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County Council

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

Meeting date
Thursday, 18 October 2018

Meeting time
10.30 am

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

12 October 2018

The use of Welsh by participants is welcomed. If you wish to use Welsh please inform us by noon, two working days before the meeting

AGENDA

1.	APOLOGIES
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To receive apologies for absence.

2.	MINUTES
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To authorise the Chair to sign the minutes of the last meeting held on 12th July 2018 as a correct record.
(Pages 17 - 72)

3.	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
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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
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To receive any announcements from the Chair of Council.

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

6.	CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S BRIEFING
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To receive a briefing from the Deputy Chief Executive.

7.	PUBLIC QUESTIONS - MAXIMUM OF 20 MINUTES
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7.1. Question to the Portfolio Holder for Young People and Culture from Richard Spanswick

Given that Welshpool has an excellent, purpose-built, easily accessible, and well used library at its Brook Street site, would the Council please confirm that it will prioritise the needs of the community above the desire to relocate council office accommodation from Neuadd Maldwyn to the library building at the same time as reducing library stock and amenities, and safeguard this facility for future public use?

(Pages 73 - 74)

7.2. Question to the Portfolio Holder for Learning and Welsh Language from Buddug Bates

Can the Member with responsibility for the Education portfolio please confirm when it is likely that a new North Powys category 2a high school is likely to open?

(Pages 75 - 78)

7.3. Question to the Portfolio Holder for Learning and Welsh Language from Heidi Wilson

In light of the recent re-tendering exercise of all Home-to-School transport arrangements, can the council please reassure me and other parents whose children use the x48 local bus (route BW61 Llanddewi to Builth Wells) that a full risk assessment has been carried out and that the council are satisfied that in the event of a road traffic incident sufficient safety measures are in place to protect our children as far as is possible on this dangerous stretch of road? I ask this particularly in relation to those pupils who have to stand whilst using this service.

(Pages 79 - 80)

7.4. Question to the Portfolio Holder for Highways, Recycling and Assets from Trudy Stedman

During a recent "meet the council" event in Hay-on-Wye several residents asked about issues in relation to the transfer of assets from Powys County Council to Hay Town Council as this has been under discussion for over 3 years. I would be grateful if the cabinet member could please advise on when the cabinet discussions in relation to asset transfers in Hay are likely to take place and a potential timescale for completion so that this information can be made available to Hay residents.

(Pages 81 - 82)

7.5. **Question to the Portfolio Holder for Highways, Recycling and Assets from Jane Rees**

Given reports confirm that over 300 fires a year occur in recycling plants throughout the UK* how satisfied are Powys County Council that in the event of a major incident at the planned recycling plant in Abermule the economy of Mid wales will not be paralysed by the closure of the A483 trunk road and Cambrian Rail Line? Such a fire in a building wedged between two main arterial routes and with a cubic capacity of over 18545m3, will be left to burn out over several days. This will have a catastrophic effect on this sensitive environment and result in a long period of disruption. The noxious gasses known to issue from burning plastic+ will require the urgent evacuation of residents in the nearby village. In view of the above the Council should be considering other more suitable locations.*

<https://www.theguardian.com/sustainable-business/2017/jul/06/troubling-fire-record-uk-recycling-plants>

* https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xjzrd7Vrh_Q

+ <http://www.regeno.in/images/wastemanagement.pdf>

(Pages 83 - 84)

8.	NOTICES OF MOTION
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8.1. **Notice of Motion - Engaging the Electorate**

This council believes that local authorities too often lose the confidence of the electorate because they can appear detached and unaccountable. More needs to be done to engage and enthuse the electorate to make local government a more vibrant and relevant part of our communities.

Proposed by County Councillor Gareth Pugh
Seconded by County Councillor Elwyn Vaughan

8.2. **Notice of Motion proposing the banning of the use of wild animals in circuses in Powys**

Whilst the use of wild animals in circuses may have been something which was regarded as entertainment in the past, as a society we become more civilised over time and many are now of the view that it is cruel to train non domestic or wild animals to do tricks and to keep such animals in restricted conditions – particularly when travelling on tour. Indeed, it is reported that 45 countries in the world have already introduced prohibitions on using animals in circuses, including Scotland and Ireland. We need to follow suit.

The concerns have been recognised by the Welsh Government which commissioned a report, published in 2016, finding that “life for wild animals in travelling circuses...does not appear to constitute either a

‘good life’ or a ‘life worth living’.

Consulting the public on the broader issue last year, the Welsh Government also asked if a ban on wild animals in circuses should be considered. News reports suggest that the response from the public was overwhelming, with the Welsh Government stating that there was “strong support for a ban”. However, the legislation is taking time to come to fruition and circuses will still be able to freely come to Powys which the consultation results imply would be against the wishes of many of our residents. Although it has been stated that a bill will be introduced in the next 12 months, given that this has been on the cards since 2013, and could be delayed further, there are steps which local authorities can take in the meantime. This Council can take direct action now and encourage such circuses not to come to our county.

10 Local Authorities have already banned the use of circuses using wild animals on their land. We need to do the same. We need to send a message to the Welsh Government that this matter cannot be delayed further. We need to show the public that we recognise their concerns.

Furthermore, since looking into this issue, I have discovered that a circus that uses wild animals which recently toured to Powys, was advertised through schools, and possibly even in other Powys CC public spaces. We need to filter down a strong communication to our departments, stating that we do not welcome the use of wild animals in this way. I therefore propose the following motion:

This council proposes that the relevant steps are taken to prohibit any Circuses using non domestic and/or wild animals, from hiring any Powys County Council owned land.

This council further proposes that Powys Council’s properties and services (including Schools, Libraries, Community/Youth Areas) do not advertise circuses using non-domestic and/ or wild animals.

This council urges the Welsh Government to commit to banning the use of wild animals in circuses in Wales, by bringing forward the proposed legislative ban at its earliest opportunity.

Proposed by County Councillor Amanda Jenner

Seconded by County Councillor Lucy Roberts

8.3. **Notice of Motion - Supporting our Young People**

Our young people face considerable pressures and challenges.

We therefore call on the Council to:

- Acknowledge the challenge, dangers and pressures on our young people
- To prepare a support strategy for 16 – 25 year old’s in Powys bridging from children’s social services including:
- Ensure Wellbeing project in our junior and secondary schools

- Ensure that Social services and Housing co-operate to avoid silos in the authority
- Co-operate with Young Farmers to raise awareness about loneliness in rural communities, mental health issues, sexuality and drugs
- To acknowledge the work of local charities and third sector providers and work with them to ensure the sustainability of their support services for the future
- Co-operate with Shelter Cymru to promote housing rights
- Co-operate with Cais
- Develop work experience opportunities
- Develop one of the Council's small holdings to provide experience of working on the land, horticulture and the open air as part of the process of strengthening and getting stronger for individuals.

Proposed by County Councillor Elwyn Vaughan
 Seconded by County Councillor Bryn Davies

8.4. **Notice of Motion - Impact of Brexit**

Council notes the current state of negotiations between the UK Government and the European Commission on a Withdrawal Agreement for the UK's exit from the European Union (EU) on the 29th March 2019, and the continuing possibility of the UK exiting the EU without a legal agreement in place (the 'No Deal' scenario).

Council further notes that, in the event of 'No Deal', the UK's trading and political relationship with the EU will probably be based solely on the terms set by the World Trade Organisation.

Council also notes that a number of other Welsh and English local authorities have carried out Brexit impact assessments for their areas of the UK.

Council therefore requests Powys County Council's Cabinet to implement the following:-

Using as a basis the all-Wales analyses carried out by Welsh Government and the WLGA in to the impact of various Brexit scenarios on Wales as a whole, commission a comprehensive analysis of the impact the same scenarios will have on:-

- a) The Powys economy, including the impact on individual business sectors and at shire and district levels.
- b) The consequential impact on Powys's communities at local level, including likely demographic and household income changes; and to include the impacts on local cultural and recreational opportunities.

- c) The impact on the Powys environment in the short, medium and long-term.
- d) The impact on the Welsh language in Powys.
- e) Powys County Council's ability to deliver its statutory and non-statutory services, including the potential impact of Brexit on the council's workforce and budgets.
- f) Ensure all the impacts identified in a) to e) are included on the Council's Risk Register.

and further calls for a Special Meeting of Council to debate the issues when the impact analyses are completed.

Proposed by County Councillor James Gibson-Watt
Seconded by County Councillor Pete Roberts

8.5. **Notice of Motion - People's Vote**

This Council notes that:

- The UK is set to leave the European Union on Friday, 29 March 2019;
- Wales receives £245 million more from the European Union than it pays in (Wales Governance Centre, Cardiff University, May 2016);
- It will take years for the UK to secure a new trade deal for farming with the US or Australia. In the meantime, farmers will have to live under tough WTO rules with little support (External Affairs and Additional Legislation Committee, Senedd, January 2017);
- A significant proportion of the Powys economy depends on the EU for trade and financial support;
- A bad deal or no deal Brexit will be bad for Powys, for jobs and for our economy; and
- The 'Chequers Statement', issued on 6th July 2018 and the closest indication yet of what a final deal might look like, has managed to alienate both Remainers and Brexiteers alike.

This Council resolves to:

- 1) Formally add its voice to those calling for a public 'People's Vote' on the final Brexit deal;
- 2) Liaise with the official 'People's Vote' campaign on ways in which it can help promote its petition;
- 3) Write to its MPs, AMs, the Secretary of State and the Prime Minister expressing its views and asking them to support a People's Vote; and
- 4) Asks the Leader to make representations and write to this effect.

Proposed by County Councillor Matthew Dorrance
Seconded by County Councillor Susan McNicholas

9.	DRAFT ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT 2017 - 18
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To consider the draft Annual Performance Report 2017-18.
(Pages 85 - 190)

10.	VIREMENT FOR HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT: WELSH HOUSING QUALITY STANDARDS, OLDER PERSON ACCOMMODATION
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To consider a capital virement in respect of the Welsh Housing Quality Standards.
(Pages 191 - 194)

11.	DRAFT STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES, GAMBLING ACT 2005
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To consider approving the Draft Statement of Principles under the Gambling Act 2005.
(Pages 195 - 236)

12.	APPOINTMENT TO COMMUNITY HEALTH COUNCIL
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To appoint a member to serve on the Community Health Council.

13.	ARRANGEMENTS TO FILL A VACANCY ON THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE
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To consider the arrangements to fill one vacancy arising from the completion of a term of office of an Independent (Lay) Member on the Standards Committee.
(Pages 237 - 242)

14.	APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES AND OUTSIDE BODIES
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To note the following appointments to outside bodies made by political groups and approved by the Monitoring Officer under the general power of delegation granted by Council on 16th May 2013:

County Councillor Sarah Lewis resigned from the Health, Care and Housing Scrutiny Committee

County Councillor Iain McIntosh appointed to the Brecon Beacons National Park Authority in place of County Councillor Sarah Lewis

County Councillor Gary Price resigned from the Audit Committee and Democratic Services Committee.

County Councillor Maureen Mackenzie resigned from the Health, Care and Housing Scrutiny Committee.

15. QUESTIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CONSTITUTION
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15.1. Question to the Portfolio Holder for Young People and Culture from County Councillor Gareth Jones

To what extent does the YFC movement within Powys support the council's statutory Youth Service?

(Pages 243 - 244)

15.2. Question to the Portfolio Holder for Highways, Recycling and Assets from County Councillor Huw Williams

We rightly celebrate the high level of household waste recycled by Powys residents, but what is the path taken, and final destination of each kerbside recycle gathered by the Authority's Waste Services? What is the current destination of our residual waste?

(Pages 245 - 248)

15.3. Question to the Portfolio Holder for Corporate Governance, Housing and Public Protection from County Councillor Huw Williams

In October 2017, the Council agreed to support the following motion:

RESOLVED

1. That Council believes that it must do as much as it can to help residents in fuel poverty to mitigate this situation;
 - a) Residents of Powys would benefit greatly from reduced energy bills through a Powys County Council run collective energy switch scheme;
 - b) The authority can join in with other authorities and organisations in Wales through the Cyd Cymru scheme;
 - c) The Ceredigion run schemes provide a best practice model for the running of such fuel clubs;
 - d) The authority can exert its power of collective bargaining for both dual fuel and oil purchasing schemes
2. To ask the Anti-Poverty Champion and the Anti-Poverty Group to explore the feasibility of implementing its own or joining the Cyd Cymru scheme.
3. To ask the Anti-Poverty Champion and the Anti-Poverty Group to explore the feasibility of implementing an oil purchasing scheme across Powys.
4. To work with local housing associations, Powys Teaching Health Board, voluntary groups, care homes and households across Powys to increase awareness and encourage them to sign up to these schemes.

Can we be provided with a current situation report and a progress update regarding these matters?

(Pages 249 - 254)

15.4. **Question to the Portfolio Holder for Highways, Recycling and Assets from County Councillor Pete Roberts**

The consultation earlier this year into charging for the use of disabled spaces in council car parks has caused a significant level of distress and uncertainty for many users. Whilst I appreciate the welcome extension of the consultation it has now been over a month since it closed and there remains significant concerns about the plans the council now has on the issue.

Can I therefore ask the portfolio holder:

1. How many responses he received to the Blue Badge Consultation from affected groups and existing badge holders and is he confident that the consultation did reach the right people, i.e. those most affected?
2. What level of support each of the options received and when he will be bringing forward formal proposals to Cabinet as a result of this consultation or will he be abandoning his plans to charge blue badge holders?

(Pages 255 - 256)

15.5. **Question to the Portfolio Holder for Young People and Culture from County Councillor Roger Williams**

What work has Powys County Council undertaken to understand better the large increase in Looked After Children in its care?

(Pages 257 - 258)

15.6. **Question to the Portfolio Holder for Economy and Planning from County Councillor Elwyn Vaughan**

In view of the motion this Council passed last year emphasising the need to increase the percentage of goods and services purchased from Powys, can we have an update report on the latest position?

(To Follow)

15.7. **Question to the Portfolio Holder for Learning and Welsh Language from County Councillor James Gibson-Watt**

From the 1st October 2018 Powys County Council is withdrawing from the School Milk Subsidy Scheme and will no longer be making claims to the Rural Payments Agency (RPA) for the school milk subsidy on the county's primary schools' behalf. From that date the primary schools will have to administer the scheme and claim the subsidy themselves if they wish to remain in the scheme.

On the assumption that she was the decision-maker, could the Portfolio Holder confirm or otherwise whether she carried out a full Impact Assessment to determine the effect this change will have on the take up

of the school milk subsidy and the provision of free milk to Powys primary school pupils before taking this decision?

(Pages 259 - 260)

15.8. Question to the Portfolio Holder for Finance, Countryside and Transport from County Councillor Jackie Charlton

Financial implications long term on existing projects which rely on European funding support and how the gaps will be bridged.

Can the portfolio holder give Council an indication of what projects are currently funded by direct match funding or other European funding links to localised, Powys wide projects such as Highways improvements, projects in Social Services (both Adult and Children's Services), capital projects and infrastructure projects?

What plans are in place to ensure continuity of service long term in the coming years?

(Pages 261 - 262)

15.9. Question to the Portfolio Holder for Highways Recycling and Assets from County Councillor Elwyn Vaughan

In view of the listing of this project as one of High Risk for the authority, can we have an update report about the project including any additional costs incurred?

(Pages 263 - 264)

15.10. Question to the Portfolio Holder for Highways, Recycling and Assets from County Councillor Matthew Dorrance

How is the Council ensuring young people receive healthy, nutritionally balanced meals in schools across Powys?

(Pages 265 - 268)

15.11. Question to the Leader from County Councillor Matthew Dorrance

It's more than a year since the Council's regulators inspected Children's Services and found serious failings. The latest Children's Services performance report (August 2018) shows the Council is failing to deliver against the top five performance indicators.

Will the Leader explain to Council why, a year later, her administration is still failing children, young people and families in Powys?

(Pages 269 - 272)

15.12. Question to the Portfolio Holder for Highways, Recycling and Assets from County Councillor Susan McNicholas

It has been brought to our attention in Ystradgynlais that Bring Sites in other areas are still in use. We were told that in order for our Recycling site to remain open we had to agree to close our sites.

We don't want other sites to close but we want to be treated equally. Can

the Portfolio Holder tell us what the position actually is?

(Pages 273 - 274)

15.13. **Question to the Portfolio Holder for Highways, Recycling and Assets from County Councillor Gareth Ratcliffe**

Earlier this year the then portfolio holder for highways lifted the moratorium on traffic orders across the county. Whilst the community of Hay understands there are severe financial implications on Powys County Councils budget due to cuts in funding and increased costs across council services hitting budgets like highways harder as it's a non-statutory service. Over the next couple of years there are major developments in the community that will involve traffic orders being raised to their works. Will the portfolio holder support Hay Town Council and the local community in engaging with them prior to any orders being raised to support the town plan retaining to speed reduction within town and traffic orders to support safe transport around the town?

(Pages 275 - 276)

15.14. **Question to the Portfolio Holder for Highways, Recycling and Assets from County Councillor Gareth Ratcliffe**

Hay-on-Wye residents welcome the moving forward of replacement rails on Hay bridge it is something the Town Council and myself have been pushing for many years to make safe and update one of the entrances in to our community over the river Wye. Can the portfolio holder confirm that the council plans to start works in this financial year?

(Pages 277 - 278)

15.15. **Question to the Portfolio Holder for Corporate Governance, Housing and Public Protection from County Councillor Mark Barnes**

Powys has had a lot of recent successes in prosecuting rogue traders in Powys and credit must go to the officers who are helping to keep our streets safe. Can the Portfolio Holder comment how much money has been raised from Proceeds of Crime?

(Pages 279 - 280)

15.16. **Question to the Portfolio Holder for Highways, Recycling and Assets from County Councillor Jackie Charlton**

I am seeking information on the process for applying for Road Traffic Orders now the Shire Committees no longer exist.

Cllr Davies has been very helpful in trying to pursue a local issue for my Llangattock and continues to support my regular requests for an update. Unfortunately he is unable to provide any and I understand this may be the case for other Cllrs.

Could Cllr Davies confirm that Road Traffic Orders are being dealt with, how the process works and how Cllrs can generally be given an idea

where in the system their individual requests are?

(Pages 281 - 282)

15.17. **Question to the Portfolio Holder for Learning and Welsh Language from County Councillor Karl Lewis**

Can the Portfolio Holder for Education tell council what new methods of digital delivery she is promoting to support the Council's Vision for 2025?

(Pages 283 - 284)

15.18. **Question to the Portfolio Holder for Corporate Governance, Housing and Public Protection from County Councillor Peter Lewis**

Can the Portfolio Holder update the council on the delivery of the 250 new homes for the County?

(Pages 285 - 286)

15.19. **Question to the Leader from County Councillor Diane Jones-Poston**

Can the Leader update the council on the progress of the Mid Wales Growth Deal?

(Pages 287 - 288)

15.20. **Question to the Portfolio Holder for Finance, Countryside and Transport from County Councillor Claire Mills**

Will the Portfolio Holder for Finance please update the council on what negotiations are taking place to ensure Powys receives its fair allocation of funding in the budget formula from the Welsh Government?

(Pages 289 - 290)

15.21. **Question to County Councillor William Powell, Member of the Dyfed Powys Police and Crime Panel from County Councillor Michael Williams**

In light of concerns expressed over the summer by leaders of the Association of Police and Crime commissioners (APCC) around the dangers of a 'No Deal' Brexit, what contingency plans is the Police and Crime Commissioner for Dyfed-Powys, Dafydd Llywelyn, making, in collaboration with his commissioner colleagues in the North Wales, South Wales and Gwent police force areas?

Given the real concerns expressed around security of supply of food and medical supplies, in the event of 'No Deal,' what consideration has been given to the cancelling of leave across Dyfed- Powys Police in March/April 2019 to ensure community safety?

In addition, what action is being undertaken by the Police and Crime Commissioner to spearhead preparations with the Public Service Boards in Powys, Ceredigion, Carmarthenshire and Pembrokeshire, in the face of

this unfortunate eventuality?

(Pages 291 - 292)

15.22. **Question to the Leader from County Councillor William Powell**

It is a matter of public record that the town of Talgarth and its economy experienced considerable turbulence in the years leading up to and following the closure of the former Mid Wales Hospital from 1995-2000. In the last decade, the opening of the A479 Talgarth Relief Road, a renewed civic pride, enterprise and purpose and earlier this year the establishment of Ysgol y Mynydd Du have all served to signal fresh confidence in the town's future.

However, the sheer scale of Powys County Council owned sites in the town centre, currently or soon to be declared surplus, combined with the consultation on the Development Brief on the former Mid Wales Hospital site and other allocated sites once again see the town at a cross roads.

Given her understanding of the cross portfolio challenges and opportunities that Talgarth faces, what assessment has the Leader made of the merits of a Strategic Development Plan for Talgarth? With the County Council working in renewed partnership with Brecon Beacons National Park Authority, Talgarth Town Council and by harnessing the energy and vision of local people, such a plan would promote holistic, sustainable development of the town at a time of unprecedented growth. To this end, will the Leader please commit to convening an early meeting to establish the groundwork for such a plan?

(Pages 293 - 294)

15.23. **Question to the Portfolio Holder for Highways, Recycling and Assets from County Councillor Iain McIntosh**

As the current list of farmers and contractors who were called upon to clear the heavy snowfall last winter struggled to cope, will the portfolio holder for highways consider creating a second list of farmers and contractors with equipment suitable for clearing snow, so that they can be called upon should we get the same level of snowfall as last winter at some point in the future?

(Pages 295 - 296)

15.24. **Question to the Portfolio Holder for Highways, Recycling and Assets from County Councillor Iain McIntosh**

The roads around the Yscir ward are in a very bad state. Many areas need resurfacing and numerous pot holes remain unrepaired. Can the portfolio holder for highways offer any reassurance to the residents of rural wards such as Yscir that their roads will be repaired to a better standard soon?

(Pages 297 - 298)

15.25. **Question to the Portfolio Holder for Highways, Recycling and Assets from County Councillor Liam Fitzpatrick**

What do Puffins and Y Gaer Brecon Cultural Hub have in common? They both come with extremely large mysterious bills. (that's not the question) Last weeks Brecon and Radnor express had a startling front page advising us that Y Gaer (Brecon cultural hub) will be delayed until next year due to issues with Stone and Puffins breeding.

However, a local ornithologist and the RSPB advised me that Puffins only breed in April and May every year and are not native to Powys but can be found in Scandinavia as well as the Isle of man and Yorkshire as well as Skomer island. Roast Puffin pie is of course a delicacy in Jamtland in northern Sweden and I am sure with the award of a Michelin star to Ynshir in Machynlleth will not be long that it may appear in Northern Powys.

Taking into consideration that Puffins will not be benefiting the Powys Pound soon and that it is October and Not April and they are of course not breeding I will now ask the cabinet member the question.

Will the Cabinet member agree the following; that not only is this possibly the most laughable excuse for incompetence since the classic 'the dog ate my homework' it is deeply unfair that all council tax payers throughout Powys will have to continue to pay for this farce when there is a likelihood, with budget cuts in 2019 for libraries, museums and other cultural centres, that the building may not even have sufficient resources to actually open?

(Pages 299 - 300)

15.26. **Question to the Portfolio Holder for Corporate Governance, Housing and Public Protection from County Councillor Karen Laurie-Parry**

Good Governance is essential in Local Government and working to Powys County Council's Agreed and Published Vision . Regarding the private housing development south of the former Bronllys CP School and that of Bronllys Village in general, how was the Public Engagement Event for you and how did you engage with significant persons in the process leading up to the day?

(Pages 301 - 302)

15.27. **Question to the Portfolio Holder for Corporate Governance, Housing and Public Protection from County Councillor Karen Laurie-Parry**

Regarding Procurement of Housing Association/Private Developer, are you satisfied that the correct procedures and guidelines adopted by Powys County Council have been adhered to, by Councillors and Officers and can you explain the procedure that was utilised?

(Pages 303 - 304)

16.	EXEMPT ITEMS
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The Monitoring Officer has determined that category 1 of the Access to Information Procedure Rules applies to the following item. His view on the public interest test (having taken account of the provisions of Rule 14.8 of the Council's Access to Information Rules) was that to make this information public would disclose personal data relating to an individual in contravention of the principles of the Data Protection Act. Because of this and since there did not appear to be an overwhelming public interest requiring the disclosure of personal data he felt that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information. Members are asked to consider these factors when determining the public interest test, which they must decide when considering excluding the public from this part of the meeting.

17.	NOTICE OF MOTION
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That Council should debate, consider and make any recommendations to Officers to agree a one off exception to the Council's Housing Allocation Scheme to allocate a vacant property to the mother of a deceased tenant in Welshpool in the interests of the deceased tenant's children in line with the European Rights of the Child Regulations, and other legislation.

Proposed by County Councillor Phil Pritchard
Seconded by County Councillor Michael Williams

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**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL HELD AT COUNCIL
CHAMBER - COUNTY HALL, LLANDRINDOD WELLS ON THURSDAY, 12 JULY
2018**

PRESENT

County Councillor DW Meredith (Chair)

County Councillors MC Alexander, B Baynham, J Charlton, L V Corfield, K W Curry, B Davies, D E Davies, P Davies, S C Davies, M J Dorrance, E Durrant, D O Evans, J Evans, L Fitzpatrick, L George, J Gibson-Watt, M R Harris, S M Hayes, H Hulme, A Jenner, E A Jones, D R Jones, E Jones, E M Jones, M J Jones, D Jones-Poston, F H Jump, K Laurie-Parry, H Lewis, K Lewis, P E Lewis, S Lewis, MC Mackenzie, I McIntosh, S McNicholas, C Mills, JG Morris, R Powell, WD Powell, D R Price, GD Price, G Pugh, J Pugh, G W Ratcliffe, L Roberts, P Roberts, K M Roberts-Jones, E Roderick, D Rowlands, D Selby, K S Silk, D A Thomas, T J Van-Rees, E Vaughan, M Weale, A Williams, G I S Williams, D H Williams, J M Williams and R Williams

1.	APOLOGIES
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Apologies for absence were received from County Councillors G Breeze, A W Davies, G Jones, J R Jones, N Morrison, P C Pritchard, R G Thomas, J Wilkinson, J Williams and S L Williams

2.	MINUTES
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The Chair was authorised to sign the minutes of the meetings held on 22nd February, 8th March, 17th April, 8th May and 17th May as correct records.

