

County Council

Meeting Venue
**Council Chamber - County Hall,
Llandrindod Wells**

Meeting date
Wednesday, 20 January 2016

Meeting time
10.45 am

For further information please contact
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County Hall
Llandrindod Wells
Powys
LD1 5LG

14 January 2016

AGENDA

1.	APOLOGIES	CC1- 2016
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To receive apologies for absence.

2.	MINUTES	CC2- 2016
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To authorise the Chair to sign the minutes of the last meeting held on 21st October 2015 as a correct record.

(Pages 7 - 34)

3.	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST	CC3- 2016
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To receive any declarations of interest from Members relating to items to be considered on the agenda.

4.	CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS	CC4- 2016
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To receive any announcements from the Chair of Council.

5.	LEADER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS	CC5- 2016
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To receive any announcements from the Leader.

6.	CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S BRIEFING	CC6- 2016
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To receive a briefing from the Chief Executive.

7.	VIREMENTS REQUIRING COUNCIL APPROVAL	CC7- 2016
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To consider approving virements in the capital budget.
(Pages 35 - 36)

8.	CHAIRS OF SCRUTINY COMMITTEES	CC8- 2016
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To consider a report by the Solicitor to the Council.
(Pages 37 - 40)

9.	APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES AND OUTSIDE BODIES BY POLITICAL GROUPS APPROVED BY THE MONITORING OFFICER	CC9- 2016
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To note the following appointments to Committees made by political groups and approved by the Monitoring Officer under the general power of delegation granted by Council on 16th May 2013:

County Councillors David Price and Gillian Thomas appointed to the Audit Committee by Powys Independent Alliance to fill vacancies.
County Councillor Garry Banks appointed to Place Scrutiny Committee by Labour in place of County Councillor Matthew Dorrance.
County Councillor James Gibson-Watt appointed to People Scrutiny Committee by the Liberal Democrats to fill a vacancy.

10.	APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT (LAY) MEMBER ON THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE	CC10- 2016
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To consider the report of the Solicitor to the Council.
(Pages 41 - 42)

11.	WYE NAVIGATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE	CC11- 2016
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To consider making an appointment to the Wye Navigation Advisory Committee.
(Pages 43 - 44)

12.	COUNCIL FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME	CC12- 2016
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To receive the Council work programme for 2016.
(Pages 45 - 46)

13.	NOTICE OF MOTION - PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN COUNCIL MEETINGS	CC13- 2016
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Powys County Council

- believes that we should do more to encourage residents of Powys to have a greater say in all council meetings
- thinks that public participation provides a means by which those with a view to express are able to do so at meetings where particular issues are being raised
- believes public engagement would be improved by offering a structured format at the start of all meetings of the council and its committees for members of the public to address councillors
- notes that a large proportion of Welsh local authorities already make provision for public participation at meetings

This council resolves

1. to empower the Democratic Services Committee to look at ways in which public participation operates successfully across Wales
2. to explore options for introducing public participation and make proposals aimed at introducing a system to allow members of the public to contribute in council meetings.

Proposed: County Councillor Gemma Bowker

Seconded: County Councillor John Morris

14.	QUESTIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CONSTITUTION	CC14- 2016
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14.1. Question to the Portfolio Holder with responsibility for Children's Services from County Councillor Huw Williams

How many fully qualified dedicated Social workers are employed within Children Services in Powys and where are they located? Also, what is their current average 'case work' load and how does this compare to other authorities and national guidelines?

(Pages 47 - 48)

14.2. Question to the Portfolio Holder for Finance from County Councillor Bob Mills

It is very important that we keep council tax to a minimum so why not move the appropriate personnel into the Shires and get rid of County Hall?

(Pages 49 - 50)

14.3. **Question to the Portfolio Holder for Property, Buildings and Housing from County Councillor Gwilym Williams**

Can you please tell me how many County Council houses, that would include flats and all residential properties, that are currently unoccupied and how many of these have been unoccupied for more than six months?
(Pages 51 - 52)

14.4. **Question to the Portfolio Holder for Regeneration and Planning from County Councillor Matthew Dorrance**

In November 2015, the Cabinet Member informed Brecon's County Councillors that the planned cultural hub was delayed partly because of a funding shortfall.

Will the Cabinet Member provide Council with an updated position statement, details of the financial shortfall and how the Council plans to close this funding gap so that this regeneration project can proceed?
(Pages 53 - 54)

14.5. **Question to the Portfolio Holder for Education from County Councillor Matthew Dorrance**

Does the Cabinet think it's fair to ask Learning Support Assistants in Schools to fund a £15 registration fee to enable them to do their jobs?
(Pages 55 - 56)

14.6. **Question to the Portfolio Holder for Adult Social Care from County Councillor Graham Jones**

In the face of deep concerns from your electors, is Powys County Council willing to re-think its funding priorities in order to safeguard both day care, and the vital day centres, for its vulnerable elderly; taking into account that the professional care currently provided by Maes-y-Wennol Day Centre, Llanidloes, for example, could not guaranteed by the voluntary sector? What positive alternative measures are you considering to help this situation, I feel as an authority that we must try our utmost to look after our elderly residents?
(Pages 57 - 58)

14.7. **Question to the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Sustainability from County Councillor Gemma Bowker**

Could the portfolio holder please provide reassurance that, following the significant increases in fees for bereavement services to full recovery rates, the bereavement service is being as well and efficiently run as possible and offering those having to meet these charges at a difficult

time are provided with high levels of care and value for money?

(Pages 59 - 60)

14.8. **Question to the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Sustainability from County Councillor Graham Jones**

Now that higher burial charges may be imposed by Powys County Council re: Cemeteries, concerns are that some families simply cannot afford these extra charges.

Has the Council considered that if these excessively high increased charges are implemented, this could well lead to an environmental problem?

What measures are the Council proposing, to address this?

(Pages 61 - 62)

14.9. **Question to the Portfolio Holder for Education from County Councillor David Meredith**

In view of the significance that the uptake of Free School Meals has on the Family of Schools in which a School is situated what action is the Authority taking along with ERW in order to provide better promotional material for schools to send out to parents in order to encourage them to apply? Furthermore when is the Authority likely to introduce a Cashless System which will avoid any embarrassment for those pupils receiving Free School Meals?

(Pages 63 - 64)

14.10. **Question to the Portfolio Holder for Education from County Councillor David Meredith**

When is the Authority going to take the decision on Welsh-medium Education in the Secondary Sector in the South of the County and, if not in the foreseeable future, when does the Authority intend notifying parents, especially of those who currently have children in Year 6 of where their children are going to receive their Welsh-medium Education with effect from September, 2016?

(Pages 65 - 66)

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CC2- 2016

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL HELD AT COUNCIL CHAMBER - COUNTY HALL, LLANDRINDOD WELLS ON WEDNESDAY, 21 OCTOBER 2015

PRESENT

County Councillor PJ Ashton (Chair)

County Councillors M C Alexander, D Bailey, G R Banks, G J Bowker, R G Brown, J H Brunt, L V Corfield, K W Curry, S C Davies, D E Davies, L R E Davies, E R Davies, S Davies, A W Davies, V E Evans, W J Evans, D O Evans, L Fitzpatrick, R I George, J Gibson-Watt, P Harris, S M Hayes, J C Holmes, G Hopkins, E A Jones, D C Jones, M J Jones, E M Jones, Eldrydd M Jones, G M Jones, D R Jones, J R Jones, W T Jones, F H Jump, P E Lewis, MC Mackenzie, D Mayor, S McNicholas, P J Medlicott, DW Meredith, R H Mills, ET Morgan, G Morgan, JG Morris, W J T Powell, WD Powell, GD Price, D R Price, G W Ratcliffe, K M Roberts-Jones, J G Shearer, K S Silk, D A Thomas, W B Thomas, A G Thomas, D G Thomas, R G Thomas, T Turner, T J Van-Rees, G P Vaughan, D H Williams, S L Williams, J M Williams, G I S Williams and E A York

1.	APOLOGIES	CC77- 2015
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Apologies for absence were received from County Councillors MJB Davies, MJ Dorrance, MR Harris, A Holloway, H Lewis and PC Pritchard.

Members were advised that County Councillor Holloway was going into hospital and the Chair was asked to send her best wishes on behalf of the Council.

2.	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST	CC78- 2015
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County Councillors MC Alexander, PE Lewis, WD Powell and DR Price declared personal and prejudicial interests in item C88 – 2015 Notice of Motion Funding and Support for YFCs. County Councillors PJ Ashton, DR Jones, DW Meredith, ET Morgan, RG Thomas, TJ Van Rees and GP Vaughan declared personal non prejudicial interests in this item.

3.	MINUTES	CC79- 2015
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The Chair was authorised to sign the minutes of the meetings held on 15 July and 18 September 2015 as correct records.

4.	CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS	CC80- 2015
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The Chair of Council reported on some of the activities he had undertaken. He thanked officers for their work on the Council's displays at the Royal Welsh Show and the National Eisteddfod in Meifod. He paid particular thanks to his secretary Elizabeth Protheroe for her work in organising the very successful centenary parade of the Welsh Guards in Brecon.

5.	LEADER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS	CC81- 2015
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In his announcements the Leader also referred to the success of the National Eisteddfod in Meifod which had been a £7m boost for the local economy and which had been attended by Welsh Government Ministers, including the First Minister. He reminded Members of the continuing work on the budget with two seminars already held and a third to take place on 18 December.

6.	CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S BRIEFING	CC82- 2015
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The Chief Executive reported that there had been 80 applications from Powys businesses for the Welsh Government Broadband Voucher grant scheme. He paid tribute to two Powys sportspeople, Rachel Atherton who had secured her fourth World Cup downhill mountain bike title and Chas Davies who was lying in second place in the World Superbike Championship with five race wins this year. He advised Members that the Strategic Director Resources had been appointed to the Finance Futures Panel established by Leighton Andrews, Minister for Public Services. The Chief Executive also highlighted the achievements of a number of members of staff, including staff from the Building, Catering and Cleaning services who had been shortlisted for a number of national awards at the Association of Public Service Excellence and Nina Davies, the Countryside Access Officer, who had completed the Up and Coming Leaders Programme. Finally he congratulated Neil Clutton from Property Services who had cycled the length of Italy raising money for Cancer Research UK.

7.	VIREMENTS REQUIRING COUNCIL APPROVAL	CC83- 2015
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The Portfolio Holder for Education was asked about the virement in respect of the delay to the extension at Glantwymyn School when the performance indicators showed the project to be on track. He advised that there had been a delay in submitting the business case for the scheme but that it would be done by the end of the year. He would see that the performance indicator was amended to reflect this and would keep the local members informed of the timescale.

RESOLVED	Reason for Decision:
To approve the virements set out in the schedule filed with the signed minutes.	As required by financial standing orders.

8.	DRAFT ONE POWYS PLAN ANNUAL PERFORMANCE EVALUATION AND SUMMARY 2014 - 15	CC84- 2015
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Council considered the draft One Powys Plan annual performance evaluation and summary for 2014/15.

RESOLVED	Reason for Decision:
To approve the DRAFT One Powys Plan Annual Performance Evaluation and Summary 2014 – 2015.	To ensure the report gives a balanced and open account of the Local Service Boards performance during the 2014-15 financial year, against the commitments and measures that were set out in the One Powys Plan 2014-17. To ensure the Council meets its statutory obligations as outlined in the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009 and Shared Purpose – Shared Delivery guidance.

9.	POWYS LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN - REVISED DELIVERY AGREEMENT	CC85- 2015
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Council was advised that over 900 responses had been received during the deposit consultation stage and it was necessary therefore to adjust the delivery agreement timetable to allow officers time to consider the representations. The Chair of the Planning, Taxi Licensing and Rights of way Committee sought an assurance that the Committee would not be left in a vulnerable position in the interim period before the LDP was adopted. The Portfolio Holder for Regeneration and Planning advised that the service had consulted Welsh Government and were confident that the UPD and emerging topic papers would adequately cover the interim period.

RESOLVED	Reason for Decision:
To approve the revised LDP Delivery Agreement (Appendix 1).	As required by Regulation 9 of The Town and Country Planning (Local Development Plan) (Wales) Regulations 2005 To enable submission of a revised DA to the Welsh Government for its agreement.

10.	RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE LICENSING ACT 2003 COMMITTEE	CC86- 2015
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10.1 Review of Licensing Policy for Powys

Council considered the Statement of Licensing Policy for Powys as recommended by the Licensing Act 2003 Committee.

RESOLVED	Reason for Decision
That the Statement of Licensing Policy for Powys be approved.	To comply with the statutory duty contained in Section 5 of the

	Licensing Act.
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10.2 Draft Statement of Principles, Gambling Act 2005

Council considered the Statement of Principles for the Gambling Act 2005 as recommended by the Licensing Act 2003 Committee.

