) and also counterfeit alcohol - all these have potential safety issues. We are working on links to criminal gangs here and 2 target groups are being mapped to see if they are OCG's and this is being facilitated through GAIN and Eric Kendall. We hosted a multi -agency meeting on 2 targets.

- Some work is being scoped with DPP on legal highs and impacts and bid to communities fund on activity as the law has come in. Police will likely lead on responsibilities.
- Trading Standards have restrained £3.1 million of rogues' assets since February 2014 and use the services of an in house accredited financial investigator to take control of assets, on a 3 year spend to save agenda.
- In one case we are employing an enforcement receiver to seize the assets of a rogue trader, in order to pay back £121K of compensation and council costs which is progressing in Court, this will come to fruition in the summer.
- Range of cases at Crown Court level with regional/national implications including a £5million fraud involving teeth whitening products which started at the Royal Welsh Show in 2013.
- Set of enforcement options under way with partners including Rogue trader patrols and responding to incidents. A national rogue trader operation took place in April 2016 (awaiting all data)
- Cybercrime action plan being developed with DPP with range of criminals using these outlets and expected a range of targets will be delivered over the summer

### Systems improvements

- Taking part in a national study on doorstep crime which will allow us to look at a toolkit to improve on delivery methods and processes and to act consistently. Areas of improvement likely to include:
  - Reporting of crime
  - Enforcement procedures
  - Victim handling
- We are looking to a new IOM (Intelligence Operating Model) to produce reports on rogue trader activity, in liaison with partners.-model will be live in 2016 and a little slippage here but will help in policy decisions
- Key performance indicators need to be set for this area to truly measure the level of crime and outcomes of this work, based on national models.
- New reporting templates will improve products to all partners including profiles on targets and problem areas.

- **Community Cohesion**

The Community Cohesion National Delivery Plan 2016-17 has been launched, the outcomes are:-

- **Outcome 1:** Departments, organisations and people understand hate crime, victims make reports and get appropriate support
- **Outcome 2:** Departments, organisations and people understand modern slavery, victims make reports and get appropriate support
- **Outcome 3:** Increased awareness and engagement across Gypsy and Traveller communities
- **Outcome 4:** Increased evidence and awareness on immigration and supporting the inclusion of asylum seekers, refugees and migrants
- **Outcome 5:** Increased understanding regarding the impacts of poverty on Protected Characteristics across key service and policy delivery

- **Outcome 6:** Key policies and programmes through relevant plans are supporting and evidencing delivery against the national goal on more cohesive communities through the Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015
- **Outcome 7:** Policies and services are responsive to community tensions

### **SYRIAN REFUGEES'**

Currently the Community Cohesion Co-ordinator is working largely on the SRVPS - Syrian refugees' vulnerable persons scheme:

#### **International Situation**

- 12.2 million people are in need of humanitarian aid in Syria.
- 7.6 million people have been forced to flee home.
- 3.8 million refugees are in surrounding countries, for example Jordan, Lebanon and Iraq.
- Over 200,000 civilians have lost their lives.
- The UK Government's Syrian Vulnerable Persons Resettlement Scheme works alongside the UNHCR Syrian Humanitarian Assistance Programme
- The Scheme is designed for people who are vulnerable with the following criteria for acceptance
  - Women and girls at risk
  - Survivors of violence and torture
  - Refugees with legal and / or physical protection needs
  - Refugees with medical needs or disabilities
  - Children and adolescents at risk
  - Persons at risk due to sexual orientation or gender ID
  - Refugees with links in resettlement countries
- Refugees are security vetted by the Home Office and the UNHCR for crimes, war crimes and extremism.

#### **UK National Situation**

- Phase 1 of the SVPRS. 1,000 refugees have been welcomed to the UK before Christmas 2015.
- Phase 2, 19,000 people will be accepted during the course of present UK Parliament.

**Funding** is met by UK Government

- Funding – secured £129 million.
- Year 1, £8520 per person from Overseas Development Programme Fund. There is additional support for education, medical needs and welfare benefits.
- Year 2 to 5, £12,000 per person.
- Tapering, £5,000 per person Year 2 to £1,000 per person Year 5.
- Additional funding for Education, Health, plus Special Cases Fund

#### **Wales National Situation**

- Syrian Refugee Task Force, chaired by the Minister for Communities and Tackling Poverty
- Syrian Refugee Operations Board and Communications Sub Group

- Health funding for Primary and Secondary Care likely to be transferred to Welsh Government.
- The WLGA manage the Wales Strategic Migration Partnership Local Authority SVPRS Delivery Group. The group shares best practice and has produced a toolkit.

### **Regional Situation**

- Ceredigion CC welcomed refugees before Christmas under Phase 1.
- Powys, Carmarthenshire and Pembrokeshire will participate under Phase 2.

### **Delivery of the Scheme**

- Strategically managed by Multi-agency Task Groups which have been set up in each county.
- A smaller Panel manages individual cases.
- A caseworker support service tender is awarded. Caseworkers support refugees with the delivery of orientation services, a personal integration plan and an exit strategy.

## **Other Work Streams – updates:**

### **Reducing Re-offending:**

#### **Integrated Offender Management (IOM)**

#### **Local Project named PROP – Powys Reducing Offending Project**

The following are the main points from the IOM Cohort Performance report, December 2015:-

- PROP are the longest running IOM Cymru compliant scheme within Dyfed-Powys and have steadily increased their cohort size month on month.
- PROP currently reports a cost saving of £285,854, and whilst it shows an increase in crimes of +13, the crimes per offender per month are still down.
- There have been 38 offenders in (and out) of prison since joining the cohort, totalling 177 months in custody.
- PROP have been running for 30 months and are continuing to show a decrease in their results.
- Despite a slight increase in the total number of crimes, the average number of crimes is down from 0.43 to 0.27 per month.
- There are currently 49 nominals on the scheme and 24% (12) of the PROP cohort are in prison.

## Powys Contest Board

The [Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015](#) contains a duty on specified authorities to have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism. This is also known as the Prevent duty.

Following commencement of the Prevent Duty on 1 July, in order to have due regard to the need to prevent people being drawn into terrorism, local authorities will be required to fulfil a range of responsibilities as articulated in the Prevent guidance. Broadly this work falls into the following categories:

- **Partnership** – local authorities should establish or make use of multi-agency groups to coordinate and monitor Prevent related activity.
- **Risk Assessment** – local authorities should use Counter-Terrorism Local Profiles to assess the risk of individuals being drawn into terrorism in their local area. This risk assessment should also be informed by engagement with wider partners in the local area including schools, childcare providers, universities, colleges, local prisons, probation services, health, immigration enforcement and Youth offending teams.
- **Action Plan** – Using the risk assessment, if the local authority assesses a risk in the local area, a Prevent action plan should be developed to prioritise and facilitate delivery of projects, activities or specific interventions to reduce the risk of people being drawn into terrorism in the local authority.
- **Staff Training** – local authorities will be expected to ensure that appropriate frontline staff have a good understanding of Prevent and are trained to recognise the vulnerability to being drawn into terrorism and are aware of available programmes to deal with this issue. Local authority staff will be expected to be aware of, and make appropriate referrals to Channel, which has separately been placed on a statutory footing in the CT&S Act 2015.
- **Use of local authority resources** – local authorities will be expected to ensure that publicly owned venues and resources do not provide a profile for extremists. Consideration should also be given as to whether IT equipment available to the general public should use filtering solutions that limit access to terrorist and extremist material. New contracts for the delivery of services in a local authority should reflect the principles of the duty in a suitable form.
- **Other agencies and organisations supporting children** – a range of private and voluntary agencies provide services or exercise functions for children, for example children's homes, independent fostering agencies, and bodies exercising local authority functions. These bodies must ensure as part of their local authority safeguarding arrangements that staff are aware of Prevent.
- **Out of school settings supporting children** – local authorities should take steps to understand the range of activity in their area in this space and take appropriate and proportionate steps to ensure that children attending such settings are appropriately safeguarded.