3.	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
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All members present declared personal interests in item 12 Members Allowance and Expenses 2017-18.

County Councillors B Baynham, L Corfield, B Davies, D Davies, D Evans, J Evans, A Jones, K Laurie-Parry, H Lewis, S McNicholas, C Mills, D Price, G Pugh, K Roberts-Jones, R Powell, G Ratcliffe, E Roderick, D Rowlands, T Van-Rees, E Vaughan and G Williams declared personal and prejudicial interests on the notice of motion on blue badge holders.

County Councillors M Alexander, D Evans, J Evans, R. Harris, E Jones, K Laurie-Parry, I McIntosh, D Price and R Williams declared personal interests in the question on the YFC.

County Councillor R Harris declared a personal and prejudicial interest in the question on Sennybridge primary school.

County Councillor G Price declared a personal and prejudicial interest in the item request for leave of absence.

4. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC
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4.1. Question to the Portfolio Holder for Finance, Countryside and Transport from Graham Taylor

The survey undertaken as part of the review of the Rights of Way Delivery Plan (ROWIP) revealed that the main problem encountered by users of footpaths and bridleways was the lack of signposting and waymarking. No other issue was raised more often; 75% of residents in the survey raised it. This is supported by many of the complaints the Council receives about problems with the rights of way network.

The Council is very keen to promote health and well-being through the use of the countryside and to stimulate the local economy by attracting visitors to walk and cycle in Powys. The clear lack of signage and waymarking is a major barrier to residents and visitors wishing to do this.

Can the Cabinet Member please ensure that the new ROWIP, that is currently being prepared, accords the highest priority to a programme of works designed to address this major issue raised by residents?

Response

Thank you for your question Mr Taylor and I apologise that I cannot be at full Council.

The Rights of Way Improvement Plan although being a statutory document, also supports the goals of key national and local strategies; particularly those relating to:

- Supporting the local economy
- Improving the nations' and residents health and well-being, and
- Creating a more sustainable environment

The Plan also sets out how it will contribute towards key objectives in the County Council's Cabinet Vision 2025 and the Public Service Board's 2040 Vision. Working with internal and external partners will be crucial to achieving these aims and goals.

As part of the ROWIP Review process, a number of surveys and consultations were undertaken. The results for Question 8 of the general public survey showed that 75% of respondents had encountered issues with *signage and way-marking*. This was closely followed by *surface issues* at 70%, *stiles/gates* at 68% and *obstructions* at 56%. Question 12 asked what discouraged use of the public rights of way network. The highest response was *obstructions* at 23%, followed by the *surface* at 18%, and then *crossing private land* at 13%. The results indicate that although *signage and waymarking* is a commonly encountered issue, other issues are more important when it comes to discouraging use of the public rights of way network

The Council is of the opinion that as obstructions discourage people from using public rights of way, it would not be helpful or advisable to sign and waymark a route that is obstructed. Once a public right of way is cleared of obstructions,

then waymarking is undertaken, providing confidence to the public that the path is open and available.

The draft ROWIP to be consulted on, outlines a move to prioritise working with Communities showing an interest in working on their local public rights of way network. The Council would assist and facilitate the Community in undertaking work in their area.

The BBNPA are currently putting a draft ROWIP together, having completed the assessment stage. Issues with signage also came out strongly in their questionnaire. Along with vegetation, this was the most highlighted issue. Although they are not yet at the stage to draft actions, they have indicated the intention to include actions to deal with signage.

Mr Taylor's supplementary question was to ask that the Portfolio Holder ensured that the new ROWIP accorded the highest priority to a programme of works designed to make sure that open routes are properly signposted and waymarked. The Portfolio Holder was absent and a response would be sent to Mr Taylor, copied to all members of Council.

Response to the Supplementary Question

Thank you for your supplementary question.

The draft ROWIP was approved at Cabinet on Tuesday 10th July 2018, and it will shortly be available for a 3 month consultation. Your comments and request will be analysed and assessed as part of the review process following that consultation period.

The results for Question 8 of the general public survey, as you correctly state showed that 75% of respondents had encountered issues with signage and way-marking. This was closely followed by surface issues at 70%, stiles/gates at 68% and obstructions at 56%. Question 12 asked what discouraged use of the public rights of way network. The highest response was obstructions at 23.1%, followed by the surface at 18.5%, and then crossing private land at 13.3%. A further option under Q.12 on what discourages users was titled "don't know route" which came in at fourth place with 8% of responses, and "getting lost" as another option with 3.6%. The results indicate that although signage and way-marking is a commonly encountered problem, there are other issues that may be more important when it comes to discouraging use of the public rights of way network.

The Council is aware of the socio-economic benefits that public rights of way can provide, and it is a question of ensuring that the potential of the public rights of way network is maximised with the resources that are available.

4.2. Question to the Portfolio Holder for Finance, Countryside and Transport from Peter Newman

In 1968 the Countryside Act was published and came into law, this laid a duty on Highway Authorities to signpost all public paths where they leave a metalled road.

I understand that only 69 signposts were erected in the last financial year which equates to 23 each for the old Counties of Brecknock, Radnor and Montgomery.

Could the walking public, my organisation and other interested parties be given an estimate as to how many signposts are needed to complete the requirements under the Act, and the timescale please?

Response

Thank you for your question Mr Newman and I apologise that I cannot be at full Council.

In the last three years, 325 fingerposts have been installed across Powys outside of the National Park. At the current time, Countryside Services does not hold any data outlining how many fingerposts are required to complete the requirements of the Act. The Service is currently unable to produce reliable statistics on how many public rights of way are, or are not signposted at roadside. Therefore it is not possible to estimate the timescale and resources that are required.

The BBNPA have installed or replaced more than 320 fingerposts throughout the Park since mid-2013. According to the BBNPA's 5% survey from 2016/17, an estimated 70% of fingerposts were in place throughout the Park. This data is for the whole of the National Park, however officers have indicated that they believe it to be an accurate reflection of the Powys public rights of way within the National Park area.

The BBNPA have no estimate as to the timescale to complete the requirement of the Act and have said that the existence of signposts at roadside is dynamic and fluid. Fingerposts are prone to damage or theft.

Mr Newman's supplementary question was to ask the Portfolio Holder to look at this again in light of information available. The Portfolio Holder was absent and a response would be sent to Mr Newman, copied to all members of Council.

Response to Supplementary Question

I am sorry that my response to your question didn't have enough detail.

Countryside Services are looking to interrogate the Rights of Way Improvement Plan 5% condition survey of the public rights of way network to ascertain if further information can be extrapolated. However, it has not been possible to complete this work for today's meeting.

Should additional data be available from the survey, officers will work on putting together an estimated figure for the entire public rights of way network (excluding the National Park). Once this has been completed, I have asked Countryside Services to provide you with those figures that you have request.

I am sorry that I wasn't able to be at the Council meeting today as I had to be at a meeting to discuss the council's finance, so my apologies for not answering you in person.

5.	CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS
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The Chair welcomed a number of pupils from Crickhowell High School who were observing the meeting. He congratulated Nigel Brinn on his appointment as Director of Environment.

Details of the Chair's engagements had been circulated to all members.

Members congratulated members of the Trading Standards Consumer Fraud team headed by Nikki Davies Wheeler who had been highly commended by the Anti -Counterfeiting Group for its work in protecting Powys consumers from counterfeit goods.

6.	LEADER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS
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The Leader referred to the proposal to develop a rail test track on the site of the former Nant Helen opencast mine which would bring major investment to the area. She also referred to receptions she had held at the Spring Fair and the Urdd Eisteddfod and advised that she had held discussions with the Urdd with a view to the Eisteddfod returning in the near future. She had also been involved in the launch of the Wales 360 Mountain Bike Challenge which would have 2 stops in Powys. She had chaired a debate at the WLGA conference on rural issues and been a guest speaker at the Royal Institute of Town Planning on the subject of rural development.

7.	CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S BRIEFING
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The Deputy Chief Executive gave an update on the Improvement and Assurance Board whose remit had been extended to include Adult Services and corporate issues.

He advised that interviews for the Head of Children's Services had taken place the previous day and an appointment made. He also advised that Adrian Jarvis was Acting Head of Highways. Finally, he noted that nominations had opened for the staff awards and he reminded members that they were able to nominate staff.

8.	VIREMENTS TO CARRY FORWARD UNALLOCATED BUDGETS FROM 2017/18 TO 2018/19 FINANCIAL YEAR
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Council was asked to approve the roll forward of virements from 2017/18 to 2018/19 for ongoing capital schemes that were not completed at the end of the financial year 2017/18.

One of the virements was for HRA housing projects delayed by invoicing from HOWPS and members sought assurances that there was scrutiny of HOWPS and that their processes had improved. The Deputy Chief Executive advised that the Council had worked closely with HOWPS who had put considerable resources into improving their processes and there were signs that performance was improving. He also advised that there were no issues of funding shortfalls as a result of budgets being rolled forward.

By 50 votes to 1 with 1 abstention it was

RESOLVED	Reason for Decision
To approve the virements as set out in the report filed with the signed minutes.	To ensure appropriate virements are carried out that reflect the forecasted capital spend.

9. ANNUAL REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL SERVICES

The Director of Social Services presented the report for 2017/18 noting that she had not been Director during this time and acknowledging the contributions of her predecessors. The report recognised that it had been a very challenging year for social services but also noted that thanks to the hard work of staff, corporate colleagues, partner organisations and political support some significant improvements were beginning to be delivered. The report also set out the priorities for 2018/19. The Director advised that her next report would be co-designed with service users and partner organisations.

The Director answered questions from Members. She acknowledged that more needed to be done to support looked after children and that the recruitment and retention of staff was a major challenge as highlighted in the Corporate Risk Register. The Chair of the Audit Committee offered to work with the Director on addressing this. She advised that she was having regular meetings with front line staff and getting useful feedback from them. She also advised that the service was developing a signs of safety model designed to prevent children becoming looked after. Members were also advised that a paper would be coming to Cabinet on Council Tax relief for care leavers.

RESOLVED	Reason for decision
That the Director of Social Services Annual Report be received.	Statutory requirement.

10. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE DEMOCRATIC SERVICES COMMITTEE

10.1. Review of the role of Chair of Council and review of Civic Roles

Council considered the recommendations of the Democratic Services Committee.

County Councillor Elwyn Vaughan proposed amendments, seconded by County Councillor Bryn Davies, that "Council should have a Chair & Vice-chair elected annually at the full Council meeting at the AGM.

The Chair's car, as described in the report, should actually be a pool car for the wider benefit of the authority."

The first amendment was lost by 3 votes to 44 with 3 abstentions. The second amendment was passed by 17 votes to 2 with 5 abstentions.

RESOLVED	Reason for Decision
That the Chair's car, as described in the report, should actually be a pool car for the wider benefit of the authority.	For the wider benefit of the authority.

The recommendations of the Democratic Services Committee were moved by County Councillor Matthew Dorrance and seconded by County Councillor Linda Corfield.

Recommendation 1: by 31 votes to 9 with 1 abstention

RESOLVED	Reason for Decision
That the civic roles are valued and should be retained.	Response to the resolution passed at Council on 13 July 2017.

Recommendation 2: by 37 votes to 8 with 2 abstentions

RESOLVED	Reason for Decision
That the roles of Chair, Vice-Chair and Assistant Vice-Chair will be more important now as they absorb the Shire Chair roles as from May.	Response to the resolution passed at Council on 13 July 2017.

Recommendation 3: By 37 votes to 5 with 2 abstentions

RESOLVED	Reason for Decision
That the current rotation for Chair of Council between areas be retained.	Response to the resolution passed at Council on 13 July 2017.

Recommendation 4: By 37 votes to 8 with 1 abstention

RESOLVED	Reason for Decision
That there is no benefit in moving to a Presiding Member in place of a Chair of Council.	Response to the resolution passed at Council on 13 July 2017.

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Recommendation 5: By 39 votes to 5 with 4 abstentions

RESOLVED	Reason for Decision
That there is limited scope for reducing the level of civic salary paid as it does not provide significant savings	Response to the resolution passed at Council on 13 July 2017.

Recommendation 6: By 36 votes to 7 with 2 abstentions

RESOLVED	Reason for Decision
That the current budget allocation for the Chair's use should be retained.	Response to the resolution passed at Council on 13 July 2017.

Recommendation 7: By 44 votes to 6

RESOLVED	Reason for Decision
That the Chair's role needs to be appropriately supported and resourced subject to a robust business case being approved by the Democratic Services Committee for expenditure outside of the Chair's allowance.	Response to the resolution passed at Council on 13 July 2017.

10.2. Timing of Meetings Survey Results

The Chair of the Democratic Services Committee, County Councillor Matthew Dorrance, moved the recommendation noting the issues raised by members in the survey over travel times and care responsibilities. County Councillor Jackie Charlton seconded the recommendation. By 50 votes to 0 it was

RESOLVED	Reason for Decision
That the general timing of meetings of the Council, Cabinet and Committees remain unchanged for the current term of the Council with the provision that Chairs of Committees can vary the times of meetings as needs dictate.	To complete the Members' Survey as required under Section 6 of the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011.

10.3. Social Media Guide for Councillors

County Councillor Matthew Dorrance moved the recommendation and thanked members of the working group that had developed the social media guide for

Councillors. He was seconded by County Councillor Susan McNicholas. By 52 votes to 0 with 3 abstentions it was

RESOLVED	Reason for Decision
That the Council adopt the Social Media Guide for Members.	To approve the revised Guide.

10.4. Revision to Section 13 of the Constitution - Responsibility for Functions

County Councillor Matthew Dorrance moved the recommendation seconded by County Councillor Emyr Jones. By 52 votes to 0 it was

RESOLVED	Reason for Decision
that the Monitoring Officer be given delegated authority to change the details of Portfolio Holder's responsibilities, contained in the Constitution, when amendments are made by the Leader.	To ensure that the Constitution is kept up to date.

10.5. Member Development Strategy

County Councillor Matthew Dorrance moved the recommendation seconded by County Councillor Linda Corfield. By 51 votes to 0 it was

RESOLVED	Reason for Decision
That the Draft Member Development Strategy and Action Plan 2018-22 as set out in the Appendix to the report be approved.	To update the Council's Member Development Strategy for the period 2018 - 2022.

10.6. Amendments to the Constitution

County Councillor Matthew Dorrance moved the recommendation seconded by County Councillor Roger Williams. By 52 votes to 0 it was

RESOLVED	Reason for Decision
That Sections 4 and 7 of the Constitution as set out in the Appendix to the report be approved.	To update Sections of the Constitution arising from the decision of Council in May 2018.

11.	APPOINTMENT OF THE CHAIR OF THE LEARNING, SKILLS AND ECONOMY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
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It was moved by County Councillor Roger Williams and seconded by County Councillor Michael Williams and

RESOLVED to note the appointment by the Liberal Democrats of County Councillor Pete Roberts as the Chair of the Learning, Skills and Economy Scrutiny Committee.

12. MEMBERS ALLOWANCES AND EXPENSES 2017-18

All Members present declared personal interests in this item. The Solicitor to the Council advised that Members did not have prejudicial interests because the business concerned related to a the functions of the Authority in relation to Members' Allowances pursuant to paragraph 12(2)(b)(iv) of the Code of Conduct.

Council received for information details of the amounts paid to members in salaries and allowances in 2017/18. Council was required to publish the information by 30th September 2018.

RESOLVED	Reason for Decision:
That the report is noted.	Ensuring this information is available in the public domain within the required timescale

13. APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES AND OUTSIDE BODIES

Council noted 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 Councillor Graham Breeze appointed to the Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Authority in place of County Councillor Karen Laurie-Parry.

County Councillor Jon Williams to Health, Care and Housing Committee in place of County Councillor Joy Jones.

County Councillor Linda Corfield to Audit Committee in place of County Councillor Liam Fitzpatrick.

14. NOTICES OF MOTION

14.1. Linguistic Planning for Powys

Council debated the following notice of motion proposed by County Councillor Elwyn Vaughan and seconded by County Councillor Bryn Davies:

As the Welsh Government develops a vision of a Million Welsh speakers by 2050 with the policy enjoying the support of opposition parties in Cardiff Bay we in Powys need to consider how we can contribute to this. Powys will need to aim to increase the percentage of Welsh speakers from 19% from the 2011 Census to 33% - a challenge.

It means we need to look at the situation in its entirety, to understand the challenges, to be progressive and act on a number of levels, and to be ambitious in our vision.

There is an opportunity for Powys to lead and be progressive by considering the Welsh language a key part of this old County's heritage, but also as a social and economic resource for the future. If we harness and implement this toolkit, we believe Powys would contribute positively towards the sustainability of the Welsh language, and towards the Welsh Government's vision.

The Council therefore:

1. Recognises clearly the importance of the Welsh language as an integral part of the historical heritage of Powys
2. Confirms that the language belongs to every part of the County
3. Believes the language to be a matter of sustainability which intertwines with
4. community, economic and social sustainability principles
5. Believes the language is a skill and a key resource for future citizens
6. Is concerned at the reduction of Welsh speakers seen in the Census of 2011 and accepts the need for comprehensive action to resist this trend
7. Thereby calls on the Council to draw up a strategic plan which will reflect these principles and which is consistent with the Welsh Language Act of 2011 and the Welsh Language Standards, will set clear action points so that Powys can contribute to the aim of ensuring a million Welsh speakers.

The mover and seconder argued that the Council had to take action to arrest the decline of the Welsh language in its heartlands and extend its use throughout the county. The Portfolio Holder for Learning and the Welsh Language welcomed the motion and noted that much work was already taking place with the Welsh Language in Education Strategic Plan and the Welsh Language promotion strategy. By 51 votes to 1 it was

RESOLVED to

- 1. Recognise clearly the importance of the Welsh language as an integral part of the historical heritage of Powys**
- 2. Confirm that the language belongs to every part of the County**
- 3. Believe the language to be a matter of sustainability which intertwines with community, economic and social sustainability principles**
- 4. Believe the language is a skill and a key resource for future citizens**
- 5. Is concerned at the reduction of Welsh speakers seen in the Census of 2011 and accepts the need for comprehensive action to resist this trend**
- 6. Thereby calls on the Council to draw up a strategic plan which will reflect these principles and which is consistent with the Welsh Language Act of 2011 and the Welsh Language Standards, will set clear action points so that Powys can contribute to the aim of ensuring a million Welsh speakers.**

14.2. Entitlement of Blue Badge Holders in Council owned Car Parks

County Councillors B Baynham, L Corfield, B Davies, D Davies, D Evans, J Evans, A Jones, K Laurie-Parry, H Lewis, S McNicholas, C Mills, D Price, G Pugh, K Roberts-Jones, R Powell, G Ratcliffe, E Roderick, D Rowlands, T Van-Rees, E Vaughan and G Williams left the meeting whilst this item was being considered having declared personal and prejudicial interests.

The Solicitor to the Council confirmed that as decision makers the Cabinet would listen to the debate but would not be voting.

Council considered the following motion proposed by County Councillor Pete Roberts and seconded by County Councillor James Gibson-Watt:

Council notes the consultation launched at the end of May in respect of possible charges for Blue badge holders in Council car parks.

Council further notes that the preferred option of the executive groups is to introduce charges for the use of Council owned car parks.

Council believes that those in receipt of blue badges, including the blind, military veterans with a disability and residents in receipt of the most severe levels of disability benefit, face extreme levels of hardship and should not be disadvantaged further.

Council therefore urges the portfolio holder for highways to rule out any option that requires blue badge holders to pay when using a Council car park.

A number of members were critical of the consultation saying that it was not available in audio, large print of braille and that there had been no impact assessment carried out. Others questioned the amount of revenue charging blue badge holders would bring in saying that enforcement action against those abusing the system would raise more money. Other members criticised the motion being brought whilst the consultation was still running.

By 20 votes to 7 with 6 abstentions it was

RESOLVED to urge the portfolio holder for highways to rule out any option that requires blue badge holders to pay when using a Council car park.

Council adjourned for lunch at 13.38 and reconvened at 14.05.

PRESENT

County Councillor DW Meredith (Chair)

County Councillors MC Alexander, B Baynham, J Charlton, L V Corfield, K W Curry, B Davies, D E Davies, P Davies, S C Davies, M J Dorrance, E Durrant, D O Evans, J Evans, L Fitzpatrick, L George, J Gibson-Watt, M R Harris, S M Hayes, H Hulme, A Jenner, E A Jones, D R Jones, E Jones, E M Jones, M J Jones, D Jones-Poston, F H Jump, K Laurie-Parry, H Lewis, K Lewis, S Lewis, MC Mackenzie, I McIntosh,

S McNicholas, JG Morris, R Powell, WD Powell, D R Price, GD Price, G Pugh, J Pugh, G W Ratcliffe, L Roberts, P Roberts, K M Roberts-Jones, E Roderick, D Rowlands, D Selby, K S Silk, D A Thomas, T J Van-Rees, E Vaughan, A Williams, G I S Williams, D H Williams, J M Williams and R Williams

15. EXEMPT ITEMS

RESOLVED to exclude the public for the following item of business on the grounds that there would be disclosure to them of exempt information under category 1 of The Local Authorities (Access to Information) (Variation) (Wales) Order 2007).

16. CONFIDENTIAL REPORT - PRIVATE PERSONNEL MATTER

Steve Thomas, Chief Executive of the WLGA briefed Council and a report from the Leader was circulated.

Council adjourned for members to consider the report in their political groups and reconvened at 14.45.

County Councillor Baynham left the meeting at 15.36.

The recommendations in the report were proposed by the Leader and seconded by County Councillor DR Jones and by 43 votes to 3 with 4 abstentions

RESOLVED	Reason for Decision:
1. That the terms of settlement set out in section 3 of the business case attached as appendix A of this report are approved.	To allow the Council to move on in the interests of the efficiency of the Council
2. That the Solicitor to Council is instructed to put in place a formal Settlement Agreement to put into effect the agreed terms of settlement at the earliest opportunity.	
3. That the report, business case and outcome remain confidential.	

Council went back into open session. County Councillors E Durrant and J Pugh left the meeting at 16.00.

17. NOTICE OF MOTION - NEWTOWN BYPASS

Council considered the following motion proposed by County Councillor David Selby, seconded by County Councillor Karl Lewis:

This Council This Council recognizes that the construction of the Newtown By Pass creates a major transportation link comparable in importance to the connection of the town to canal and railway links in the 19th century. The By Pass is of major national and local importance.

This Council therefore urges the Welsh Government to name the By-Pass Ffordd Robert Owen Way in recognition of Robert Owen's international, national and local significance as a social reformer and the inspiration for the foundation of the co-operative movement.

By 33 votes to 1 it was

RESOLVED to urge the Welsh Government to name the By-Pass Ffordd Robert Owen Way in recognition of Robert Owen's international, national and local significance as a social reformer and the inspiration for the foundation of the co-operative movement.

17.1 Notice of Motion School Transport Policy

This notice of motion was withdrawn by the proposer and seconder.

18. QUESTIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CONSTITUTION
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18.1. Question to the Portfolio Holder for Corporate Governance, Housing and Public Protection from County Councillor Gwilym Williams

Can the portfolio holder inform me and Members the total honorarium payments paid by Powys County Council to employees in the last two financial years; giving a total figure for each year?

Response

The total honorarium payments in each of the following financial years is as follows:

	Count of employees	Total Cash Value
2016/17	8	£6,687.00
2017/18	2	£4,174.00

The total acting up payments made in each of the following financial years is as follows:

	Count of employees	Total Cash Value
2016/17	33	£79,619.40
2017/18	84	£184,054.75

Honoraria is defined in the Council's Terms and Conditions of Service as a discretionary payment awarded by the Head of Service when employees undertake additional responsibilities for a limited period of time.

There was no supplementary question.

18.2. Question to the Portfolio Holder for Corporate Governance, Housing and Public Protection from County Councillor Gwilym Williams

Can the portfolio holder inform me how many interims are currently employed by Powys Council and how many interims were employed by Powys County Council 12 months previously?

Response

Interims are contractors who supply the temporary provision of management resources and skills. Interim management is a short term assignment of a proven interim executive leader / manager to lead / manage a period of transition, crisis or change within an organisation. In this situation, a permanent role may be unnecessary or impossible to fill at short notice. Additionally, there may be nobody internally who is suitable or available to take up the position in question.

Date	Number Interims contracted
28/06/2018	27
28/06/2017	18

Councillor Williams' supplementary question regarding an interim Head of Service would involve the disclosure of confidential information and would therefore be dealt with outside the meeting.

18.3. Question to the Portfolio Holder for Learning and the Welsh Language from County Councillor Edwin Roderick

County Councillor R Harris declared a personal and prejudicial interest in this item and left the meeting while it was being discussed.

Given that there have been five new primary schools built in Powys, when would it seem practical to assume that a new school could be built at Sennybridge, bearing in mind that I believe it is one of the oldest schools in Powys, originally designed as a high school built in 1939 and now is constantly in need of repairs etc. There is a serious sewage issue and other major problems with floor tiles rising throughout. Also, all pupils have to walk across the school yard to the school canteen, where there aren't any toilet facilities.

The school at present has 130 children including a vibrant WELSH stream of 44. It is now struggling with very poor facilities, even so, at the recent URDD eisteddfod at Brecon, Sennybridge I believe had the most children taking part, with many going on to represent Breconshire.