RESOLVED	Reason for Decision
That the Statement of Principles for the Gambling Act 2005 be approved.	In accordance with the provisions of the Gambling Act 2005.

11.	PROCESS FOR APPOINTING A NEW INDEPENDENT MEMBER TO THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE	CC87- 2015
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Council considered the process for appointing a new independent member of the Standards Committee.

RESOLVED	Reason for Decision:
<p>(i) That the Council agrees the following:</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">(a) to commence an appointments process for a new Independent Member of the Standards Committee for a term of 6 years from 21st October, 2015 in accordance with the process set out in the Report and the timetable set out in Appendix 3;</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">(b) the criteria set out in Appendix 2.</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">(c) subject to (d) below, the draft newspaper advertisement set out in Appendix 1 and confirms that it should appear in the County Times and the Brecon and Radnor Express.</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">(d) to authorise the Chair and Vice Chair of the Standards Committee to take such steps as appear necessary to them to achieve the objectives referred to in paragraph 1.14 of the report. This to include (but not be limited to) the power to (i) add to and modify the contents of the newspaper notice (subject to compliance with the regulations); (ii) undertake additional advertising / awareness raising steps; and</p>	<p>To make arrangements for the filling of one vacancy, of an Independent Member of the Standards Committee.</p>

<p>(iii) produce additional literature/promotional material.</p> <p>(ii) That the Council agree the composition of the Panel set out in paragraph 1.11 of the report and delegates the power of appointment of substitutes to the Monitoring Officer as set out in paragraph 1.12 of the report.</p>	
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12.	NOTICE OF MOTION - FUNDING AND SUPPORT FOR YFCS	CC88- 2015
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County Councillors MC Alexander, WD Powell and DR Price left the Chamber during consideration of this item having declared personal and prejudicial interests.

Council debated the following motion proposed by County Councillor GD Price and seconded by County Councillor AW Davies:

“Young farmers are the future of our communities and we believe that they should be given all the necessary support to help them grow.

The Young Farmers Club (YFC) is the largest rural youth organisation in Wales. Across Wales, this organisation is a great stepping stone for many young people to get into farming and an opportunity for young people to learn and develop important skills, gain invaluable training and participate in their local communities.

Safeguarding funding and support is vital to these clubs as they allow clubs to maintain educational programmes for young people living in Powys. The Welsh Conservative group on Powys County Council have a commitment to safeguard funding and support for the Young Farmers Clubs in Powys.

We therefore propose that future funding and support be maintained at its current level for all Young Farmers Clubs in Powys.”

County Councillor RG Brown, seconded by County Councillor WT Jones put forward the following amendment:

“That Council recognises the vital part that is currently being played by the YFC movement, as part the excellent Youth Service currently available in Powys. However with the Council having to make at least £27m of savings in the next 3 years, all services are expected to make a contribution to this challenging savings target.

As far as the future Youth Service is concerned, discussions are currently underway with all relevant stakeholders in Powys, in order to completely remodel the service. Council notes and welcomes the inclusion of the YFC movement in those discussions, along with other providers, which hopefully will result in an

excellent revamped Youth Service being available to serve all the young people of Powys, of which we can all be proud.”

A request for a recorded vote did not receive the required number in support.

RESOLVED that Council recognises the vital part that is currently being played by the YFC movement, as part the excellent Youth Service currently available in Powys. However with the Council having to make at least £27m of savings in the next 3 years, all services are expected to make a contribution to this challenging savings target.

As far as the future Youth Service is concerned, discussions are currently underway with all relevant stakeholders in Powys, in order to completely remodel the service. Council notes and welcomes the inclusion of the YFC movement in those discussions, along with other providers, which hopefully will result in an excellent revamped Youth Service being available to serve all the young people of Powys, of which we can all be proud.

12.1 Personal Statement

County Councillor RG Thomas made a personal statement to Council advising of his resignation as Chair of the Place Scrutiny Committee.

12.2 Urgent Notice of Motion

The Chair advised that he had received the following notice of motion and that he had agreed to allow it as an urgent item:

“In view of the recent court case and subsequent conviction in order to protect the integrity of both the Council and Audit processes that the Council therefore removes Cllr Aled Davies from the Audit Committee.”

Proposer
Cllr Sandra C Davies

Seconder
Cllr. Wynne Jones, Cllr RG Brown, Cllr WB Thomas

Councillor Davies advised Council on the circumstances of his conviction.

RESOLVED that in view of the recent court case and subsequent conviction in order to protect the integrity of both the Council and Audit processes that the Council therefore removes Cllr Aled Davies from the Audit Committee.

13	QUESTIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CONSTITUTION	CC89- 2015
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13.1 Question to the Portfolio Holder for Education from County Councillor John Morris

In January and March of this year we were informed that the cabinet were introducing a secondary school's modernisation policy for Powys that would address the overspend in schools delegated budgets in the immediate future and offer a good range of educational opportunities to all our secondary school aged pupils.

Following the recent debate at cabinet it now appears that there have been fundamental changes to this policy approach that may put at risk the whole future direction of all secondary schools in Powys.

It now appears that there is no perceivable direction, timescale or costings and no identifiable secondary modernisation policy in existence in Powys. This has caused a great deal of concern for schools and parents alike.

Please can you inform us of the present status and timescale of the secondary schools modernisation policy with particular reference to how you intend to finance the present model in the interim and how you intend to safeguard and improve levels of performance of our secondary school pupils in the light of the severe cuts to school budgets proposed?

I can assure you that there is clear Programme Plan for the Secondary Reorganisation Programme. Whilst I acknowledge that there has been some slippage in the Programme's timescales for consideration of the outcome of reviews by Cabinet, these do not affect the overall timescales that would be required for any structural change to take place. You will also be aware that this a very legally complex area of work, and the Authority needs to take the appropriate time to ensure due process is followed at the early stages, to avoid further delays at a later stage. An update for each of the priorities is outlined below:

Priority 1: Beacons Learning Campus. The strategic outline case was approved by Welsh Government in May 2015 and the Authority has been requested to develop an outline business case, the next stage of the process under 21st Schools Programme. However, in order to be completely policy compliant and avoid future legal challenges, the project is currently at a 'pause and review' stage. The original proposal to close Gwernyfed and Brecon High Schools by September 2017 is currently being reviewed alongside a range of other options, in accordance with Stage 2 of the School Review Process in the School Transformation Policy 2014. This stage will be completed over the next few months, and a new recommendation will be put before Cabinet at the end of the year. Formal consultation (dependent on the recommendation agreed) will take place in Spring Term 2016 with a final decision to be made by July 2016. The earliest any structural/organisational change could happen will be September 2017 – this is exactly the same timescale as originally proposed.

Following completion of this stage of the process, an outline business case will be submitted to Welsh Government, reflecting the new recommendation, without prejudice to the outcome of any formal consultation, so that we are able to secure the much-needed capital funding.

Priority 2: Mid Powys Review. All options for Llandrindod and Builth High Schools are currently being reviewed, in accordance with Stage 2 of the School Review Process in the School Transformation Policy 2014. This stage will be

completed over the next few months, and a new recommendation will be put before Cabinet at the end of the year. Formal consultation (dependent on the recommendation agreed) will take place in Spring Term 2016, with a final decision to be made by July 2016. The earliest any structural/organisational change could happen will be September 2017.

Welsh Medium Brecon High School – formal consultation to remove Welsh Medium from Brecon from September 2016 has concluded, and a consultation report has been published. This will be now be considered alongside the current reviews of Priority 1 and 2.

Priority 3 – Review of Sixth Form Maesydderwen – completed.

Priority 4 – Review of secondary education in North Powys, with a focus on Welsh Medium/dual-stream provision. First stage of the review – to assess the feasibility of establishing a Category 2a school or schools has been completed by September, as originally agreed. The next stage will be to develop a detailed business case for consideration in the Spring which will not be prejudicial towards a Category 2a school, but will state all the facts and costs of such a school, within the overall funding available to Powys. Dependent on the outcome of this business case, a further review of secondary school configuration in the North will commence. We have always stated that this review, being on a larger and more complex scale than the Mid and South, will take longer to achieve.

It is important that this Programme is taken forward in a manageable way, with realistic timescales. I am confident that my officers will achieve these deadlines.

In terms of Post-16, whilst there are no structural changes yet to sixth forms, the Authority recommends that the collaborative model continues as this offers all learners the widest range of opportunities. I recognise that the model is not ideal, and that we are facing further reductions in funding from Welsh Government – I will ask my officers to give further consideration to the current situation in light of the financial/curricular challenges that we are facing.

The medium term financial plan being considered by the authority for the three years commencing April 2016 provides an element of protection to the Schools delegated budget, with no across the board cut being applied, but with school having to absorb pay and price increases from the current level of overall funding. As members will be aware Post 16 funding is provided to schools via the authority through a Grant provided by the Welsh Government, early indications for this grant suggests that there will be a reduction in the level of Grant available to the authority and this combined with the pay and price increases will place further pressure on this area of the schools budget. The authority has successfully operated for the last few years, two joint curriculum planning and delivery groups in the North and South of the county and the current funding methodology is currently being reviewed by a joint Officer and Schools working group. Any proposed changes will form part of proposals on the authority's fair funding formula, that will be consulted upon prior to Christmas.

In answer to Councillor Morris' supplementary question about whether a seminar could be organised for members, Governors and head teachers to brief them on

what stage the schools modernisation programme was at, the Portfolio Holder said he would consider this.

13.1 Question to the Portfolio Holder for Highways from County Councillor Matthew Dorrance

Can the Cabinet Member provide a statement on the Council's plans for Brecon Market?

There are a number of options that need to be discussed in relation to the future of Brecon Market Hall. It is clear that the Market Hall requires significant investment to ensure its long term future. In addition the regeneration of Brecon has been a topic of discussion for many years and as the Local Asset Back Vehicle project reaches a critical stage in the next few weeks, possibilities for the regeneration of property in Brecon will become clearer. This matter is included within the Portfolio for the Cabinet Member for Regeneration, and the work of the LABV cuts across many other Portfolio's including Highways. As Councillor Dorrance is aware, a meeting has been scheduled for Tuesday 3 November with Local Members, appropriate Portfolio Holders and Senior Officers to discuss options for the future and how these can be taken forward. I look forward to the meeting on 3 November, and will engage with Local Members to explain these opportunities and how they might be brought to fruition given the financial challenges the Council faces.

There was no supplementary question.

13.3 Question to the Portfolio Holder for Children's Services from County Councillor Matthew Dorrance

How is the Council working to tackle child poverty in St John Ward?

Our Strategic Approach

The Council (and its partners) strategically addresses its anti-poverty responsibilities through the Powys One Plan as opposed to having a distinct and separate Anti-Poverty Strategy. The 2014 – 17 One Plan has poverty as a cross cutting issue for all partners in Powys for citizens of all ages. This allows for the impacts of poverty to be considered and addressed in a collaborative and strategic way rather than in isolation.

The Anti-Poverty Champion and the cross party Anti-Poverty Social Research Group

As recommended through the Tackling Poverty Action Plan, part of Welsh Government's Programme for Government the Leader appointed Councillor Joy Jones as the council's Anti-Poverty Champion.

To support the work of Cllr Jones, the former 'Anti-Poverty Strategy Group' has re-visited its remit to place a greater emphasis on engagement and gathering evidence of poverty and the impact of poverty within our communities.

In measuring delivery of the anti-poverty agenda implicit within the One Powys Plan 2014-17 together with Welsh Government's requirement for reporting against its Poverty Action Plan, it is recognised that further work is required to

capture, more effectively, the various actions and improvements undertaken by the council across its services, in meeting the anti-poverty agenda across the County.

To help achieve this, a 'Tackling Poverty Accountability Framework' is in development and will provide a co-ordinated work-plan for the Anti-Poverty Social Research Group to evaluate and challenge the effectiveness of the council's activities, and providing assurance to members.

Child Poverty

Interventions specifically aimed at reducing the impacts of child poverty are planned and delivered through the Children and Young Peoples Partnership.

The Families First Plan sets out our priorities for tackling disadvantage and poverty for children and their families until 2017. It includes a range of commissioned services/projects that provide support and early intervention for children, young people and families for whom poverty is likely to be a key factor affecting their lives.

These include services for Mental Health and Well-being, Family and Behaviour support and Disability. The plan also outlines the key infrastructure building blocks we are putting in place to ensure families' needs are identified and assessed as at early a stage as possible and that they get access to services at the right level, at the right time for them.

Powys also has the Flying Start Service in the most deprived wards in Ystradgynlais, Brecon (including the St Johns Ward), Llandrindod, Newtown and Welshpool. This service offers additional support and free childcare for families in these areas with children under the age of 4 years.

The Children & Young People's Partnership (CYPP) monitors its performance on a quarterly basis via its work plans and its Results Based Accountability (RBA) report card.