### Powys activity:-

- The Powys Contest Board meets once per quarter.
- The Prevent Agenda continues to be rolled out across Powys – work has been undertaken with Schools, and Health Premises.
- The CSP Co-ordinator is the Chair of the Channel Panel.
- WECTU attend the Powys Contest Board and updates on the Counter-Terrorism Local Profiles.

- **Serious Organised Crime**

The Serious Crime Act 2015 received Royal Assent on 3 March. The 2015 Act gives effect to a number of legislative proposals set out in the Serious and Organised Crime Strategy published in October 2013.

Dyfed-Powys Activity:-

- The CSP was felt to be the best forum to manage the new Act.
- Serious and Organised Crime categories = fraud and economic, drugs, acquisitive, child sexual exploitation, cyber-crime, fire arms
- Every force in the country records their OCG (Organised Crime Group) and where they have an impact across the UK.
- In Dyfed/Powys we have 12 OCGs active – Powys = 3 currently.
- A Dyfed/Powys profile has been developed by the Police,
- The Powys Serious Organised Crime Board meets once a quarter.

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This concludes the Community Safety Partnership update.

Below is a copy of the Members Bulletin detailing the CSP Show Case Event which took place in November 2015.

It is planned to hold another Show Case Event on 2nd November 2016, to which all members of the Scrutiny Committee are invited. Further details will be sent nearer the event.



# CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL.

## MEMBERS' INFORMATION BULLETIN.

Date: 26<sup>th</sup> February 2016

<b>REPORT BY:</b>	Powys Community Safety Partnership
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	Powys CSP Show Case Event

Powys Community Safety Partnership (CSP) held its first Show Case Event at Antur Gwy, Builth Wells on the 4<sup>th</sup> November 2015.

The aim of the event was to show case the diverse range of activities the CSP conducts in respect of its statutory duty under the 1998 Crime and Disorder Act – *“Without prejudice to any other obligation imposed on it, it shall be the duty of each authority to which this section applies to exercise its various functions with due regard to the likely effect of the exercise of those functions on, and the need to do all that it reasonably can to prevent, crime and disorder in its area.”*



The event was attended by a range of CSP partners, including:-  
Powys High Sheriff – Lt. Col Mike Lewis DH;  
Cabinet Member – Cllr John Powell; LA Director of Place; Head of Service; National Probation Service – Head of D/P Delivery Unit; PAVO; Powys Teaching Health Board; Victim Support; BAWSO; Service; Dyfed-Powys Police; Youth Service; Youth Justice Service; Soroptomists; M&WW Fire Service etc.

**The format of the day was 6 presentations on some of the current priorities of the CSP: Substance Misuse; Crime & Partnership; E-Crime; PROP; Road Safety; PREVENT**



**There was also a variety of partner's information stands:**



### **Brief Overview of the Presentations:**

#### **Substance Misuse**

This presentation was provided by both Kaleidoscope and CAIS. Kaleidoscope is the provider commissioned to provide an adult service, whilst CAIS is commissioned to provide the young person's service.

## **Crime & Partnership**

Presentation provided by Inspector Brian Jones from Dyfed-Powys Police. The focus was on how agencies can work in partnership to tackle various forms of crime.

### **E-Crime**

Presented by Powys Trading Standards Department who work closely with the Dyfed Powys Police's Digital Communications and Cyber Crime Unit, and other national organisations to combat e-crime.

### **PROP**

PROP stands for Powys Reducing Offending Project – which is the Powys Integrated Offender Management project (IOM). The lead organisations for PROP are Dyfed-Powys Police and the National Probation Service and Community Rehabilitation Company.

The following are the main points from the IOM Performance Report in June 2015:-

- PROP is the longest running IOM Cymru compliant scheme within Dyfed-Powys and have steadily increased their cohort size month on month.
- PROP currently reports a cost saving of £411,774 and 50 less crimes.
- PROP currently shows a reduction of 124 arrests for the cohort during the last 12 months.
- 15 person on the scheme have not been arrested at all since they joined the scheme.
- People are wanting to join PROP which is not happening with other IOM schemes in Dyfed.
- We have offenders on PROP volunteering to wear the TAGS.
- MAPPA and PROP now linked as Police IOM Officers now attend MAPPA.

### **Road Safety**

Presented by Sarah Morris, Senior Road Safety Officer. The presentation contained information on the range of road safety initiatives:-

- Biker Down - PCC Road Safety Unit & MWW Fire Service.
- Bike Safe courses.
- Pass Plus Cymru young driver courses.
- Ride On motorcyclist courses.
- Mature Motoring courses.
- Teen Drive events.
- Child Car Seat Clinics.

### **PREVENT**

Presented by Martyn Thomas from the Welsh Extremism and Counter Terrorism Unit (WECTU) which is a single Special Branch created by the four Welsh police forces. Its remit covers international Terrorism, Irish-related terrorism and domestic extremism.

The Prevent duty is the duty in the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 on specified authorities, in the exercise of their functions, to have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism.

Sections 36 to 41 of the CT&S Act 2015 sets out the duty on local authorities and partners of local panels to provide support for people vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism. In England and Wales this duty is the Channel programme.

Feedback from the event has been extremely positive, with all partners stating that it had been very beneficial to them both as organisations and also being able to liaise with other partners, many of whom had never met before. Everyone has agreed it is an event that should take place on an annual basis.



**Place Scrutiny Committee – 3<sup>rd</sup> March, 2016**  
**People Scrutiny Committee – 17<sup>th</sup> March, 2016**

<b>Regeneration Scrutiny Group</b>
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<b>Purpose of Report:</b> Progress report
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Meeting of the Working Group held on 12<sup>th</sup> January, 2016.

The Working Group discussed with the Portfolio Holder for Regeneration and officers the emerging regeneration strategy arising from the recent Economic Development Workshop held on 15<sup>th</sup> December, 2015.

There is a need for a more hard edged strategy including growing and increasing the numbers of businesses. Powys is a low wage economy and the Council does not have any funding to do this. The Council has also appointed 2 officers whose role includes visiting businesses and to see what barriers there are to their growth and what the Council can do to assist. The strategy is about maintaining businesses and maintaining dialogue. The Council is also working with Mid Wales Manufacturing.

The Portfolio Holder has met the inward investment team at Welsh Government to find out how they promote Wales. Promotion is undertaken by sectors and the Council is looking as to how this could benefit Powys. The Council is in addition looking at the branding of Powys. In order to increase the numbers of visitors in Powys the Council is working with key festivals. With an aim of increasing the working population in Powys European officers are looking at opportunities for European funding, apprenticeships etc.

The Plus programme is looking at potential funding to get people back into employment (50+ as well as young people). The Council is trying to fill identified gaps.

The Workshop identified 11 priorities from 4 objectives including identifying sectors; skilful workforce; exploiting long borders; lobbying for funds; champions network to raise the profile of Powys; digitally enabled Powys; marketing and promoting Powys;

Other issues being considered included the Circuit of Wales and the lack of housing in the Newtown and the Welshpool area.

The timescale for the strategy was discussed. The draft strategy would be discussed at the Cabinet on 15<sup>th</sup> March, 2016. If this is approved the Regeneration team would need to work up the projects to achieve the strategy. The Asset Management Plan will have an explicit connection to regeneration. There will also be a strategy for developing the workshop units, with some being sold and others being developed. In relation to Workshops, businesses are paying commercial rates, and the workshops are now full with everyone on the same lease. The finances of workshops is also

improving. Workshops deemed to be in the wrong places will be sold and the focus will be on those where there is a demand for them. There also needs to be an investment in the portfolio as well.

The Council has “cheap and cheerful” units but do not have any larger units. The Council is also trying to develop flexible units. The whole sector is currently making about 1% to 2% return. The Powys workshops were losing about £125,000 per year. They are now expected to show a surplus. The Council is only seeking to buy workshops where there is a demand and the Council needs to be seen as the “place to go” for business. Welsh Government policy is to build premises to the requirement of the client, but this may make not these premises sufficiently flexible for alternative use.