At one time Sennybridge also had a very popular and well used swimming pool, but sadly that had to go due to lack of maintenance. With pupil numbers projected to rise even more with planning permission for 50 new houses granted, it's a priority for Sennybridge to have a bigger school with better and more modern and up to date facilities.

Will the Portfolio holder commit to providing a new primary school at Sennybridge?

Response:

One of the key priorities within the Council's new School Organisation Policy is to improve the condition of the Powys schools' estate, and the authority is delivering this through the 21st C Schools Programme and the Major Improvement Programme. The authority is, jointly with the Welsh Government, investing £80m to improve the schools infrastructure in Powys, as part of Band A of the 21st C Schools Programme, which runs from 2014 – 2019. We have also received approval of our Band B Strategic Outline Programme for capital investment from 2019 – 2024/5, which is based on the following WG priorities for 21st C Schools Programme Band B:

1. To provide efficient and effective educational infrastructure that will meet current and future demand for places by 2024.
 - Backlog maintenance costs for the schools and colleges selected for Band B are reduced by at least 50% (based on the assumption that approximately 50% of the projects in the Programme will be replacements for existing assets).
 - No category D buildings in the estate.
 - c25% of Category C condition buildings are improved to Category A or B.
2. Optimise the use of infrastructure and resources, to deliver public services for our communities by 2024. This will include flexibility of our assets so that space and facilities available for our stakeholders are maximised.
 - Our aspiration is for all facilities that receive investment commit to making assets available for community use if local demand exists.
 - 10% of schools / colleges that receive funding from the Programme have co-located public services on site if local demand exists.

We are currently finalising the funding priorities as part of Band B, looking at condition, suitability and sustainability of all the schools estate, and will confirm these once finalised.

In answer to Councillor Roderick's supplementary question as to when the large amount of remedial work needed at the school would be undertaken, the Portfolio Holder for Learning and the Welsh Language advised that she expected the schools service to finalise its funding priorities after the summer.

County Councillor Rosemarie Harris returned to the meeting.

County Councillor Linda Corfield left the meeting at 16.13.

18.4. Question to the Portfolio Holder for Young People and Culture from County Councillor Huw Williams

How many full-time, part-time and temporary agency staff, of all grades, are currently employed in the Authority's Children's Services department, and how do the figures compare with the number employed at the time of the

Care Inspectorate Wales inspection, in July 2017? How many posts are vacant?

Response

Children's Services Establishment

	3 rd July 2017	28 th May 2018
Full time posts	142	149
Part time posts	99	97
Agency Workers	23	30
Contractor	10	8

*May 2018 – Agency numbers include contractors (BK/CH) that are covering additional capacity for Senior Manager

3rd July 2017 there were 86 vacant posts in Children's Services (this includes relief and shadow posts and S/W posts that are open for NQSW etc.)

28th May 2018 there were 72 vacant posts in Children's Services (this includes relief and shadow posts and S/W posts that are open for NQSW etc.)

4th July 2018 there were 65 vacant posts in Children's Services (this includes relief and shadow posts and S/W posts that are open for NQSW etc.)

This data is directly from BI Dashboard – further analysis can be provided if required

In reality there are approx. 37 vacant posts if you remove shadow, open posts for NQSW etc.

As at 28/5/18, of the 30 agency workers - 8.5 were covering vacancies and 21.5 were over establishment.

In July 2017, there was no recruitment drive as such as posts were only advertised on the PCC website and other limited places.

Work continues to address recruitment and retention issues as part of the implementation of the Children's Improvement Plan

- Recruitment Campaign live within Community Care Guardian, Indeed, Facebook, LinkedIn etc. for both Adults and Children Services
- A number of Recruitment Events have taken place throughout Powys during 2018.
- Recruitment Open Day for Carers Wales held in March 2018 – this has proved to be successful as a number of applications have been received for Social Care posts and Golwg y Bannau
- Corporate 'Work, Live, Play in Powys' video has gone live and are pinned on Social Media accounts.
- Social work specific recruitment videos developed.
- Social Care web page development finalised and launched to target specific recruitment areas
- Role profiles are being developed to attract people to specific job roles.
- Communications continue to share posts relating to Children's Services recruitment
- HoS permanent post has been advertised with a good response
- Fostering TM recruitment campaign has been finalised
- Recruited four newly qualified social workers in the last few months
- 6 in house social work training places made available this year across adults and children's
- Staff benefit scheme launched this month

- Induction package developed
- Exit interviews offered to all leavers
- Staff questionnaire to better understand issues important to frontline staff.

In response to Councillor Williams' supplementary question about whether recruitment and retention problems were impacting on children and what steps the service were taking to address the issue, the Portfolio Holder advised that the service was working on a recruitment package to help attract and retain staff and she said she had received assurances on the workforce in post were conducive to protecting children.

18.5. Question to the Leader from County Councillor James Gibson-Watt

Can the Leader confirm the number of Judicial Reviews that Powys County Council was subject to in the years 2015/16, 2016/17 and 2017/18; how many of those Judicial Review judgements found for the Council and how many found against it; and the total cost to the Council of those Judicial Reviews, including those that the Council decided not to defend?

Response

I thank Councillor James Gibson-Watt for this question and the information requested is as follows:

2015 2 Judicial Review Cases that were lost at a cost of £ 90,000 (ie £ £52,000 & £ 38,000)

1 Judicial Review Case that was won by the Council

2016 1 Judicial Review Case that was lost but at no cost to the Council as the case was underwritten by the Department for Business Energy and Industrial Strategy.

1 Judicial Review Case that was won by the Council

2017 1 Judicial Review Case that was lost at a cost of £ 60,000

2018 1 Judicial Review Case that was lost at a cost of £ 20,739.36

1 Judicial Review Case that was won by the Council with costs awarded to the Council of £45,000

There was no supplementary question.

18.6. Question to the Portfolio Holder for Corporate Governance, Housing and Public Protection from County Councillor Matthew Dorrance

Data published by Powys County Council shows it pays women 10.7% less per hour than men.

What action will the administration take to ensure women workers are paid the same rate of pay as men?

Response

The Council has a mean gender pay gap of 10.72% (average) and a median (middle) gender pay gap of 10.22%. In response to this finding, a report entitled "Gender Pay Gap Reporting" was presented to Informal Cabinet dated 8 May 2018.

It is important to note that our Gender Pay Gap is not the result of the Council failing to pay men and women equally. In 2013, the Council finalised the completion of its Single Status terms and conditions that codified employee terms and conditions to ensure equality for all employees covered by the agreement. In accordance with Single Status, all job roles in the Council were evaluated using HAY or NJC methodology, which in turn means that each job role has a job grade, with an established starting salary. This goes a considerable way to achieving equality in relation to pay.

What is of considerable importance is the fact that we have more women in lower paid jobs than we do men and this is mostly due to the distribution of male and female employees across the organisation – this of course means that female average pay is lower than men. This is quite typical of the UK local government workforce. Further to this, according to the Office for National Statistics, Wales as a country has the biggest gender pay gap in the UK.

As an Authority, we will need to analyse our data carefully to determine which grade or level has the biggest gender pay gap as well as analysing gender composition and retention at different levels and in different occupations. We have a number of policies in place to work to achieving a balanced and representative workforce across the organisation although the Council will need to develop and publish a gender pay action plan and it is submitted that the following areas should be addressed in the action plan:

- Actively encouraging the recruitment and retention of female employees into senior and chief officer roles
- Attracting more diverse candidates by ensuring that job adverts have gender-neutral language and that jobs are advertised as flexible (e.g. suitable for part-time working, job-sharing, agile, etc.), as far as reasonably possible
- Provide appropriate support to staff with caring responsibilities (it is estimated by the Chartered Institute of Personnel & Development that there are currently two million people in the UK who are not working because they have caring responsibilities – 89% of the two million are women).

In response to Councillor Dorrance's supplementary question as to whether the Cabinet would commit to reinstating the real living wage, the Portfolio Holder said that this would be a matter to be considered in the 2019/20 budget.

18.7. Question to the Portfolio Holder for Learning and Welsh Language from County Councillor Matthew Dorrance

Will the Cabinet publish the full costs of renting the former St Joseph's Roman Catholic Primary School including:

- 1. Rent costs**
- 2. Utility Costs**
- 3. Insurance Costs**
- 4. Repair and Maintenance Costs**
- 5. Legal Costs**
- 6. Any Other Costs?**

Response:

1. Rent costs – this is commercially sensitive information due to third party ownership
2. Utility Costs – costs for gas and £5,433-13 from June 2016 to June 2018 and electric £2,423.68 from 2016 to 2018
3. Insurance Costs – for the breakdown of costs see spreadsheet 'St. Joseph's Costs 2017-18' attached with the agenda which total £39,385-24.
4. Repair and Maintenance Costs – for the breakdown of costs see spreadsheet 'St. Joseph's Costs 2017-18' which total £39,385-24.
5. Legal Costs – Each party were responsible for their own Legal costs associated with completing the lease.
6. Any Other Costs – for the breakdown of costs see spreadsheet 'St. Joseph's Costs 2017-18' which total £39,385-24.

In response to Councillor Dorrance's supplementary question as to whether savings expected were being made the portfolio holder said that they were looking at the most cost effective way of running the service.

18.8. Question to the Portfolio Holder for Corporate Governance, Housing and Public Protection from County Councillor John Morris

You will be aware that the Brecon Beacons National Park have chosen to retain any commuted sums for affordable housing collected within the park boundary and decide where it is to be spent despite Powys being the housing authority in the park area. They have done this after seeking legal advice but will not release the legal advice to PCC or even to their own members.

I am informed that the amount of money either already held by them or pending payment from present and future developments runs to around £2million. As 80% of the National Park falls within Powys a large proportion of that money would be raised in the Powys part of the park.

To date despite the BBNPA holding on to money collected in Powys for over 2 years they have refused to release any of it for an affordable housing project in Powys. They also earn interest from this retained money and use it to fund the budget of the BBNPA and not add it to the affordable housing pot.

Do you support the stance taken by the BBNPA and if not, what measures have you taken since replacing the previous portfolio holder who went to press to condemn the refusal to release the money and promised action to resolve the situation?

Response

Councillor Morris will be aware that the Leader, Councillor Rosemarie Harris, is on record as having objected to the holding of these funds by the BBNPA at a formal Powys CC/BBNPA Liaison meeting on 2nd September 2017.

As Portfolio Holder I fully endorse that stance and will continue to argue for the funding to be controlled by the Strategic Housing Authority, i.e. Powys County Council. I believe that the process established by BBNPA to distribute the commuted sums raised in the National Park is bureaucratic and leads to duplication of effort for this and other local authorities and our housing association partners.

Last Autumn a bid was submitted to the value of £94,262, the amount at that time held by the BBNPA that had been raised in the Powys area of their planning jurisdiction. The figure of £2million mentioned by Councillor Morris is the sum that may be expected to be raised should all schemes granted planning permission by the BBNPA be developed. It is therefore only a "potential amount".

Information from the BBNPA on 20th June 2018 is that the figure for Powys remains the same. We are also informed that there is no longer a system of "windows" for bidding and bids can be entertained whenever opportunity arises.

The bid submitted was rejected on the grounds that the scheme provided no substantive gain in the number of affordable homes as the planning permission had been granted for 100% affordable provision by Melin Homes and we were purchasing 6 of the homes from them. In planning terms we therefore had no reasonable argument against this decision.

As soon as a suitable scheme is identified that complies with the BBNPA Local Development Plan and Supplementary Planning Guidance, a further bid will be submitted which will have my full support.

Councillor Morris will be pleased to note that I will be attending a meeting in the coming weeks, to which the Leader and he have also been invited, with representatives of the National Park to put forward the case for the commuted sums to be handed to the Strategic Housing Authority.

In answer to Councillor Morris' supplementary question as to whether the Council should launch a legal challenge to recover the commuted sums, the Portfolio holder advised that he was arranging a meeting with Welsh Government ministers to discuss the issue.

18.9. Question to the Portfolio Holder for Finance, Countryside and Transport from County Councillor Kelvyn Curry

To ask the Portfolio Holder to confirm whether or not Powys County Council submitted a response to the UK Government's consultation on proposed changes to the issuing of Section 19 and 22 Minibus permits to community transport providers and:-

- a) if the Council did produce a response to provide a copy of that response to all members, and**
- b) if the Council did not produce a response to explain why it did not do so?**

Response

The Council does recognise the value of the community transport sector and Members may be aware of the steps we are currently taking in order to try and protect the sector.

However, in discussion with officers, we formed the view that it would not be appropriate for PCC to respond to consultation on Section 19 and 22 Minibus permits.

The reason for this is that Powys County Council is currently a body that issues Section 19 permits to the community transport sector. These permits currently enable community transport schemes to operate in the way that has caused the concern with the regulators and the commercial sector. As Powys County Council also spends a significant amount of money locally with the commercial sector, officers were of the view that responding to the consultation may suggest to either sector that the Council favours one not the other.

The supplementary question was whether by not responding to the consultation the Council was sending the message that it did not value community transport. The Portfolio Holder was absent so a response would be drafted and circulated to all members.

Response to Supplementary Question

The Council has shown clear commitment to the Community Transport service, which can be seen by its actions. The Council has provided grant funding to the community transport sector (via PAVO) to the sum of £153k per annum. The council has recently brought the administration back in house to deliver even better value.

18.10. Question to the Leader from County Councillor James Gibson-Watt

Could the Leader of Council please provide the Council with the cost to the Council of procuring Counsel's advice on whether the votes that took place at the Council's AGM on the 17th May 2018 to 'approve' the political groups' appointment of the Chairs of the Council's Health, Care & Housing and Learning, Skills and Economy Committees conformed to the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011?

Response

I thank Councillor James Gibson-Watt for this question and can advise him and Council that the cost of the advice from Mr James Goudie QC was £ £2615 plus VAT.

There was no supplementary question.

18.11. Question to the Portfolio Holder for Learning and the Welsh Language from County Councillor John Morris

I am sure you will agree that Crickhowell High School is a high achieving successful school despite it being the lowest financed school per pupil in Powys.

At your recent visit to Crickhowell Town Council, I note from the approved minutes of the council that when questioned about the capital funding for

Crickhowell High School compared to other High Schools in the area you stated that:

Powys's responsibility is to provide infrastructure for Powys' children not out of county children.

Does Powys discriminate against schools who take out of county pupils when considering its capital spend, which schools take out of county pupils across Powys and does the Welsh government support your stance on this issue?

Response:

Capital funding for schools in Powys is prioritised on the basis of condition, suitability and sustainability which align with the Welsh Government's priorities for capital investment. The issue in Crickhowell HS is one of suitability in terms of space to accommodate all pupils. Officers are currently working with Crickhowell High School to find build solutions to meet the needs of the school and the authority is investing a £1m to address these needs.

Responding to Councillor Morris' supplementary question asking if she would apologise for her comments to Crickhowell Town Council that the Council could not provide infrastructure for out of county children, the Portfolio Holder said the schools service could only project on the basis of Powys pupils and it could not know how many out of county pupils might come in.

18.12. Question to the Portfolio Holder for Learning and the Welsh Language from County Councillor Jackie Charlton

At Llangattock Church in Wales Primary School governors meeting on 26 June an urgent issue was brought to the attention of the Governors regarding the planned and funded expansion and upgrade of the building for existing pupils and +3 provision due to start in May this year.

The school was encouraged to deliver the +3 provision as there is a lack of support for this age group in South Powys. They have been delivering this provision for the past academic year which Powys received funding for from the Welsh Government.

The Church in Wales and Llangattock Education Fund have supported the cost of this extension and improvement by providing £120,000 towards the total cost.

The work, which had already been delayed from last autumn, should have started three weeks ago with promises ensuring the return after the summer break could be properly planned. The container to take classroom equipment should have arrived on Monday 25 June 2108. When it didn't arrive the Head Teacher contacted the contractor to be told that Powys County Council had not authorised yet. When she contacted Powys it would seem that the financial sign off had not yet been completed. The phrase used to the Head was the project was in 'jeopardy' which not only angered her but greatly concerned her too.

QUESTION

Can the portfolio holder assure me and the school that the build project will be on time and will be completed as planned to ensure that educating the children in Llangattock Church in Wales school is able to begin in September. Can she also assure me that full financial support is given to the school for the increase in provision which up to date has not been forthcoming? The school has covered the +3 costs to date because of the promised extension and classroom improvements.

Response

The authority apologises for the delay in the progress of the capital building works agreed for Llangattock CiW School.

The project was intended to be completed by early September 2018. A contractor has been engaged to complete the work, starting on site on the 23rd July 2018 and completing on the 12th October 2018.

There has been agreement reached with the Llangattock Community Hall which will allow the use of the hall for the 3+ setting during the works. In terms of maintaining educational delivery for the school, we are putting a plan in place to enable internal alteration works to be completed during the school summer holidays.

Supporting any moves will be the provision of a steel storage container and this will be in place next week for the duration of the work and to allow decanting of classrooms. There are alterations and extensions to provide additional toilet facilities and if required then temporary toilets will be put in place for the pupils to ensure welfare facilities are maintained.

In response to Councillor Charlton's supplementary question the Portfolio Holder gave an assurance that the department would deal with parents' complaints and would respond on the issue of funding the 3 plus service.

18.13. Question to the Leader from County Councillor Emily Durrant

The Mid Wales Growth Deal presents us with a timely opportunity to bring great investment to our County. Given the vast sums of money available and the potential impact on the economic and social landscape of Powys, what measures are in place to ensure an equitable and open approach to the selection of projects and their development? Will the Leader please set out timelines, decision-making and consultation processes to prioritise which projects Powys County Council will recommend for inclusion in the Deal and the scrutiny arrangements that will apply?

Response

A potential Growth Deal for Mid Wales is a major opportunity to help drive economic growth across the region. The deal will focus on bringing investment to the region as well as increasing economic activity that will benefit local business. The Council will be working with the Growing Mid Wales Partnership, local stakeholders and the Welsh Government to identify the best way to

strengthen the region's economy, and the engagement and support of the private sector will be central to this process.

On behalf of the Growing Mid Wales Partnership, the Council has appointed AECOM consultants to prepare an Economic Action Plan for Mid Wales. Work is underway to identify the issues and opportunities facing the economy and on developing a clear vision and priorities for the region. The aim of the Action Plan will be to develop a programme of strategic interventions to help transform the Mid Wales economy that can be delivered through a range of funding sourcing including a Growth Deal. An email will shortly be circulated to all members on the Economic Action Plan which will include an online survey to feed into the process which Members are encouraged to participate in. The Economic Action Plan is scheduled to be completed in the Autumn and where possible will include early stage business cases for key investments.

The Growth Deal will be a negotiation between UK Government, Welsh Government and the Mid Wales Region, the latter being led by Powys and Ceredigion County Councils. The details of the process are to be confirmed, however, it is envisaged that governance structures will be set up over the next 12 months and business cases for prioritised interventions will need to be ready for discussion by Summer 2019. Members will be kept updated on the proposed consultation and decision making process as they develop.

In response to the supplementary question the Leader confirmed that she would be happy to meet to discuss the Mid Wales Growth Deal.

18.14. Question to the Portfolio Holder for Learning and Welsh Language from County Councillor David Jones

The Cabinet put out the following press release on 11 April:

"More than £5m will be spent on Powys schools in coming three financial years as part of a major improvement plan, following a decision by Powys County Council's cabinet.

Meeting in Llandrindod Wells today (April 10) the cabinet approved an annual improvement fund of more than £2m for primary and secondary school improvement projects for the next two financial years with a further £1m earmarked for 2020/2021.

Cabinet Member for Schools, Councillor Myfanwy Alexander said: "We are investing in schools right across the county, in primary, secondary and special schools to improve the learning environment for learners and staff.

"I am particularly pleased to see investment to improve access for those with physical disabilities. It is important that pupils with disabilities can attend mainstream schools if they so-choose."

The planned works will include £374,000 for major refurbishment at Llangattock Primary School, replacing unsuitable teaching areas, new toilets facilities and additional early years space, a £290,000 investment over three phases to improve pedestrian access, car park expansion and re-surfacing surface work at Rhayader Church in Wales School, and £100,000 each for Brynllwarch and Crickhowell schools for new boundary fences to improve security at the premises.

Roof and window improvement work, along with improvement work to a science block at Newtown High School will require investment of more than £330,000 over the next three financial years, Caereinion High School will see £300,000 spend over three years to improve toilet facilities and improve disabled access.

Llandrindod High School will see roof and internal improvements cost more than £500,000 during a three phased programme and the town's Trefonnen School will have a £133,000 extension for early years' provision.

A full list of the improvement programme can be found at:
<http://powys.moderngov.co.uk/mgCommitteeDetails.aspx?ID=137>

Who authorised the press release to go out?

Response

The press release was authorised by the Portfolio Holder for Learning and the Welsh Language, Cllr Myfanwy Alexander.

In answer to Councillor Jones' supplementary question as to why given the confusion in the school service over the press release it had not been withdrawn or a correction issued, the Portfolio Holder explained that the intention had been to issue it with an appended explanation but that this had not been done.

18.15. Question to the Portfolio Holder for Finance, Countryside and Transport from County Councillor William Powell

It is widely accepted that a No Deal Brexit presents an existential threat to the future of Welsh livestock farming

- **90% of all Welsh meat exports are currently exported into the EU Single Market**
- **EU Farm Payments currently represent 80% of total farm incomes in Wales**
- **There is currently no clarity in terms of agricultural support regimes post 2022**

In this context, and since Powys is more exposed to turbulence within the livestock sector than any other Welsh local authority area, what is Powys County Council currently doing to build resilience and develop capacity, in order to safeguard the future of our local economy?

Response

The UK Government has pledged to continue to commit the same cash total in funds for farm support for the duration of this Parliament (until 2022).

This includes all EU and Exchequer funding provided for farm support under both Pillar I and Pillar II. In each UK administration, the UK Government funding under this commitment will reflect the EU's contribution towards farm support. It will clearly be for each administration to decide whether to continue to commit the same element of its existing block grant.

This pledge delivers a greater level of security and certainty for farmers and landowners than anywhere else in the EU - where funding is guaranteed only to 2020.

We need to be focused on opportunities outside the EU. Farmers will be free to grow, sell and produce more while protecting our environment, underpinned by the greatest possible tariff-free and barrier-free trade with our European neighbours and the rest of the world.

Powys County Council under the leadership of Cllr Rosemarie Harris is working closely with the UK and Welsh Government to grow the Powys economy and is determined to create the environment where all rural business can thrive and

increase their resilience to challenges in the market place. Delivering the Growth Deal will be a key element in our Vision.

The UK Government is also proactive in supporting the Welsh rural economy. The Secretary of State for Wales, Rt Hon Alun Cairns MP recently (7th June) hosted a joint Agricultural and environmental roundtable with the Welsh Government Minister, Lesley Griffiths. This meeting was to discuss issues relating to EU exit in Wales, to hear how stakeholders in Wales are preparing for exit and to understand more about stakeholders' key issues. It is clear that the two governments are working together on these important issues.

There was no supplementary question.

18.16 Question to the Portfolio Holder for Young People and Culture from County Councillor Gareth Jones

This question was withdrawn and would be put on the agenda for the next meeting.

19. REQUEST FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE

County Councillor G Price had declared a personal and prejudicial interest in this item and left the meeting.

Council received requests for leave of absence from County Councillors G Price and J Wilkinson. By 36 votes to 0 with 1 abstention it was

RESOLVED to grant County Councillors G Price and J Wilkinson six months leave of absence each.

County Councillor DW Meredith (Chair)

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**COFNODION CYFARFOD O'R CYNGOR SIR A GYNHALIWDYD YN SIAMBR Y
CYNGOR - NEUADD Y SIR , LLANDRINDOD DDYDD IAU, 12 GORFFENNAF, 2018**

YN BRESENNOL

Y Cynghorydd Sir DW Meredith (Cadeirydd)

Y Cynghorwyr Sir MC Alexander, B Baynham, J Charlton, L V Corfield, K W Curry, B Davies, D E Davies, P Davies, S C Davies, M J Dorrance, E Durrant, D O Evans, J Evans, L Fitzpatrick, L George, J Gibson-Watt, M R Harris, S M Hayes, H Hulme, A Jenner, E A Jones, D R Jones, E Jones, E M Jones, M J Jones, D Jones-Poston, F H Jump, K Laurie-Parry, H Lewis, K Lewis, P E Lewis, S Lewis, MC Mackenzie, I McIntosh, S McNicholas, C Mills, JG Morris, R Powell, WD Powell, D R Price, GD Price, G Pugh, J Pugh, G W Ratcliffe, L Roberts, P Roberts, K M Roberts-Jones, E Roderick, D Rowlands, D Selby, K S Silk, D A Thomas, T J Van-Rees, E Vaughan, M Weale, A Williams, G I S Williams, D H Williams, J M Williams ac R Williams

1. YMDDIHEURIADAU

Derbyniwyd ymddiheuriadau gan y Cynghorwyr Sir G Breeze, A W Davies, G Jones, J R Jones, N Morrison, P C Pritchard, R G Thomas, J Wilkinson, J Williams ac S L Williams

2. COFNODION

Awdurdodwyd y Cadeirydd i lofnodi cofnodion y cyfarfodydd a gynhaliwyd ar 22^{ain} Chwefror, 8^{fed} Mawrth, 17^{eg} Ebrill, 8^{fed} Mai a 17^{eg} Mai fel cofnodion cywir.

3. DATGANIADAU O DDIDDORDEB

Datganwyd buddiant gan bob aelod oedd yn bresennol yn eitem 12 Lwfans a Threuliau Aelodau 2017-18.

Datganwyd buddiannau personol ac sy'n rhagfarnu gan y Cynghorwyr Sir B Baynham, L Corfield, B Davies, D Davies, D Evans, J Evans, A Jones, K Laurie-Parry, H Lewis, S McNicholas, C Mills, D Price, G Pugh, K Roberts-Jones, R Powell, G Ratcliffe, E Roderick, D Rowlands, T Van-Rees, E Vaughan a G Williams mewn perthynas â'r hysbysiad o gynnis ar ddeiliaid bathodynau glas.