This report card contains key indicators in relation to poverty in Powys including;

- Proportion of children living in poverty*
- Low Birth weights*
- Numbers of Year 11 leavers Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET)*
- Key stage performance of Free School Meal (FSM) eligible pupils against their peers*
- School Attendance of Free School Meal eligible pupils*
- Numbers of 18-24 Year olds on Job seekers Allowance*

The CYPP commissions a range of services and interventions to address the impacts of child poverty across the whole County. The include;

- The Flying Start programme in Ystradgynlais, Brecon, Llandrindod, Newtown and Welshpool – our most deprived areas*

- *The NOVUS project (replacing Genesis 2) which provides support for individuals, particularly single parents and those Not in Education, Employment or Training to get closer to the labour market.*
- *The Youth Intervention Service supporting young people at risk of homelessness and with other disadvantages.*
- *The Childcare Strategy and action plan to ensure that we have sufficient high quality, affordable and accessible childcare available to support parents to work and train and provide high quality experiences for children.*
- *An assisted places scheme to provide financial assistance to support families in poverty with the high costs of childcare.*
- *The Team Around the Family programme (TAF) including the Common Assessment Framework (CAF), Local Resource Solution Panel's (LRSP's), which provides early intervention and preventative solutions for disadvantaged children and their families. This also includes the step up and step down of families between the TAF and Social Services to ensure they get support at the most appropriate level when they need it*
- *A Family Information service providing free information and advice to Young People and families.*
- *An integrated and holistic response to supporting families with a disabled child through the Integrated Disability Service (IDS). This Service provides improved co-ordination of support for children and young people with disabilities and their families who are more likely to experience poverty.*
- *The Referral Scheme to support access to childcare and leisure activities for Children and Young People with additional needs.*
- *Services to provide support, information and advice, respite and social opportunities for young carers who at a greater risk of experiencing poverty.*
- *Where obesity and dental carries can be indicators of deprivation, the Mind Exercise Nutrition Do it! (MEND) or Fresh / Ffres programme aims to try and improve the health and emotional well-being outcomes of children and families who are or at risk of being obese.*

The Council's Leisure services have historically offered the following interventions;

- *Free Swim initiatives for Children and Young People and Over 60's*
- *Access to Fitness Schemes for Individuals on low income*
- *Free swimming for carers when caring for individuals with a disability in the pool*
- *iCare Card scheme – free access to swim and Gym for carers for their own leisure*
- *Cardio Rehab and GP Referral Scheme – subsidised access for the first 16 weeks*

The Schools Services Offer the following Interventions;

- *Free school Meals to low income families*
- *The Pupil Deprivation Grant – 100% devolved to Schools to help improve the literacy, numeracy and attendance of Free School Meal eligible Pupils*
- *The Pre School Pupil Deprivation Grant (new in 2015/16)*
- *The School Uniform Grant (via Revenues and Benefits dept)*
- *The Educational Maintenance Allowance (EMA) for post 16 learners*

The Council also has a range of services and projects under the Regeneration agenda to build employment and economic activity as well as community development and sustainability.

Delivery in the St Johns Ward.

Families in the St Johns ward are able to access any of the above services dependant on meeting any pre-set eligibility criteria (which is not required for every service).

For those families with Children under the age of 4 years they are also able to access additional support through the Flying start service in the Brecon area.

There was no supplementary question.

13.2 Question to the Portfolio Holder for Education from County Councillor David Meredith

Can the Education Portfolio Holder advise what was the precedent he used which resulted in him granting free transport for Welsh-medium Students from Brecon to Builth Wells?

Can I thank Cllr. Meredith for the question.

The precedent was set back in June 2009 when a child had applied to attend Builth Wells High School which was a Category 2C Bilingual Secondary School rather than Brecon High School which was a Category 3.

Then the Schools Modernisation Manager acknowledged that Brecon did not provide the level and continuity of the Welsh Language Provision expected by the parents, so it was agreed to allow the appeal.

There was no supplementary question.

13.4 Question to the Leader from County Councillor Gary Price

When Powys County Council is making so many cuts to staff numbers and expecting them to have an increased workload can the Leader justify why he thinks it was acceptable to increase his Cabinet from 9 to 10 members resulting the increase of SRA payments of £21,535 for 2014/15 along with the increase of Senior Managers and Chief Officers?

The addition of an extra member on the Cabinet is justified because of the circumstances we find ourselves in as a Council facing up to the challenge of delivering services with a greatly reduced budget. I felt that it was necessary to bring another Portfolio Holder onto to the Cabinet so that I could give up the portfolio responsibilities I had previously held to concentrate on providing strategic direction to the Cabinet and on working with other partners.

There were a number of factors behind the increase in senior salaries payments, including the implementation of the IRPW increase in basic salaries which is a component of senior salaries. The cost of increasing the Cabinet from 9 to 10 members was approximately £3,398 in 2014/15 but this was already in the Council's agreed budget.

The number of Senior Managers and above at 27th February, 2015 was 41. On 26th June, 2015 this increased to 42 but on 30th September, 2015 the number had reduced to 41.

There was no supplementary question.

13.6 Urgent Question from County Councillor Gary Price to the Portfolio Holder for Property Buildings and Housing

The Chair advised that he had agreed to allow the following urgent question.

How much has Powys CC received in Additional Licensing of HMO's fee since its introduction and how much has been, and is likely to be refunded to Landlords following the recent meeting held in County Hall?

Since the Additional HMO Licensing Scheme was introduced in Llandrindod Wells in January 2011, the council has collected £10,220 in fee income from landlords, whose properties were assessed at the time to require a license.

As at the 19th October arrangements have been made to refund two landlords a total of £480, following inspections of 6 HMO's by a Housing Environment Health Officer and Fire Officer. Of those six properties, four were assessed to be exempt from the scheme and have been granted exemption certificates.

It is impossible to estimate the total amount of fee income which may have to be repaid to landlords, as this is dependent on two factors. First, the condition of each property when inspected, and second any outstanding fee income owed to the council by any landlord, for properties not exempted from the scheme.

In response to Councillor Price's supplementary question the Portfolio Holder agreed to look into whether interest would be paid to any landlords who had been refunded and whether they would be reimbursed for any unnecessary works they had been asked to undertake.

County Councillor PJ Ashton (Chair)

**COFNODION CYFARFOD Y CYNGOR SIR A GYNHALIWDYD YN SIAMBR Y
CYNGOR – NEUADD Y SIR, LLANDRINDOD AR DDYDD MERCHER, 21 HYDREF
2015**

YN BRESENNOL

Y Cynghorydd Sir PJ Ashton (Cadeirydd)

Y Cynghorwyr Sir M C Alexander, D Bailey, G R Banks, G J Bowker, R G Brown, J H Brunt, L V Corfield, K W Curry, S C Davies, D E Davies, L R E Davies, E R Davies, S Davies, A W Davies, V E Evans, W J Evans, D O Evans, L Fitzpatrick, R I George, J Gibson-Watt, P Harris, S M Hayes, J C Holmes, G Hopkins, E A Jones, D C Jones, M J Jones, E M Jones, Eldrydd M Jones, G M Jones, D R Jones, J R Jones, W T Jones, F H Jump, P E Lewis, MC Mackenzie, D Mayor, S McNicholas, P J Medlicott, DW Meredith, R H Mills, ET Morgan, G Morgan, JG Morris, W J T Powell, WD Powell, GD Price, D R Price, G W Ratcliffe, K M Roberts-Jones, J G Shearer, K S Silk, D A Thomas, W B Thomas, A G Thomas, D G Thomas, R G Thomas, T Turner, T J Van-Rees, G P Vaughan, D H Williams, S L Williams, J M Williams, G I S Williams ac E A York

1.	YMDDIHEURIADAU	CC77- 2015
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Derbyniwyd ymddiheuriadau am absenoldeb oddi wrth y Cynghorwyr Sir MJB Davies, MJ Dorrance, MR Harris, A Holloway, H Lewis a PC Pritchard.

Hysbyswyd yr Aelodau bod y Cynghorydd Sir Holloway yn mynd i'r ysbyty a gofynnwyd i'r Cadeirydd anfon dymuniadau gorau ati ar ran y Cyngor.

2.	DATGANIADAU O FUDDIANT	CC78- 2015
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Datganodd y Cynghorwyr Sir MC Alexander, PE Lewis, WD Powell a DR Price fuddiannau personol a rhagfarnus yn eitem C88 – 2015 Hysbysiad o Gynnig Cyllid a Chymorth i Glybiau Ffermwyr Ifanc. Datganodd y Cynghorwyr PJ Ashton, DR Jones, DW Meredith, ET Morgan, RG Thomas, TJ Van Rees a GP Vaughan fuddiannau personol anrhagfarnus yn yr eitem hon.

3.	COFNODION	CC79- 2015
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Awdurdodwyd y Cadeirydd i lofnodi cofnodion y cyfarfodydd a gynhaliwyd ar 15 Gorffennaf a 18 Medi 2015 fel cofnodion cywir.

4.	CYHOEDDIADAU'R CADEIRYDD	CC80- 2015
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Adroddodd Cadeirydd y Cyngor ar rai o'r gweithgareddau a ymgwymerwyd ganddo. Diolchodd i'r swyddogion am eu gwaith ar arddangosfeydd y Cyngor yn Sioe Frenhinol Cymru ac yn yr Eisteddfod Genedlaethol ym Meifod. Diolchodd y benodol i'w ysgrifennydd Elizabeth Protheroe am ei gwaith yn trefnu gorymdaith canmlwyddiant lwyddiannus y Gwarchodlu Cymreig yn Aberhonddu.

5.	CYHOEDDIADAU'R ARWEINYDD	CC81- 2015
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Yn ei gyhoeddiadau, cyfeiriodd yr Arweinydd hefyd at lwyddiant yr Eisteddfod Genedlaethol, a oedd wedi rhoi hwb o £7m i'r economi lleol ac a fynychwyd gan Weinidogion Llywodraeth Cymru, gan gynnwys y Prif Weinidog. Atgoffodd yr Aelodau o'r gwaith parhaus ar y gyllideb, gyda dwy seminar wedi eu cynnal eisoes a thrydydd i'w chynnal ar 18 Rhagfyr.

6.	ADRODDIAD Y PRIF WEITHREDWR	CC82- 2015
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Adroddodd y Prif Weithredwr bod 80 o geisiadau wedi dod gan fusnesau Powys dan gynllun grant Taleb Band Eang Llywodraeth Cymru. Talodd deyrnged i ddau o fabolgampwyr Powys, Rachel Atherton a oedd wedi ennill ei phedwerydd teitl rasio beic mynydd, a Chas Davies a oedd yn ail ym Mhencampwriaeth Superbike y Byd ar ôl ennill pum rês eleni. Hysbysodd yr Aelodau bod y Cyfarwyddwr Strategol, Adnoddau, wedi ei benodi i'r Panel Dyfodol Cyllid a sefydlwyd gan Leighton Andrews, Gweinidog Gwasanaethau Cyhoeddus. Amlygodd y Prif Weithredwr lwyddiannau nifer o aelodau staff, gan gynnwys staff o'r gwasanaethau Adeiladu, Arlwygo a Glanhau a oedd wedi eu doddi ar y rhestr fer ar gyfer nifer o wobrau cenedlaethol Rhagoriaeth y Gymdeithas Gwasanaethau Cyhoeddus a Nina Davies, Swyddog Mynediad Cefn Gwlad, a oedd wedi cwblhau Rhaglen Arweinwyr y Dyfodol. Yn olaf, llongyfarchodd Neil Clutton o'r Gwasanaethau Eiddo, a oedd wedi beicio ar hyd yr Eidal yn codi arian i Cancer Research UK.

7.	TROSGLWYDDIADAU SYDD ANGEN CYMERADWYAETH Y CYNGOR	CC83- 2015
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Holwyd Deiliad y Portffolio ar gyfer Addysg ynglŷn â'r trosglwyddiad mewn perthynas ag oedi gyda'r estyniad yn Ysgol Glantwymyn pan roedd dangosyddion perfformiad yn dangos bod y prosiect ar y llwybr cywir. Dywedodd bod oedi wedi bod yn cyflwyno'r achos busnes ar gyfer y cynllun, ond y byddai'n cael ei wneud erbyn diwedd y flwyddyn. Byddai'n sicrhau bod y dangosydd perfformiad yn cael ei newid i adlewyrchu hyn ac y byddai'n hysbysu'r aelodau lleol o'r amserlen.

PENDERFYNWYD	Rheswm am y Penderfyniad:
Cymeradwyo'r trosglwyddiadau a nodwyd yn yr atodlen a ffeiliwyd gyda'r cofnodion a lofnodwyd.	Fel sy'n ofynnol dan y rheolau sefydlog ariannol.