Some work will be undertaken with communities, but there needs to be a focus on regeneration. There needs to be reinvestment in the county farms estate and the Cabinet has agreed to this. There is also recognition that the county farms estate needs to pay for itself. Condition surveys are being undertaken on farms and it is anticipated that it will take 5 to 7 years to bring the estate up to a standard.

**Next Steps:**

- **County Farms Estate – the Portfolio Holders for Regeneration and Property to be invited to the next meeting to discuss the regeneration value / opportunities of the estate with the Working Group.**
- **Once the Cabinet has agreed the strategy the Working Group at the next meeting to scrutinise the workstreams established to deliver the strategy.**

**Report contact:** Wyn Richards, Scrutiny Manager and Head of Democratic Services

**Contact details:** 01597 826375, [wyn.richards@powys.gov.uk](mailto:wyn.richards@powys.gov.uk)

**Sources/background papers:**

**Membership:**

County Councillors: G.W. Ratcliffe, G.G. Hopkins, D. R. Jones, H. Lewis, K.S. Silk, G.M. Jones.

## Place Scrutiny Committee

3 March 2016

### Waste Strategy

**Purpose of Report:** Summary Report

The Group continue to meet quarterly to review the implementation of the Strategy including the roll out of the three weekly residual waste collections.

The Authority is on target to achieve the Welsh Government's statutory recycling target of 58% with a predicted outturn of 58.5% recycling rate at year end. The next target is 64% recycling by 2019/20.

Although a full assessment will take place at year end, it seems as though the change to a three weekly residual collection has resulted in less residual waste. Other UK authorities have reported a 20% reduction in kerbside residual waste following implementation of a three weekly collection. An Awareness and Enforcement Team has been developed following a restructuring which is able to offer advice and support to any resident who may have issues with the new regime. It seems as though the majority of residents have adapted well. Raising awareness is the priority but this will be followed by enforcement in due course if necessary. A further issue to be tackled is the contamination of recyclate as it is the intention that the Authority will be able to sort its own material in the future and so reduce costs and maximise income from the material.

A proposal to move to a 4 weekly residual collection was included in the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) for 2017/18. This has been ruled out for the current MTFS.

The performance at Household Waste Recycling Sites operating under the new contracts has improved considerably as well as material throughput reducing. There are now targets for recycling in the contracts which are enforcement via financial deductions if they are not met. Furthermore, payments are now fixed as opposed to being paid on a tonnage basis. The Group were concerned that there should still be facilities to enable items to be reused. This was still encouraged but may not take the same form as has in the past, such as shops at HWRCs, for reasons of space and public safety. There were ongoing discussions with the contractor regarding the provision of re-use facilities.

Community Recycling (Bring) sites are to be reviewed with the potential for rationalisation – this would likely result in fewer incidences of fly tipping as this is a problem at many sites

The food waste contract continues to go well. Agrivert are currently constructing a plant at Stormy Down in South Wales, which should be available towards the end of 2016. It is expected that the authorities will be able to take advantage of reduced haulage costs once this facility becomes operational.

Work continues in separating trade waste from domestic waste and it is now known that trade waste is breaking even. More awareness and enforcement work is now underway to ensure that traders comply with their obligations. Council premises, including schools, are now being charged for trade waste. Providing free recycling to Council premises had cost the service and it was no longer able to subsidize other services. The charging structure ensures that it remains more cost effective to recycle. Kitchen waste at schools is collected separately. An Enforcement Policy now been approved and introduced.

The contract for disposal of residual waste expires at the end of the current financial year. Currently one third goes to 'energy from waste' and two thirds to landfill however, under future targets from 2019/20 only 10% of residual waste can be landfilled. All options for alternatives are under consideration with the Welsh Government and other parties. Any future option will have to be sustainable in the long term. It is anticipated to have identified a clear way forward within six months.

The Group believe there are some positive messages which should be highlighted to the public – recycling target, new website regarding collection days etc. Further work is to be undertaken regarding reuse facilities, other authorities' practices and a standardised information sheet for use in holiday lets

The Group also request that the Place Scrutiny Committee consider their future role and whether scrutiny of any other related issues should be considered.

**Report contact:** Lisa Richards, Legal, Scrutiny and Democratic Services

**Contact details:** 01597 826371, [lisa.richards@powys.gov.uk](mailto:lisa.richards@powys.gov.uk)

**Sources/background papers:** Notes of a meeting,

**Group Members:** County Councillors H Williams (Lead Member), K Curry, G G Hopkins, D C Jones, E M Jones, R H Mills and K Silk

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE JOINT CHAIRS AND VICE-CHAIRS STEERING GROUP HELD AT COMMITTEE ROOM A - COUNTY HALL, LLANDRINDOD WELLS, POWYS ON FRIDAY, 22 JANUARY 2016**

**PRESENT:** County Councillor J.G. Morris (Chair)  
County Councillors S.C. Davies, G. M. Jones and Mr J. Brautigam (Independent Lay Member).

**Officers:** D. Powell (Strategic Director – Resources), J. Lewis (Head of Professional Services and Commissioning), N. Philpott (Interim Director PCC / PtHB Integration Development), P. Jones (Professional Lead – Strategic Planning and Performance), L. Richards (Scrutiny Officer), W. Richards (Scrutiny Manager and Head of Democratic Services).

<b>1.</b>	<b>APOLOGIES</b>	<b>JCSG1 - 2016</b>
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**Members:** County Councillors D.R. Jones, L.V. Corfield, M.J. Dorrance, E.M. Jones.

**Officers:** P. Griffiths (Strategic Director – Place), L. Patterson (Scrutiny Officer), C. Pinney (Solicitor to the Council).

The Chair commented that it was important that there was good attendance at meetings of the Steering Group, which would mean that at least one of the representatives from each Committee was present.

<b>2.</b>	<b>DRAFT NOTES - FOR CONSIDERATION</b>	<b>JCSG2 - 2016</b>
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**Documents Considered:**

- Draft Notes – meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> November, 2015.

**Issues Discussed:**

- None

**Outcomes:**

- **Noted.**

<b>3.</b>	<b>DISCUSSION WITH THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE, STRATEGIC DIRECTOR / DIRECTOR REGARDING POTENTIAL SCRUTINY ITEMS.</b>	<b>JCSG3 - 2016</b>
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**Documents Considered:**

- None.

**Issues Discussed:**

- The Chief Executive had asked that the following matters be raised with the Steering Group:
- **Corporate Assessment.** Scrutiny has a role to consider how prepared is the Council for the Corporate Assessment which will take place in the Autumn of 2016. Part of the review will also look at scrutiny and therefore how prepared is scrutiny for the review.
- The Steering Group was advised that the Solicitor to the Council was holding monthly meetings with the scrutiny team in preparation for the assessment. The Scrutiny Manager was currently looking through

Joint Chairs and Vice-Chairs Steering Group – 22<sup>nd</sup> January, 2016

corporate assessment review reports from other Councils in Wales to try to identify common themes as well as issues for scrutiny in Powys. Once this was completed the action plan which had been started following the Wales Audit Office review of scrutiny in Wales some years ago (which the Steering Group considered to be too complicated at the time), would be revisited and rewritten to identify those issues which could be addressed prior to the assessment, and those issues which would need to be addressed following the assessment. The action plan would also need to consider the implications of the Draft Local Government (Wales) Bill as this might become statutory by the end of 2016.