Datganwyd buddiant personol gan y Cynghorwyr Sir M Alexander, D Evans, J Evans, R. Harris, E Jones, K Laurie-Parry, I McIntosh, D Price ac R Williams mewn perthynas â'r cwestiwn ar CFfl.

Datganwyd buddiant personol ac sy'n rhagfarnu gan y Cynghorydd Sir R Harris mewn perthynas â'r cwestiwn ar Ysgol Gynradd Pontsenni.

Datganwyd buddiant personol ac sy'n rhagfarnu gan y Cynghorydd Sir G Price mewn perthynas â'r eitem 'cais am absenoldeb'.

4.	CWESTIYNAU GAN Y CYHOEDD
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4.1. Cwestiwn i Ddeiliaid y Portffolio Cyllid, Cefn Gwlad a Thrafnidiaeth gan Graham Taylor

Dangosodd yr arolwg a gynhaliwyd fel rhan o'r adolygiad o'r Cynllun Cyflenwi Hawliau Tramwy (ROWIP) taw'r brif broblem yr oedd defnyddwyr llwybrau troed a llwybrau ceffylau'n dod ar eu traws oedd diffyg arwyddion a chyfeirbwyntiau. Ni nodwyd unrhyw broblem yn amlach; fe'i codwyd gan 75% o'r ymatebwyr i'r arolwg. Ategir hyn gan nifer y cwynion y mae'r Cyngor yn eu derbyn ynghylch problemau gyda'r rhwydwaith hawliau tramwy.

Mae'r Cyngor yn awyddus iawn i hyrwyddo iechyd a llesiant trwy ddefnyddio cefn gwlad, ac i ysgogi'r economi lleol trwy ddenu ymwelwyr i gerdded a beicio ym Mhowys. Mae'r diffyg amlwg o arwyddion a chyfeirbwyntiau'n rhwystr mawr i drigolion ac ymwelwyr sy'n dymuno dilyn y gweithgareddau hyn.

A wnaiff Aelod y Cabinet sicrhau fod y ROWIP newydd, sy'n cael ei lunio ar hyn o bryd, yn rhoi'r flaenoriaeth uchaf bosib i raglen waith gyda'r nod o ymateb i'r broblem fawr hon a godwyd gan drigolion, os gwelwch yn dda?

Ymateb

Diolch am eich cwestiwn Mr Taylor ac ymddiheuraf nad wyf yn gallu bod yn bresennol yng nghyfarfod llawn y Cyngor.

Mae'r Cynllun Gwella Hawliau Tramwy, er ei bod yn ddogfen statudol, hefyd yn ategu nodau strategaethau cenedlaethol a lleol allweddol, yn benodol y sawl sy'n ymwneud â:

- Chefnogi'r economi lleol
- Gwella iechyd a llesiant y genedl a thrigolion, a
- Chreu amgylchedd mwy cynaliadwy

Mae'r Cynllun hefyd yn olrhain sut y bydd yn cyfrannu at amcanion allweddol eraill Gweledigaeth 2025 Cabinet y Cyngor Sir a Gweledigaeth 2040 y Bwrdd Gwasanaethau Cyhoeddus. Mae gweithio gyda phartneriaid mewnol ac allanol yn hanfodol er mwyn gwireddu'r nodau hyn.

Fel rhan o'r broses o adolygu ROWIP, cynhaliwyd nifer o arolygon ac ymgynghoriadau. Dangosodd ganlyniadau Cwestiwn 8 arolwg cyffredinol y cyhoedd, fod 75% o ymatebwyr wedi dod ar draws problemau gydag *arwyddion* a *chyfeirbwyntiau*. Dilynwyd hyn yn agos iawn gan *broblemau wyneb* sef 70%, *camfeydd/gatiau* ar 68% a *rhwystrau* ar 56%. Gofynnodd cwestiwn 12 beth oedd yn perswadio'r cyhoedd i beidio defnyddio'r rhwydwaith hawliau tramwy. Yr ateb uchaf oedd *rhwystrau* (23%), ac wedyn yr *wyneb* (18%), ac wedi hynny *croesi tir preifat* (13%). Dengys y canlyniadau, er bod *arwyddion* a *chyfeirbwyntiau* yn broblem gyffredin, mae materion eraill yn bwysicach o ran perswadio pobl i beidio defnyddio'r rhwydwaith hawliau tramwy.

Mae'r Cyngor o'r farn, gan fod rhwystrau'n perswadio pobl i beidio defnyddio hawliau tramwy, ni fyddai o gymorth nac yn ddoeth i osod arwyddion a

chyfeirbwyntiau ar lwybr sydd â rhwystr(au) arno. Unwaith y caiff llwybr tramwy ei glirio o rwystrau, wedyn caiff chyfeirbwyntiau eu gosod, sy'n rhoi hyder i'r cyhoedd fod y llwybr ar agor ac yn hygyrch.

Mae'r ROWIP drafft, fydd yn destun ymgynghori, yn amlinellu bwriad i flaenoriaethu gweithio gyda Chymunedau sy'n dangos diddordeb mewn gweithio ar eu rhwydwaith llwybrau tramwy cyhoeddus lleol. Byddai'r Cyngor yn cynorthwyo ac yn hwyluso'r Cymunedau i gyflawni gwaith yn eu hardaloedd lleol.

Ar hyn o bryd mae APCBB yn llunio ROWIP drafft, wedi cwblhau'r cam asesu. Roedd problemau gydag arwyddion hefyd yn amlwg iawn yn eu holiadur nhw. Ar y cyd â llystyfiant, hon oedd y broblem amlycaf. Er nad ydynt eto wedi cyrraedd y cam o lunio camau gweithredu drafft, maent wedi awgrymu'r bwriad i gynnwys camau gweithredu i ddelio gydag arwyddion.

Cwestiwn atodol Mr Taylor oedd gofyn i'r Deiliad Portffolio sicrhau fod y ROWIP newydd yn rhoi'r flaenoriaeth uchaf bosib i raglen waith gyda'r nod o sicrhau fod llwybrau agored yn dangos arwyddion a chyfeirbwyntiau priodol. Roedd y Deiliad Portffolio'n absennol, a byddai ateb yn cael ei anfon at Mr Taylor, ynghyd â chopi at holl aelodau'r Cyngor.

Ymateb i'r Cwestiwn Atodol

Diolch am y cwestiwn atodol.

Cymeradwywyd y ROWIP drafft gan y Cabinet ar ddydd Mawrth 10fed Gorffennaf 2018, a bydd ar gael cyn bo hir ar gyfer ymgynghoriad fydd yn parhau am 3 mis. Caiff eich sylwadau a'ch cais eu dadansoddi a'u hasesu fel rhan o'r broses adolygu yn dilyn y cyfnod ymgynghori hwnnw.

Dengys canlyniadau Cwestiwn 8 arolwg cyffredinol y cyhoedd, fel y nodwyd gennych, fod 75% o ymatebwyr wedi dod ar draws problemau gydag arwyddion a chyfeirbwyntiau. Dilynwyd hyn yn agos gan broblemau gyda'r wyneb (70%), camfeydd/gatiau (68%) a rhwystrau (56%). Gofynnodd cwestiwn 12 beth oedd yn perswadio pobl i beidio defnyddio'r rhwydwaith hawliau tramwy. Yr ateb uchaf oedd rhwystrau (23.1%), ac wedyn yr wyneb (18.5%), ac wedi hynny croesi tir preifat (13.3%). Opsiwn arall dan gwestiwn 12 ar yr hyn sy'n perswadio defnyddio i beidio defnyddio'r rhwydwaith, oedd "ddim yn gyfarwydd gyda'r llwybr" oedd yn y 4ydd safle gydag 8% o'r ymatebion a "cholli ffordd" fel opsiwn arall gyda 3.6%. Dengys y canlyniadau, er bod rhai arwyddion a chyfeirbwyntiau'n broblem gyffredin, mae problemau eraill a all fod yn bwysicach o ran perswadio'r cyhoedd i beidio defnyddio'r rhwydwaith hawliau tramwy.

Mae'r Cyngor yn ymwybodol o fuddion economaidd-gymdeithasol y darperir gan hawliau tramwy cyhoeddus, a mater yw o sicrhau y gwneir y defnydd gorau posib o'r rhwydwaith hawliau tramwy cyhoeddus gyda'r adnoddau sydd ar gael.

4.2. Cwestiwn i Ddeiliad Portffolio Cyllid, Cefn Gwlad a Thrafnidiaeth gan Peter Newman

Ym 1968, cyhoeddwyd a gweithredwyd Deddf Cefn Gwlad, oedd yn golygu dyletswydd ar Awdurdodau Priffyrdd i osod arwyddbyst at lwybrau cyhoeddus lle maent yn gadael ffordd fetlin.

Deallaf taw dim ond 69 arwyddbyst a godwyd yn ystod y flwyddyn ariannol ddiwethaf, sef 23 yr un ar gyfer hen siroedd Brycheiniog, Maesyfed a Maldwyn.

A fyddai'n bosib rhoi amcangyfrif i'r cyhoedd sy'n cerdded, fy sefydliad i ac eraill sydd â diddordeb o ran faint o arwyddbyst sydd eu hangen i gydymffurfio â gofynion y Ddeddf, a'r amserlen, os gwelwch yn dda?

Ymateb

Diolch am eich cwestiwn Mr Newman ac ymddiheuraf nad wyf yn gallu bod yn bresennol yng nghyfarfod llawn y Cyngor.

Yn ystod y tair blynedd diwethaf, gosodwyd 325 mynegbost ar draws Powys tu allan i'r Parc Cenedlaethol. Ar hyn o bryd, nid oes gan yr Adran Gwasanaethau Cefn Gwlad unrhyw ddata sy'n nodi faint o fynegbyst sydd eu hangen i gydymffurfio â gofynion y Ddeddf. Ar hyn o bryd nid yw'r Gwasanaeth yn gallu cynhyrchu ystadegau dibynadwy ynglŷn â faint o hawliau tramwy cyhoeddus sy'n bodoli, neu'r nifer sydd heb arwyddbyst ar ochr y ffordd. Felly nid yw'n bosib rhoi amcangyfrif o ran amserlen a'r adnoddau sydd eu hangen.

Mae APCBB wedi gosod mwy na 320 o fynegbyst, rhai'n newydd yn y Parc ers canol 2013. Yn ôl arolwg APCBB 5% 2016/17, amcangyfrifir fod 70% o fynegbyst yn eu lle trwy gydol y Parc. Mae'r data yma ar gyfer y Parc Cenedlaethol cyfan, fodd bynnag, mae swyddogion wedi nodi eu bod o'r farn fod hyn yn adlewyrchiad cywir o hawliau tramwy cyhoeddus Powys o fewn ardal y Parc Cenedlaethol.

Nid oes gan APCBB amcangyfrif o ran yr amserlen sydd ei angen i gydymffurfio â gofynion y Ddeddf ac maent wedi nodi fod bodolaeth arwyddbyst ar ochr y ffordd yn ddeinamig ac yn hyblyg. Mae mynegbyst yn dueddol o fod yn destun niwed neu o gael eu dwyn.

Roedd cwestiwn atodol Mr Newman yn gofyn i'r Deiliad Portffolio ystyried hyn eto yng ngolau'r wybodaeth sydd ar gael. Roedd y Deiliad Portffolio'n absennol, ac felly byddai ateb yn cael ei anfon at Mr Newman, ynghyd â chopi at holl aelodau'r Cyngor.

Ymateb i'r Cwestiwn atodol

Mae'n ddrwg gennyf nad oedd digon o fanylder yn f'ateb i'ch cwestiwn.

Mae'r Gwasanaethau Cefn Gwlad yn bwriadu holi arolwg cyflwr 5% y Cynllun Gwella Hawliau Tramwy'r rhwydwaith hawliau tramwy cyhoeddus er mwyn pennu a fyddai'n bosib allosod mwy o wybodaeth. Fodd bynnag, nid yw wedi bod yn bosib cyflawni'r gwaith yma erbyn cyfarfod heddiw.

Os bydd data ychwanegol ar gael o'r arolwg, bydd swyddogion yn gweithio ar lunio amcangyfrif ar gyfer rhwydwaith cyfan hawliau tramwy cyhoeddus (ar wahân i'r Parc Cenedlaethol). Ar ôl cwblhau hyn, rwyf wedi gofyn i'r Gwasanaethau Cefn Gwlad anfon y ffigurau hyn atoch yn unol â'ch cais.

Ymddiheuraf nad wyf yn gallu bod yn bresennol yng nghyfarfod llawn y Cyngor heddiw, oherwydd roedd yn rhaid imi fynychu cyfarfod arall i drafod cyllid y Cyngor, felly ymddiheuriadau nad wyf yn gallu rhoi ateb personol ichi.

5. CYHOEDDIADAU'R CADEIRYDD

Estynnwyd croeso i nifer o ddisgyblion Ysgol Uwchradd Crughywel gan y Cadeirydd, oedd yn arsylwi ar y cyfarfod. Estynnwyd llongyfarchiadau i Nigel Brinn yn dilyn ei benodiad fel Cyfarwyddwr yr Amgylchedd.

Dosbarthwyd manylion cyfarfodydd a digwyddiadau'r Cadeirydd i'r holl aelodau.

Estynnwyd llongyfarchiadau gan Gynghorwyr i aelodau Tîm Twyll Defnyddwyr Safonau Masnach, dan arweiniad Nikki Davies Wheeler, oedd wedi derbyn cymeradwyaeth fawr gan y Grŵp Gwrth-drwgfathu am ei waith mewn perthynas â diogelu defnyddwyr Powys rhag nwyddau ffug.

6. CYHOEDDIADAU'R ARWEINYDD

Cyfeiriodd yr Arweinydd at y cynnig i ddatblygu rheilffordd profi trenau ar safle hen lofa glo brig Nant Helen fyddai'n golygu buddsoddiad mawr i'r ardal. Cyfeiriodd hefyd at dderbyniad a gynhaliwyd yn ystod yr Ŵyl Wanwyn ac Eisteddfod yr Urdd a nododd iddi gynnal trafodaethau gyda'r Urdd ynghylch yr Eisteddfod yn dychwelyd yn y dyfodol agos. Roedd hefyd wedi cymryd rhan yn y digwyddiadydd lansio Her Beicio Mynydd Cymru 360, fyddai'n stopio 2 waith ym Mhowys. Roedd wedi cadeirio dadl yng nghynhadledd CLILC ar faterion gwledig, ac bu'n siaradwr gwadd gyda'r Sefydliad Cynllunio Trefol Brenhinol ar destun datblygiad gwledig.

7. DIWEDDARIAD Y PRIF WEITHREDWR

Rhodddwyd diweddariad gan y Dirprwy Prif Weithredwr ar y Bwrdd Gwella a Sicrwydd; ehangwyd ei gyfrifoldebau i gynnwys Gwasanaethau Oedolion a materion corfforaethol.

Nododd y cynhaliwyd cyfweiliadau ar gyfer swydd Pennaeth Gwasanaethau Plant, y diwrnod cynt, a llwyddwyd i benodi. Nododd hefyd taw Adrian Jervis yw Pennaeth Priffyrdd Dros Dro. Ac yn olaf, nododd fod enwebiadau ar gyfer gwobrwyon staff wedi agor, ac atgoffodd aelodau eu bod yn gallu enwebu staff.

8. TROSGLWYDDIADAU I DREIGLO YMLAEN CYLLIDBAU HEB EU DYRANNU O 2017/18 I FLWYDDYN ARIANNOL 2018/19

Gofynnwyd i'r Cyngor gymeradwyo treiglo ymlaen trosglwyddiadau o 2017/18 i'r flwyddyn 2018/19 ar gyfer cynlluniau cyfalaf parhaus, oedd heb eu cwblhau ar ddiwedd blwyddyn ariannol 2017/18.

Roedd un o'r trosglwyddiadau ar gyfer prosiectau tai'r Cyfrif Refeniw Tai oherwydd oedi o ran anfonebu gan HOWPS ac roedd aelodau am gael cadarnhad fod HOWPS yn destun craffu, a bod eu prosesau wedi gwella. Nododd y Dirprwy Prif Weithredwr fod y Cyngor wedi gweithio'n agos gyda HOWPS oedd wedi pennu adnoddau sylweddol er mwyn gwella eu prosesau, ac roedd arwyddion fod perfformiad yn gwella. Nododd hefyd nad oedd unrhyw broblemau o ran diffyg cyllid o ganlyniad i dreiglo cyllidebau ymlaen.

Gyda 50 pleidlais o blaid, 1 yn erbyn ac 1 atal pleidlais,

PENDERFYNWYD	Rheswm dros y Penderfyniad
Cymeradwyo'r trosglwyddiadau fel yr amlinellir yn yr adroddiad a ffeiliwyd gyda'r cofnodion wedi'u llofnodi.	Sicrhau y caiff trosglwyddiadau priodol eu prosesu sy'n adlewyrchu'r gwariant cyfalaf a ragwelwyd.

9.	ADRODDIAD BLYNYDDOL Y CYFARWYDDWR GWASANAETHAU CYMDEITHASOL
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Cyflwynodd y Cyfarwyddwr Gwasanaethau Cyhoeddus yr adroddiad ar gyfer 2017/18 gan nodi nad hi oedd y Cyfarwyddwr yn ystod y cyfnod hwn, ac yn cydnabod cyfraniadau ei rhagflaenywyr. Roedd yr adroddiad yn cydnabod y bu'n flwyddyn heriol iawn i'r gwasanaethau cymdeithasol, ond nododd hefyd, diolch i waith caled staff, cydweithwyr corfforaethol, sefydliadau partner a chefnogaeth wleidyddol, fod rhai gwelliannau sylweddol yn dechrau cael eu cyflawni. Roedd yr adroddiad hefyd yn olrhain y blaenoriaethau ar gyfer 2018/19. Nododd y Cyfarwyddwr y byddai ei hadroddiad nesaf yn cael ei llunio ar y cyd â defnyddwyr y gwasanaethau a sefydliadau partner.

Atebodd y Cyfarwyddwr cwestiynau gan Aelodau. Cytunodd bod angen gwneud mwy i gefnogi plant sy'n derbyn gofal, a bod recriwtio a chadw staff yn her fawr, fel y nodir yn y Gofrestr Risg Corfforaethol. Cynigiodd Cadeirydd y Pwyllgor Archwilio weithio gyda'r Cyfarwyddwr i fynd i'r afael â hyn. Nododd ei bod yn cynnal cyfarfodydd rheolaidd gyda staff rheng flaen ac yn derbyn adborth defnyddiol ganddynt. Nododd hefyd fod y gwasanaeth yn datblygu arwyddion o fodel diogelwch gyda'r nod o osgoi sefyllfa lle mae plant yn gorfod derbyn gofal. Hysbyswyd Aelodau hefyd y byddai papur yn dod gerbron y Cabinet ar destun rhyddhad rhag Treth Gyngor ar gyfer unigolion sy'n gadael gofal.

PENDERFYNWYD	Rheswm dros y penderfyniad
Derbyn Adroddiad Blynyddol y Cyfarwyddwr Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol.	Gofyniad statudol.

10. ARGYMHELLION Y PWYLLGOR GWASANAETHAU DEMOCRATAIDD**10.1 Adolygu rôl Cadeirydd y Cyngor ac adolygu Rolau Dinesig**

Bu'r Cyngor yn ystyried argymhellion y Pwyllgor Gwasanaethau Democrataidd.

Cynigiwyd gwelliannau gan y Cynghorydd Sir Elwyn Vaughan, ac fe'i eiliwyd gan y Cynghorydd Sir Bryn Davies, y "dylai fod gan y Cyngor Gadeirydd ac Is-gadeirydd, i'w hethol yn flynyddol yng nghyfarfod llawn y Cyngor yn y CCB.

Dylai car y Cadeirydd, fel y nodir yn yr adroddiad, ddod o'r gronfa geir er budd ehangach yr awdurdod."

Collwyd y gwelliant cyntaf; roedd 3 pleidlais o blaid, 44 yn erbyn, a 3 yn atal pleidlais. Enillwyd yr ail welliant gyda 17 o blaid, 2 yn erbyn, a 5 yn atal pleidlais.

PENDERFYNWYD	Rheswm dros y Penderfyniad
Y dylai car y Cadeirydd, fel y nodir yn yr adroddiad, ddod o'r gronfa geir er budd ehangach yr awdurdod.	Er budd ehangach yr awdurdod.

Cynigiwyd argymhellion y Pwyllgor Gwasanaethau Democrataidd gan y Cynghorydd Sir Matthew Dorrance a'u heilio gan y Cynghorydd Sir Linda Corfield.

Argymhelliad 1: 31 o blaid, 9 yn erbyn, ac 1 yn atal pleidlais

PENDERFYNWYD	Rheswm dros y Penderfyniad
Fod y rolau dinesig yn werthfawr, ac y dylid eu cadw.	Ymateb i'r penderfyniad a gytunwyd yn y Cyngor ar 13 Gorffennaf 2017.

Argymhelliad 2: 37 o blaid, 8 yn erbyn gyda 2 yn atal pleidlais

PENDERFYNWYD	Rheswm dros y Penderfyniad
Fod rolau'r Cadeirydd, Is-gadeirydd a'r Is-gadeirydd Cynorthwyol yn fwy pwysig bellach gan eu bod yn cynnwys rolau'r Cadeiryddion Sirol o fis Mai ymlaen.	Ymateb i'r penderfyniad a gytunwyd yn y Cyngor ar 13 Gorffennaf 2017.

Argymhelliad 3: 37 o blaid, 5 yn erbyn, a 2 yn atal pleidlais

PENDERFYNWYD	Rheswm dros y Penderfyniad
Y dylid cadw'r drefn ddilyniant cyfredol o ran ethol Cadeirydd y Cyngor rhwng yr ardaloedd.	Ymateb i'r penderfyniad a gytunwyd yn y Cyngor ar 13 Gorffennaf 2017.

Argymhelliad 4: 37 o blaid, 8 yn erbyn, ac 1 yn atal pleidlais

PENDERFYNWYD	Rheswm dros y Penderfyniad
Does dim budd o symud i gael Aelod Llywyddu yn lle Cadeirydd y Cyngor.	Ymateb i'r penderfyniad a gytunwyd yn y Cyngor ar 13 Gorffennaf 2017.

Argymhelliad 5: 39 o blaid, 5 yn erbyn, a 4 yn atal pleidlais

PENDERFYNWYD	Rheswm dros y Penderfyniad
Taw cyfyngedig yw'r potensial i leihau lefel y cyflog dinesig a delir, oherwydd nid yw'n golygu arbedion sylweddol.	Ymateb i'r penderfyniad a gytunwyd yn y Cyngor ar 13 Gorffennaf 2017..

Argymhelliad 6: 36 o blaid, 7 yn erbyn, a 2 yn atal pleidlais

PENDERFYNWYD	Rheswm dros y Penderfyniad
Y dylid cadw'r dyraniad cyfredol yn y gyllideb at ddefnydd y Cadeirydd.	Ymateb i'r penderfyniad a gytunwyd yn y Cyngor ar 13 Gorffennaf 2017.

Argymhelliad 7: 44 o blaid, 6 yn erbyn

PENDERFYNWYD	Rheswm dros y Penderfyniad
Bod angen cefnogi rôl y Cadeirydd mewn ffordd briodol, gydag adnoddau priodol yn amodol ar gymeradwyo achos busnes cadarn gan y Pwyllgor Gwasanaethau Democrataidd o ran gwariant tu allan i lwfans y Cadeirydd.	Ymateb i'r penderfyniad a gytunwyd yn y Cyngor ar 13 Gorffennaf 2017.

10.2. Canlyniadau'r Arolwg ar Amser Cyfarfodydd

Cynigiodd Cadeirydd y Pwyllgor Gwasanaethau Democrataidd, y Cynghorydd Sir Matthew Dorrance, yr argymhelliad, gan nodi'r materion a nodwyd gan aelodau yn yr arolwg ynghylch amseroedd teithio a chyfrifoldebau gofal. Fe'i eiliwyd gan y Cynghorydd Sir Jackie Charlton. Gyda 50 o blaid, a 0 yn erbyn

PENDERFYNWYD	Rheswm dros y Penderfyniad
Na fyddai amseroedd cyffredinol cyfarfodydd y Cyngor, Cabinet a Phwyllgorau'n newid am dymor cyfredol y Cyngor, gyda'r ddarpariaeth y gall Cadeiryddion Pwyllgor amrywio amseroedd cyfarfodydd yn ddibynnol ar angen.	Cwblhau Arolwg Aelodau yn unol ag Adran 6 Mesur Llywodraeth Leol (Cymru) 2011.

10.3. Cyfryngau Cymdeithasol ar gyfer Cynghorwyr

Cynigiodd y Cynghorydd Sir Matthew Dorrance yr agymhelliad a diolchodd i aelodau'r gweithgor fu'n gyfrifol am lunio'r canllawiau ar gyfryngau cymdeithasol ar gyfer Cynghorwyr. Fe'i eiliwyd gan y Cynghorydd Sir Susan McNicholas. Gyda 52 o blaid, 0 yn erbyn, a 3 yn atal pleidlais

PENDERFYNWYD	Rheswm dros y Penderfyniad
Y dylai'r Cyngor fabwysiadu'r Canllawiau Cyfryngau Cymdeithasol ar gyfer Aelodau.	Cymeradwyo'r Canllawiau diwygiedig.

10.4 Diwygio Adran 13 y Cyfansoddiad – Cyfrifoldeb dros Swyddogaethau

Cynigiodd y Cynghorydd Sir Matthew Dorrance yr argymhelliad, a eiliwyd gan y Cynghorydd Sir Emyr Jones. Gyda 52 o blaid, a 0 yn erbyn

PENDERFYNWYD	Rheswm dros y Penderfyniad
Dirprwyo awdurdod i'r Swyddog Monitro i newid manylion cyfrifoldebau'r Deiliad Portffolio, sy'n rhan o'r Cyfansoddiad, lle gwneir diwygiadau gan yr Arweinydd.	Sicrhau fod y Cyfansoddiad yn gyfredol.