8.	CYNLLUN POWYS YN UN, PERFFORMIAD, GWERTHUSIAD A CHRYNODEB BLYNYDDOL 2014-15	CC84- 2015
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Ystyriodd y Cyngor berfformiad, gwerthusiad a chrynodeb blynyddol drafft Cynllun Powys yn Un ar gyfer 2014/15.

PENDERFYNWYD	Rheswm am y Penderfyniad
Cymeradwyo Perfformiad, Gwerthusiad a Chrynodeb Blynyddol DRAFFT Cynllun Powys yn Un 2014 – 2015.	<p>Sicrhau bod yr adroddiad yn rhoi adroddiad cytbwys ac agored o berfformiad y Byrddau Gwasanaeth Lleol yn ystod blwyddyn ariannol 2014-15, mewn perthynas â'r ymrwymïadau a'r mesurau a nodwyd yng Nghynllun Powys yn Un 2014-17.</p> <p>Sicrhau bod y Cyngor yn bodloni'r ymrwymïadau statudol a aminellwyd ym Mesur Llywodraeth Leol (Cymru) 2009 a chanllawiau Cydamcanu - Cydymdrechu.</p>

9.	CYNLLUN DATBLYGU LLEOL POWYS - CYTUNDEB CYFLAWNI DIWYGIEDIG	CC85- 2015
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Hysbyswyd y Cyngor bod mwy na 900 o ymatebion wedi eu derbyn yn ystod y cyfnod ymgynghori adneuo a bod angen felly addasu'r amserlen cytundeb cyflawni i roddi amser i swyddogion ystyried y sylwadau. Gofynnodd Cadeirydd y Pwyllgor Cynllunio, Trwyddedu Tacsis a Hawliau Tramwy am sicrhau na fyddai'r Pwyllgor yn cael ei adael mewn sefyllfa fregus yn y cyfamser cyn mabwysiadu'r Cynllun Datblygu Lleol. Dywedodd Deiliad y Portffolio ar gyfer Adfywio a Chynllunio bod y gwasanaeth wedi holi Llywodraeth Cymru ac roedd yn hyderus y byddai'r CDU a'r papurau pwnc newydd yn ddigonol yn y cyfnod interim.

PENDERFYNWYD	Rheswm am y Penderfyniad:
Cymeradwyo Cytundeb Cyflawni Diwygiedig y Cynllun Datblygu Lleol (Atodiad 1).	<p>Fel sy'n ofynnol dan Reoliad 9 Rheoliadau Cynllunio Gwlad a Thref (Cynllun Datblygu Lleol) (Cymru) 2005</p> <p>Galluogi cyflwyno CC diwygiedig i Lywodraeth Cymru i'w gytuno ganddynt.</p>

10.	ARGYMHELLION GAN Y PWYLLGOR DEDDF TRWYDDEDU 2003	CC86- 2015
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10.1 Adolygu'r Polisi Trwyddedu ar gyfer Powys

Ystyriodd y Cyngor y Datganiad o Bolisi Trwyddedu ar gyfer Powys, fel yr argymhellwyd gan y Pwyllgor Deddf Trwyddedu 2003.

PENDERFYNWYD	Rheswm am y Penderfyniad:
Cymeradwyo'r Datganiad o Bolisi Trwyddedu ar gyfer Powys.	Cydymffurfio â'r ddyletswydd statudol yn Adran 5 y Ddeddf

	Trwyddedu.
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10.2 Datganiad Egwyddorion Drafft, Deddf Gamblo 2005

Ystyriodd y Cyngor y Datganiad o Egwyddorion ar gyfer Deddf Gamblo 2005 fel yr argymhellwyd gan y Pwyllgor Deddf Trwyddedu 2003.

PENDERFYNWYD	Rheswm am y Penderfyniad:
Cymeradwyo'r Datganiad o Egwyddorion ar gyfer Deddf Gamblo 2005.	Yn unol â darpariaethau Deddf Gamblo 2005.

11.	PROSES AR GYFER PENODI AELOD ANNIBYNNOL NEWYDD I'R PWYLLGOR SAFONAU	CC87- 2015
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Ystyriodd y Cyngor y broses ar gyfer penodi aelod annibynnol newydd i'r Pwyllgor Safonau.

PENDERFYNWYD	Rheswm am y Penderfyniad:
<p>(i) Bod y Cyngor yn cytuno'r canlynol:</p> <p>(a) dechrau ar broses benodi ar gyfer Aelod Annibynnol newydd y Pwyllgor Safonau am dymor o 6 blynedd o'r 21ain Hydref 2015, yn unol â'r broses a nodir yn yr Adroddiad a'r amserlen a nodwyd yn Atodiad 3;</p> <p>(b) y meini prawf a nodwyd yn Atodiad 2;</p> <p>(c) yn amodol ar (d) isod, yr hysbyseb papur newydd drafft a nodwyd yn Atodiad 1 ac yn cadarnhau y dylai ymddangos yn y County Times a'r Brecon and Radnor Express.</p> <p>(d) awdurdodi Cadeirydd ac Is-gadeirydd y Pwyllgor Safonau i gymryd y camau sy'n angenrheidiol iddynt i gyflawni'r amcanion a grybwyllwyd ym mharagraff 1.14 yr adroddiad. Hyn i gynnwys (ond heb ei gyfyngu i) y pŵer i (i) ychwanegu at ac addasu cynnwys yr hysbysiad papur newydd (yn amodol ar gydymffurfio â'r rheoliadau); (ii) ymgymryd â hysbysebu ychwanegol / camau cynyddu ymwybyddiaeth, a (iii)</p>	Gwneud trefniadau i lenwi un swydd wag, Aelod Annibynnol ar y Pwyllgor Safonau.

<p>cynhyrchu llenyddiaeth / deunydd hyrwyddo ychwanegol.</p> <p>(ii) Bod y Cyngor yn cytuno cyfansoddiad y Panel a nodwyd ym mharagraff 1.11 yr adroddiad ac yn dirprwyo pŵer penodi dirprwyon i'r Swyddog Monitro fel y nodir ym mharagraff 1.12 yr adroddiad.</p>	
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12.	HYSBYSIAD O GYNNIG – ARIANNU A CHYMORTH I GLYBIAU FFERMWYR IFANC	CC88- 2015
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Gadawodd y Cynghorwyr Sir MC Alexander, WD Powell a DR Price y Siambwr tra'r ystyriwyd yr eitem hon ar ôl iddynt ddatgan buddiannau personol a rhagfarnus.

Trafododd y Cyngor y cynnig canlynol a gynigiwyd gan y Cynghorydd Sir GD Price ac a eiliwyd gan y Cynghorydd Sir AW Davies:

“Ffermwyr ifanc yw dyfodol ein cymunedau a chredwn y dylid rhoi'r holl gymorth angenrheidiol iddynt i'w helpu i ffynnu.

Y Clwb Ffermwyr Ifanc (Cffl) yw'r mudiad ieuenctid gwledig mwyaf yng Nghymru. Ledled Cymru, mae'r mudiad hwn yn garreg gamu fawr i lawer o bobl ifanc ddechrau mewn ffermio ac yn gyfle i bobl ifanc ddysgu a datblygu sgiliau pwysig, cael hyfforddiant amhrisiadwy a chymryd rhan yn eu cymunedau lleol.

Mae diogelu cyllid a chymorth yn hanfodol i'r clybiau hyn gan eu bod yn caniatáu i'r clybiau gynnal rhaglenni addysgol i bobl ifanc sy'n byw ym Mhowys. Mae gan Grŵp Ceidwadwyr Cymru ar Gyngor Sir Powys ymrwymiad i ddiogelu cyllid a chymorth i Glybiau Ffermwyr Ifanc ym Mhowys.

Rydym felly'n cynnig bod cyllid a chymorth i'r dyfodol yn aros ar y lefel bresennol i holl Glybiau Ffermwyr Ifanc ym Mhowys.”

Cyflwynodd y Cynghorydd Sir RG Brown, a eiliwyd gan y Cynghorydd Sir WT Jones y gwelliant canlynol:

“Bod y Cyngor yn cydnabod y rhan hanfodol a chwaraeir ar hyn o bryd gan y mudiad CFFl, fel rhan o'r Gwasanaeth Ieuenctid rhagorol sydd ar gael ar hyn o bryd ym Mhowys. Fodd bynnag, gyda'r Cyngor yn gorfod canfod arbedion o £27m o leiaf yn y 3 blynedd nesaf, mae disgwyl i bob gwasanaeth wneud cyfraniad i'r targed arbedion heriol hwn.

Cyn belled ag y mae dyfodol y Gwasanaeth Ieuenctid yn y cwestiwn, mae trafodaethau ar y gweill ar hyn o bryd gyda rhanddeiliaid perthnasol ym Mhowys, er mwyn ail-fodelu'r gwasanaeth yn llwyr. Mae'r Cyngor yn cydnabod ac yn croesawu cynhwysiad y mudiad CFFl yn y trafodaethau hyn, ynghyd â darparwyr eraill a fydd, gobeithio, yn arwain at Wasanaeth Ieuentid rhagorol wedi ei

ailwampio, sy'n medru gwasanaethu holl bobl ifanc Powys, y medrwn oll ymfalchïo ynddo."

Ni chafodd cais am bleidlais gofnodedig y nifer gofynnol yn cefnogi.

Bod y Cyngor yn cydnabod y rhan hanfodol a chwaraeir ar hyn o bryd gan y mudiad CFFl, fel rhan o'r Gwasanaeth leuenctid rhagorol sydd ar gael ar hyn o bryd ym Mhowys. Fodd bynnag, gyda'r Cyngor yn gorfod canfod arbedion o £27m o leiaf yn y 3 blynedd nesaf, mae disgwyl i bob gwasanaeth wneud cyfraniad i'r targed arbedion heriol hwn.

Cyn belled ag y mae dyfodol y Gwasanaeth leuenctid yn y cwestiwn, mae trafodaethau ar y gweill ar hyn o bryd gyda rhanddeiliaid perthnasol ym Mhowys, er mwyn ail-fodelu'r gwasanaeth yn llwyr. Mae'r Cyngor yn cydnabod ac yn croesawu cynhwysiad y mudiad CFFl yn y trafodaethau hyn, ynghyd â darparwyr eraill a fydd, gobeithio, yn arwain at Wasanaeth leuentid rhagorol wedi ei ailwampio, sy'n medru gwasanaethu holl bobl ifanc Powys, y medrwn oll ymfalchïo ynddo."

12.1 Datganiad Personol

Gwnaeth y Cynghorydd Sir RG Thomas ddatganiad personol i'r Cyngor yn ei hysbysu o'i ymddiswyddiad fel Cadeirydd y Pwyllgor Craffu Lle.

12.2 Hysbysiad Brys o Gynnig

Dyweddodd y Cadeirydd ei fod wedi derbyn yr hysbysiad o gynnig canlynol ac wedi cytuno ei ganiatáu fel eitem frys:

"Yn wyneb yr achos llys yn ddiweddar a'r ddedfryd ddilynol, er mwyn amddiffyn uniondeb y Cyngor a phrosesau Archwilio, bod y Cyngor felly yn tynnu'r Cynghorydd Aled Davies o'r Pwyllgor Archwilio."

Cynigiwr
Y Cyngh. Sandra C Davies

Eilyddion
Y Cyngh. Wynne Jones, Y Cyngh. RG Brown, Y Cyngh. WB Thomas

Hysbysodd y Cynghorydd Davies y Cyngor o amgylchiadau'r ddedfryd.

Yn wyneb yr achos llys yn ddiweddar a'r ddedfryd ddilynol, er mwyn amddiffyn uniondeb y Cyngor a phrosesau Archwilio, bod y Cyngor felly yn tynnu'r Cynghorydd Aled Davies o'r Pwyllgor Archwilio

13	CWESTIYNAU YN UNOL Â'R CYFANSODDIAD	CC89- 2015
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13.1 Cwestiwn i'r Deiliad Portffolio ar gyfer Addysg gan y Cynghorydd Sir John Morris

Ym misoedd Ionawr a Mawrth eleni, fe'n hysbyswyd bod y cabinet yn cyflwyno polisi moderneiddio ysgolion uwchradd ar gyfer Powys a fyddai'n delio â'r gorwario ar gyllidebau dirprwyedig ysgolion yn y dyfodol agos ac yn cynnig amrediad eang o gyfleoedd addysgol i bob un o'n disgyblion oedran ysgol uwchradd.

Ar ôl y drafodaeth ddiweddar yn y cabinet, ymddengys nawr y bu newidiadau sylfaenol i'r agwedd bolisi hon a all beryglu cyfeiriad cyfan holl ysgolion uwchradd ym Mhowys yn y dyfodol.

Ymddengys nawr nad oes unrhyw gyfeiriad, amserlen na chostau gweladwy a dim polisi moderneiddio ysgolion uwchradd yn bodoli ym Mhowys. Mae hyn wedi achosi llawer iawn o bryder i ysgolion a rhieni fel ei gilydd.