- It was suggested that examples of good practice in England should be considered as well as looking at Councils in Wales. The level of staffing resources across authorities should also be considered.
- **Commissioning.** The Council still has a long way to go with commissioning. The question was asked as to whether there is enough in service work plans in relation to commissioning e.g. Residential Care, Highways. It was suggested that the Steering Group should look at the work of the Commissioning and Procurement Board and the governance of commissioning within the Council.
- It was noted that the Adult Social Care Group was undertaking some work on elements within Social Care. However concern was expressed that there were forthcoming commissioning events e.g. the BUPA contract, and scrutiny needed to seek clarity as to where the Council was with the re-commissioning of these services.
- In relation to the Commissioning and Procurement Board it was suggested that information on the activities of this Board should be considered at the next meeting of the Steering Group following which elements of work could be distributed to working groups for consideration.

**Outcomes:**

Action	Completion Date	Action By
Information on the role and activity of the Commissioning and Procurement Board in the governance of commissioning be considered at the next meeting of the Steering Group	18 <sup>th</sup> March, 2016	WR
Scrutiny Action Plan to be presented to next meeting for consideration	18 <sup>th</sup> March, 2016	WR

4.	<b>ASSESSING THE POTENTIAL IMPACT OF SCRUTINY</b>	<b>JCSG4 - 2016</b>
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**Documents Considered:**

- Draft template for the assessment of the potential impact of scrutiny.

**Issues Discussed:**

- The template had been drawn together using the Council's new SIIA (Single Integrated Impact Assessment) as a basis. The template would need to be tested but it was a starting point to try and assess, when a review was being started, as to what the potential impact of the review could be. It was acknowledged that in reality the evaluation of the impact of a review would happen some time after the review had concluded.



- The SIIA should be included as part of scrutiny’s assessment of risk and should also contribute towards the programming of the scrutiny work programme.
- The important element would be to capture what value scrutiny brings to the consideration of an item. It was suggested that the following could be added to the template to show the impact of scrutiny:
  - Has scrutiny identified an issue before the regulator identifies it?
  - Has scrutiny caused a change to activities e.g. by means of corporate learning?
  - Has scrutiny addressed an identified risk in the risk assessment?
  - Has scrutiny improved the reputational position of the Council?

**Outcomes:**

Action	Completion Date	Action By
Document agreed but should be amended to include the additional items above.	February, 2016	WR

<b>5.</b>	<b>CORPORATE ASSESSMENT</b>	<b>JCSG5 - 2016</b>
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**Documents Considered:**

- None

**Issues Discussed:**

- Presentation by Jason Lewis, Head of Professional Services and Commissioning. The corporate assessment is expected to take place in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2016. KPMG have been commissioned to assist the Council in preparing for the assessment by identifying where the gaps are. The feedback from the Wales Audit Office (WAO) over the last few years has been good. The Strategic Director – Resources is speaking to colleagues in other Councils to assist in informing the Council’s approach to the assessment. A co-ordination group has been established to draw together the Council’s plan.
- There is no guide from the WAO as yet as to what is required. Detailed briefings will be provided at a later date, including to Members. There are some common elements to most assessments including governance and scrutiny, future changes, self awareness and learning. The Steering Group asked if scrutiny would be involved in the co-ordination group and it was confirmed that it would. It was also confirmed that the Council were working with the Local teaching Health Board in relation to strategic workforce planning as the Council needed to assess what resources it would need once the transformational changes had been completed.

**Outcomes:**

- **Noted.**

<b>6.</b>	<b>NEW CORPORATE PLAN</b>	<b>JCSG6 - 2016</b>
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**Documents Considered:**

- None

**Issues Discussed:**

- Tony Garthwaite was assisting the Council on planning for change. Although the Council is doing much which is right such as including improvement objectives in the Corporate Plan, there is a need for the Corporate Plan to show what the Council is intending to do itself rather than what the Council is going to do in conjunction with its partners. The new plan will come into force from 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2016 – a new corporate improvement plan which will include the Council's key objectives.
- The commitments in the current One Powys Plan, the 3 year Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) and Service Improvement Plans (SIPs) need to be pulled together in one place with a tracking mechanism to oversee what is happening. The new plan will therefore not be a new document but a drawing together of objectives included elsewhere. There will also need to be a scrutiny input into this process. The Strategic Director – Resources confirmed that he had met with the Local teaching Health Board to discuss how to bring together corporate planning between the two organisations.
- The Steering Group asked if the One Powys Plan was still achievable based on the financial cuts the Council was facing? The plan is a 3 year plan with an annual review. There is a need to be realistic about the changes, the objectives and what can be achieved, as well as what is the evidence for such changes. The Programme Boards have a responsibility to review their individual objectives and amend them as necessary.

**Outcomes:**

- **Noted.**

7.	<b>INTEGRATION WITH THE HEALTH BOARD</b>	<b>JCSG7 - 2016</b>
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**Documents Considered:**

- None.

**Issues Discussed:**

- The question was asked as to who should be scrutinising the integration process. It was acknowledged that the joint Local Service Board / Public Service Board (LSB / PSB) scrutiny group was slow in getting organised. Funding from Welsh Government was being received to assist the integration process. However much work was going on in the background, although there was little in the way of a policy steer from Welsh Government in terms of integration. It was also acknowledged that change does take time.
- It was suggested that Welsh Government direction to health boards is less clear than the direction provided to County Councils, with Welsh Government planning for health still based on Wales NHS objectives. The recent appointments to the Social Care management team ( in respect of integration and the service itself) will assist the current position. It was felt that there may be stronger direction from the Welsh Government following the National Assembly election. There has also been a greater pace for integration in England and Scotland than seen in Wales to date, with service and budget benefits arising from integration. The Council is currently involved in testing prototype initiatives e.g. integrated teams and changed processes. However good examples of integration are where there is a single organisation where people work for a separate single organisation rather than 2 organisations as currently as this changes the culture of those individuals. The Steering Group stressed that any change

Joint Chairs and Vice-Chairs Steering Group – 22<sup>nd</sup> January, 2016  
needs to ensure that there will be an improvement in services. It was further suggested that the Steering Group should be advised as to where the Council was in terms of integration so that scrutiny was therefore in a position to comment on the pace of the integration process.

**Outcomes:**

<b>Action</b>	<b>Completion Date</b>	<b>Action By</b>
<b>That the Strategic Director – People and the Chief Executive, PtHB provide an update to the Steering Group at its next meeting on the progress of the integration project.</b>	<b>18 March, 2016</b>	<b>AL / CS</b>

<b>8.</b>	<b>PERFORMANCE REPORTS</b>	<b>JCSG8 - 2016</b>
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**Documents Considered:**

- None

**Issues Discussed:**

- The issue arose at a meeting of the Audit Committee – Finance and Performance Working Group on 16<sup>th</sup> October, 2015 and a number of issues were raised in relation to current performance reports.
- Performance Management recognise the points made by the Working Group. Over the last couple of years the Council has moved ownership of performance to Heads of Service, Directors and service leads. There is a need for services to self evaluate themselves rather than scrutiny having to do this for them. There is a question as to whether the Council continues to push the self evaluation agenda and ownership more to services or whether a harder approach is needed which would have an impact on the Council's central resource. Currently what the central resource is responsible for is undertaking an overview of the process. There is also a need for more honesty in some of the self assessments by services.
- The Strategic Director – Resources commented that what is lacking presently is the challenge process. Ceredigion Council has a different process of challenge where scrutiny acts as observers. Powys has asked if it can view the arrangements in Ceredigion (which will include scrutiny officers) to see if it is a model which can be used in Powys. The Council needs to focus more on the quality of the process rather than change the process itself. The quality and consistency of the objectives being set is also important. Whilst the system currently allows people to ask questions, there seems to be a cultural problem in Powys with few questions being asked.
- The corporate assessment will be interested in the governance process around performance reports. There is a need to feed back the concerns of the Working Group to the Cabinet. It was also suggested that there is a need to restart the Executive Programme Board. The issues raised also need to be considered when Service Improvement Plans (SIPs) are being agreed to ensure that SMART objectives are being set.