10.5. Strategaeth Datblygu Aelodau

Cynigiodd y Cynghorydd Sir Matthew Dorrance yr argymhelliad, a eiliwyd gan y Cynghorydd Sir Linda Corfield. Gyda 51 o blaid, a 0 yn erbyn

PENDERFYNWYD	Rheswm dros y Penderfyniad
Cymeradwyo'r Strategaeth a Chynllun Gweithredu Drafft ar gyfer Datblygu Aelodau 2018-22, fel y nodir yn Atodiad yr adroddiad.	Diweddarau Strategaeth Datblygu Aelodau'r Cyngor am y cyfnod 2018 - 2022.

10.6. Gwelliannau i'r Cyfansoddiad

Cynigiodd y Cynghorydd Sir Matthew Dorrance yr argymhelliad, a eiliwyd gan y Cynghorydd Sir Roger Williams. Gyda 52 o blaid, a 0 yn erbyn

PENDERFYNWYD	Rheswm dros y Penderfyniad
Cymeradwyo Adrannau 4 a 7 y Cyfansoddiad, fel y nodir yn Atodiad yr adroddiad.	Diweddarau Adrannau'r Cyfansoddiad yn dilyn penderfyniad y Cyngor ym mis Mai 2018.

11.	PENODI CADEIRYDD Y PWYLLGOR CRAFFU DYSGU, SGILIAU A'R ECONOMI
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Cynigiodd Y Cynghorydd Sir Roger Williams a eiliwyd gan y Cynghorydd Sir Michael Williams a

PHENDERFYNWYD nodi penodiad gan y Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Y Cynghorydd Sir Pete Roberts fel Cadeirydd y Pwyllgor Craffu Dysgu, Sgiliau a'r Economi.

12.	LWFANSAU A THREULIAU AELODAU 2017-18
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Roedd pob Aelod oedd yn bresennol wedi datgan buddiannau personol yn yr eitem hon. Nododd Cyfreithiwr y Cyngor nad oedd gan Aelodau fuddiannau sy'n rhagfarnu oherwydd roedd y busnes dan sylw'n ymwneud â swyddogaethau'r Awdurdod mewn perthynas â Lwfansau Aelodau'n unol â pharagraff 12(2)(b)(iv) y Cod Ymddygiad.

Roedd y Cyngor wedi derbyn manylion y symiau i'w talu i aelodau mewn cyflogau a lwfansau yn 2017/18. Roedd gofyn i'r Cyngor gyhoeddi'r wybodaeth erbyn 30^{ain} Medi 2018.

PENDERFYNWYD	Rheswm dros y Penderfyniad:
Nodwyd yr adroddiad.	Sicrhau fod yr wybodaeth ar gael i'r cyhoedd o fewn yr amserlen a bennwyd.

13.	PENODIADAU I BWYLLGORAU A CHYRFF ALLANOL
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Nododd y Cyngor y penodiadau canlynol i Bwyllgorau gan grwpiau gwleidyddol, ac a gymeradwywyd gan y Swyddog Monitro dan y pwerau dirprwyo cyffredinol a roddwyd gan y Cyngor ar 16^{eg} Mai 2013:

Penodwyd Y Cynghorydd Sir Graham Breeze i Awdurdod Tân ac Achub Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru yn lle'r Cynghorydd Sir Karen Laurie-Parry.

Penodwyd Y Cynghorydd Sir Jon Williams i'r Pwyllgor Iechyd, Gofal a Thai yn lle'r Cynghorydd Sir Joy Jones.

Penodwyd Y Cynghorydd Sir Linda Corfield i'r Pwyllgor Archwilio yn lle'r Cynghorydd Sir Liam Fitzpatrick.

14.	RHYBUDD O GYNNIG
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14.1 Cynllunio leithyddol ar gyfer Powys

Bu'r Cyngor yn trafod y rhybudd o gynnig canlynol a gynigiwyd gan Y Cynghorydd Sir Elwyn Vaughan ac a eiliwyd gan Y Cynghorydd Sir Bryn Davies:

Wrth i Lywodraeth Cymru ddatblygu gweledigaeth ar gyfer Miliwn o Siaradwyr Cymraeg erbyn 2050, gyda'r polisi yn derbyn cefnogaeth y gwrthbleidiau ym Mae Caerdydd, mae angen inni ym Mhowys ystyried sut y gallwn gyfrannu at wireddu hyn. Bydd angen i Bowys anelu at gynyddu canran siaradwyr Cymraeg y sir o 19% yng Nghyfrifiad 2011 i 33% - sydd yn her.

Mae'n golygu bod angen inni ystyried y sefyllfa yn ei gyfanrwydd er mwyn deall yr heriau, i fod yn flaengar, a gweithredu ar lefelau amrywiol, a bod yn uchelgeisiol o ran ein gweledigaeth ni.

Mae yma gyfle i Bowys arwain y ffordd a bod y flaengar, trwy ystyried y Gymraeg yn rhan allweddol o dreftadaeth y Sir hynafol hon, ond hefyd fel adnodd cymdeithasol ac economaidd at y dyfodol. Os gallwn harneisio a gweithredu'r pecyn cymorth hwn, credwn y byddai Powys yn gwneud cyfraniad cadarnhaol tuag at gynaliadwyedd y Gymraeg, a thuag at weledigaeth Llywodraeth Cymru.

Felly mae'r Cyngor yn:

1. Cydnabod pwysigrwydd y Gymraeg fel rhan annatod o dreftadaeth hanesyddol Powys
2. Cadarnhau fod yr iaith yn eiddo i bob rhan o'r Sir
3. Credu fod yr iaith yn bwysig o safbwynt cynaliadwyedd sy'n gweu i egwyddorion cymunedol, economaidd a chynaliadwyedd
4. Credu taw sgil yw'r iaith, ac yn adnodd allweddol ar gyfer dinasyddion y dyfodol
5. Bryderus ynghylch y lleihad yn nifer Siaradwyr Cymraeg yn sgil Cyfrifiad 2011 ac yn derbyn yr angen ar gyfer gweithredu cynhwysfawr i atal y duedd hon
6. Trwy hyn yn galw ar y Cyngor i lunio cynllun strategol sy'n adlewyrchu'r egwyddorion hyn, ac sy'n gyson â Deddf yr Iaith Gymraeg 2011 a Safonau'r Gymraeg, fydd yn olrhain pwyntiau gweithredu clir er mwyn i Bowys allu cyfrannu at y nod o wireddu miliwn o siaradwyr Cymraeg.

Dadl y cynigydd a'r eilydd oedd bod yn rhaid i'r Cyngor weithredu er mwyn atal dirywiad y Gymraeg yn y cadarnleoedd ac ymestyn defnydd o'r iaith ar hyd a lled y sir. Roedd Deiliad Portffolio Addysg a'r Gymraeg yn croesawu'r cynnig a nododd bod llawer o waith eisoes yn digwydd trwy Gynllun Strategol y Gymraeg mewn Addysg, a'r Strategaeth Hyrwyddo'r Gymraeg. Gyda 51 o blaid ac 1 yn erbyn

PENDERFYNWYD

1. **Cydnabod pwysigrwydd y Gymraeg fel rhan annatod o dreftadaeth hanesyddol Powys**
2. **Cadarnhau fod yr iaith yn eiddo i bob rhan o'r Sir**
3. **Credu fod yr iaith yn bwysig o safbwynt cynaliadwyedd sy'n gweu i egwyddorion cymunedol, economaidd a chynaliadwyedd**
4. **Credu taw sgil yw'r iaith, ac yn adnodd allweddol ar gyfer dinasyddion y dyfodol**
5. **Bryderus ynghylch y lleihad yn nifer Siaradwyr Cymraeg yn sgil Cyfrifiad 2011 ac yn derbyn yr angen ar gyfer gweithredu cynhwysfawr i atal y duedd hon**

6. **Trwy hyn yn galw ar y Cyngor i lunio cynllun strategol sy'n adlewyrchu'r egwyddorion hyn, ac sy'n gyson â Deddf yr Iaith Gymraeg 2011 a Safonau'r Gymraeg, fydd yn olrhain pwyntiau gweithredu clir er mwyn i Bowys allu cyfrannu at y nod o wireddu miliwn o siaradwyr Cymraeg.**

14.2. **Hawliau Deiliaid Bathodynau Glas ym Meysydd Parcio sy'n eiddo i'r Cyngor**

Gadawodd y Cynghorwyr Sir B Baynham, L Corfield, B Davies, D Davies, D Evans, J Evans, A Jones, K Laurie-Parry, H Lewis, S McNicholas, C Mills, D Price, G Pugh, K Roberts-Jones, R Powell, G Ratcliffe, E Roderick, D Rowlands, T Van-Rees, E Vaughan a G Williams y cyfarfod tra bo'r eitem hon yn cael ei hystyried, wedi datgan buddiannau personol ac sy'n rhagfarnu.

Cadarnhaodd Cyfreithiwr y Cyngor y byddai'r Cabinet, fel y corff sy'n gwneud penderfyniadau, yn gwrando ar y ddadl, ond ni fyddai'r aelodau'n bwrw pleidlais.

Ystyriwyd y cynnig canlynol gan y Cyngor; fe'i gynigiwyd gan Y Cynghorydd Sir Pete Roberts ac fe'i eiliwyd gan Y Cynghorydd Sir James Gibson-Watt:

Mae'r Cyngor yn nodi'r ymgynghoriad a lansiwyd ddiwedd mis Mai mewn perthynas â newidiadau posib ar gyfer deiliaid Bathodynau Glas mewn meysydd parcio sy'n eiddo i'r Cyngor.

Mae'r Cyngor hefyd yn nodi taw dewis opsiwn y grwpiau gweithredol yw cyflwyno ffioedd i ddefnyddio meysydd parcio sy'n eiddo i'r Cyngor.

Mae'r Cyngor yn credu, fod y sawl sydd â hawl i Fathodynau Glas, gan gynnwys y dall, cyn-filwyr lluoedd arfog sydd ag anabledd, a dinasyddion sy'n derbyn y lefelau budd-dal anabledd uchaf, yn wynebu lefelau caledi eithafol, ac ni ddylid eu hamddifadu ymhellach.

Felly mae'r Cyngor yn annog y Deiliad Portffolio Priffyrdd i ddiystyru unrhyw opsiwn sy'n golygu y bydd gofyn i ddeiliaid Bathodynau Glas dalu wrth ddefnyddio un o feysydd parcio'r Cyngor.

Roedd nifer o aelodau'n beirniadu'r ymgynghoriad, gan ddweud nad oedd ar gael ar fformatau clywedol, mewn print bras neu braille ac ni chynhaliwyd unrhyw asesiad effaith o gwbl. Roedd eraill yn cwestiynu faint o refeniw fyddai'n deillio o godi ffioedd ar ddeiliaid Bathodynau Glas, gan ddweud y byddai camau gweithredu yn erbyn y sawl sy'n cam-ddefnyddio'r system yn codi mwy o arian. Roedd aelodau eraill yn beirniadu'r ffaith fod y cynnig wedi dod gerbron y cyfarfod, gyda'r ymgynghoriad yn parhau.

Gyda 20 o blaid, 7 yn erbyn, a 6 yn atal pleidlais

PENDERFYNWYD annog y Deiliad Portffolio Priffyrdd i ddiystyru unrhyw opsiwn sy'n golygu y bydd gofyn i ddeiliaid Bathodynau Glas dalu wrth ddefnyddio un o feysydd parcio'r Cyngor.

Torrodd y Cyngor am ginio am 13.38 ac ailymgynnull am 14.05.

YN BRESENNOL

Y Cyngorydd Sir DW Meredith (Cadeirydd)

Y Cyngorwyr Sir MC Alexander, B Baynham, J Charlton, L V Corfield, K W Curry, B Davies, D E Davies, P Davies, S C Davies, M J Dorrance, E Durrant, D O Evans, J Evans, L Fitzpatrick, L George, J Gibson-Watt, M R Harris, S M Hayes, H Hulme, A Jenner, E A Jones, D R Jones, E Jones, E M Jones, M J Jones, D Jones-Poston, F H Jump, K Laurie-Parry, H Lewis, K Lewis, S Lewis, MC Mackenzie, I McIntosh, S McNicholas, JG Morris, R Powell, WD Powell, D R Price, GD Price, G Pugh, J Pugh, G W Ratcliffe, L Roberts, P Roberts, K M Roberts-Jones, E Roderick, D Rowlands, D Selby, K S Silk, D A Thomas, T J Van-Rees, E Vaughan, A Williams, G I S Williams, D H Williams, J M Williams ac R Williams

15. EITEMAU EITHRIEDIG

PENDERFYNWYD peidio caniatáu mynediad i'r cyhoedd ar gyfer yr eitem fusnes nesaf ar y sail y byddai'n golygu datgelu gwybodaeth eithriedig iddynt dan gategori 1 Gorchymyn Awdurdodau Lleol (Mynediad at Wybodaeth) (Amrywiaeth) (Cymru) 2007).

16. ADRODDIAD CYFRINACHOL - MATER PERSONÉL PREIFAT

Derbyniwyd eglurhad gan Steve Thomas, Prif Weithredwr CLILC, a dosbarthwyd adroddiad gan yr Arweinydd.

Gohiriwyd y cyfarfod er mwyn i aelodau ystyried yr adroddiad mewn grwpiau gwleidyddol, gan ailymgynnull am 14.45.

Gadawodd Y Cyngorydd Sir Baynham y cyfarfod am 15.36.

Cynigiwyd argymhellion yr adroddiad gan yr Arweinydd, ac fe'u heiliwyd gan Y Cyngorydd Sir DR Jones a gyda 43 o blaid, 3 yn erbyn a 4 yn atal pleidlais

PENDERFYNWYD	Rheswm dros y Penderfyniad:
<p>1. Cymeradwyo telerau'r setliad a amlinellwyd yn adran 3 yr achos busnes atodedig, sef Atodiad A yr adroddiad hwn.</p>	<p>Caniatáu i'r Cyngor symud ymlaen er budd effeithlonrwydd y Cyngor.</p>
<p>2. Awdurdodir Cyfreithiwr y Cyngor i lunio Cytundeb Setliad ffurfiol er mwyn gweithredu'r telerau setliad a gytunwyd ar y cyfle cyntaf posib.</p>	
<p>3. Fod yr adroddiad, yr achos busnes, a'r canlyniad yn aros yn gyfrinachol.</p>	

Agorwyd cyfarfod y Cyngor i'r cyhoedd unwaith eto. Gadawodd y Cynghorwyr Sir E Durrant a J Pugh y cyfarfod am 16.00.

17. RHYBUDD O GYNNIG – Ffordd Osgoi'r Drenewydd

Aeth y Cyngor ati i ystyried y cynnig canlynol, a gynigiwyd gan y Cynghorydd Sir David Selby, ac a eiliwyd gan Y Cynghorydd Sir Karl Lewis:

Mae'r Cyngor hwn yn cydnabod fod adeiladu ffordd osgoi'r Drenewydd yn creu cyswllt trafndiaeth pwysig, sy'n gymharol o ran pwysigrwydd i'r cyswllt rhwng y dref a'r gamlas a rheilffyrdd y 19^{eg} ganrif. Mae'r ffordd osgoi o bwysigrwydd cenedlaethol a lleol mawr.

Felly mae'r Cyngor yn annog Llywodraeth Cymru i enwi'r Ffordd Osgoi yn 'Ffordd Robert Owen Way' er mwyn cydnabod arwyddocâd rhyngwladol, cenedlaethol a lleol Robert Owen, ym maes diwygiad cymdeithasol, a'r unigolyn oedd yn enwog fel sylfaenydd y mudiad cydweithredol.

Gyda 33 o blaid ac 1 yn erbyn

PENDERFYNWYD annog Llywodraeth Cymru i alw'r Ffordd Osgoi yn 'Ffordd Robert Owen Way' er mwyn cydnabod arwyddocâd rhyngwladol, cenedlaethol a lleol Robert Owen ym maes diwygiad cymdeithasol a'r unigolyn oedd yn enwog fel sylfaenydd y mudiad cydweithredol.

17.1 Rhybudd o Gynnig – Polisi Trafnidiaeth Ysgol

Tynnwyd y rhybudd o gynnig yma'n ôl gan y cynigydd a'r eilydd.

18. CWESTIYNAU'N UNOL A'R CYFANSODDIAD

18.1 Cwestiwn i Ddeiliad Portffolio Llywodraethu Corfforaethol, Tai a Diogelu'r Cyhoedd gan Y Cynghorydd Sir Gwilym Williams

A wnaiff y deiliad portffolio fy hysbysu ac Aelodau am gyfanswm y taliadau honoraria a dalwyd gan Gyngor Sir Powys i weithwyr yn ystod y ddwy flynedd ariannol ddiwethaf; gan nodi cyfanswm ar gyfer bob blwyddyn?

Ymateb

Mae cyfanswm y taliadau honoraria ym mhob un o'r blynyddoedd ariannol fel a ganlyn:

	Nifer y gweithwyr	Cyfanswm Gwerth
2016/17	8	£6,687.00
2017/18	2	£4,174.00

Roedd cyfanswm y taliadau camu fyny yn ystod bob un o'r blynyddoedd ariannol canlynol fel a ganlyn:

	Nifer y gweithwyr	Cyfanswm Gwerth
2016/17	33	£79,619.40
2017/18	84	£184,054.75

Yn Nhelerau ac Amodau Gwasanaeth y Cyngor, diffinnir honoraria fel taliad dewisol a ddyfernir gan Bennaeth y Gwasanaeth pan fydd gweithwyr yn ymgymryd â dyletswyddau ychwanegol am gyfnod penodol.

Doedd dim cwestiwn atodol.

18.2 Cwestiwn i Ddeiliad Portffolio Llywodraethu Corfforaethol, Tai a Diogelu'r Cyhoedd gan Y Cyngorydd Sir Gwilym Williams

A wnaiff y deiliad portffolio fy hysbysu faint o aelodau staff dro a gyflogir gan Gyngor Sir Powys ar hyn o bryd, a faint o aelodau staff dros dro a gyflogwyd gan Gyngor Sir Powys 12 mis yn gynharach?

Ymateb

Contractwyr yw'r gweithwyr dros dro sy'n cyflenwi darpariaeth dros dro o ran adnoddau a sgiliau rheolaeth. Mae'r trefniadau rheolaeth dros dro yn golygu pennu arweinydd gweithredol / rheolwr dros dro profedig am dymor byr i arwain / rheoli cyfnod o newid, argyfwng neu newid o fewn sefydliad. Yn y sefyllfa hon, hwyrach nad oes angen rôl barhaol neu'n mae'n amhosib ei lenwi ar fyr rybudd. Yn ogystal, hwyrach nad oes unrhyw ymgeisydd mewnol sydd yn addas neu sydd ar gael i gyflawni'r swydd dan sylw.

Dyddiad	Nifer y gweithwyr dros dro ar contract
28/06/2018	27
28/06/2017	18

Byddai cwestiwn atodol y Cyngorydd Williams yn golygu datgelu gwybodaeth gyfrinachol, ac felly byddai angen delio gyda hwn tu allan i'r cyfarfod.

18.3 Cwestiwn i Ddeiliad Portffolio Addysg a'r Gymraeg gan Y Cyngorydd Sir Edwin Roderick

Datganodd Y Cyngorydd Sir R Harris fuddiant personol ac sy'n rhagfarnu yn yr eitem hon, a gadawodd y cyfarfod tra trafodwyd y mater.

Gan ystyried yr adeiladwyd pum ysgol gynradd newydd ym Mhowys, pryd fyddai'n ymarferol meddwl y gellir adeiladu ysgol newydd ym Mhontsenni, gan ystyried taw hon yw un o ysgolion hynaf y Sir, hyd y gwn i, a ddyluniwyd yn wreiddiol fel ysgol uwchradd a adeiladwyd ym 1939 a lle mae angen atgyweiriadau'n gyson erbyn hyn ac ati. Mae problem ddifrifol gyda charthffosiaeth a phroblemau mawr eraill, gyda theiliau llawr yn codi trwy'r ysgol. Hefyd, mae'n rhaid i ddisgyblion groesi iard yr ysgol i gyrraedd y ffreutur, a does dim cyfleusterau toiledau yn yr adeilad hwnnw.

Ar hyn o bryd mae 130 ar y gofrestr, gan gynnwys ffrwd Gymraeg llwyddiannus gyda 44 o blant. Mae'r ysgol yn gorfod ymdopi gyda chyfleusterau isel iawn eu safon, er hynny, yn Eisteddfod yr Urdd yn ddiweddar yn Aberhonddu, credaf taw Ysgol Pontsenni oedd â'r nifer uchaf o blant yn cymryd rhan, ac aeth llawer ohonynt ymlaen i gynrychioli Sir Frycheiniog yn yr Eisteddfod Genedlaethol.

Ar un adeg, roedd pwll nofio poblogaidd a phrysur iawn ym Mhontsenni; ond yn anffodus, bu'n rhaid ei gau oherwydd diffyg gwaith cynnal a chadw. Dengys amcanestyniadau y disgwylir i niferoedd disgyblion godi eto, a rhoddwyd caniatâd cynllunio ar gyfer 50 o gartrefi newydd, felly mae'n flaenoriaeth i Bontsenni gael ysgol fwy, gyda chyfleusterau gwell a mwy cyfoes a chyfredol.

A wnaiff y Deiliad Portffolio ymrwmo i ddarparu ysgol gynradd newydd ym Mhontsenni?

Ymateb:

Un o brif flaenoriaethau Polisi Trefniadaeth ysgolion newydd y Cyngor yw gwella cyflwr ystâd ysgolion Powys, ac mae'r awdurdod yn cyflawni hyn drwy Raglen Ysgolion y 21ain Ganrif a'r Rhaglen Gwelliannau Mawr. Mae'r awdurdod, ar y cyd â Llywodraeth Cymru'n buddsoddi £80m i wella seilwaith ysgolion Powys, fel rhan o Haen A Rhaglen Ysgolion y 21ain Ganrif, sy'n rhedeg rhwng 2014 - 2019. Rydym hefyd wedi derbyn cymeradwyaeth ar gyfer Rhaglen Amlinellol Strategol Haen B ar gyfer buddsoddiad cyfalaf rhwng 2019 - 2024/5, a seilir ar flaenoriaethau canlynol LIC ar gyfer Rhaglen Ysgolion y 21ain Ganrif, Haen B:

1. Darparu seilwaith addysgol effeithlon ac effeithiol fydd yn diwallu'r galw cyfredol a galw'r dyfodol ar gyfer lleoedd erbyn 2024.
 - Caiff costau cynnal a chadw wrth gefn ysgolion a cholegau a ddewiswyd ar gyfer Haen B eu haneru o leiaf (yn seiliedig ar dybiaeth y bydd tua 50% o brosiectau'r Rhaglen yn golygu ysgolion newydd yn lle asedau presennol).
 - Does dim adeiladau Categori CH yn yr ystâd.
 - Caiff tua 25% o adeiladau cyflwr Categori C eu gwella i Gategori A neu B.
2. Defnyddio i'r eithaf y seilwaith ac adnoddau, er mwyn cyflenwi gwasanaethau cyhoeddus i'n cymunedau erbyn 2024. Bydd hyn yn cynnwys hyblygrwydd o ran asedau er mwyn sicrhau y defnyddir y gofod a chyfleusterau sydd ar gael i randdeiliaid, i'r eithaf.
 - Rydym yn dymuno i'r holl gyfleusterau sy'n derbyn buddsoddiad ymrwmo i wneud asedau ar gael i'w defnyddio gan y gymuned, os bydd galw am hynny'n lleol.
 - Bydd 10% o ysgolion /colegau sy'n derbyn cyllid trwy'r Rhaglen yn cyd-leoli gwasanaethau cyhoeddus ar y safle, os bydd galw am hynny'n lleol.

Ar hyn o bryd rydym yn cadarnhau'r blaenoriaethau cyllido fel rhan o Haen B, yn ystyried cyflwr, addasrwydd a chynaliadwyedd holl ysgolion yr ystâd, a chaiff y rhain eu cadarnhau unwaith y cytunir ar hyn.

I ateb cwestiwn atodol y Cynghorydd Roderick, o ran pryd fyddai'r holl waith atgyweirio sydd ei angen ar yr ysgol yn digwydd, nododd y Deiliad Portffolio

Addysg a'r Gymraeg ei bod yn disgwyl i'r gwasanaeth ysgolion offren ei blaenoriaethau cyllido ar ôl yr haf.

Dychwelodd Y Cyngorydd Sir Rosemarie Harris i'r cyfarfod.

Gadawodd Y Cyngorydd Sir Linda Corfield y cyfarfod am 16.13.

18.4 Cwestiwn i Ddeiliad Portffolio Pobl Ifanc a Diwylliant gan Y Cyngorydd Sir Huw Williams

Faint o staff llawn amser, rhan amser a dros dro (bob graddfa) a gyflogir yn adran Gwasanaethau Plant yr Awdurdod, a sut mae'r ffigurau'n cymharu gyda'r nifer oedd yn gyflogedig adeg Arolwg Arolygiaeth Gofal Cymru ym mis Gorffennaf 2017? Faint o swyddi gwag sydd yn yr adran?