A fedrwch chi ein hysbysu o statws ac amserlen bresennol y polisi moderneiddio ysgolion uwchradd, gyda chyfeiriad penodol at sut rydych yn bwriadu ariannu'r model presennol yn y cyfamser a sut rydych yn bwriadu diogelu a gwella lefelau perfformiad ein disgyblion ysgol uwchradd yn wyneb y toriadau difrifol i gyllidebau ysgol a gynigir?

Medraf eich sicrhau bod yna Gynllun Rhaglen clir ar gyfer y Rhaglen Ad-drefnu Ysgolion Uwchradd. Tra rwy'n cydnabod y bu peth llithriant yn amserlenni'r Rhaglen er mwyn ystyried canlyniad arolygiadau gan y Cabinet, nid yw'r rhain yn effeithio'r amserlenni cyffredinol y byddai eu hangen er mwyn cael unrhyw newid strwythurol. Byddwch hefyd yn ymwybodol bod hwn yn faes gwaith cymhleth iawn, ac mae angen i'r Awdurdod gymryd yr amser priodol i sicrhau bod y broses ddyledus yn cael ei dilyn yn y cyfnodau cynnar, i osgoi oedi pellach yn ddiweddarach. Amlinellir diweddariad ar bob un o'r blaenoriaethau isod:

Blaenoriaeth 1: Campws Dysgu'r Bannau. Cymeradwyd yr achos amlinell strategol gan Lywodraeth Cymru ym mis Mai 2015 a gofynnwyd i'r Awdurdod ddatblygu achos busnes amlinell, cam nesaf y broses dan Raglen Ysgolion yr 21ain Ganrif. Fodd bynnag, er mwyn cydymffurfio'n llwyr â pholisi ac osgoi heriau cyfreithiol yn y dyfodol, mae'r prosiect ar hyn o bryd yn y cyfnod 'oedi ac arolygu'. Mae'r cynnig gwreiddiol i gau Ysgolion Uwchradd Gwernyfed ac Aberhonddu erbyn Medi 2017 yn cael ei adolygu ynghyd ag amrywiol opsiynau eraill, yn unol â Chyfnod 1 y Broses Adolygu Ysgolion yn y Polisi Gweddnewid Ysgolion 2014. Cwblheir y cyfnod hwn yn yr ychydig fisoedd nesaf, a bydd argymhelliad newydd yn cael ei gyflwyno gerbron y Cabinet at ddiwedd y flwyddyn. Bydd ymgynghoriad ffurfiol (yn dibynnu ar yr argymhelliad a gytunir) yn digwydd yn Nymor y Gwanwyn 2016 gyda'r penderfyniad terfynol i'w wneud erbyn Gorffennaf 2016. Y cynharaf y gallai unrhyw newid strwythurol/gweithdrefnol ddigwydd fydd mis Medi 2017 – dyma'r union amserlen ag a gynigiwyd yn wreiddiol.

Ar ôl cwblhau'r cyfnod hwn yn y broses, cyflwynir achos busnes amlinell i Lywodraeth Cymru, yn adlewyrchu'r argymhellion newydd, heb beryglu canlyniad unrhyw ymgynghoriad ffurfiol, er mwyn i ni fedru sicrhau'r cyllid cyfalaf sydd mawr ei angen.

Blaenoriaeth 2: Arolwg Canolbarth Powys. Mae'r holl opsiynau ar gyfer Ysgolion Uwchradd Llandrindod a Llanfair ym Mualt yn cael eu hadolygu ar hyn o bryd, yn

unol â Chyfnod 2 y Broses Adolygu Ysgolion ym Mholisi Gweddnewid Ysgolion 2014. Caiff y cyfnod hwn ei gwblhau dros yr ychydig fisoedd nesaf, a chyflwynir argymhelliad newydd gerbron y Cabinet ar ddiwedd y flwyddyn. Cynhelir ymgynghoriad ffurfiol (yn dibynnu ar yr argymhelliad a gytunir) yn Nhymor y Gwanwyn 2016, gyda phenderfyniad terfynol yn cael ei gymryd erbyn Gorffennaf 2016. Y cynharaf y gallai unrhyw newid strwythurol/gweithdrefnol ddigwydd fydd mis Medi 2017

Ysgol Uwchradd Cymraeg ei Chyfrwng Aberhonddu – mae ymgynghoriad ffurfiol i dynnu statws Cymraeg ei Chyfrwng oddi ar ysgol Aberhonddu o fis Medi 2016 wedi dod i ben, ac fe gyhoeddwyd adroddiad ymgynghoriad. Caiff hyn nawr ei ystyried ynghyd â'r adolygiadau presennol o Flaenoriaethau 1 a 2.

Blaenoriaeth 3 – Arolwg o'r Chweched Dosbarth ym Maesydderwen – cwblhawyd.

Blaenoriaeth 4 – Arolwg o addysg uwchradd yng Ngogledd Powys, gyda ffocws ar ddarpariaeth Gymraeg ei Chyfrwng / dwy ffrwd. Mae cyfnod cyntaf yr arolwg – asesu dichonolrwydd sefydlu ysgol neu ysgolion Categori 2a wedi ei gwblhau erbyn Medi, fel y cytunwyd yn wreiddiol. Y cam nesaf fydd datblygu achos busnes manwl i'w ystyried yn y Gwanwyn na fydd yn rhagfarnus tuag at ysgol Categori 2a, ond a fydd yn datgan yr holl ffeithiau a chostau ysgol o'r fath, o fewn y cyllid cyffredinol sydd ar gael i Bowys. Yn dibynnu ar ganlyniad yr achos busnes hwn, bydd arolwg pellach o drefniadau ysgolion uwchradd yn y Gogledd yn dechrau. Rydym bob amser wedi dweud y bydd yr arolwg hwn, gan ei fod yn fwy ac yn fwy cymhleth na'r Canolbarth a'r De, yn cymryd mwy o amser i'w gyflawni.

Mae'n bwysig bod y Rhaglen hon yn symud ymlaen mewn modd y gellir ei reoli, gydag amserlenni realistig. Rwy'n hyderus y bydd fy swyddogion yn cyflawni hyn.

O ran addysg Ôl-16, tra nad oes unrhyw newidiadau strwythurol eto i chweched dosbarth, mae'r Awdurdod yn argymhell bod y model cydweithredol yn parhau gan fod hyn yn cynnig yr amrediad ehangaf o gyfleoedd i ddisgyblion. Rwy'n cydnabod nad yw'r model yn ddelfrydol, a'n bod yn wynebu toriadau pellach mewn cyllid gan Lywodraeth Cymru – gofynnaf i fy swyddogion roddi ystyriaeth bellach i'r sefyllfa bresennol yng ngoleuni heriau ariannol/cwricwlaidd rydym yn eu wynebu.

Mae'r cynllun ariannol tymor canol sy'n cael ei ystyried gan yr awdurdod ar gyfer y tair blynedd yn dechrau Ebrill 2016 yn darparu elfen o amddiffyniad i gyllideb ddirprwyedig Ysgolion, heb unrhyw doriad ar draws y bwrdd yn cael ei wneud, ond gydag ysgolion yn gorfod talu cynnydd mewn cyflogau a phriisiau o'r lefel ariannu bresennol. Fel y bydd yr aelodau'n gwybod, darperir cylid Ôl-16 i ysgolion trwy'r awdurdod gyda Grant a roddir gan Lywodraeth Cymru. Mae arwyddion cynnar yn awgrymu y bydd gostyngiad yn lefel y Grant a fydd ar gael i'r awdurdod a bydd hyn, ar y cyd â'r cynnydd mewn cyflogau a phriisiau, yn rhoi mwy o bwysau ar y maes hwn o gyllideb yr ysgolion. Mae'r awdurdod wedi gweithredu'n llwyddiannus yn yr ychydig flynyddoedd diwethaf, dau gyd-grŵp cynllunio a chyflawni cwricwlwm yng Ngogledd a De'r Sir ac mae'r fethodoleg ariannu bresennol yn cael ei harolygu gan gyd-weithgor Swyddogion ac

Ysgolion. Bydd unrhyw newidiadau arfaethedig yn ffurfio rhan o gynigion ar fformiwla ariannu teg yr awdurdod, a bydd ymgynghoriad ar hyn cyn y Nadolig.

Mewn ateb i gwestiwn atodol gan y Cynghorydd Morris ynglŷn ag a ellid trefnu seminar i'r aelodau, Llywodraethwyr a phenaethiaid i'w briffio nhw ar ba gyfnod roedd rhaglen moderneiddio'r ysgolion ynddi, dywedodd Deiliad y Portffolio y byddai'n ystyried hyn.

13.1 Cwestiwn i'r Deiliad Portffolio ar gyfer Priffyrdd gan y Cynghorydd Sir Matthew Dorrance

A fedr yr Aelod Cabinet roi datganiad ar gynlluniau'r Cyngor ar gyfer Marchnad Aberhonddu?

Mae nifer o opsiynau sydd angen eu trafod mewn perthynas â dyfodol Neuadd y Farchnad Aberhonddu. Mae'n amlwg bod angen buddsoddiad arwyddocaol ar Neuadd y Farchnad i sicrhau ei dyfodol hirdymor. At hyn, bu adfywio Aberhonddu yn destun trafodaeth am lawer o flynyddoedd ac wrth i'r prosiect Cyfrwng a Gefnogir gan Asedau Lleol gyrraedd cyfnod critigol yn yr ychydig wythnosau nesaf, bydd posibiliadau i adfywio eiddo yn Aberhonddu yn dod yn gliriach. Cynhwysir y mater hwn ym Mhortffolio Aelod y Cabinet ar gyfer Adfywio, ac mae gwaith y CGALI yn torri ar draws llawer o bortffolios eraill, gan gynnwys Priffyrdd. Fel y mae'r Cynghorydd Durrance yn gwybod, trefnwyd cyfarfod ar gyfer Dydd Mawrth 3 Tachwedd gydag Aelodau Lleol, Deiliaid Portffolios priodol ac Uwch Swyddogion i drafod opsiynau ar gyfer y dyfodol a sut gellir symud ymlaen gyda'r rhain. Rwy'n edrych ymlaen at y cyfarfod ar 3 Tachwedd, a byddaf yn cysylltu ag Aelodau Lleol i esbonio'r posibiliadau hyn a sut gellir eu gwireddu o ystyried yr heriau ariannol y mae'r Cyngor yn eu wynebu.

Nid oedd cwestiwn atodol.

13.3 Cwestiwn i'r Deiliad Portffolio ar gyfer Gwasanaethau Plant gan y Cynghorydd Sir Matthew Dorrance

Sut mae'r Cyngor yn gweithio i ddelio â thlodi plant yn Ward St John?

Ein Hagwedd Strategol

Mae'r Cyngor (a'i bartneriaid) yn delio'n strategol â'i gyfrifoldebau gwrth-dlodi trwy Gynllun Powys yn Un, yn hytrach na chael Strategaeth Gwrth-Dlodi ar wahân. Mae tlodi yn fater traws-faes yng Nghynllun Powys yn Un 2014-17 i'r holl bartneriaid ym Mhowys ar gyfer dinasyddion o bob oedran. Mae hyn yn caniatáu i effeithiau tlodi gael eu hystyried a'u trin mewn modd cydweithredol a strategol yn hytrach na fesul un.

Hyrwyddwr Gwrth-dlodi a Grŵp Ymchwil Cymdeithasol Gwrth-dlodi traws-bleidiol Fel yr argymhellwyd trwy'r Cynllun Gweithredu Trechu Tlodi, rhan o Raglen Llywodraeth Cymru, penododd yr Arweinydd y Cynghorydd Joy Jones fel Hyrwyddwr Gwrth-dlodi'r Cyngor.

I gefnogi gwaith y Cynghorydd Jones, mae'r cyn 'Grŵp Strategaeth Gwrth-dlodi' wedi ail-ystyried ei gylch gorchwyl i roddi mwy o bwyslais ar ymgysylltiad a chasglu tystiolaeth o dlodi ac effaith tlodi yn ein cymunedau.

Wrth fesur cyflawniad y rhaglen gwrth-dlodi sydd o fewn Cynllun Powys yn Un 2014-17 ynghyd â gofyniad Llywodraeth Cymru i adrodd mewn cysylltiad â'i Gynllun Trechu Tlodi, cydnabyddir bod angen mwy o waith i gasglu, yn fwy effeithiol, y camau a'r gwelliannau amrywiol a ymgwymerwyd gan y cyngor yn ei wasanaethau, wrth gyflawni ei raglen gwrth-dlodi ledled y Sir.

I helpu i gyflawni hyn, mae 'Fframwaith Atebolrwydd Trechu Tlodi' yn cael ei ddatblygu a bydd yn darparu cynllun gwaith cydgysylltiedig i'r Grŵp Ymchwil Cymdeithasol Gwrth-dlodi ei werthuso a herio effeithiolrwydd gweithgareddau'r cyngor, a rhoi sicrhad i'r aelodau.