**Outcomes:**

<b>Action</b>	<b>Completion Date</b>	<b>Action By</b>
<b>That the concerns of the Working Group and the Steering Group be forwarded to the</b>	<b>February, 2016</b>	<b>WR</b>

<b>Cabinet for consideration, especially when the SIPs are being agreed.</b>		
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<b>9. WORK PROGRAMME</b>	<b>JCSG9 - 2016</b>
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**Documents Considered:**

- Steering Group Work Programme.

**Issues Discussed:**

- The One Powys Plan and the Annual Improvement Report are being undertaken slightly differently this year and therefore there needs to be a discussion between the Scrutiny Manager and the Professional Lead – Strategic Planning and Performance regarding the timescales in the work programme. It was suggested that the Cabinet’s work programme should also be used to inform the scrutiny process and work programmes, and concern was expressed regarding how up to date was the Cabinet work programme.

**Outcomes:**

<b>Action</b>	<b>Completion Date</b>	<b>Action By</b>
<b>The Scrutiny Manager and the Professional Lead – Strategic Planning and Performance to discuss the timescales in the work programme.</b>	<b>18 March, 2016</b>	<b>PJ / WR</b>
<b>The Chair to discuss the issues regarding the Cabinet work programme with the Leader of the Council</b>	<b>18 March, 2016</b>	<b>JM</b>

<b>10. LOCAL SERVICE BOARD</b>	<b>JCSG10 - 2016</b>
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10.1. Draft Notes of Previous Meeting(s)

**Documents Considered:**

- Draft Notes – meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> December, 2015.

**Issues Discussed:**

- None.

**Outcomes:**

- **Noted.**
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10.2. LSB Dates - For Information

- 10 March, 2016
- 9 June, 2016
- 22 September, 2016
- 1 December, 2016

**Issues Discussed:**

- None.

**Outcomes:**

- **Noted.**

<b>11.</b>	<b>DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS - FOR INFORMATION</b>	<b>JCSG11 - 2016</b>
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- 18 March, 2016
- 13 May, 2016
- 15 July, 2016
- 16 September, 2016
- 25 November, 2016

**Issues Discussed:**

- None.

**Outcomes:**

- **Noted.**

**County Councillor J.G. Morris (Chair)**

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**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE JOINT CHAIRS AND VICE-CHAIRS STEERING GROUP HELD AT COMMITTEE ROOM A - COUNTY HALL, LLANDRINDOD WELLS, POWYS ON FRIDAY, 18 MARCH 2016**

**PRESENT**

County Councillor JG Morris (Chair), D R Jones, E M Jones and J Brautigam

<b>1.</b>	<b>APOLOGIES</b>	<b>JCSG1 - 2016</b>
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Members: County Councillors S C Davies, M Dorrance and G Jones  
Officers: Jeremy Patterson, Chief Executive, David Powell, Strategic Director Resources and Nick Philpott, Programme Director

<b>2.</b>	<b>DRAFT NOTES - FOR CONSIDERATION</b>	<b>JCSG2 - 2016</b>
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**Documents Considered:**

- Notes of the last meeting

**Issues Discussed:**

- Attendance – the Chair reiterated the need for Members to attend to ensure meetings were effective.

**Outcomes:**

- **Noted**

<b>3.</b>	<b>DISCUSSION WITH THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE, STRATEGIC DIRECTOR / DIRECTOR REGARDING POTENTIAL SCRUTINY ITEMS.</b>	<b>JCSG3 - 2016</b>
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**Documents Considered:**

- None

**Issues Discussed:**

- The future role of the Group would be discussed later on the agenda with a suggestion to change the day of the meeting to ensure optimal attendance.

<b>4.</b>	<b>CORPORATE ASSESSMENT</b>	<b>JCSG4 - 2016</b>
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**Documents Considered:**

- Assessment of issues raised at other authorities' corporate assessments
- The Professional Lead, Strategic Planning and Performance gave a presentation on the requirements of the Corporate Assessment

**Issues Discussed:**

- Members were provided with the legislative background to the Corporate Assessment together with the overall purpose.

- Members queried whether the integration process was being monitored and were assured that it was. The accessing of information would be considered to ensure Members were fully aware of the issues
- Officers were asked if the Corporate Assessment would be based on qualitative or quantitative measures. There would be consideration of both and would include performance measures, budget etc but also interviews with groups of Members, Chairs and officers. There was no definitive standards against which the Authority could judge itself prior to the Assessment itself.
- Members Seminars have been arranged to ensure Members will be fully briefed
- Some staff resource has been identified to assist in the process. A critique of other authorities' assessments has been compiled and a Corporate Assessment Steering Group has been established and produced an Action Plan. Two staff focus groups have been set up and KPMG have been engaged to provide external challenge.
- A self-assessment will be completed by mid May and any gaps identified. It was acknowledged that there may be some progress in filling these gaps prior to the Assessment but the main objective was to ensure that the Authority was aware of any weaknesses and has plans to address these.
- The Wellbeing and Future Generations Act will be implemented from 1 April and it was thought likely that this would influence the way in which the WAO approach the Assessment
- All Members will have responsibility throughout the Assessment. The Joint Chairs Steering Group will have two roles – firstly to monitor how the Authority approaches the CA and, secondly, to assess the scrutiny element. A list of potential issues had been compiled. Monthly strategic scrutiny meetings have already been established and other officers will be invited to challenge the issues raised. These will then be assessed and prioritized by the Joint Chairs Steering Group. The self-assessment of scrutiny will be fed into the corporate self-assessment

**Outcomes:**

Action	Completion Date	Action By
Complete scrutiny self-assessment	30 April 2016	Wyn Richards

<b>5.</b>	<b>INTEGRATION WITH THE HEALTH BOARD</b>	<b>JCSG5 - 2016</b>
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**Documents Considered:**

- Expression of Interest to Welsh Government - Working Together for a Thriving Powys
- Progress Report – Strategic director – People and the Chief Executive, Powys teaching Local Health Board

**Issues Discussed:**



- Consideration needed to be given to scrutiny of the Joint Partnership Board (JPB). A meeting had been convened with the LTHB to progress the matter.
- The JPB includes four county councillors and has held its initial meeting. A Joint Management Board (JMB) has also met and agreed a process for escalating strategic decision making. The JMB will meet monthly and JPB, 6 weekly.
- Scrutiny arrangements of the Local Service Board (LSB) had been agreed but never implemented due to the delays in nominating members. This will have to be reassessed as the Public Service Board (PSB) goes live in April 2016. Further discussions regarding the roles and challenges of the PSB and its scrutiny will have to be undertaken.
- Members asked whether the Welsh Government (WG) had offered any support and were advised that some support had been offered late in the financial year (November). It was not possible to roll over monies not expended and it was not clear whether any additional funding would be forthcoming in the next financial year.
- It was clarified that scrutiny would apply to both the organisation and outcomes. There were no powers to undertake scrutiny of the Local Health Board itself.
- Local Government reorganisation is being driven forward and whilst there is legislation to drive integration through, the NHS works to national priorities. Consideration should be given to other services, not just social care, that can be delivered following integration, eg HR etc.
- Members were of the opinion timescales should be set out
- 'Tell Us Once' only applies within Powys County Council at present - there are no plans to include health until November at the earliest. However this is a Welsh Government strategy and remains the responsibility of the Welsh Government.