Ymateb

Adran Gwasanaethau Plant

	3 ^{ydd} Gorffennaf 2017	28 ^{ain} Mai 2018
Swyddi llawn amser	142	149
Swyddi rhan amser	99	97
Gweithwyr Asiantaeth	23	30
Contractwr	10	8

*Mai 2018 – Mae nifer y gweithwyr asiantaeth yn cynnwys contractwyr (BK/CH) sy'n darparu capasiti ychwanegol ar gyfer yr Uwch Reolwr

3^{ydd} Gorffennaf 2017 roedd 86 o swyddi gwag yn y Gwasanaethau Plant (sy'n cynnwys swyddi wrth gefn a chysgodol a swyddi Gweithwyr Cymdeithasol sydd ar agor i Weithwyr cymdeithasol newydd gymhwyso ac ati)

28^{ain} Mai 2018 roedd 72 o swyddi gwag yn y Gwasanaethau Plant (sy'n cynnwys swyddi wrth gefn a chysgodol a swyddi Gweithwyr Cymdeithasol sydd ar agor i Weithwyr Cymdeithasol newydd gymhwyso ac ati.)

4^{ydd} Gorffennaf 2018 roedd 65 o swyddi gwag yn y Gwasanaethau Plant (sy'n cynnwys swyddi wrth gefn a chysgodol a swyddi Gweithwyr Cymdeithasol sydd ar agor i Weithwyr Cymdeithasol newydd gymhwyso ac ati.)

Daw'r data yma'n uniongyrchol o'r Dangosfwrdd BI – gellir rhoi dadansoddiad pellach os oes angen

Mewn realiti, mae rhyw 37 o swyddi gwag, os tynnir y swyddi cysgodol, swyddi sydd ar agor i Weithwyr Cymdeithasol newydd gymhwyso ac ati.

Ar 28/5/18, o'r 30 o weithwyr asiantaeth, roedd 8.5 yn cyflenwi ar gyfer swyddi gwag, ac roedd 21.5 o weithwyr asiantaeth yn fwy na'r nifer cytunedig o swyddi yn y gweithlu.

Yng Ngorffennaf 2017, ni fu unrhyw ymgyrch recriwtio fel y cyfryw, oherwydd dim ond ar wefan CSP a nifer o leoedd cyfyngedig eraill yr hysbysebwyd swyddi gwag.

Mae'r gwaith i ddelio gyda phroblemau recriwtio a chadw staff yn parhau fel rhan o'r gwaith o weithredu'r Cynllun Gwella Plant

- Mae Ymgyrch Recriwtio'n fyw o fewn Community Care Guardian, Indeed, Facebook, LinkedIn ac ati ar gyfer Gwasanaethau Oedolion a Phlant

- Cynhaliwyd nifer o Ddigwyddiadau Recriwtio ar hyd a lled Powys yn ystod 2018.
- Cynhaliwyd Diwrnod Recriwtio Agored ar ran Gofalwyr Cymru ym mis Mawrth 2018 - mae wedi bod yn llwyddiannus oherwydd derbyniwyd nifer o geisiadau ar gyfer swyddi Gofal Cymdeithasol a Golwg y Bannau
- Mae'r fideo corfforaethol 'Gweithio, Byw a Chwarae ym Mhowys' bellach yn fyw, ac ar gyfrifon Cyfryngau Cymdeithasol.
- Datblygwyd fideos i recriwtio ym maes gwaith cymdeithasol yn benodol
- Mae'r trefniadau terfynol ar gyfer tudalen we Gofal Cymdeithasol wedi'u gwneud, ac fe'i lanswyd i dargedu recriwtio mewn meysydd penodol
- Mae proffiliau rôl yn cael eu llunio i ddenu pobl i swyddi penodol.
- Mae'r adran Cyfathrebu yn parhau i rannu swyddi sy'n ymwneud â recriwtio i'r Gwasanaethau Plant
- Hysbysebwyd swydd barhaol y Pennaeth Gwasanaeth, a chafwyd ymateb da
- Gwnaethpwyd trefniadau terfynol ar gyfer ymgyrch recriwtio Rheolwyr Tîm Maethu
- Wedi recriwtio pedwar gweithiwr cymdeithasol newydd eu cymhwyso o fewn y misoedd diwethaf
- Mae 6 lle hyfforddi mewn gwaith cymdeithasol mewnol ar gael eleni ar draws y gwasanaethau oedolion a phlant
- Lanswyd cynllun buddion staff y mis yma
- Datblygwyd pecyn anwytho
- Cynigir cyfweliadau gadael i bawb sy'n gadael swydd
- Holiadur staff er mwyn deall yn well y problemau sy'n bwysig i staff rheng flaen.

Wrth ateb cwestiwn atodol y Cynghorydd Williams ynghylch a oedd problemau recriwtio a chadw staff yn cael effaith ar blant, a pha gamau mae'r gwasanaeth yn eu cymryd i ddelio gyda'r broblem, atebodd y Deiliad Portffolio fod y gwasanaeth yn gweithio ar becyn recriwtio i helpu denu a chadw staff, a dywedodd iddi dderbyn cadarnhad fod yr aelodau staff sydd mewn swyddi'n addas i ddiogelu plant.

18.5 Cwestiwn i'r Arweinydd gan Y Cynghorydd Sir James Gibson-Watt

A wnaiff yr Arweinydd gadarnhau nifer yr Adolygiadau Barnwrol yr oedd Cyngor Sir Powys yn eu testun yn ystod blynyddoedd 2015/16, 2016/17 a 2017/18; faint o ddyfarniadau'r Adolygiadau Barnwrol oedd o blaid y Cyngor a faint yn ei erbyn; a beth oedd cyfanswm y gost i'r Cyngor o'r Adolygiadau Barnwrol hynny, gan gynnwys y rhai y dewisodd y Cyngor peidio eu hamddiffyn?

Ymateb

Diolch i'r Cynghorydd James Gibson-Watt am ei gwestiwn; mae'r wybodaeth y gofynnwyd amdani fel a ganlyn:

2015 2 Achos o Adolygiadau Barnwrol – collwyd, am gost o £90,000 (h.y. £52,000 & £ 38,000)

1 Enillwyd 1 Achos o Adolygiad Barnwrol gan y Cyngor

2016 1 Achos o Adolygiad Barnwrol a gollwyd, ond heb unrhyw gost i'r Cyngor oherwydd roedd yr Adran Busnes, Ynni a Strategaeth Ddiwydiannol wedi tanystrifennu'r achos.

1 Achos o Adolygiad Barnwrol a enillwyd gan y Cyngor

2017 1 Achos o Adolygiad Barnwrol a gollwyd a'r gost oedd £60,000

2018 1 Achos o Adolygiad Barnwrol a gollwyd, a'r gost oedd £20,739.36
1 Achos o Adolygiad Barnwrol a enillwyd gan y Cyngor, a dyfarnwyd costau o £45,000 i'r Cyngor.

Doedd dim cwestiwn atodol.

18.6. Cwestiwn i Ddeiliad Portffolio Llywodraethu Corfforaethol, Tai a Diogelu'r cyhoedd gan Y Cyngorydd Sir Matthew Dorrance

Dengys data a gyhoeddwyd gan Gyngor Sir Powys ei fod yn talu menywod 10.7% yn llai'r awr na dynion.

Pa gamau fydd y sefydliad yn eu cymryd i sicrhau y telir gweithwyr benywaidd yr un raddfa dâl â dynion?

Ymateb

Mae bwch cyflog cymedr y Cyngor rhwng y rhywiau yn 10.72% (cyfartaledd) a bwch cyflog canolrif (canol) yn 10.22%. Wrth ymateb i'r canlyniad hwn, cyflwynwyd adroddiad gyda'r teitl "Adroddiad ar y Bwlch Cyflog rhwng y Rhywiau" i gyfarfod Anffurfiol y Cabinet ar 8 Mai 2018.

Mae'n bwysig nodi nad yw Bwlch Cyflog y Cyngor rhwng y Rhywiau yn golygu fod y Cyngor wedi methu talu menywod a dynion yn gydradd. Yn 2013, gorffennodd y cyngor ei delerau ac amodau Statws Sengl oedd yn cyfundrefnu telerau ac amodau gweithwyr er mwyn sicrhau cydraddoldeb ar gyfer pob gweithiwr dan y cytundeb. Yn unol â'r Statws Sengl, cafodd holl swyddi'r Cyngor eu gwerthuso gan ddefnyddio methodoleg HAY neu NJC, sydd yn ei dro'n golygu fod graddfa swydd i bob swydd, a chyflog cychwynnol penodol. Mae hyn yn golygu cam sylweddol i wireddu cydraddoldeb mewn perthynas â chyflog.

Yr hyn sy'n bwysig iawn yw'r ffaith fod gennym fwy o fenywod mewn swyddi gyda chyflog is na dynion, ac mae hyn yn bennaf oherwydd dosraniad gweithwyr gwrywaidd a benywaidd ar draws y sefydliad - wrth gwrs, golyga hyn fod cyflog cyfartalog menywod yn is na dynion. Mae hyn yn nodweddiadol o weithlu llywodraeth leol trwy'r DU. Yn ogystal, yn ôl y Swyddfa Ystadegau Gwladol, fel gwlad, Cymru sydd â'r bwch mwyaf rhwng y rhywiau yn y DU.

Fel Awdurdod, bydd angen inni ddadansoddi ein data'n ofalus er mwyn penderfynu pa raddfa neu lefel sydd â'r bwch mwyaf rhwng y rhywiau, yn ogystal â dadansoddi cyfansoddiad y rhywiau a'r gallu i gadw gweithwyr ar bob lefel ac mewn galwedigaethau gwahanol. Mae nifer o bolisiâu yn eu lle i wireddu gweithlu cytbwys a chynrychioladol ar draws y sefydliad, er bydd angen i'r Cyngor ddatblygu a chyhoeddi cynllun gweithredu ar y bwch cyflog rhwng y rhywiau, a'r bwriad yw delio gyda'r meysydd canlynol yn y cynllun gweithredu:

- Annog recriwtio i a chadw gweithwyr benywaidd mewn uwch swyddi a rolau prif swyddogion
- Denu ymgeiswyr mwy amrywiol trwy sicrhau fod hysbysebion am swyddi'n defnyddio iaith niwtral o ran rhywedd ac y caiff swyddi eu hysbysebu fel rhai hyblyg (e.e. yn addas i weithwyr rhan-amser, rhannu swyddi, ystywyth ac ati.), mor bell ag sy'n rhesymol bosib

- Darparu cefnogaeth briodol i staff sydd â chyfrifoldebau gofal (mae'r Sefydliad Personél a Datblygiad yn amcangyfrif nad yw dwy filiwn o bobl yn y DU yn gweithio ar hyn o bryd oherwydd cyfrifoldebau gofal - menywod yw 89% o'r ddwy filiwn).

I ateb cwestiwn atodol y Cynghorydd Dorrance, o ran a fyddai'r Cabinet yn ymrwymo i adfer y gwir gyflog byw, dywedodd y Deiliad Portffolio taw mater i'w ystyried yng nghyllideb 2019/20 fyddai hyn.

18.7. Cwestiwn i Ddeiliad Portffolio Addysg a'r Gymraeg gan y Cynghorydd Sir Matthew Dorrance

A wnaiff y Cabinet gyhoeddi'r costau llawn ar gyfer rhentu hen Ysgol Gynradd Gatholig St Joseph, gan gynnwys:

- 1. Costau rhent**
- 2. Costau cyfleustodau**
- 3. Costau yswiriant**
- 4. Costau atgyweiriadau a chynnal a chadw**
- 5. Costau cyfreithiol**
- 6. Unrhyw gostau eraill?**

Ymateb:

1. Costau rhent - mae'r wybodaeth yma'n sensitif o safbwynt masnachol oherwydd perchnogaeth trydydd parti
2. Costau cyfleustodau - costau nwy £5,433-13 o Fehefin 2016 hyd at Fehefin 2018 a thrydan £2,423.68 o 2016 i 2018
3. Costau yswiriant – gweler y daenlen 'Costau St Joseph 2017-18' ar gyfer dadansoddiad o'r costau sydd ynghlwm â'r agenda; y cyfanswm yw £39,385-24.
4. Costau atgyweiriadau a chynnal a chadw - gweler y daenlen 'Costau St Joseph 2017-18' ar gyfer dadansoddiad o'r costau; y cyfanswm yw £39,385-24.
5. Costau cyfreithiol - Roedd bob parti'n gyfrifol am ei gostau cyfreithiol unigol mewn perthynas â chytuno'r brydles.
6. Unrhyw gostau eraill – gweler y daenlen 'Costau St Joseph 2017-18' ar gyfer dadansoddiad o'r costau; y cyfanswm yw £39,385-24.

I ateb cwestiwn atodol y Cynghorydd Dorrance o ran a ddisgwylir arbed arian, dywedodd y Deiliad Portffolio eu bod yn ystyried y ffordd fwyaf gost effeithiol o redeg y gwasanaeth.

18.8. Cwestiwn i Ddeiliad Portffolio Llywodraethu Corfforaethol, Tai a Diogelu'r Cyhoedd gan y Cynghorydd Sir John Morris

Byddwch yn ymwybodol fod Parc Cenedlaethol Bannau Brycheiniog wedi dewis cadw unrhyw symiau gohiriedig ar gyfer tai fforddiadwy a gesglir o fewn ffiniau'r parc, a phenderfynu sut a lle i'w gwario er taw Powys yw'r awdurdod tai ar gyfer ardal y parc. Maent wedi gwneud hyn ar ôl ceisio cyngor cyfreithiol, ond nid ydynt yn fodlon rhyddhau'r cyngor cyfreithiol i CSP nac i'w haelodau eu hunain hyd yn oed.

Rwyf wedi cael gwybod bod yr arian sydd ganddynt eisoes, neu daliadau sydd ar y gweill gan ddatblygiadau presennol a rhai'r dyfodol, yn dod i ryw £2 filiwn. Gan fod 80% o'r Parc Cenedlaethol o fewn Powys, byddai cyfran helaeth o'r arian hwnnw'n deillio o ardal Powys y parc.

Hyd yma, er bod APCBB wedi cadw'r arian a gasglwyd ym Mhowys ers dros 2 flynedd, maent wedi gwrthod rhyddhau unrhyw arian ar gyfer prosiect tai fforddiadwy ym Mhowys. Maent hefyd yn ennill llog o'r arian a gadwyd, ac maent yn defnyddio hyn i gyllido cyllideb APCBB, yn hytrach na'i ychwanegu at y gronfa tai fforddiadwy.

Ydych chi'n cefnogi gweithred APCBB, ac os nad ydych, pa gamau a gymerwyd gennych ers cymryd drosodd gan y deiliad portffolio blaenorol, aeth at y wasg i feirniadu'r penderfyniad i wrthod rhyddhau'r arian, a'r camau a addawyd i ddatrys y sefyllfa?

Ymateb

Bydd y Cynghorydd Morris yn ymwybodol bod cofnod i'r Arweinydd, y Cynghorydd Rosemarie Harris, wrthwynebu'r ffaith fod APCBB yn cadw'r arian yma mewn cyfarfod ffurfiol o bwyllgor cyswllt CS Powys/APCBB ar 2^{ail} Medi 2017.

Fel Deiliad y Portffolio, rwyf yn ategu ei safiad, a byddaf yn parhau i ddadlau y dylai'r Awdurdod Tai Strategol reoli'r cyllid dan sylw, h.y. Cyngor Sir Powys. Credaf fod y broses a sefydlwyd gan APCBB i ddosrannu'r symiau gohiriedig a godwyd o fewn y Parc Cenedlaethol yn fiwrocraidd ac yn arwain at ddyblygu ymdrechion o safbwynt yr awdurdod hwn ac awdurdodau lleol eraill, a'n partneriaid yn y cymdeithasau tai.

Yn ystod yr hydref y llynedd, cyflwynwyd cais gwerth £94,262, sef y swm oedd gan APCBB o ran awdurdodaeth cynllunio ar y pryd o arian a godwyd yn ardal Powys. Mae'r ffigur o £2 filiwn a gyfeiriwyd ato gan y Cynghorydd Morris yw'r swm y gellir disgwyl ei godi os caiff pob cynllun sydd wedi derbyn caniatâd cynllunio gan APCBB ei ddatblygu. Dim ond "swm potensial" yw hwn felly.

Dengys gwybodaeth gan APCBB ar 20fed Mehefin 2018 bod y ffigur ar gyfer Powys heb newid. Rydym hefyd wedi cael gwybod nad oes system "ffenestri" o safbwynt bidio, a gellir ystyried ceisiadau pryd bynnag y bydd cyfle'n codi.

Gwrthodwyd y cais a gyflwynwyd, ar y sail nad oedd y cynllun yn golygu unrhyw fantais wirioneddol o ran nifer y cartrefi fforddiadwy, oherwydd rhoddwyd caniatâd cynllunio ar gyfer 100% o ddarpariaeth fforddiadwy gan Gartrefi Melin, ac roeddem yn prynu 6 o'r cartrefi ganddyn nhw. O safbwynt cynllunio, felly, nid oedd gennym ddadl resymol yn erbyn y penderfyniad hwn.

Unwaith y byddwn yn gallu adnabod cynllun addas, sy'n cydymffurfio â Chynllun Datblygu Lleol APCBB a'r Canllawiau Cynllunio Atodol, byddwn yn cyflwyno cais arall, gyda fy nghefnogaeth lawn.

Bydd y Cyngorydd Morris yn falch i glywed y byddaf hefyd yn mynd i gyfarfod yn ystod yr wythnosau nesaf, ac mae'r Arweinydd a'r Cyngorydd ei hun hefyd wedi derbyn gwahoddiad i'r cyfarfod, gyda chynrychiolwyr y Parc Cenedlaethol i gyflwyno ein hachos dros drosglwyddo'r symiau gohiriedig i'r Awdurdod Tai Strategol.

I ateb cwestiwn atodol y Cyngorydd Morris o ran a ddylai'r Cyngor gychwyn her gyfreithiol i adfer y symiau gohiriedig, nododd y Deiliad Portffolio ei fod yn trefnu cyfarfod gyda gweinidogion Llywodraeth Cymru i drafod y mater.

18.9 Cwestiwn i Ddeiliad Portffolio Cyllid, Cefn Gwlad a Thrafnidiaeth gan y Cyngorydd Sir Kelvyn Curry

Hoffwn ofyn i'r Deiliad Portffolio gadarnhau a yw Cyngor Sir Powys wedi cyflwyno ymateb ai peidio i ymgynghoriad Llywodraeth y DU ar y newidiadau arfaethedig i gyhoeddi trwyddedau Bysiau Mini Adran 19 a 22 i ddarparwyr cludiant cymunedol, ac:

- a) Os oedd y Cyngor wedi anfon ymateb, i ddarparu copi o'r ymateb hwnnw i bob aelod, ac**

- b) Os nad oedd y Cyngor wedi anfon ymateb, eglurhad o ran pam na wnaethpwyd hyn?**

Ymateb

Mae'r Cyngor yn cydnabod gwerth y sector cludiant cymunedol, a hwyrach y bydd Aelodau'n ymwybodol o'r camau rydym yn eu cymryd ar hyn o bryd i geisio diogelu'r sector hwn.

Fodd bynnag, wrth drafod y mater gyda swyddogion, daethom i'r casgliad na fyddai'n briodol i CSP ymateb i'r ymgynghoriad ar drwyddedau Bysiau Mini Adran 19 a 22.

Y rheswm yw bod Cyngor Sir Powys ar hyn o bryd yn gorff sy'n cyhoeddi trwyddedau Adran 19 i'r sector cludiant cymunedol. Ar hyn o bryd mae'r trwyddedau hyn yn galluogi cynlluniau cludiant cymunedol i redeg mewn ffordd sydd wedi achosi pryder ymhlith rheoleiddwyr a'r sector masnachol. Gan fod Cyngor Sir Powys hefyd yn gwario arian sylweddol yn lleol gyda'r sector masnachol, barn y swyddogion oedd y byddai ymateb i'r ymgynghoriad efallai'n awgrymu i'r naill sector neu'r llall fod y Cyngor yn ffafrio un, ac nid y llall.

O ran y cwestiwn atodol, sef trwy beidio ymateb i'r ymgynghoriad, roedd y Cyngor yn anfon neges nad oedd yn gwerthfawrogi cludiant cymunedol. Roedd Deiliad y Portffolio'n absennol, felly cafodd ymateb ei ddrafftio a'i dosbarthu i bob aelod.

Ymateb i'r Cwestiwn Atodol

Mae'r Cyngor wedi dangos ymrwymiad clir i'r gwasanaeth Cludiant Cymunedol, sy'n amlwg o'i weithredoedd. Mae'r Cyngor wedi rhoi cyllid grant i'r sector cludiant cymunedol (trwy PAVO) gwerth £153k y flwyddyn. Mae'r cyngor wedi

dod â'r swyddogaeth weinyddol yn ôl i'r cyngor ei hun yn ddiweddar er mwyn cynnig gwell gwerth.

18.10. Cwestiwn i'r Arweinydd gan Y Cyngorydd Sir James Gibson-Watt

A wnaiff Arweinydd y Cyngor ddarparu manylion y gost i'r Cyngor o ran cael cyngor Cwnsler mewn perthynas ag a oedd y pleidleisiau a gynhaliwyd yn CCB y Cyngor ar 17^{eg} Mai 2018 i 'gymeradwyo' penodiad grwpiau gwleidyddol o Gadeiryddion Pwyllgorau Iechyd, Gofal a Thai, a Dysgu, Sgiliau a'r Economi'r Cyngor, yn cydymffurfio â Mesur Llywodraeth Leol (Cymru) 2011, os gwelwch yn dda?

Ymateb

Diolchaf i'r Cyngorydd James Gibson-Watt am y cwestiwn hwn, a gallaf ei hysbysu ef a'r Cyngor law cost y cyngor gan Mr James Goudie QC oedd £2615 + TAW.

Doedd dim cwestiwn atodol.

18.11. Cwestiwn i Ddeiliad Portffolio Addysg a'r Gymraeg gan y Cyngorydd Sir John Morris

Rwy'n siŵr y byddwch yn cytuno fod Ysgol Uwchradd Crughywel yn ysgol lwyddiannus sy'n rhagori, er gwaetha'r ffaith mai hon yw'r ysgol sy'n derbyn y cyllid lleiaf fesul pen trwy Bowys.

Yn ystod eich ymweliad diweddar â Chyngor Tref Crughywel, gwelaf o'r cofnodion a gytunwyd gan y cyngor, ichi ddweud, wrth ateb cwestiwn ynghylch cyllid cyfalaf Ysgol Uwchradd Crughywel, o'i gymharu ag Ysgolion Uwchradd eraill yn yr ardal:

Cyfrifoldeb Powys yw darparu seilwaith ar gyfer plant Powys, nid plant o du allan i'r sir.

A yw Powys yn gwahaniaethu yn erbyn ysgolion sy'n derbyn disgyblion o du allan i'r sir felly wrth ystyried y gwariant cyfalaf; pa ysgolion sy'n derbyn disgyblion o du allan i'r sir ar draws Powys; ac a yw Llywodraeth Cymru yn cefnogi eich safiad yn hyn o beth?

Ymateb:

Caiff cyllid cyfalaf ar gyfer ysgolion ym Mhowys ei flaenoriaethu ar sail cyflwr, addasrwydd a chynaliadwyedd, sy'n cyd-fynd â blaenoriaethau Llywodraeth Cymru o ran buddsoddiad cyfalaf. Y broblem yn YU Crughywel, yw un o addasrwydd o ran digon o le i gymryd yr holl ddisgyblion. Ar hyn o bryd mae swyddogion yn gweithio gydag Ysgol Uwchradd Crughywel i ddod o hyd i atebion adeiladu i ddiwallu anghenion yr ysgol, ac mae'r awdurdod yn buddsoddi £1m i ddelio gyda'r anghenion hyn.

I ateb cwestiwn atodol y Cyngorydd Morris sy'n gofyn a fyddai'n ymddiheuro am ei sylwadau i Gyngor Tref Crughywel, nad oedd y Cyngor yn gallu darparu seilwaith ar gyfer plant o du allan i'r sir, dywedodd Deiliad y Portffolio y gall y

gwasanaeth ysgolion roi amcanestyniad ar sail disgyblion Powys ac nid oedd yn bosib gwybod faint o ddisgyblion o du allan i'r sir fyddai'n dod i'r ysgol efallai.

18.12. Cwestiwn i Ddeiliad Portffolio Addysg a'r Gymraeg gan y Cynghorydd Sir Jackie Charlton

Yng nghyfarfod corff llywodraethu Ysgol Gynradd yr Eglwys yng Nghymru Llangatwg a gynhaliwyd ar 26 Mehefin, daethpwyd â mater brys at sylw'r Llywodraethwyr, ynghylch yr estyniad cynlluniedig a gyllidir a'r bwriad i uwchraddio'r adeilad ar gyfer disgyblion presennol a darpariaeth 3+ oedd fod i gychwyn ym mis Mai eleni.

Roedd yr ysgol wedi cael ei hannog i gyflenwi darpariaeth 3+ oherwydd mae diffyg cefnogaeth ar gyfer y grŵp oedran hwn yn Ne Powys. Maent wedi cyflenwi'r ddarpariaeth yn ystod y flwyddyn academiaidd aeth heibio, ac mae Powys wedi derbyn cyllid ar gyfer y ddarpariaeth gan Lywodraeth Cymru.

Mae'r Eglwys yng Nghymru a Chronfa Addysg Llangatwg wedi cefnogi cost yr estyniad a gwelliannau trwy gyfrannu £120,000 tuag at y costau cyfanswm.

Dylai'r gwaith, oedd fod i gychwyn yn ystod yr Hydref y llynedd, fod wedi cychwyn tair wythnos yn ôl, gydag addewidion y gellir cynllunio'n iawn ar gyfer dychwelyd i'r ysgol ar ôl gwyliau'r haf. Dylai'r blwch oedd fod i dderbyn offer ystafell ddosbarth gyrraedd ddydd Llun 25 Mehefin 2018. Pan ni ddigwyddodd hyn, roedd y Pennaeth wedi cysylltu â'r contractwr, a chael gwybod nad oedd Cyngor Sir Powys wedi awdurdodi hyn eto. Pan gysylltodd y Pennaeth â'r cyngor, ymddengys nad oedd y prosesau ariannol angenrheidiol wedi cael eu cwblhau eto. Yr ymadrodd a ddefnyddiwyd wrth siarad â'r Pennaeth oedd bod y prosiect mewn 'peryg!' oedd yn achos nid yn unig dicter, ond pryder mawr iddi hefyd.