Tlodi Plant

Mae ymyriadau wedi eu hanelu'n benodol tuag at leihau effeithiau tlodi plant yn cael eu cynllunio a'u cyflawni trwy'r Bartneriaeth Plant a Phobl Ifanc.

Mae'r Cynllun Teuluoedd yn Gyntaf yn nodi ein blaenoriaethau i drechu anfantais a thlodi i blant a'u teuluoedd hyd at 2017. Mae'n cynnwys amrywiaeth o wasanaethau/brosiectau a gomisiynwyd i roddi cymorth ac ymyriad cynnar i blant, pobl ifanc a theuluoedd lle mae tlodi yn debygol o fod yn ffactor allweddol sy'n effeithio eu bywydau.

Mae'r rhain yn cynnwys gwasanaethau lechyd Meddwl a Llesiant, cymorth i Deuluoedd ac Ymddygiad ac Anabledd. Mae'r cynllun hefyd yn amlinellu'r blociau adeiladu seilwaith rydym yn eu trefnu i sicrhau bod anghenion teuluoedd yn cael eu hadnabod a'u hasesu mor gynnar ag y bo modd a'u bod yn cael mynediad at wasanaethau ar y lefel briodol, ar yr adeg briodol iddyn' nhw.

Mae gan Bowys hefyd y Gwasanaeth Dechrau'n Deg yn y wardiau mwyaf difreintiedig yn Ystradgynlais, Aberhonddu (gan gynnwys Ward St Johns), Llandrindod, y Drenewydd a'r Trallwng. Mae'r gwasanaeth hwn yn cynnig cymorth ychwanegol a gofal plant am ddim i deuluoedd yn yr ardaloedd hyn gyda phlant dan 4 oed.

Mae'r Bartneriaeth Plant a Phobl Ifanc (PPPhI) yn monitro ei pherfformiad yn chwarterol trwy ei chynlluniau gwaith a'i cherdyn adroddiad Atebolrwydd Seiliedig ar Ganlyniadau.

Mae'r cerdyn adrodd hwn yn cynnwys dangosyddion allweddol mewn perthynas â thlodi ym Mhowys, gan gynnwys:

- *Cyfran y plant sy'n byw mewn tlodi*
- *Pwysau geni isel*
- *Nifer o adawyr Blwyddyn 11 nad ydynt mewn Addysg, Cyflogaeth neu Hyfforddiant (NEET)*
- *Perfformiad cyfnod allweddol disgyblion sydd â hawl i bryd bwyd ysgol am ddim o gymharu â'u cyfoedion*
- *Presenoldeb yn yr ysgol disgyblion sydd â hawl i bryd bwyd ysgol am ddim*
- *Nifer o rai 18-24 oed ar Lwfans Ceisio Swydd*

Mae'r PPPHl yn comisiynu amrywiol wasanaethau ac ymyriadau i ddelio ag effeithiau tlodi plant ledled y Sir, sy'n cynnwys:

- *Rhaglen Dechrau'n Deg yn Ystradgynlais, Aberhonddu, Llandrindod, y Drenewydd a'r Trallwng – ein hardaloedd mwyaf difreintiedig*
- *Prosiect NOVUS (yn disodli Genesis 2) sy'n rhoi cymorth i unigolion, yn enwedig rhieni sengl a rhai nad ydynt mewn Addysg, Cyflogaeth neu Hyfforddiant, i ddod yn nes at y farchnad lafur.*
- *Y Gwasanaeth Ymyriad Ieuencid sy'n cynorthwyo pobl ifanc sydd mewn perygl o fod yn ddiartref, a chydag anfanteision eraill.*
- *Y Strategaeth Gofal Plant a chynllun gweithredu i sicrhau bod gennym ddigon o ofal plant o ansawdd uchel, sy'n fforddiadwy a hygyrch, i gynorthwyo rhieni i weithio a hyfforddi ac i roddi profiadau ansawdd uchel i'r plant.*
- *Cynllun lle â chymorth i roddi cymorth ariannol i deuluoedd mewn tlodi gyda chostau uchel gofal plant.*
- *Rhaglen Y Tîm o Gwmpas y Teulu (TAF) yn cynnwys y Fframwaith Asesu Cyffredin (CAF), Paneli Atebion Adnoddau Lleol (LRSP), sy'n rhoi ymyriad cynnar ac atebion rhwystrol i blant difreintiedig a'u teuluoedd. Mae hon hefyd yn cynnwys trefniadau lle bo teuluoedd yn camu i fyny ac i lawr rhwng y TAF a'r Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol i sicrhau eu bod yn cael cymorth ar y lefel mwyaf priodol pan fyddant ei angen.*
- *Gwasanaeth Ymyriad Teuluol sy'n rhoi gwybodaeth a chyngor am ddim i Bobl Ifanc a theuluoedd.*
- *Ymateb integredig a chyfannol i gynorthwyo teuluoedd gyda phlentyn anabl trwy'r Gwasanaeth Anabledd Integredig (IDS). Mae'r Gwasanaeth hwn yn darparu gwell cydgysylltiad cymorth i blant a phobl ifanc ag anabledd a'u teuluoedd, sydd fwy tebygol o brofi tlodi.*
- *Y Cynllun Atgyfeirio i gynorthwyo gyda chael mynediad at ofal plant a gweithgareddau hamdden i blant a phobl ifanc ag anghenion ychwanegol.*
- *Gwasanaethau i roi cymorth, gwybodaeth a chyngor, seibiant a chyfleoedd cymdeithasol i ofalwyr ifanc sydd mewn mwy o berygl o brofi tlodi.*
- *Lle gall gordewder a phydredd deintyddol fod yn ddangosyddion o amddifadiad, mae rhaglen Mind Exercise Nutrition Do it! (MEND) neu*

Fresh / Ffres yn anelu at geisio â gwella iechyd a chanlyniadau llesiant emosiynol plant a theuluoedd sydd mewn perygl o fynd yn ordew.

Cyflawniad Ehangach y Cyngor

Yn hanesyddol, mae Gwasanaethau Hamdden y Cyngor wedi cynnig yr ymyriadau canlynol:

- *Mentrau Nofio am Ddim i Blant a Phobl Ifanc a rhai dros 60 oed*
- *Mynediad i Gynlluniau Ffitrwydd i unigolion ar incwm isel*
- *Nofio am ddim i ofalwyr pan fyddant yn gofalu am unigolion ag anabledd yn y pwll*
- *Cynllun Cerdyn iCare – mynediad am ddim i nofio a'r gampfa i ofalwyr ar gyfer eu hamdden eu hunain*
- *Cynllun Adsefydliad Cardiaidd ac Atgyfeirio i Feddyg Teulu – mynediad gyda chymhorthdal am yr 16 wythnos gyntaf.*

Mae'r Gwasanaethau Ysgolion yn cynnig yr Ymyriadau canlynol;

- *Prydau Bwyd Ysgol am ddim i deuluoedd incwm isel*
- *Grant Amddifadiad Disgyblion – 100% wedi ei ddatganoli i ysgolion i helpu llythrennedd, rhifedd a phresenoldeb Disgyblion sydd â Hawl i Bryd Bwyd Ysgol am Ddim*
- *Grant Amddifadiad Disgyblion Cyn-ysgol (newydd yn 2015/16)*
- *Grant Gwisg Ysgol (trwy gyfrwng yr adran Refeniw a Budd-daliadau)*
- *Lwfans Cynhaliath Addysgol (EMA) i ddysgwyr ôl-16*

Mae gan y Cyngor hefyd amrywiol wasanaethau a phrosiectau dan yr agenda Adfywio i feithrin gweithgareddau cyflogaeth ac economaidd ynghyd â datblygiad a chynaliadwyedd cymunedol.

Cyflawniad yn Ward St Johns

Mae teuluoedd yn ward St Johns yn medru cael mynediad i unrhyw rai o'r gwasanaethau uchod cyn belled â'u bod yn bodloni meini prawf cymhwyster (nad oes ei angen ar gyfer pob gwasanaeth).

I'r teuluoedd hynny gyda phant dan 4 oed, maent hefyd yn medru cael mynediad at gymorth ychwanegol trwy'r gwasanaeth Dechrau'n Deg yn ardal Aberhonddu.

Nid oedd cwestiwn atodol.

13.2 Cwestiwn i'r Deiliad Portffolio ar gyfer Addysg gan y Cynghorydd Sir David Meredith

A fedr Deiliad y Portffolio Addysg ddweud pa gysail a ddefnyddiodd a arweiniodd ato'n rhoi cludiant am ddim i Fyfirwyr Cyfrwng Cymraeg o Aberhonddu i Lanfair-ym-Muallt?

Hoffwn ddiolch i'r Cynghorydd Meredith am y cwestiwn.

Gosodwyd y cynsail ym mis Mehefin 2009 pan roedd plentyn wedi gwneud cais i fynychu Ysgol Uwchradd Llanfair-ym-Muallt a oedd yn Ysgol Uwchradd Ddwieithog Categori 2a yn hytrach nag Ysgol Uwchradd Aberhonddu a oedd yn Categori 3.

Bryd hynny, cydnabodd y Rheolwr Moderneiddio Ysgolion nad oedd Aberhonddu yn darparu'r lefel a'r dilyniant yn y Ddarpariaeth Iaith Gymraeg a ddisgwyliwyd gan y rhieni, ac felly cytunwyd caniatáu'r apêl

Nid oedd cwestiwn atodol.

13.4 Cwestiwn i'r Arweinydd gan y Cynghorydd Sir Gary Price

Pa fo Cyngor Sir Powys yn gwneud cymaint o doriadau i niferoedd staff ac yn disgwyl iddynt gael baich gwaith mwy, a fedr yr Arweinydd gyfiawnhau pam yr oedd yn credu ei bod yn dderbyniol iddo gynyddu ei Gabinet o 9 i 10 aelod, gan arwain at gynnydd mewn taliadau SRA o £21,535 ar gyfer 2014/15 ynghyd â chynnydd mewn Uwch Reolwyr a Phrif Swyddogion?

Mae cyfiawnhad i aelod ychwanegol ar y Cabinet oherwydd yr amgylchiadau rydym ynddynt fel Cyngor yn wynebu'r her o gyflwyno gwasanaethau gyda chyllideb lawer llai. Teimlais bod angen dod â Deiliad Portffolio arall ar y Cabinet er mwyn i mi ildio'r cyfrifoldebau portffolio roedd gennyf cynt er mwyn canolbwyntio ar roddi cyfeiriad strategol i'r Cabinet ac ar weithio gyda phartneriaid eraill.

Roedd nifer o ffactorau y tu ôl i'r cynnydd mewn taliadau cyflogau uwch, gan gynnwys gweithredu'r cynnydd IRPW mewn cyflogau sylfaenol sy'n elfen o gyflogau uwch. Cost cynyddu'r Cabinet o 9 i 10 oedd rhyw £3,398 yn 2014/15 ond roedd hyn eisoes yng nghyllideb y Cyngor, a gytunwyd.

Nifer yr Uwch Reolwyr ac uwch ar 27ain Chwefror, 2015 oedd 41. Ar 26ain Mehefin 2015 cynyddodd hyn i 42, ond ar 30ain Medi, 2015 roedd y nifer wedi gostwng i 41.

Nid oedd cwestiwn atodol.

13.6 Cwestiwn Brys gan y Cynghorydd Sir Gary Price i'r Deiliad Portffolio ar gyfer Eiddo, Adeiladau a Thai

Dywedodd y Cadeirydd ei fod wedi cytuno caniatáu'r cwestiwn brys canlynol.

Faint y mae Cyngor Sir Powys wedi ei dderbyn mewn ffioedd Trwyddedu Tai Aml-ddeiliad ers ei gyflwyniad a faint sydd wedi, ac sy'n debygol o gael ei ad-dalu i Landlordiaid ar ôl y cyfarfod diweddar a gynhaliwyd yn Neuadd y Sir?

Ers pan gyflwynwyd y Cynllun Trwyddedu Tai Aml-ddeiliad Ychwanegol yn Llandrindod ym mis Ionawr 2011, mae'r cyngor wedi casglu £10,220 mewn incwm ffioedd gan landlordiaid, yr oedd eu heiddo ar y pryd yn rhai a oedd angen trwydded.

Ar 19eg Hydref, mae trefniadau wedi eu gwneud i ad-dalu dau landlord gyfanswm o £480, ar ôl archwilio 6 o Dai Aml-ddeiliad gan Swyddog Iechyd yr Amgylchedd a Swyddog Tân. O'r chwe eiddo, aseswyd bod pedwar i'w heithrio o'r cynllun ac maent wedi cael tystysgrifau eithrio.