**Outcomes:**

<b>Action</b>	<b>Completion Date</b>	<b>Action By</b>
<b>To develop the scrutiny process for the Joint Partnership Board</b>	<b>30 April 2016</b>	<b>Wyn Richards</b>
<b>Minutes of Joint Partnership Board to be circulated</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>	<b>Wyn Richards</b>

<b>6.</b>	<b>COMMISSIONING AND PROCUREMENT BOARD</b>	<b>JCSG6 - 2016</b>
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**Documents Considered:**

- **Briefing on the role and operation of the Commissioning and Procurement Board**

**Issues Discussed:**

- Concern that major issues are only just being considered and not being programmed sufficiently early
- There was no evidence of challenge

- It was unclear whether the Board met its Terms of Reference
- The Group considered that further information regarding the number of contracts and value of those contracts that were out of time and how many were rolled over or extended would demonstrate the effectiveness of the Board
- Re-letting of the BUPA contract was raised a year ago, which was considered to be too late for such a major contract. In the event, the domiciliary care issue overtook the re-letting of the BUPA contract and there was insufficient capacity in the system to deal with both issues. It was expected that a report on interim measures would be considered by Cabinet imminently. The Group were of the opinion that a wider view should be taken and include co-location
- The lessons learned from the domiciliary care issue needed to be applied to future commissioning projects
- There was no forward commissioning plan either at a service or corporate level
- Over recent years, WAO reports had identified a lack of candour, capacity and capability to deliver services. This is likely to hinder transformation. It was acknowledged that it will take time for expertise to match need and the Authority must endeavour not to be too ambitious.
- The recent ACRF proved to be both frustrating and disappointing with the service not being as far forward with commissioning as expected

**Outcomes:**

<b>Action</b>	<b>Completion Date</b>	<b>Action By</b>
<b>The report be amended to reflect the Groups comments and forwarded to the Commissioning and Procurement Board for consideration</b>	<b>1 May 2016</b>	<b>Wyn Richards</b>

<b>7.</b>	<b>DRAFT STRATEGIC EQUALITY PLAN (SEP) FOR CHALLENGE</b>	<b>JCSG7 - 2016</b>
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**Documents:**

- **Draft Strategic Equality Plan**

**Issues:**

- Statutory requirement
- The current Plan ran from 2012 to date. It was determined that visibility of and progression through the current Plan was weak and did not connect to mainstream improvement planning
- In principle the Authority can produce a Plan with partners but not until 2018 but a revised Plan is required imminently
- The draft has been influenced by 'Is Wales Fairer' produced by the Equalities and Human Rights Commission. The seven emerging objectives tie in with those proposed within 'Is Wales Fairer'

- The Plan should be in place from 1 April and it is anticipated that the document will be approved by Cabinet on 12 April
- Members queried how baselines and targets had been established
- Members debated the need to include data within the document or just links to the information

**Outcomes:**

<b>Action</b>	<b>Completion Date</b>	<b>Action By</b>
<b>Any further comments on the plan to be emailed to Bets Ingram, Strategic Planning Officer</b>	<b>24 March 2016</b>	<b>Members</b>

<b>8.</b>	<b>ONE POWYS PLAN UPDATE</b>	<b>JCSG8 - 2016</b>
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**Documents:**

- One Powys Plan Update

**Issues:**

- 2016-17 update
- The five Programme Boards have undertaken a light touch review by confirming their objectives
- The LSB has also considered the update
- Feedback on the draft is now welcomed

**Outcomes:**

<b>Action</b>	<b>Completion Date</b>	<b>Action By</b>
<b>Comments on the draft update to be emailed to Peter Jones</b>	<b>24 March 2016</b>	<b>Members</b>

<b>9.</b>	<b>SCRUTINY ITEMS FOR INCLUSION ON WORK PROGRAMMES</b>	<b>JCSG9 - 2016</b>
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**The following three agenda items were considered in a block**

**Documents Considered:**

- Items for inclusion on the scrutiny programme including scoring sheets
- Revised schedule of meetings for Joint Chairs Steering Group
- Place Scrutiny and Audit Committees Workstreams
- People Scrutiny Committee Workstreams
- Assessment of Potential Work Programme Items
- Assessment of the Potential Impact of Scrutiny

**Issues Discussed:**

- Distribution of scrutiny work
- Quantity over quality – there was too much work being undertaken not allowing topics to be addressed adequately
- Some scrutiny was taking place that had not been assessed and scored
- Work was not being assessed strategically or put into a coherent work programme. It was suggested that all current work streams should be reassessed and rescored
- It was essential to formulate a process and adhere to it to avoid disproportionate time being allocated to one topic.
- There was also a need to react more quickly to requests
- There was a need to be more strategic and the Group needed to be more selective in the items included on the work programmes
- Members were of the opinion that some issues should be being dealt with by Portfolio Holders
- Scrutiny should be seeking assurance that work or monitoring is being carried out and not doing that work or monitoring itself
- The Schools Service do not see standards as their responsibility but that of the Head Teacher and Governing Body – yet it is an outcome in the One Powys Plan. An Action Plan following an inspection should be being monitored by the Challenge Adviser.
- There needed to be more accountability in some areas
- It was suggested that Joint Chairs Steering Group should increase the frequency of meetings
- The resourcing of scrutiny to be reassessed following the reassessment of scrutiny items

**Outcomes:**

Action	Completion Date	Action By
Increase the frequency of Joint Chairs meetings – advise that Chairs and Vice Chairs should attend as a priority. Dates to be included in electronic diaries		Wyn Richards
Scrutiny items to be rescored and brought back for prioritising – including a list of other scrutiny requirements eg, PSB, JPB etc	April 2016	Wyn Richards

<b>10.</b>	<b>OTHER SCRUTINY MATTERS</b>	<b>JCSG10 - 2016</b>
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See Agenda Item 20 above.

10.1. Schedule of Meetings of the Joint Chairs and Vice-Chairs Steering Group

See Agenda Item 20 above.

10.2. Resourcing Scrutiny

See Agenda Item 20 above.

10.3. Process for Initiating Scrutiny reviews

See Agenda Item 20 above.

<b>11.</b>	<b>SCRUTINY AND CABINET WORK PROGRAMMES</b>	<b>JCSG11 - 2016</b>
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**Documents Considered:**

- Cabinet Work Programme
- People Scrutiny Committee Work Programme
- Place Audit Committee Work Programme
- Audit Committee Work Programme

**Outcomes:**

- **Noted**

<b>12.</b>	<b>LSB / PSB SCRUTINY COMMITTEE</b>	<b>JCSG12 - 2016</b>
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**Documents Considered:**

- None

**Issues Discussed:**

- It was noted that Roger Eagle had been appointed by the PtHB to the PSB Scrutiny Panel
- Nominees were still awaited from the Powys CHC and the Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service was to be contacted regarding nominating a representative

**Outcomes:**

- **Noted**

**County Councillor JG Morris (Chair)**

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**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE JOINT CHAIRS AND VICE-CHAIRS STEERING GROUP HELD AT COUNCIL CHAMBER - COUNTY HALL, LLANDRINDOD WELLS, POWYS ON TUESDAY, 12 APRIL 2016**

PRESENT

County Councillor JG Morris (Chair)

County Councillors D R Jones, L V Corfield, E M Jones and J Brautigam

<b>1.</b>	<b>APOLOGIES</b>	<b>JCSG1 - 2016</b>
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Members: County Councillors S C Davies

Officers: Amanda Lewis, Strategic Director, People and Jeremy Patterson, Chief Executive

<b>2.</b>	<b>DRAFT NOTES - FOR CONSIDERATION</b>	<b>JCSG2 - 2016</b>
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**Documents Considered:**

- Draft Notes – 18 March 2016

**Issues Discussed:**

- **Corporate Assessment** – it was noted that a full Corporate Assessment will not now take place. This will be replaced with three thematic reviews – Financial Resilience, Corporate Governance (including scrutiny) and Transformation. The strategy to address the corporate assessment in relation to scrutiny will however continue with some refocussing depending on timetabling.
- **Integration** – initial discussions have taken place with the PthB. There were four strands to consider – the Joint Partnership Board, Joint Management Team, Part 9 Board (a regional board required by statute) and the PSB itself.