CWESTIWN

A wnaiff y Deiliad Portffolio gadarnhau os gwelwch yn dda y bydd y prosiect adeiladu'n digwydd ar amser, ac y caiff ei gwblhau yn unol â'r cynlluniau i sicrhau y gellir cychwyn addysgu plant Ysgol Gynradd yr Eglwys yng Nghymru Llangatwg ym mis Medi. A wnaiff hi hefyd gadarnhau y rhoddir cefnogaeth ariannol lawn i'r ysgol ar gyfer y cynnydd mewn darpariaeth, sydd heb ei derbyn hyd yma? Yr ysgol sydd wedi talu'r costau 3+ hyd yn hyn, oherwydd yr estyniad a'r gwelliannau a addawyd.

Ymateb

Mae'r awdurdod yn ymddiheuro am yr oedi o ran y gwaith cyfalaf ar adeiladau a gytunwyd ar gyfer Ysgol yr Eglwys yng Nghymru Llangatwg.

Y bwriad oedd gorffen y prosiect erbyn dechrau mis Medi 2018. Penodwyd contractwr i gyflawni'r gwaith, gan gychwyn ar y safle ar 23^{ain} Gorffennaf 2018 a gorffen ar 12^{fed} Hydref 2018.

Cytunwyd gyda Neuadd Gymunedol Llangatwg y gellir defnyddio'r neuadd ar gyfer y lleoliad 3+ tra bydd y gwaith yn mynd yn ei flaen. O ran cynnal gwasanaeth addysgol ar gyfer yr ysgol, rydym yn llunio cynllun i alluogi cwblhau'r gwaith adeiladu mewnol yn ystod gwyliau'r haf.

Bydd blwch dur mawr fel storfa'n cefnogi'r angen i symud, a bydd y blwch ar y safle'r wythnos nesaf, a bydd yno gydol y gwaith, ac i alluogi gwacau ystafelloedd dosbarth. Bydd diwygiadau ac estyniadau'n golygu cyfleusterau toiledau ychwanegol, ac os oes angen, byddwn yn trefnu toiledau dros dro ar gyfer disgyblion er mwyn sicrhau y cynhelir cyfleusterau lles.

I ateb cwestiwn atodol y Cynghorydd Charlton, rhoddwyd cadarnhad gan y Deiliad Portffolio y byddai'r adran yn delio gyda chwynion rhieni, ac yn ymateb ar fater cyllido'r gwasanaeth 3+.

18.13. Cwestiwn i'r Arweinydd gan y Cynghorydd Sir Emily Durrant

Mae Bargen Twf Canolbarth Cymru'n cyflwyno cyfle amserol i ddod â buddsoddiad pwysig i'n Sir. Gan ystyried y symiau enfawr sydd ar gael, a'r effaith botensial ar dirwedd economaidd a chymdeithasol Powys, pa fesurau sy'n bodoli i sicrhau agwedd gyfartal ac agored o ran dewis prosiectau a'u datblygu? A wnaiff yr Arweinydd olrhain amserlenni, prosesau gwneud penderfyniadau ac ymgynghori er mwyn blaenoriaethu pa brosiectau y bydd Cyngor Sir Powys yn argymhell eu cynnwys yn y Fargen, a'r trefniadau craffu fydd yn berthnasol, os gwelwch yn dda?

Ymateb

Mae Bargen Twf potensial ar gyfer Canolbarth Cymru'n gyfle mawr i helpu datblygu twf economaidd ar draws y rhanbarth. Bydd y fargen yn canolbwyntio ar ddod â buddsoddiad i'r rhanbarth yn ogystal â chynyddu'r gweithgarwch economaidd fydd o fudd i fusnesau lleol. Bydd y Cyngor yn gweithio gyda Phartneriaeth Tyfu Canolbarth Cymru, rhanddeiliaid lleol a Llywodraeth Cymru i adnabod y ffordd orau i gryfhau economi'r rhanbarth, a bydd ymgysylltiad gydag a chefnogaeth y sector preifat yn hollbwysig i'r broses hon.

Ar ran Partneriaeth Tyfu Canolbarth Cymru, mae'r Cyngor wedi penodi ymgynghorwyr AECOM i lunio Cynllun Gweithredu Economaidd ar gyfer Canolbarth Cymru. Mae'r gwaith ar y gweill i adnabod y problemau a'r cyfleoedd sy'n wynebu'r economi ac ar ddatblygu gweledigaeth a blaenoriaethau clir ar gyfer y rhanbarth. Nod y Cynllun Gweithredu fydd datblygu rhaglen o ymyraethau strategol i helpu trawsnewid economi Canolbarth Cymru, y gellir eu cyflenwi trwy amrediad o ffynonellau cyllid gan gynnwys Bargen Twf. Cyn bo hir bydd pob aelod yn derbyn ebost ar y Cynllun Gweithredu Economaidd, fydd yn cynnwys arolwg ar-lein i gyfrannu at y broses, a byddem yn annog Aelodau I lenwi'r arolwg. Disgwylir i'r Cynllun Gweithredu Economaidd gael ei gwblhau yn yr Hydref, a lle bo'n bosib bydd yn cynnwys achosion busnes cynnar ar gyfer buddsoddiadau allweddol.

Mater o drafodaeth rhwng Llywodraeth y DU, Llywodraeth Cymru a Rhanbarth Canolbarth Cymru fydd y Fargen Twf, gyda Chynghorau Sir Powys a Cheredigion yn arwain ar ran y Rhanbarth. Mae angen cadarnhau manylion y

broses eto, er hynny, disgwylir sefydlu'r strwythurau llywodraethu dros y 12 mis nesaf a bydd angen i flaenoriaethu achosion busnes ar gyfer ymyraethau blaenoriaeth bod yn barod i'w trafod erbyn Haf 2019. Byddwn yn diweddarau Aelodau am yr ymgynghoriad arfaethedig a'r broses gwneud penderfyniadau wrth iddynt ddatblygu.

I ateb y cwestiwn atodol, cadarnhaodd yr Arweinydd y byddai'n hapus i gwrdd i drafod Bargen Twf Canolbarth Cymru.

18.14. **Cwestiwn i Ddeiliad Portffolio Addysg a'r Gymraeg gan y Cynghorydd Sir David Jones**

Ar 11 Ebrill, cyhoeddwyd y datganiad i'r wasg isod gan y Cabinet:

"Yn dilyn penderfyniad gan gabinet Cyngor Sir Powys, bydd dros £5m yn cael ei wario ar ysgolion Powys dros y tair blynedd ariannol nesaf fel rhan o gynllun gwella sylweddol.

Mewn cyfarfod yn Llandrindod heddiw (Ebrill 10) rhoddodd y cabinet ei sêl bendith i gronfa gwella flynyddol o dros £2m ar gyfer prosiectau i wella ysgolion cynradd ac uwchradd dros y ddwy flynedd ariannol nesaf gyda £1m ychwanegol ar gyfer 2020/2021.

Dywedodd yr Aelod Cabinet ar faterion Addysg, y Cynghorydd Myfanwy Alexander: "Rydym yn buddsoddi mewn ysgolion cynradd, uwchradd ac arbennig ar hyd a lles y sir, i wella'r amgylchedd dysgu i ddysgwyr a staff.

"Rwy'n hynod falch i weld buddsoddiad i wella mynediad i'r rhai sydd ag anableddau corfforol. Mae'n bwysig bod disgyblion ag anableddau'n gallu mynd i ysgolion prif ffrwd os ydyn nhw'n dewis gwneud hynny."

Bydd y gwaith sydd ar y gweill yn cynnwys £374,000 i adnewyddu Ysgol Gynradd Llangatwg gan gael gwared ar fannau anaddas, adeiladu toiledau newydd ac ardal blyneddol cynnar ychwanegol, £290,000 dros dri chyfnod i wella mynediad i gerddwyr, ehangu'r maes parcio a gosod wyneb newydd yn Ysgol Gynradd yr Eglwys yng Nghymru Rhaeadr a £100,000 yr un ar gyfer ffensys terfyn newydd i wella diogelwch yn ysgolion Brynllwarch a Chrughywel.

Bydd £330,000 yn cael ei fuddsoddi dros y tair blynedd nesaf i wella'r to a'r ffenestri a'r bloc gwyddoniaeth yn Ysgol Uwchradd Y Drenewydd a £300,000 yn cael ei wario dros y tair blynedd nesaf i wella'r toiledau a mynediad i'r anabl yn Ysgol Uwchradd Caereinion.

Bydd Ysgol Uwchradd Llandrindod hefyd yn elwa o dros £500,000 o fuddsoddiad i wella'r to a gwaith mewnol ynghyd â buddsoddiad o £133,000 i ehangu'r ddarpariaeth blyneddol cynnar yn Ysgol Trefonnen yn Llandrindod.

I weld rhestr lawn o'r rhaglen wella

ewch i <http://powys.moderngov.co.uk/mgCommitteeDetails.aspx?ID=137&LLL=1>

Pwy oedd yn gyfrifol am awdurdodi cyhoeddi'r datganiad hwn i'r wasg

Ymateb

Awdurdodwyd y datganiad i'r Wasg gan Ddeiliad y Portffolio Addysg a'r Gymraeg, Y Cynghorydd Myfanwy Alexander.

I ateb cwestiwn atodol y Cynghorydd Jones o ran pam, wrth ystyried y dryswch o fewn y gwasanaeth ysgolion ynglŷn â'r datganiad i'r wasg, pam na chafodd ei dynnu nôl neu pam na chyhoeddwyd cywiriad, eglurodd y Deiliad Portffolio taw'r bwriad oedd cyhoeddi eglurhad atodeg, ond ni ddigwyddodd hyn.

18.15. **Cwestiwn i Ddeiliad Portffolio Cyllid, Cefn Gwlad a Thrafnidiaeth gan y Cynghorydd Sir William Powell**

Derbynnir yn gyffredinol y bydd Brexit Heb Gytundeb yn golygu bygythiad dirfodol i ddyfodol ffermio da byw yng Nghymru

- **Ar hyn o bryd mae 90% o holl gig Cymru'n cael ei allforio i Farchnad Sengl yr UE**
- **Ar hyn o bryd mae Taliadau Fferm yr UE yn cyfateb i 80% o gyfanswm incwm ffermydd yng Nghymru**
- **Ar hyn o bryd does dim eglurder o ran y drefn ar gyfer cymorth i'r diwydiant amaethyddol wedi 2022**

Yn y cyd-destun hwn, ac wrth ystyried fod Powys yn fwy agored i anhrefn o ran y sector da byw nag unrhyw awdurdod lleol arall yng Nghymru, beth mae Cyngor Sir Powys yn ei wneud ar hyn o bryd i feithrin cydnerthedd a datblygu capasiti er mwyn gwarchod dyfodol ein heconomi lleol?

Ymateb

Mae Llywodraeth y DU wedi addo parhau i gyfrannu'r un cyfanswm arian i gefnogi ffermydd yn ystod oes y Senedd hon (hyd at 2022).

Mae hyn yn cynnwys yr holl gyllid a ddarperir gan yr UE a'r Trysorlys ar gyfer ffermwyr dan Golofn I a Cholofn II. Ym mhob un o weinyddiaethau'r DU, bydd cyllid Llywodraeth y DU dan yr ymrwymiad hwn yn adlewyrchu cyfraniad yr UE tuag at gymorth i ffermydd. Wrth gwrs, bydd yn rhaid i bob gweinyddiaeth benderfynu a fydd yn parhau i ymrwymo'r un elfen o'r grant bloc presennol.

Mae'r addewid hwn yn golygu gwell diogelwch a sicrwydd ar gyfer ffermwyr a thirfeddianwyr nag unrhyw le arall yn yr UE - lle mae'r cyllid ond wedi cael ei warantu hyd at 2020.

Mae angen inni ganolbwyntio ar gyfleoedd tu allan i'r UE. Bydd gan ffermwyr ryddid i dyfu, gwerthu a chynhyrchu mwy, wrth ddiogelu ein hamgylchedd yr un pryd, a hyn oll wedi'i danseilio gan y cyfle gorau posib i fasnachu'n rhydd rhag tollau a rhag rhwystrau gyda chymdogion Ewropeaidd a gweddill y byd.

Mae Cyngor Sir Powys dan arweinyddiaeth y Cynghorydd Rosemarie Harris yn gweithio'n agos gyda Llywodraeth Cymru a Llywodraeth y DU i dyfu economi Powys, ac yn benderfynol o greu amgylchedd lle gall busnesau gwledig ffynnu a chynyddu eu cydnerthedd o ran yr heriau o fewn y farchnad. Bydd cyflenwi'r Fargen Twf yn elfen allweddol o'n Gweledigaeth.

Mae Llywodraeth y DU hefyd yn rhagweithiol o ran cefnogi economi gwledig Cymru. Yn ddiweddar cynhaliwyd trafodaeth o gwmpas y bwrdd gan Ysgrifennydd Gwladol Cymru, Y Gwir Anrhydeddus Alun Cairns AS (7fed Mehefin) ar bynciau Amaethyddol ac Amgylcheddol gyda Gweinidog Llywodraeth Cymru, Lesley Griffiths. Diben y cyfarfod hwn oedd trafod materion yn ymwneud â gadael yr UE yma yng Nghymru, a chlywed sut mae rhanddeiliaid yng Nghymru'n paratoi i adael ac i ddeall mwy am brif broblemau rhanddeiliaid. Mae'n amlwg fod y ddwy lywodraeth yn cydweithio ar y materion pwysig hyn.

Doedd dim cwestiwn atodol.

18.16 Cwestiwn i Ddeiliad Portffolio Pobl Ifanc a Diwylliant gan y Cynghorydd Sir Gareth Jones

Tynnwyd y cwestiwn yma'n ôl, a byddai'n mynd ar agenda'r cyfarfod nesaf.

19. CAIS AM ABSENOLDEB GYDA CHANIATÂD
--

Roedd y Cynghorydd Sir G Price wedi datgan buddiant personol ac sy'n rhagfarnu yn yr eitem hon, a gadawodd y cyfarfod.

Roedd y Cyngor wedi derbyn ceisiadau am absenoldeb gyda chaniatâd gan y Cynghorwyr Sir G Price a J Wilkinson. Gyda 36 o blaid, 0 yn erbyn, ac 1 yn atal pleidlais,

PENDERFYNWYD caniatáu absenoldeb o chwe mis yr un i'r Cynghorwyr Sir G Price a J Wilkinson.

Y Cynghorydd Sir DW Meredith (Cadeirydd)

7.1

CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL

County Council
18th October 2018

REPORT AUTHOR: County Councillor Rachel Powell, Portfolio Holder for Young People and Culture

SUBJECT: Question from Richard Spanswick

Given that Welshpool has an excellent, purpose-built, easily accessible, and well used library at its Brook Street site, would the Council please confirm that it will prioritise the needs of the community above the desire to relocate council office accommodation from Neuadd Maldwyn to the library building at the same time as reducing library stock and amenities, and safeguard this facility for future public use?

Response

I understand and appreciate the concerns raised with regard to any possible change to the excellent service which is provided at both Welshpool Library and Powysland Museum.

Members will appreciate that all councils across the country are currently facing very severe financial restrictions, with Powys no exception – and this situation is going to continue for the foreseeable future. As a council, we have to seek to make the very best and cost effective use of our buildings and our staff, for the benefits of our residents.

We are committed to delivering a sustainable long-term future for library and museum services in Welshpool; we appreciate that the library lends the second highest number of books in the authority, and that the computers are also well used and invaluable to those without their own devices.

The library and museum staff will work very hard to ensure that the co-location is successful; that as many books and artefacts are available as possible, through a carefully planned layout, including digital connectivity for the public. The current services will continue to be delivered, with trained staff on hand to help visitors with choosing from the shelves, borrowing e-books or ordering books from elsewhere in the authority if needed, and to explain about the various exhibits and local culture and heritage of Welshpool.

In other parts of the county, we have found that visitor numbers have gone up, and members of the public enjoy being able to use more than one service in one location, for example in Llandrindod, Llanidloes, Builth and Knighton libraries. We hope that

this co-location will also enable visitors to continue to enjoy an interesting range of stock, exhibitions and activities in a lovely canal side setting.

7.2

CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL

County Council
18th October 2018

REPORT AUTHOR: County Councillor Myfanwy Alexander, Portfolio Holder for Learning and Welsh Language

SUBJECT: Question from Buddug Bates

A all yr Aelod gyda chyfrifoldeb portffolio dros Addysg gadarnhau pryd y bydd ysgol uwchradd newydd categori 2a gogledd Powys yn debygol o agor?

Translation

Can the Member with responsibility for the Education portfolio please confirm when it is likely that a new North Powys category 2a high school is likely to open?

Ymateb

Mae Cynllun Strategol y Cyngor o ran y Gymraeg mewn Addysg ar gyfer 2017 – 20 yn cynnwys ymrwymiad ‘i barhau i weithio i sefydlu un neu ragor o ysgolion categori 2A yng ngogledd Powys’.

Ers cyhoeddi'r Cynllun Strategol Cymraeg mewn Addysg (WESP), mae'r Cabinet a Llywodraeth Cymru wedi cymeradwyo Rhaglen Amlinellol Strategol (SOP) y Cyngor ar gyfer Band B rhaglen cyfalaf Ysgolion yr Unfed Ganrif ar Hugain - mae'r Rhaglen Amlinellol Strategol yn cynnwys buddsoddiad sylweddol mewn addysg yn Y Drenewydd; mae hyn yn cynnwys adeiladau newydd i Ysgol Cedewain ac Ysgol Neuadd Brynllwarch, buddsoddiad yn ysgolion cynradd y dref a datblygu darpariaeth uwchradd cyfrwng Cymraeg.

Mae'r gwaith yn Y Drenewydd ar ei gamau dichonolrwydd cychwynnol, ac unwaith y bydd hyn wedi'i gwblhau, fe fydd hi'n bosibl trefnu amserlen fanylach ar gyfer y ddarpariaeth uwchradd cyfrwng Cymraeg a gynllunnir. Fodd bynnag, mae'r Cyngor yn gweithio hyd at yr amserlenni mynegol presennol:

- 2018-19: Gwaith dichonolrwydd cychwynnol
Y Cabinet i gymeradwyo i barhau gyda phrynu unrhyw dir, proses statudol
- 2019-20: Proses statudol
Datblygu achos busnes cychwynnol
- 2020-21: Datblygu dyluniadau manwl, penodi contractwr
- 2022: Dechrau'r gwaith adeiladu

Yn seiliedig ar hyn, rhagwelir mai tua 2023/2024 fyddai hi cyn agor unrhyw ddarpariaeth cyfrwng Cymraeg newydd. Fodd bynnag, mae enghreifftiau mewn awdurdodau eraill lle mae trefniadau dros dro wedi cael eu rhoi ar waith i sefydlu

'egin' ddarpariaeth tra'n aros i gwblhau'r gwaith adeiladu. Digwyddodd hyn yn ddiweddar yn Ysgol Gyfun Gwent Is Coed yng Nghasnewydd, a sefydlwyd mewn lleoliad dros dro ym mis Medi 2016, cyn symud i leoliad parhaol yn 2018. Petai hyn yn ymarferol, efallai y bydd posibilrwydd sefydlu darpariaeth newydd yn gynt. Fodd bynnag, byddai unrhyw symudiad i sefydlu darpariaeth uwchradd cyfrwng Cymraeg yn dibynnu ar y broses statudol a amlinellir yn y Cod Trefniadaeth Ysgolion, ac ar gymeradwyaeth y Cabinet sy'n ofynnol trwy gydol y broses.

Y gobaith yw y gellir cyflwyno mwy o eglurdeb dros y misoedd sydd i ddod. Fe fydd cyfleoedd niferus i randdeiliaid gyfrannu tuag at y cynlluniau fel y byddant yn cael eu datblygu.

Translation

Response

The Council's Welsh in Education Strategic Plan for 2017-20 includes a commitment 'to continue with work to establish one or more category 2A schools in north Powys'.

Since the publication of the WESP, the Council has had its Strategic Outline Programme (SOP) for Band B of the 21st Century Schools capital programme approved by Cabinet and the Welsh Government - the SOP includes a significant investment in education in Newtown: this includes replacement buildings for Ysgol Cedewain and Brynllwarch Hall School, investment in the town's primary schools and the development of secondary Welsh medium provision.

The work in Newtown is at early feasibility stage, and once this has been completed, it will be possible to work out a more detailed timeline for the planned Welsh-medium secondary provision. However, the Council is currently working to the current indicative timescales:

2018-19:	Initial feasibility work Cabinet approval to proceed with any land purchase, statutory process
2019-20:	Statutory process Develop initial business cases
2020-21:	Develop detailed designs, appoint contractor
2022:	Building commences

Based on this, it is anticipated that it would be approximately 2023/2024 before any new Welsh medium provision were to open. However, there are examples in other authorities where temporary arrangements have been put in place to establish 'seedling' provision whilst waiting for building work to be completed. This happened recently at Ysgol Gyfun Gwent Is Coed in Newport, which was established in temporary accommodation in September 2016, before moving to permanent accommodation in 2018. Should this be possible, it could be possible to establish new provision sooner. However, any move to establish Welsh-medium secondary provision would be dependent on the statutory process as outlined in the School Organisation Code, and on Cabinet approval as required throughout the process.

It is hoped that further clarity can be provided over the coming months. There will be numerous opportunities for stakeholders to contribute to the plans as they are developed.

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7.3

CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL

County Council
18th October 2018

REPORT AUTHOR: County Councillor Myfanwy Alexander, Portfolio Holder for Learning and Welsh Language

SUBJECT: Question from Heidi Wilson

In light of the recent re-tendering exercise of all Home-to-School transport arrangements, can the council please reassure me and other parents whose children use the x48 local bus (route BW61 Llanddewi to Builth Wells) that a full risk assessment has been carried out and that the council are satisfied that in the event of a road traffic incident sufficient safety measures are in place to protect our children as far as is possible on this dangerous stretch of road? I ask this particularly in relation to those pupils who have to stand whilst using this service.

Response

The authority has received a small number of communications from parents regarding this bus route, which carries pupils from North of Llandrindod to Builth Wells campus of Ysgol Calon Cymru for Welsh-medium provision; these pupils are eligible to free transport in-line with our published criteria.

Following a re-tendering exercise undertaken by the authority, transport for this route is now provided a public bus (as is the case in many local authorities and in, and some parents have been concerned about pupils having to stand for the journey.

In order to assess the risk, a local authority officer travelled the return journey himself and noted that some pupils chose to stand as opposed to sit and the authority is confident that the service provided and route is safe .

Service buses such as the ones provided on the service between Builth and Llandrindod are structurally designed to accommodate passengers in seats, wheelchairs and for those who stand. The bus which is used on this service was first registered in 2018 and is a brand new vehicle which has had to meet very strict European safety standards. The vehicle has a seating capacity of 41, with a further standing capacity of 43 (which is reduced by 1 if there is a wheelchair on board the bus) giving a total of 84 passengers. Our records show that there are 26 learners who attend the Builth campus who are taught through the medium of Welsh. Therefore, the Council has specified a bus with sufficient capacity to accommodate those learners who qualify for statutory home to school transport.

To further mitigate any risks, the Council specifies seatbelts on the majority of service buses we provide, including this particular bus, but there is no legal requirement to have them fitted to a service bus. In addition, the bus company are in

the process of fitting CCTV with a 'live feed' to this bus which will enable the bus company to identify any anti-social behaviour on the bus by any passengers (members of the public or school learners) and other road users. There is a regular driver on this particular service and the feedback from the officer who travelled on the vehicle was that all the learners who used the bus were extremely well behaved, polite, very co-operative and responded well to any instructions given by the driver.

Furthermore, Cllr Aled Davies and senior officers from Powys County Council have met with and continue to maintain ongoing communication with the headteacher and Chair of Governors to ensure any issues that are raised are responded to. Cllr Aled Davies and Cllr Myfanwy Alexander have this week sent a letter to all parents and carers of children who use this route and will continue to work in partnership with the school, with the safety and wellbeing of our young people an absolute priority for the Council.

7.4

CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL

County Council
18th October 2018

REPORT AUTHOR: County Councillor Phyl Davies, Portfolio Holder for Highways, Recycling and Assets

SUBJECT: Question from Trudy Stedman

During a recent "meet the council" event in Hay-on-Wye several residents asked about issues in relation to the transfer of assets from Powys County Council to Hay Town Council as this has been under discussion for over 3 years. I would be grateful if the cabinet member could please advise on when the cabinet discussions in relation to asset transfers in Hay are likely to take place and a potential timescale for completion so that this information can be made available to Hay residents.

Response

The Cabinet will consider these matters at its meeting on 28th November 2018 with any actions required being completed as soon as possible thereafter, but within a maximum further 3 or 4 month period.

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7.5

CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL

County Council
18th October 2018

REPORT AUTHOR: County Councillor Phyl Davies, Portfolio Holder for Highways, Recycling and Assets

SUBJECT: Question from Jane Rees

Given reports confirm that over 300 fires a year occur in recycling plants throughout the UK* how satisfied are Powys County Council that in the event of a major incident at the planned recycling plant in Abermule the economy of Mid Wales will not be paralysed by the closure of the A483 trunk road and Cambrian Rail Line? Such a fire in a building wedged between two main arterial routes and with a cubic capacity of over 18545m³, will be left to burn out over several days. This will have a catastrophic effect on this sensitive environment and result in a long period of disruption. The noxious gasses known to issue from burning plastic+ will require the urgent evacuation of residents in the nearby village. In view of the above the Council should be considering other more suitable locations?*

<https://www.theguardian.com/sustainable-business/2017/jul/06/troubling-fire-record-uk-recycling-plants>

* https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xjzrd7Vrh_Q

+ <http://www.regeno.in/images/wastemanagement.pdf>

Response

The proposed building will only store material collected at the kerbside for a short amount of time before being regularly removed for onward transfer and will not be used for processing any forms of recycling. Therefore, there will be limited amounts of materials stored within the building to combust and given the low risk nature of the materials there are limited ignition sources to enable a fire to start.