Mae'n amhosibl amcangyfrif cyfanswm yr incwm ffioedd a fydd angen ei ad-dalu i landlordiaid, gan ei fod yn dibynnu ar ddau ffactor. Yn gyntaf, cyflwr pob eiddo pan gaiff ei archwilio, ac yn ail, unrhyw incwm ffioedd sy'n ddyledus i'r cyngor gan unrhyw landlord, ar gyfer eiddo nad yw wedi ei eithrio o'r cynllun.

Mewn ymateb i gwestiwn atodol y Cynghorydd Price, cytunodd Deiliad y Portffolio ystyried a fyddai unrhyw log yn cael ei dalu i landlordiaid a oedd wedi cael ad-daliad, ac a fyddent yn cael ad-daliad am unrhyw waith di-angen y gofynnwyd iddynt ei wneud.

Y Cynghorydd Sir PJ Ashton (Cadeirydd)

CC7- 2016

CAPITAL PROGRAMME - VIREMENTS REQUIRED AS AT 31st OCTOBER 2015

Amount
£000

Schools and Inclusion

The Gwernyfed Outline Business Case has now been approved by WG. This virement recommends that £1.267m of the budget is rolled forward into 2016/17 to match the likely spend. -1,266.527

This virement recommends that the funding for Ysgol Dafydd Llwyd project is changed from reserves to Prudential Borrowing to take advantage of a preferential rate of interest that is available for 21st Century School Project in 2015/16. Ysgol Dafydd Llwyd is the only eligible school project in this year. 1,830.324
-1,830.324

-1,267

Leisure and Recreation

This virement recommends that the £2.925m of the budget is rolled forward to 2016/17. The construction of the Cultural Hub is due to commence in the early 2016. -2,925

-2,925

Housing

This virement recommends that following a review of the Housing Revenue Account budgets £1.892m is rolled forward to 2016/17. -2,333
-759

-3,092

Total October

-7,283

CAPITAL PROGRAMME - VIREMENTS REQUIRED AS AT 30 NOVEMBER 2015

Amount
£000

Highways Transport and Recycling

Further design and construction work on Phase 2 of the Talgarth Flood Alleviation Scheme remains on-hold pending Welsh Government's 'determination' of the current scheme objection. Recent discussions with WG officers have advised that the determination process remains ongoing. It is therefore unlikely that any phase 2 construction works will reach site this financial year. Pending the outcome from WG some further design and procurement fees may be incurred but it is recommended that £600k of the budget is rolled forward into the 16/17 financial year in the hope that scheme progression can then be made. -600

It is recommended to roll forward £1,925k, of this £700k is required to complete the works on the Rhayader Waste Transfer Station. This has replaced the Ddole Road site as the preferred location in the mid area. The remaining £1,225k is to be used on the Newtown area Waste Transfer Station.

-1,925

This virement recommends rolling forward the budget of £1,174k for the Newtown Area Transfer Station. The project will be designed and procured in 2016/17 and constructed in 2017/18, once a location and site has been identified.

-1,174

As a result of the HGSS service review, there has been a delay in identifying vehicle/plant requirements which has resulted in a significant underspend on the vehicle/plant capital budget for 2015/16. The service therefore requests the remaining budget of £5 million is rolled forward to the 2016/17 financial year.

-5,000

Total November

-8,699

Grand Total

-15,982

CC8- 2016

CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL.

COUNTY COUNCIL - 20th January, 2016

REPORT BY: Solicitor to the Council

SUBJECT: Chairs of Scrutiny Committees

REPORT FOR: Decision

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Arising from a resignation by the Chair of the Place Scrutiny Committee at the Council meeting in October, 2015, the Council is required to fill this vacancy.

2. FOR DECISION - APPOINTMENTS TO CHAIRS OF SCRUTINY COMMITTEES

2.1 The appointment of the Chairs of the 2 Scrutiny Committees needs to be in accordance with the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011 (the Measure). **(See Appendix)**

2.2 Without oversimplifying the position the legislation provides that in situations such as those which exist in Powys in terms of the number of groups and scrutiny committees the allocation of scrutiny committee chairs is based firstly on working out the proportion of chairs which go to the "Executive" group(s) based on the proportion which the members of the Executive group(s) bear to the overall membership of the council.

2.3 The chairs left over after this first exercise are allocated to the "Opposition" group(s). A possible alternative under the Measure would be for both chairs to be allocated to the "Opposition" groups provided this had cross group support.

2.4 The current position is that in accordance with the Measure, the Executive Group is entitled to one of the scrutiny chairs and therefore the 1 chair is to be filled by Opposition Groups. The largest Opposition Group (the Welsh Conservatives) has the first entitlement to a scrutiny chair.

2.5 The position in respect of the Executive Group does not require consideration by the Council as there is no change. The only position that the Council needs to fill is the vacancy on the Place Scrutiny Committee which falls to the Welsh Conservative Group to nominate the person to fill that vacancy, namely County Councillor Graham Jones.

2.6 **The Council is required to allocate the 1 scrutiny chair to the political group as indicated above and to note the appointment of Chair by that group as follows:**

Place Scrutiny Committee Welsh Conservatives	County Councillor G.M. Jones
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This will require a proposer and seconder.

Recommendation:	Reason for Recommendation:
To allocate the 1 Scrutiny Committee Chair to the Political Group as set out in paragraph 2.6, and to note the political group's appointment in respect of Chair.	To comply with statutory requirements (including those concerning the need for political balance) and the Council's Constitution in relation to the allocation and appointment of committee seats and Chairs.

Person(s) To Action Decision:	Steve Boyd, Cabinet Manager.		
Date By When Decision To Be Actioned:	20 th January, 2016		
Relevant Policy (ies):	Council's Constitution.		
Within Policy:	Y	Within Budget:	Y
Contact Officer:	Wyn Richards, Scrutiny Manager Tel: 01597 826375 Email: wyn.richards@powys.gov.uk		

Allocation of Scrutiny Committee Chairs – Measure Provisions.

Step 1.

Percentage size of “Executive” Group(s) as a proportion of the Whole Council (73 Members):

Group Name	No in Group	Percentage of Whole Council
Non-Political Group	8	10.96%
The Independent Group	13	17.81%
Powys Independent Alliance	24	32.88%
Total	45	61.65%

Step 2.

Entitlement of “Executive” Group(s) to proportion of 2 seats.

61.65% of 2 seats = 1.23 seats.

If less than whole number then Rounding Down is required.

Entitlement = 1 seat.

Step 3.

As there is an entitlement of 1 seat for the “Executive” Group(s) the 1 remaining seat therefore is to be allocated to “Opposition” Groups based on the proportion size of individual groups to the Whole Council (73 Members):

Group Name	No in Group	Percentage of Whole Council
Welsh Conservatives	10	13.70%
Welsh Liberal Democrats	9	12.33%
Welsh Labour	6	8.22%

Step 4.

Entitlement of “Opposition” Groups to proportion of 1 remaining seat (number of seats multiplied by percentage in step 3):

Group Name	Entitlement (1 seat multiplied by percentage in step 3)	Rounding Up.	Ranking
Welsh Conservatives	0.137	0	(1)
Welsh Liberal Democrats	0.123	0	(2)
Welsh Labour	0.082	0	(3)

Entitlement:

Executive Group(s) – 1 seat
Conservative Group – 1 seat

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CC10- 2016

CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL.

COUNTY COUNCIL

20th January 2016

REPORT BY: Solicitor to the Council

SUBJECT: Appointment of Independent (Lay) Member on the Standards Committee.

REPORT FOR: Decision

1. At the meeting of the County Council on the 21st October, 2015 arrangements were agreed to fill a vacancy in the office of an Independent (Lay) Member on the Standards Committee including the appointment of a Panel (to be chaired by the High Sheriff) to interview applicants and make appropriate recommendations to the County Council.
2. The Standards Committee appointed County Councillor K Roberts-Jones as the County Councillor representative on the Panel and the Chair of Standards Committee and the Monitoring Officer appointed Community Councillor Clare Evans as the Community Council representative on the Panel. The two Independent (Lay) Members completing this five Member Panel were the Chair of Standards Committee Mrs H Rhydderch-Roberts and the Mrs S Jarman. On receipt of the applications it became apparent that the High Sheriff and Mrs Jarman were unable to act as Panel Members as they knew one or more of the applicants. Ex-High Sheriff Lady Large was able to take the role of Panel Chair and Mrs J Evans was able to join the Panel as Independent Member of the Standards Committee.
3. Following public advertisement of this vacancy in the local press and on the Powys County Council website expressions of interest were received from 53 members of the public.
4. Applications were received from 49 eligible candidates and these were considered at a shortlisting meeting of the Panel on 27th November 2015. Six applicants were invited to interview on 10th December 2015.
5. The Panel recommend that Mr Stephan Hays be appointed as Independent (Lay) Member for a period of 6 years from 26th January 2016 which is the date that the post becomes vacant.

Recommendation:		Reason for Recommendation:	
To note the contents of this report and to consider the Panel's recommendation and appoint Mr Stephan Hays as an Independent (Lay) Member for a period of 6 years from 26 th January 2016		To comply with the requirements for Independent (Lay) members of the Standards Committee as required by the Standards Committees (Wales) Regulations 2001 (as amended).	
Relevant Policy (ies):	N/A		
Within Policy:	N/A	Within Budget:	N/A

Relevant Local Member(s):	N/A		
Person(s) To Implement Decision:	Solicitor to the Council (Monitoring Officer)		
Date By When Decision To Be Implemented:	Immediately following the Council meeting.		
Contact Officer Name:	Tel:	Fax:	Email:
Clive Pinney – Solicitor to the Council	01597 826746	01597 826220	clive.pinney@powsy.gov.uk

Background Papers used to prepare Report:

creating a better place



Jeremy Patterson
Chief Executive
Powys County Council
County Hall
Llandrindod Wells
Powys
LD1 5LG

Our ref: 151118/WyeNAC/PCC/LB

Your ref:

Date: 19 November 2015

Dear Mr Patterson

RENEWAL OF MEMBERSHIP OF THE WYE NAVIGATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Wye Navigation Order 2002 made the Environment Agency responsible for managing, maintaining and improving the navigation and use of the navigable part of the non-tidal Rivers Wye and Lugg.

Under the Order, we were required to establish the Wye Navigation Advisory Committee, which must be consulted by us on all matters substantially affecting the navigation and use of the rivers. Membership to this Committee is limited to a specific number of nominated representatives from each relevant stakeholder body or group, as defined in the Wye Navigation Order.

The member representing your organisation is **Councillor Kelvyn Curry** whose term of membership has come to an end. We are therefore seeking either a new nomination or re-nomination of the existing member who will be able to advise us on the navigation and use of the river.

The new appointment will be for a three year period. A nominated person may act as a deputy for the member of the Committee and may attend and vote at a Committee meetings instead of that member.

Please email your nomination to Lynn Bulbeck at lynn.bulbeck@environment-agency.gov.uk by Monday 7 December 2015.

It is anticipated that the Committee will continue to meet twice a year as a minimum and the length of the meetings will normally be for a full day held at the discretion of the Committee. The next meeting of the Wye Navigation Advisory Committee is scheduled for 12 April 2016. If you would like any further information then please contact Lynn directly.

I look forward to your continued active support of this important and successful advisory committee.

Yours sincerely

JO NEWTON
Wye Navigation Advisory Committee Chair

Environment Agency
Newtown Industrial Estate,
Northway Lane, Tewkesbury,
Gloucestershire, GL20 8JG



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CC12- 2016

CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

20th January, 2016

Council Forward Work Programme 2016

25 February	Budget & Medium Term Financial Strategy
9 March	Council Tax Resolution Treasury Management Strategy Statement and Annual Investment Strategy Pay Policy Statement Housing (Wales) Act – Council Tax premiums Update to the Constitution
20 April	
11 May Annual Meeting	Appointment of Chair of Council Vice Chair of Council Assistant Vice Chair of Council Allocation of seats on Committees Appointments to Committees Allocation of Scrutiny Committee Chairs Appointment of Democratic Services Committee Chair Appointments to the Brecon Beacons National Park Authority Appointments to the WLGA Schedule Of Members and Co-Opted Members' Salaries, Allowances and Expenses
13 July	Annual Council Reporting Framework Members' Allowances & Expenses – To receive for information details of Members' expenses for the previous financial year.
19 October	Approval of the Annual Performance Report

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CC14- 2016a

CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL

County Council
20th January 2016

REPORT AUTHOR: County Councillor Graham Brown, Portfolio Holder for Procurement, Commissioning and Children's Services

SUBJECT: Question from County Councillor Huw Williams

How many fully qualified dedicated Social workers are employed within Children Services in Powys and where are they located? Also, what is their current average 'case work' load and how does this compare to other authorities and national guidelines?