**Outcomes:**

- **Noted**

<b>3.</b>	<b>DISCUSSION WITH THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE, STRATEGIC DIRECTOR / DIRECTOR REGARDING POTENTIAL SCRUTINY ITEMS.</b>	<b>JCSG3 - 2016</b>
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**Documents Considered:**

- None

**Issues Discussed:**

- No items were raised

4.	<b>SCRUTINY SELF ASSESSMENT</b>	<b>JCSG4 - 2016</b>
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**Documents Considered:**

- Assessment Matrix
- Scrutiny work programme

**Issues Discussed:**

- The existing scoring mechanism for determining scrutiny work was considered to be too subjective and difficult to manage
- Officers suggested the use of a risk matrix – this still proved to be subjective, but a list of existing and potential work items had been drawn up for consideration and prioritisation by the Steering Group
- It was considered that some items included should be undertaken by the Cabinet – Portfolio Holders should have responsibility for scrutinizing their own areas and policies
- There was concern that the Cabinet did not fully understand the requirements of a ‘commissioning’ council and had a tendency to want to deliver all services
- Too much work was left to scrutiny to deliver
- Some items (e.g. library standards report) should be challenged by the Portfolio Holder
- Regulators were also putting scrutiny under pressure
- The relationship between Cabinet and Scrutiny must be improved and a joint meeting should be arranged to discuss improvements
- Work programming links between the Cabinet and the scrutiny committees must also be improved to allow sufficient time for scrutiny to take place. Existing work programmes are ineffective.
- Scrutiny should not be used merely to give added assurance to Cabinet prior to decision making
- The mechanism for approval of reports for submission to Cabinet was also under review and more discipline needed to be introduced to the process. A timetable is being prepared for consideration by Management Team which will be strictly adhered to – this may incorporate a deadline for informing scrutiny.
- A suggestion was made that the current work programme for scrutiny should be completely redrawn based on the priorities of the One Powys Plan
- Scrutiny should be more involved in determining whether proposals to be consulted upon are correct
- A forward vision is required to enable effective forward planning
- Members debated whether there should be a comment from scrutiny on every report – it was thought this would be too cumbersome and slow down the process
- Scrutiny should also be undertaken on low risk issues which may develop into high risk
- Insufficient scrutiny taking place at an appropriate level



## **Scrutiny Work Programme – amendments**

### **Education:**

- Unverified exam results, verified exam results, attendance, exclusions categorisation, SIP monitoring – annual report for monitoring otherwise Cabinet responsibility
- School budgets – reports to Cabinet periodically. Every Portfolio Holder will be in receipt of bespoke monitoring reports. The Portfolio Holder for Schools will also receive individual school monitoring reports. A recent issue regarding the misuse of school funds had been widely reported and was subject to an investigation. Members were concerned that such activity could take place outside of policy and had little confidence in current processes.
- ERW Challenge Advisory Service – to be re-categorised as HIGH / HIGH
- School Modernisation Proposals – categorize as HIGH / HIGH. The policy should be correct. A useful piece of work would be to monitor previous projects but there is a lack of capacity to undertake this at the present time
- School Pupil Projections including retention rates - to be referred to FSP
- Payments to temporary and supply staff – remove
- ERW Business Plan including monitoring – ERW Joint Scrutiny

### **Adult Social Care**

- Day Services and Welshpool Day Centre – combine
- Fairer and Affordable Care and Direct Payments – briefing prior to a decision being taken on further scrutiny
- Residential Care – pre decision scrutiny required – briefing to be provided to Members in the near future

### **Corporate**

- Welfare Reform – Universal Credit should be monitored post roll out – annual monitoring
- ICT Security and business continuity to be added

### **Cultural**

- Libraries – Annual Report – Cabinet should monitor

### **Joint Scrutiny**

- Mid Wales Health Collaborative and Scrutiny of Integration with Health to be combined
- ACRF – categorise HIGH / HIGH. Outcomes should be apparent in the Director of Social Services' annual report.

### **Finance and Performance**

- Proposal under consideration for this work to be undertaken by FSP

### **Place**

- Prioritisation to be carried out – Highways savings to be placed first

**Outcomes:**

<b>Action</b>	<b>Completion Date</b>	<b>Action By</b>
<b>Joint Meeting to be arranged with Cabinet</b>		<b>Lisa Richards</b>
<b>Scrutiny work programme to be amended as discussed.</b>		<b>Wyn Richards</b>

<b>5.</b>	<b>PSB DATES - FOR INFORMATION</b>	<b>JCSG5 - 2016</b>
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- 9 June, 2016
- 22 September, 2016
- 1 December, 2016

<b>6.</b>	<b>DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS - FOR INFORMATION</b>	<b>JCSG6 - 2016</b>
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- 24 May 2016
- 5 July 2016
- 13 September 2016
- 18 October 2016
- 29 November 2016

**County Councillor JG Morris (Chair)**

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE JOINT CHAIRS AND VICE-CHAIRS STEERING GROUP HELD AT COUNCIL CHAMBER - COUNTY HALL, LLANDRINDOD WELLS, POWYS ON TUESDAY, 24 MAY 2016**

**PRESENT:** County Councillor D R Jones (Chair), S C Davies JG Morris, D R Jones, S C Davies and J Brautigam

**In Attendance:** County Councillors W B Thomas, R G Brown, S Hayes, E A Jones, W T Jones and W J T Powell

**Officers:** J Patterson, Chief Executive, P Griffiths, Strategic Director - Place, D Powell Strategic Director - Resources, C Pinney - Solicitor to the Council, P Jones -, Strategic Programme Manager, W Richards - Scrutiny Manager and E Patterson and L Richards - Scrutiny Officers

<b>1.</b>	<b>ELECTION OF CHAIR</b>	<b>JCSG1 - 2016</b>
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**RESOLVED** that the Chair of People be elected the Chair for the ensuing year.

<b>2.</b>	<b>ELECTION OF VICE CHAIR</b>	<b>JCSG2 - 2016</b>
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**RESOLVED** that the Chair of Place be elected Vice Chair for the ensuing year.

<b>3.</b>	<b>APOLOGIES</b>	<b>JCSG3 - 2016</b>
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Members: County Councillors L V Corfield  
Officers:

**Discussions with the Cabinet regarding the work programme (Item 8) were taken at this point on the agenda. Notes under Item 8 below.**

<b>4.</b>	<b>DRAFT NOTES - FOR CONSIDERATION</b>	<b>JCSG4 - 2016</b>
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**Documents Considered:**

- Notes of meeting 12 April 2016

**Outcomes:**

- Noted

<b>5.</b>	<b>DISCUSSION WITH THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE, STRATEGIC DIRECTORS / DIRECTOR REGARDING POTENTIAL SCRUTINY ITEMS</b>	<b>JCSG5 - 2016</b>
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**Documents Considered:**

- None

**Issues Discussed:**

- Work programming
- Budget – if savings have not been met, research why and whether there are any learning points
- MTFS – some plans are not well defined. These plans should be developed and assist in the development of the Resourcing Plan. Additional consideration needs to be given to ‘service redesign’ and the details of that redesign.
- Constructive challenge and inquiry is useful
- Plans must be more defined
- A role for FSP is being developed which will encompass these areas
- Risks should also be assessed – Resources are expected to deliver £3M savings and consideration of risk must be built into the programme
- Some savings from previous years have still not been achieved. Local Members are frustrated that cuts are imposed due to the approved budget, but those details were never made apparent
- Highways services have to achieve £1.6M savings and specific plans are not yet developed
- The more debate that can be had around an issue the better as it could highlight other alternatives enabling better decisions to be made
- Savings have to be delivered within the libraries and leisure services by the end of the financial year and firm proposals will need to be considered by Cabinet in the autumn leaving little time for scrutiny
- Real value could be had by scrutiny evaluating options
- The emphasis must be to drive the programme through Joint Chairs but scrutiny must be flexible to respond
- A suggestion was put that scrutiny should be included within the performance/finance, business intelligence framework which would result in a defined work programme
- Scrutiny should be concentrated on those items where there is the biggest return on investment and, as discussed with Cabinet, should concentrate on the ‘big ticket’ items

**Outcomes:**

- **Outcomes included in Work Programme item 8**

<b>6.</b>	<b>ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT</b>	<b>JCSG6 - 2016</b>
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**Documents Considered:**

- Draft Annual Governance Statement

**Issues Discussed:**

- The document has expanded over recent years and the format will be reviewed for future years.

**Outcomes:**

Action	Completion Date	Action By
Comments on AGS to be	31 May 2016	Members

<b>forwarded to Peter Jones or Wyn Richards</b>		
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<b>7.</b>	<b>CORPORATE IMPROVEMENT PLAN</b>	<b>JCSG7 - 2016</b>
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**Documents Considered:**

- Draft Corporate Improvement Plan

**Issues Discussed:**

- The Corporate Improvement Plan draws existing policies together and once agreed will become the corner stone for financial planning

**Outcomes**

<b>Action</b>	<b>Completion Date</b>	<b>Action By</b>
<b>Comments on the Corporate Improvement Plan to be forwarded to Peter Jones or Wyn Richards</b>	<b>31 May 2016</b>	<b>Members</b>

<b>8.</b>	<b>SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME</b>	<b>JCSG8 - 2016</b>
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**Documents Considered:**

- Scrutiny Work Programme

**Joint discussion with Cabinet:**

(Cabinet Members present: County Councillors W B Thomas, W T Jones, R G Brown, E A Jones, S Hayes and W J T Powell)

- The scrutiny work programme has been reviewed and will be prioritised
- During the course of the review a number of items were removed and agreement reached that there should be greater concentration on quality over quantity
- Some items were listed which were considered to be better monitored by Cabinet rather than scrutiny
- There needs to be good communication between Cabinet and Scrutiny to develop both work programmes to be effective
- Pre scrutiny should be used more
- The Cabinet work programme must be sufficiently detailed to enable the scrutiny work programme to be drawn up
- There was an acknowledgement that there would be reports submitted to Cabinet at short notice but these should not be on key decisions
- The Leader suggested that regular meetings with Joint Chairs should take place to ensure a constant dialogue takes place to avoid the current disconnect
- The Portfolio Holder for Adult Social Care informed the meeting of two major issues to be considered by Cabinet in the summer – Day Centres in mid July and Residential Care in August/September. Whilst he would welcome scrutiny's input, timeliness was essential and there would be a short time frame for scrutiny to comment.

- Cabinet would welcome timely and informed information prior to making decisions
- Comments were made that less than 50% of items on the Cabinet work programme were considered as specified – some did not appear to have been considered at all and some may have been integrated into other reports
- It was considered that some items should not be taken to Cabinet but should be subject to Portfolio Holder decision. The Leader acknowledged this but wanted decisions to be open.
- Many key decisions are governed by consultation. It was suggested that Scrutiny could become involved during the consultation period
- Many savings are predicated on decisions being made in accordance with a tight timetable
- Some items have been dropped from the Cabinet work programme but the Leader has always been made aware of these issues. Consideration was given to whether scrutiny should also be informed.
- Processes need to be streamlined
- Although Key Decisions – requiring advertising for 28 days prior to a decision being made – were not required in Wales, a process could be developed based on those principles
- Reporting needs to be SMARTer and lengthy reports should perhaps contain a summary sheet for general information
- There was general agreement for scrutiny to take place during the consultation period
- Options must be provided together with details of the drivers e.g. finance
- Cabinet should only consider key decisions – anything else should be determined by Portfolio Holders
- Where a policy has already been agreed, projects should be implemented without reference to Cabinet
- The Chief Executive noted that a number of ‘for information’ items were appearing on the Cabinet agendas and this would be addressed
- The Portfolio Holder decision process should be refined – decisions are publicized but is this adequate? More Portfolio Holder decisions would free up Cabinet time
- A Resourcing Plan is being produced and it will be essential to know key dates to develop the Plan. However, political discussion also needs to be factored into that timetable
- It was suggested that too much time was spent on why things did not work rather than concentrate on what did work
- A review of publicity should be undertaken following the demise of the Red Kite – is Facebook working, are any positives reported through the Helpdesk etc
- There was a need to maintain momentum. The majority of officers were committed to transformation but a minority may not be - the senior management team are working against that. The right challenge and scrutiny is essential but momentum must be maintained
- A further suggestion was made that high profile decisions could be subject to dialogue with scrutiny at an earlier stage – this would inform debate on which options were included for formal consultation
- A Member commented that some Members were also resistant to change

- Scrutiny could benefit from its own or joint press releases with Cabinet and this was accepted by the Portfolio Holder with responsibility for communications
- The Joint Chairs Steering Group had been concerned at the amount of scrutiny coming forward and the reporting process being too late to enable scrutiny to take place. The Solicitor to the Council suggested that a briefing paper could be prepared on options for key decisions which could also be considered by scrutiny
- Consideration was given to scrutiny attending the Commissioning and Procurement Board as observers and whether the minutes of that Board should be sent to scrutiny committee chairs for information. It was agreed that a work programme should be developed and that all information should be channelled through Joint Chairs to ensure the work programme was adequately developed
- The capacity of both Members and Officers was of concern – the resource was limited and must be used in the most effective way. There was agreement that the resource must be concentrated on the ‘big ticket’ items.
- It was noted that information was not always forthcoming – the Senior Management Team and appropriate Portfolio Holder should be informed of such occurrences. A system of escalation should be agreed.
- The Portfolio Holder for Finance had also taken on responsibility for scrutiny and he sought the approval of the Joint Chairs Steering Group for his attendance at scrutiny committees and the Steering Group as an observer when possible. There were no objections raised to the proposal.

After Cabinet Members had left the meeting the Joint Chairs and Senior Management Team considered the priorities for each item. All top priorities would be further prioritized once dates had been included in the work programme

**Outcomes:**

<b>Action</b>	<b>Completion Date</b>	<b>Action By</b>
<b>A process for scrutiny procedures to be drafted and circulated for comments</b>	<b>1 June 2016</b>	<b>Wyn Richards</b>
<b>The scrutiny work programme to be prioritized in line with the discussion</b>	<b>24 May 2016</b>	<b>Joint Chairs Steering Group</b>
<b>Top priority items to be reviewed when a timetable has been agreed with Strategic Directors</b>	<b>24 June 2016</b>	<b>Wyn Richards</b>

9.1. Draft Notes of Previous Meeting(s)

**Documents Considered:**

- Draft notes of final LSB – 10 March 2016

**Outcomes:**

- **Noted**

<b>9.</b>	<b>PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD</b>	<b>JCSG9 - 2016</b>
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9.2. PSB Dates - For Information

- 9 June 2016
- 22 September 2016
- 1 December 2016

<b>10.</b>	<b>DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS - FOR INFORMATION</b>	<b>JCSG10 - 2016</b>
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- 5 July 2016
- 13 September 2016
- 18 October 2016
- 29 November 2016

**County Councillor D R Jones**



## PLACE COMMITTEE

### Work Programme 2016/17

**Chair** Cllr Kelvyn Curry  
**Vice Chair**

<b>16 June 2016</b>		
<b>Standard Items</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Election of Vice Chair</li> <li>Minutes</li> <li>Joint Chairs Steering Group</li> <li>Work Programme</li> </ul>	10 December 2015 22 January, 18 March, 12 April, 24 May 2016 Consideration items for the work programme and appointments to working groups	Lisa Richards Lisa Richards Lisa Richards
<b>Policy Reviews</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li></li> </ul>		
<b>Scrutiny Review Groups</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regeneration</li> <li>Waste Strategy</li> </ul>		Lisa Richards Lisa Richards
<b>Other</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Crime and Disorder</li> <li>JVC</li> </ul>	Half yearly report	Fay Smith Lyn Hall

<b>6 October 2016</b>		
<b>Standard Items</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minutes</li> <li>Joint Chairs Steering Group</li> <li>Work Programme</li> </ul>	16 June 2016 5 July , 13 Sept 2016	Lisa Richards “ “
<b>Policy Reviews</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li></li> </ul>		
<b>Scrutiny Review Groups</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li></li> </ul>		
<b>Other</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Freedom Leisure (10am)</li> </ul>		,

### Working Groups

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