Children's Services is currently operating 4 social work teams that are responsible for the day to day handling of the referral and assessments process, and the ongoing case load management of Child in Need, Child Protection and Looked After Children caseloads. Social workers hold generic caseloads and the mix of these caseloads would be dependent on their experience and the complexity of the cases.

The following table shows a breakdown of social workers in the 4 operational child care teams as per the current structure at the start of November 2015. It should be noted that a Team Manager would not hold cases, and the Principal social worker would hold a reduced caseload due to other responsibilities.

	Team Manager	Principal Social Worker	Senior Practitioner	Social Worker
Brecon and Ystrad Children's Team	1	1	2	7
Radnor Children's Team	1	1	2	5
Newtown Children's Team	1	1	2	5
Welshpool Children's Team	1	1	2	5
Total worker	4	4	8	22
Total case open cases 12.11.2015		561 open cases		
Average cases load		16.5 cases per worker		

The following County wide teams who have bases both in the North and South of the County have been excluded from the average case load calculations. In relation to the Children With Disabilities Team, and the 16 Plus Team cases are held by both qualified and unqualified workers (we can provide a breakdown of this upon request). In relation to the IFST/TANS teams they are crisis intervention teams who respond to immediate crisis and offer short term intensive support. Workers in these teams do not hold case responsibility as this remains with the allocated social worker. Finally the Fostering

Teams and Adoption teams undertake assessments however do not work directly with children and young people accessing services, again the case responsibility for children and young people will rest with the allocated social worker.

	Team Manager	Principal Social Worker	Senior Practitioner	Social Worker
Children with Disabilities	1	1	2	3.5
Open Cases as at 12.11.15	169			
16 Plus	1	1	2	3
Open Cases as at 12.11.15	124			
IFST/TANS	1	1		6
Fostering Team	1	1	2	6
Adoption	1			5.1
Total	5	4	6	23.6

The Welsh Assembly does not publish any national figures on average caseloads and therefore no direct comparisons are available with other Welsh Authorities. This said there have been a number of reports that have been produced in recent years that attempts to answer this question.

During 2012 Community Care undertook a survey covering 925 social workers from across the UK. This research suggested the UK average case load for a Child Care social worker was 25 cases.

More recently the Department for Education produced a report entitled "Children's Social Work Workforce during year ending 30 September 2014". This suggested that 16 child in need cases were held per full time equivalent.

CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL

County Council
20th January 2016

REPORT AUTHOR: County Councillor Wynne Jones, Portfolio Holder for Finance

SUBJECT: Question from County Councillor Bob Mills

It is very important that we keep council tax to a minimum so why not move the appropriate personnel into the Shires and get rid of County Hall?

Keeping Council Tax as low as possible for our residents is something that we all as Councillors would like to achieve. However, in recent years achieving a low level of Council Tax has proved impossible due to the very poor funding settlements that has been received by the Council from Welsh Government. The position for next year is that we have received the lowest settlement in Wales with a cut in our AEF of 4.1% for 2016/17, which equates to £7.147 million. In addition to this the Council has around £5million of unavoidable growth pressure (e.g. Pay inflation, increase in employer's national insurance contributions, increased contributions to pension fund) which in total means that there are savings required of approx. £13million. Further significant savings will be required to be found for at least the following three years.

Cabinet have been working on a 3 year budget plan since June 2015, and have made substantial progress, but all calculations have been done on the assumption of a 3.75% Council Tax increase, and with the settlement we have received, it is looking extremely unlikely that it will be possible to provide a legally balanced budget for 2016/17 without some use of reserves. If Council was to set a low Council Tax increase at say 1%, that would mean that a shortfall in funding of income of £1.550million, and that shortfall would either have to be found either from further cuts in service or by a very large call on reserves. The problem with using reserves is that you can only spend them once, but the shortfall in funding outlined above will be repeated each and every year as we move forward. There are no easy choices in the situation facing our Council.

With regards to the issue raised of County Hall. The Cabinet have clearly set the Council on a course of reviewing the entire property portfolio, and the Councils Office accommodation throughout the County is not exempt from that process. With the planned changes to service delivery the Council needs to evaluate what office space it will need for future and to rationalise accordingly. There may come a time when County Hall may indeed not be needed, but that point in time certainly has not yet arrived. It may well turn out that County Hall may be one of the most difficult buildings in Powys to actually dispose of, and a quite different solution may be therefore needed.

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CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL

County Council
20th January 2016

REPORT AUTHOR: County Councillor Darren Mayor, Portfolio Holder for Property, Buildings and Housing

SUBJECT: Question from County Councillor Gwilym Williams

Can you please tell me how many County Council houses, that would include flats and all residential properties, that are currently unoccupied and how many of these have been unoccupied for more than six months?

As at 4th January 2015, there were 106 empty council homes in Powys, managed by the Housing Revenue Account (HRA). Of these 24 had been vacant for more than 6 months.

The HRA manages 5,397 properties so the number of empty properties represents 1.96% of the housing stock, and the number empty for more than 6 months represents 0.44% of the housing stock.

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CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL

County Council
20th January 2016

REPORT AUTHOR: County Councillor Avril York, Portfolio Holder for
Regeneration and Planning
County Councillor Darren Mayor, Portfolio Holder for
Property, Buildings and Housing

SUBJECT: Question from County Councillor Matthew Dorrance

In November 2015, the Cabinet Member informed Brecon's County Councillors that the planned cultural hub was delayed partly because of a funding shortfall.

Will the Cabinet Member provide Council with an updated position statement, details of the financial shortfall and how the Council plans to close this funding gap so that this regeneration project can proceed?

The Brecon Cultural Hub is a flagship project for the County Council and is part of a major regeneration opportunity for Brecknockshire. The project has taken longer than expected to deliver, largely due to the Grant Funding process, Planning and Built Heritage requirements and ensuring affordability prior to tendering the work to the market through redesign but is now on the cusp of becoming a reality.

There is concern that with an industry increase in building costs running at an average of 6.5% per annum since the submission of the HLF bid (April 2013) that the budget set aside will not be sufficient. This, however, is now dependent on how the market responds to the tendered opportunity following the extensive cost reduction exercise and progression of the detailed design.

In addition to the cost reduction exercise, every effort is being made to close the funding gap including securing £300,000 of additional funding from local partners, Trusts and individuals and the submission of an application to the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) for a grant increase of £373,457. The support from local partnerships has been crucial in attracting significant additional funding from organisations such as the HLF and we are optimistic that the scheme will be affordable without putting undue pressure on the Councils resources.

Subject to a full cost analysis of the market response alongside the support from funding partners; if the costs remain greater than the budget allocated, the Cabinet will consider how to fund the gap. The Cabinet is aware of the importance of this project to Brecknockshire and the effort, resource and partnership support that has enabled it to reach this stage.

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CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL

County Council
20th January 2016

REPORT AUTHOR: County Councillor Arwel Jones, Portfolio Holder for Education

SUBJECT: Question from County Councillor Matthew Dorrance

Does the Cabinet think it's fair to ask Learning Support Assistants in Schools to fund a £15 registration fee to enable them to do their jobs?

The Council, in common with the majority of other councils in Wales, responded to the Education Workforce Council's consultation on this proposal by making it clear that it did not support the introduction of registration fees for Learning Support Assistants and the additional financial burden that it would bring, either to the Council or the Learning Support Assistants themselves. The Cabinet has yet to make a formal decision on this matter but the Council's policy on the payment of professional and registration fees is currently being reviewed to ensure that whatever decision is taken, there is equity in the provisions for all staff.

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CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL

County Council
20th January 2016

REPORT AUTHOR: County Councillor Stephen Hayes, Portfolio Holder for Adult Social Care

SUBJECT: Question from County Councillor Graham Jones

In the face of deep concerns from your electors, is Powys County Council willing to re-think its funding priorities in order to safeguard both day care, and the vital day centres, for its vulnerable elderly; taking into account that the professional care currently provided by Maes-y-Wennol Day Centre, Llanidloes, for example, could not guaranteed by the voluntary sector? What positive alternative measures are you considering to help this situation, I feel as an authority that we must try our utmost to look after our elderly residents?

Councillors will recall that in the 2014/15 budget debate, Council resolved to 'reconfigure day time activities for older people and withdraw from Council direct delivery and invest in new models of care'.

Subsequently, funding pressures have increased substantially and both Cabinet and Council have expressed a clear expectation that Adult Social Care should bear its share of funding reductions, reinforcing the pressure to consider alternative models of day-time activity for older people. The model followed hitherto, of direct provision of day care by the council from council buildings, is not affordable within the resources now available.

In the wider context, models of provision are changing nationally, with discussion taking place in many forums about the best way to meet older people's needs and provision increasingly moving away from traditional fixed-base day care. The future service will need to address the requirements of the Social Services and Wellbeing Act

On 20th October Cabinet agreed to a detailed consultation on older people's day-time services, preceded and shaped by a 'listening and learning' discussion with stakeholders. On the conclusion of the consultation and its evaluation, a further paper will be brought to Cabinet with options for decision.

I know all members share your concern that day time provision for older residents in Powys should meet identified needs and help keep residents active and independent. The challenge of the consultation is to arrive at and evaluate different options for service development which meet the reduced budget, cater for a wider audience and fulfil the requirements under the new Social Services and Wellbeing Act. There is no preferred model at this stage, and councillors will appreciate that it

would run counter to the effectiveness of the review and consultation if undertakings or guarantees were to be given in advance in respect of any part of the current service provision.

At the budget setting process, I must remind Councillors, that it was agreed in February 2013 that the budget for Day Centres was to be substantially reduced. This reduction in budget decreases the available funding from circa £4,000 per client to circa £800 from 2018.

CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL

County Council
20th January 2016

REPORT AUTHOR: County Councillor John Powell, Portfolio Holder for Environment and Sustainability

SUBJECT: Question from County Councillor Gemma Bowker

Could the portfolio holder please provide reassurance that, following the significant increases in fees for bereavement services to full recovery rates, the bereavement service is being as well and efficiently run as possible and offering those having to meet these charges at a difficult time are provided with high levels of care and value for money?

In 2015, a review of the fees for bereavement services was undertaken. The review concluded that the existing fees did not cover the cost of the service. Furthermore when compared with other Welsh authorities, were found to be in the lowest quartile. Although significant, the increased fees introduced in January 2016 will not mean that the service is achieving full cost recovery, but will result in considerable progress being made towards achieving this in the future.

The existing service will continue to offer an efficient but considerate service to bereaved families during their difficult time.

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CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL

County Council
20th January 2016

REPORT AUTHOR: County Councillor John Powell, Portfolio Holder for Environment and Sustainability

SUBJECT: Question from County Councillor Graham Jones

Now that higher burial charges may be imposed by Powys County Council re: Cemeteries, concerns are that some families simply cannot afford these extra charges.

Has the Council considered that if these excessively high increased charges are implemented, this could well lead to an environmental problem?

What measures are the Council proposing, to address this?

It is acknowledged that the increases in burial fees are significant. However they are necessary in order for the Council to make significant progress towards full cost recovery in the future.

It is acknowledged that some families may struggle to afford a burial given the extra charges. This fact was taken into account when revising the new fees and this is why the Council did not go for full cost recovery at this present time.

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CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL

County Council
20th January 2016

REPORT AUTHOR: County Councillor Arwel Jones, Portfolio Holder for Education

SUBJECT: Question from County Councillor David Meredith

In view of the significance that the uptake of Free School Meals has on the Family of Schools in which a School is situated. What action is the Authority taking along with ERW in order to provide better promotional material for schools to send out to parents in order to encourage them to apply? Furthermore when is the Authority likely to introduce a Cashless System which will avoid any embarrassment for those pupils receiving Free School Meals?

The authority has previously provided schools with letters to send to parents around the benefits to the Child, Parent, School and Local Authority of receiving free school meals. The award of free school meal entitlement is now undertaken by the council's income and awards team who undertake the assessment for other benefits such as Housing Benefit and Council Tax reduction etc. The service also undertakes a full check of entitled families in the first 2 – 3 weeks of January to ensure that all entitled children are given the Free School Meal entitlement in readiness for the PLASC return.

The roll out of the cashless system is expected to commence in February.

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CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL

County Council
20th January 2016

REPORT AUTHOR: County Councillor Arwel Jones, Portfolio Holder for Education

SUBJECT: Question from County Councillor David Meredith

When is the Authority going to take the decision on Welsh-medium Education in the Secondary Sector in the South of the County and, if not in the foreseeable future, when does the Authority intend notifying parents, especially of those who currently have children in Year 6 of where their children are going to receive their Welsh-medium Education with effect from September, 2016?

The future of Welsh-medium secondary education in the South and Mid Powys is being considered as part of the on-going Secondary School Review – which includes Builth, Llandrindod, Brecon and Gwernyfed High Schools. It is anticipated that the review will be completed soon. However, the Authority will be writing to parents of primary and secondary Welsh-medium pupils within the next week about the specific availability of Welsh-medium provision in September 2016.

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