The site will be managed by Powys operatives in accordance with a Natural Resources Wales Environmental Permit which will strictly govern operations at the site to minimise any environmental risks. An automatic fire alarm system with flame detectors will be installed within the building to alert staff and emergency services if there is any sign of fire emerging. Firefighting equipment will be available on site and will be regularly inspected.

The Welsh Government and Network Rail who have responsibility for the A483 Trunk Road and the Cambrian Rail Line respectively have been consulted as part of the planning process and have raised no concerns about fire risks at the facility.

CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL.

COUNTY COUNCIL
18th October 2018

REPORT AUTHOR: County Councillor Rosemarie Harris, Leader
County Councillor Aled Davies

SUBJECT: DRAFT Annual Performance Report 2017 – 18

REPORT FOR: Approval

1. Summary

1.1 The purpose of this report is to present the draft **Annual Performance Report** (APR) 2017-18 (attached at Appendix A) for consideration and approval. It sets out Powys County Council's performance during 2017-18 against delivering the Corporate Improvement Plan (2016 – 2020) priorities which were:

- Services delivered for less – remodelling council services to respond to reduced funding
- Social Service Improvement
- Developing the economy
- Learning – improving learner outcomes for all, minimising disadvantage

1.2 In April 2017 the council set and published well-being objectives as required under the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 (Well-being Act). The well-being objectives were the same as the priorities for improvement outlined in 1.1 above and show the council's commitment to contribute to delivery of the seven national well-being goals in the Act. The council is required to report on the progress it has made in meeting its well-being objectives and must publish an annual report by no later than 31st March the following year.

1.3 The Annual Performance Report 2017-18 in Appendix A has been designed to meet the council's reporting duties under the Well-being Act and the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009. In doing so, it includes:

- An overview of the progress we have made to deliver our priorities and commitments from:
 - The One Powys Plan 2014-17
 - Service plans and improvement plans
 - The Medium Term Financial Strategy and Capital Strategy
- How the steps we have taken contribute to a more sustainable Wales; the seven well-being goals
- How we are using the sustainable development principle, five ways of working to change the way we work

- Our performance against the Public Accountability Measures which are used to evaluate local council performance across Wales
- Key conclusions from audit and inspection work carried out by our external regulators, including the Wales Audit Office Annual Improvement Report 2017-18 (attached at Appendix B)

1.4 The APR 2017-18 aims to provide a balanced and open account of performance and has been developed using information from the following reports to ensure clear alignment and consistency:

- Quarterly SIP Achievements, Issues, Actions reports
- Quarterly programme highlight reports
- Director of Social Services Annual Report 2017-18
- Assurance and Improvement Board Reports
- Schools service Self Evaluation Report
- Efficiency Tracker
- Revenue and Capital outturn reports

2. Proposal

2.1 It is proposed that County Council consider the content of the DRAFT Annual Performance Report 2017 – 2018 (Appendix A), and approve for publication.

2.2 On approving the APR 2017-18, County Council will be satisfied that the following criteria have been met:

- Key achievements identified are collectively considered to be the most important/relevant ones to be published
- The report provides an open, balanced and realistic self-assessment of performance
- There is appropriate information which demonstrates not only what and how much the council does, but also the difference the council is making in terms of outcomes
- The document is clear and provides the right level of information that will be meaningful and relevant to all audiences

3. Options Considered / Available

3.1 N/A

4. Preferred Choice and Reasons

4.1 N/A

5. Impact Assessment

5.1 Is an impact assessment required? No

6. Corporate Improvement Plan

6.1 The Annual Performance Report 2017 - 2018 sets out performance and progress against the council's Corporate Improvement Plan priorities and commitments which are also its well-being objectives.

7. Local Member(s)

7.1 The Annual Performance Evaluation impacts with equal force across the whole County.

8. Other Front Line Services

8.1 The APR reports progress against the commitments that were in the Corporate Improvement Plan 2016-20 and is not intended to be a comprehensive performance report of ALL council services, however the CIP did include key objectives from Service Improvement Plans during 2017-18.

9. Communications

9.1 As with previous editions of the APR, the Communications Team will be involved in publishing the document to ensure that it is made accessible to as many audiences as possible including residents, staff, members, partners, and regulators.

10. Support Services (Legal, Finance, Corporate Property, HR, ICT, Business Services)

10.1 Legal : The recommendations can be supported from a legal point of view.

10.2 Finance: The contents of the report have been noted.

11. Scrutiny

11.1 The Annual Performance Report was presented to the scrutiny Joint Chairs and Vice Chairs meeting on 11th September 2018. Their comments are attached at Appendix C, for your consideration. A number of amendments were made to the Annual Performance Report as a result of scrutiny recommendations.

12. Statutory Officers

The Head of Financial Services (Deputy Section 151 Officer) notes the contents of the report.

12.2 The Solicitor to the Council (Monitoring Officer) commented as follows : “ I note the legal comments and have nothing to add to the report.”

The Solicitor to the Council (Monitoring Officer) has commented as follows:

13. Members' Interests

The Monitoring Officer is not aware of any specific interests that may arise in relation to this report. If Members have an interest they should declare it at the start of the meeting and complete the relevant notification form.

Recommendation:	Reason for Recommendation:
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<p>To approve the DRAFT Annual Performance Report 2017 – 2018 in Appendix A to the report.</p>	<p>To ensure the report gives a balanced and open account of Powys County Council’s performance during the 2017-18 financial year, against its CIP priorities / well-being objectives.</p> <p>To ensure the Council meets its statutory obligations as outlined in the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009 and Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.</p>
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<p>Relevant Policy (ies):</p>	<p>Corporate Improvement Plan 2016-19, Local Government Wales Measure 2009, Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.</p>		
<p>Within Policy:</p>	<p>Y</p>	<p>Within Budget:</p>	<p>Y</p>

<p>Relevant Local Member(s):</p>	
---	--

<p>Person(s) To Implement Decision:</p>	
<p>Date By When Decision To Be Implemented:</p>	<p>31st October</p>

<p>Contact Officer: Emma Palmer Tel: 01874 612217 Email: emma.palmer@powys.gov.uk</p>

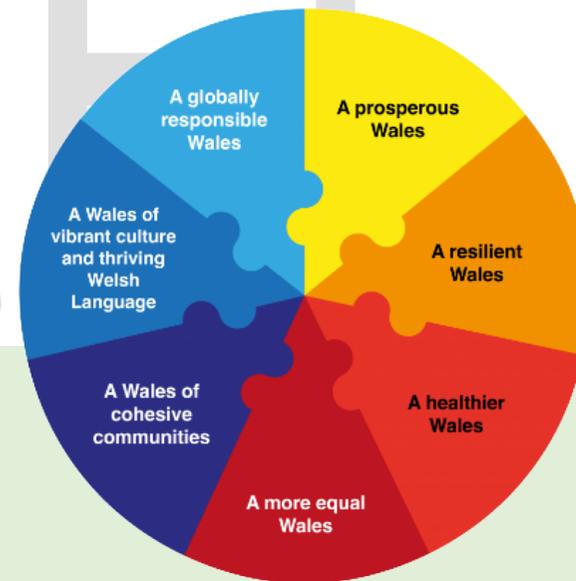
Background Papers used to prepare Report:

2017-18

Annual Performance Report

(Reporting progress against our Corporate Improvement Plan 2016-2020 and Well-being Objectives)

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This is Powys County Council's Annual Performance Report 2017-18. It sets out how we performed during the 2017-18 financial year, against the commitments that we made in our Corporate Improvement Plan 2016-2020 (2017 update), including our well-being objectives.

Let us know what you think of this report and how you think we could improve services in the future.

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01. Leader and Chief Executive's introduction

During 2016 – 2018 we have been delivering an ambitious Corporate Improvement Plan focussed on four key priorities.

- Services delivered for less – remodelling council services to respond to reduced funding
- Supporting people in the community to live fulfilled lives
- Developing the economy
- Learning – improving learner outcomes for all, minimising disadvantage

During the 2017-18 year we remained focussed on delivering these priorities, while also responding to the findings and recommendations of an independent review of our children's and adult services.

It has been a challenging year and we know that there is still significant change and improvement to do. In the delivery of children's and adults social services, we have fully accepted the findings of the Care Inspectorate Wales (CIW) reports and the intervention by Welsh Government. They found that we had failed to meet the high standards children and families in the county should expect and deserve. In response, we developed detailed improvement plans that provide direction for deep and sustainable change and improvement to services for children, families and vulnerable adults in Powys. In the final part of 2017-18, we started to see some improvements in performance including an increase in the number of people independent following a period of enablement and those supported with technology. There have also been some signs of improvement in relation to statutory visits and safeguarding. In 2018/19 this performance needs to be improved further and sustained which will involve a clear end to end business process to enable staff to discharge their professional duties.

In this report you will find more detail on how well we delivered our priorities and commitments last year as well as what our key independent auditors have told us. It aims to provide an open and honest account of how effective our actions have been and the difference we've made for residents. It also highlights areas where our performance didn't meet the standards our residents rightly expect and what our future priorities are to improve performance in these areas.

Despite the challenges within social services, we have delivered a number of improvements in our other priority areas, including completion of five new primary schools in the Gwernyfed school catchment, adoption of a new Local Development Plan and regeneration of the Llandrindod Wells lake. We invested over £61m as part of our capital programme, including £22m on improving our schools, £18m on improving the county's transport and highways, £12m on improving council dwellings and £5m on improving museums and galleries, parks and open spaces and sports facilities.

As we continue to face financial pressures, we looked at ways of making savings and delivering our services for less and last year we made savings of £8.3m, representing 71% of the total target. Unachieved savings have been mitigated by underspends in some of our service areas, however we know there is still more we can do to strengthen our financial planning going forward. We have already reviewed and updated our Medium Term Financial Strategy for the next five years, subject to final approval by Cabinet.

According to the indicators used by the Welsh Government to evaluate local government performance, we were among the top quartiles in Wales for 10 (56%) indicators and in the bottom quartiles for 7 (39%) indicators. There is no quartile data available for one of the indicator. We improved our performance in 28.6% of the indicators, compared to performance in 2016-17 and our performance fell for 42.9% of the indicators.

This will be the final performance report against the priorities above, as in April 2018 we published a new plan that set out some changes to our long term vision for Powys. It marked a change in direction following the establishment of our new Cabinet in May 2017 and sets out four strengthened priorities, which are also our well-being objectives showing how we are contributing to the well-being of Wales.

As well as preparing our new Vision 2025 Corporate Improvement Plan 2018-2023, we have also been working as part of the Public Services Board to develop a Well-being Plan (Towards 2040) and as part of the Regional Partnership Board to develop the Health and Care Strategy Area Plan. These plans demonstrate our continued commitment to work with partners towards improving the well-being of Powys residents.

We have also been ensuring that Powys has a strong voice in the Brexit negotiations at Wales and UK level. As part of understanding the challenges and opportunities for Powys, key officers are involved in the WLGA Brexit Transition Support Programme. We're also drafting an Impact Assessment involving all the council's service areas, the Powys Local Health Board and local businesses, to understand the impact on staff, supplies, funding, policies and much more. By understanding the possible impacts, we want to ensure we can be better prepared.

We will continue to modernise the way we work to ensure that we are equipped to tackle the challenges that lie ahead. We no longer have the financial resources to deliver everything we would like and therefore we need to think more creatively about how we work with communities and partners. However, what we will do is focus on the priorities that our communities have told us are most important to them, building on the strong foundations we have put in place to make progress.

I hope you will find this report useful and that it helps you to understand and constructively challenge what we are doing.

Councillor Rosemarie Harris
Leader Powys County Council

Dr Mohammed Mehmet

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02. About this report

In April 2017 we approved the annual update to our Corporate Improvement Plan 2016-2020. It set out four key priorities with over 250 supporting commitments/activities to achieve our vision, which at that time was 'strong communities in the green heart of Wales'.

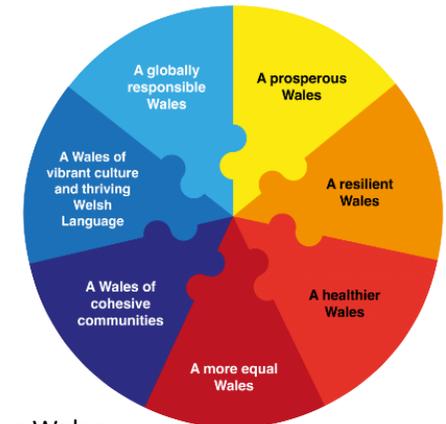
Our priorities were:

- Services delivered for less – remodelling council services to respond to reduced funding
- Supporting people in the community to live fulfilled lives
- Developing the economy
- Learning – improving learner outcomes for all, minimising disadvantage

This report looks back at our performance during 2017-18 and what progress we made against our priorities. It is important to review our progress and report to the public and elected members on improvements which have been achieved and where we need to do better.

This report includes:

- An overview of the progress we have made to deliver our priorities and commitments from:
 - The One Powys Plan 2014-17
 - Service plans and improvement plans
 - The Medium Term Financial Strategy and Capital Strategy
- How the steps we have taken contribute to a more sustainable Wales; the seven well-being goals (The tables on pages 8 -38 show our contribution to the goals with the colours representing each of the goals as shown in the diagram opposite. (Definitions of the goals can be seen in Appendix A).
- How we are using the sustainable development principle, five ways of working to change the way we work
- Our performance against the Public Accountability Measures which are used to evaluate local council performance across Wales
- Key conclusions from audit and inspection work carried out by our external regulators



Key:

In order to analyse our progress, we monitored our performance against a set of commitments and measures and the effect these were having on our desired outcomes. Each of our priorities has been given an overall status of excellent, good, adequate or poor depending on performance.

- Excellent – All commitments completed and outcomes achieved
- Good – Majority of commitments on track and outcomes improving
- Adequate – Commitments broadly on track, but limited impact on outcomes
- Poor – Majority of commitments off-track and outcomes not improving

Our Well-being objectives:

During 2017-18, we continued to implement the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. The Act sets out five ways of working and seven national well-being goals to shape our thinking and ensure public bodies in Wales are working towards a common vision. In April 2017 we set and published well-being objectives to show our commitment and contribution to the goals. Our well-being objectives were the same as our priorities for improvement above and this report shows how our achievements are making a difference to the well-being goals.

Last year we reviewed our well-being objectives in light of the emerging Public Services Board Well-being Plan and also to reflect the vision of the new Cabinet members, following the local government elections in May 2017. Our objectives have been strengthened and will provide a clear focus for improving services over the next four years. Details of how we will deliver our objectives can be seen in Vision 2025: Our Corporate Improvement Plan 2018-2023.

The table below explains how our well-being objectives have been strengthened to better align with the Powys PSB Well-being Plan (Towards 2040) and to reflect our commitment to provide better integrated services. The biggest change is the introduction of a new objective that will focus on supporting our residents and communities. We want to improve the way we involve residents and ensure they have an active role in the design and delivery of services. We also want residents to be supported to take responsibility for their own actions and support one another.

Original well-being objectives published in March 2017	Revised well-being objectives published in April 2018	Links with PSB Well-being plan objectives
Supporting people in the community to live fulfilled lives	We will lead the way in providing effective, integrated health and care in a rural environment	People in Powys will be healthy, socially motivated and responsible
Developing the economy	We will develop a vibrant economy	People in Powys will experience a stable and thriving economy
Learning – improving learner outcomes for all, minimising disadvantage	We will strengthen learning and skills	
Services delivered for less – remodelling council services to respond to reduced funding	This objective has been removed for 2018 onwards, but we have a programme of work called 'Making it happen' to support delivery of our four objectives. This will focus on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engagement and communication Changing how we work Leadership and governance 	
	New objective: We will support our residents and communities	People in Powys will be connected by strong communities and a vibrant culture

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03. Delivering our priorities in 2017-18

SERVICES DELIVERED FOR LESS

During 2017-18, we introduced a new Corporate Leadership and Governance Plan to ensure that the council is well-run, aspirational and high-performing, turning strategies into actions which make a difference for our communities. The actions in the plan became part of our 'Services delivered for less' priority.

Summary assessment of performance:

Overall performance for this priority was adequate. In total, there were 72 commitments/ activities supporting delivery of this priority and at the end of the year 57 (79%) were either complete or on target.

We said we wanted to make the following difference:

- Better value for money for our citizens
- Effective, efficient and sustainable services
- Local communities are better able to provide services for themselves
- More local suppliers are being used in our contracts, either directly or through the supply chain
- Powys benefits from the council trading its professional expertise
- Customer requirements are more easily met using digital technology

What difference have we made?

Measure of success	Result 2016-17	Target 2017-18	Result 2017-18	Have we improved?
Savings achieved through remodelling services	-	£1,794,610	£1,545,100	-
Customer Satisfaction with Council Services	60% 2015-16	-	No survey undertaken	-

New self-service website

As part of our customer transformation programme we started to develop a new self-service website in August 2017 which will eventually replace the existing website. Customers now have the opportunity to set up a new and simpler 'My Powys' account where they can easily interact and request services from the council online, 7 days a week. Residents can still check their council tax balance and register for school closure alerts but now they will also be able to very quickly see their Councilor's details and bin collection dates. There is also access to a new facility called 'My Requests' which allows residents to check the progress of reports or requests, including getting a new bin/box, reporting a problem with a waste collection and getting a commercial vehicle trailer permit. Customers receive automatic updates on their service requests and are able to track progress. The new web based system being implemented will reduce manual processing and back office systems. Customers are able to leave feedback every time they request a service which enables the council to review and continuously improve the services on offer.

Feedback received so far includes:

Very easy to navigate, quick response and very quick delivery, thank you.

The process was fairly easy when I realised how to get round the net. The feedback was helpful.

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What progress did we make against our commitments?

National well-being goals	How has our progress contributed to the well-being goals?	Contribution to other goals					
		Yellow	Orange	Red	Dark Red	Dark Blue	Light Blue
A prosperous Wales	<i>Powys Pound launched</i> – We launched a new commitment to boost the amount of money we spend with Powys businesses. We know that every £1 we spend with local companies generates additional investment and local job opportunities. Like all councils we have to work within procurement regulations but know that it is not just about getting the lowest price, it is about getting the best value and doing what you can to boost the local economy. To ensure the council's money is spent as efficiently and effectively as possible we have undertaken many activities. This includes e-tendering for goods and services in accordance with regulatory requirements, monitoring back office spend through a spend control process, and supporting services commissioning plans and their intended procurement approach. Work has been undertaken with the National Procurement Service and Sell2Wales who are organisations which are used to source goods and services for the council to identify businesses who are Powys based and the areas of goods/services they provide. Another activity we have developed is 'breakfast meetings' for businesses, giving them the opportunity to meet and ask questions of key council officers on how to do business with us.	✓					
	<i>Commerciality</i> - Our vision is for the council to be open and enterprising so it is important we are looking at many different options to trade, generate income and offer a wide variety of services and skills. In line with	✓					

	<p>our vision we launched the Heart of Wales Business Solutions, which is a new initiative aimed to improve our commercial opportunities by trading some products and services. Connecting with these businesses is key and will take us one step further to boosting income and strengthening council business. We currently have 32 contracts in place providing services such as payroll, DBS, fraud and administration support to external organisations which could potentially generate additional income of £348k.</p>							
	<p><i>New joint venture company implemented</i> - The Heart of Wales Property Services (HOWPS) was implemented from summer 2017 to deliver all our building repair and maintenance services. It is an exciting new partnership between us and Kier which will contribute to the local economy. However, there have been some difficulties in the first 12 months and things have not gone as hoped. There have been problems with ICT and financial systems, payment of contractors and generally the response and performance of the service. These issues have all been significantly challenging to officers of both parts of the partnership during the 12 month period and has resulted in a failure to achieve the anticipated efficiencies in the first year. Additional resources have now been applied to the organisation and it is anticipated that year 2 performance will improve significantly.</p>	✓						
	<p><i>Highways, Transport and Recycling (HTR) Transformation</i> - In 2017/18 a savings target of £1.8M was set against HTR budget through a variety of initiatives, improved delivery methods and budget management. We achieved £1.5m savings against our target in 2017/18 and the remainder has already been realised at the start of 2018/19. A project to further transform HTR services and increase delivery efficiency over the next 3 years is underway.</p>	✓						
	<p><i>Commercial and commissioning strategy developed</i> - A Commercial and Commissioning strategy has been developed. As part of the strategy a Local Sourcing plan has been developed which includes but not limited to the monitoring of local operators bidding and winning tenders, reducing the time taken to pay invoices to small/local businesses and the inclusion of more social clauses into contracts. The strategy will be implemented immediately after sign off.</p>	✓						
	<p><i>Purchase to pay</i> - We reviewed our purchase and payment systems to make them more efficient. As a result of the review we are now increasing the use of purchase cards across the organisation for buying goods and services. This has generated efficiencies through not having to manually process invoices. Our suppliers also receive payment quicker. Implementation of the review has generated £100k savings during 2017-18 and together with an £82k rebate from the provider.</p>	✓						
	<p><i>Income and awards re-design</i> - We have continued to re-design our income and awards processes to make them more efficient. The number of days taken to process housing benefit and council tax reduction claims has been maintained at seven days (this was 35 days prior to implementing a number of service changes). The number of days it takes us to process council tax queries has reduced from 64 to 24 days, whilst maintaining an 89% call answer rate, with average call waiting times now five minutes. To date, £325k has</p>	✓		✓	✓			

	<p>been realised in benefits as a result of streamlining our processes. Last year we started to review and re-design the financial assessment and billing process for Adult Social Care. A pilot was undertaken which showed that a number of improvements could be achieved from re-designing the process, including an increase in clients income, removal of delay in the process and improved communication for customers and families.</p>							
	<p><i>ICT improvements</i> – During 17/18 we removed 11 ICT systems. The current system rationalisation programme has removed a total of 47 systems since 2016 and we continue to implement the programme of work, identifying further systems to remove as well as systems that we can join-up through the corporate hub. An efficiency of £200k has been achieved as well as other benefits such as a reduction in the number of servers and licences, reduced travel costs, reduced telephony support costs and an improved joined up approach to ICT systems across Powys.</p>	✓						
<p>A resilient Wales</p> <p>Page 100</p>	<p><i>Rights of way improvements</i> – We have maintained or improved 254km of public rights of way, exceeding our target of 200km. Examples of the improvements include, a new footbridge along the public footpath that goes across Ystradgynlais’ Diamond Park and into the Wern Plemys Nature Reserve, works to repair part of the ‘Strata Florida’ byway near Abergwesyn, Llanwrtyd Wells and replacement of a stretch of stone steps leading to the waterfall at Pistyll Rhaeadr near Llanrhaeadr-ym-Mochnant. We now have a team of 102 volunteers (an increase from 71 the previous year) who clocked up 2,348 volunteer hours to deliver works such as building new bridges, installing gates and vegetation clearance. The volunteers receive health and safety training from the council and are key to ensuring we continue to maintain our rights of way which can play a vital role in maintaining the health and well-being of the people of Powys as well as maintaining our natural spaces.</p>	✓	✓	✓				
<p>A Wales of cohesive communities</p>	<p><i>Transfer of outdoor recreation to communities</i> – We continued to work with communities, sports clubs and others to discuss options for them to take on outdoor recreation facilities traditionally run by the council. To date we have transferred 18 outdoor recreation and play provision sites to communities, including the transfer of Radnorshire Indoor Bowls in November 2017. During 2017-18, £60k of financial savings were made through a review of our grounds maintenance and through transfer of facilities.</p>			✓		✓		
	<p><i>Library services re-commissioned</i> - We have consulted and worked with local communities to re-design and re-commission the library service in order to achieve savings of £125,000. We are grateful to the Town and Community Councils, schools and community organisations who are providing financial and other support to their local libraries, and to all of the volunteers who have given 2,490 hours of their time during 2017-18</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Builth library has been successfully co-located into a Powys County Council building, Antur Gwy ○ Llanidloes libraries have been successfully co-located with Llanidloes museum with the Town Council’s Town Hall, and received visitor attraction status ○ Work has progressed on agreement with a Community Interest Company formed by 12 Town and Community Councils in the Llanfyllin area in order to support the local library and look at delivery of 					✓	✓	

<p>other services. Working with the Community Connector, there has been an increase in health and wellbeing activities and events at Llanfyllin library and community centre</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Crickhowell library is going from strength to strength under the partnership agreement between Crickhowell High School and our library Service, with visitor numbers up by 10% between January and March 2018 ○ Presteigne Town Council provide financial support to Presteigne library ○ Talgarth library has been co-located on the new community focused school site (Ysgol y Mynydd Du). The new site provides a vital role at the heart of the Talgarth and Bronllys community and the library will provide an additional valuable learning asset for future generations to access ○ Llandrindod Library extended opening hours by opening at 9am, from October 2017, and is now open for 45 hours per week ○ Data has shown that libraries run by volunteers alone for some hours (Llanwrtyd, Presteigne) have seen a decline in visitor figures, and we are looking at ways to address this. Volunteers have started to open Llanfair Caereinion library for 1 shift per week (3 hours) and the impact will be monitored. Volunteers working alongside paid staff is proving a more effective model for all concerned, as well as less onerous for the volunteers ○ Llanfair Caereinion Town Council are covering the premises costs for the library ○ Knighton library has moved to become part of the enhanced community hub facility at Knighton and District Community Centre. In the first 3 weeks after opening, over 1200 people visited the library, with most feedback very positive. Libraries are important for local communities, and innovative partnership working, and shared facilities such as this hub, are one way to ensure that services are still available for local people, particularly in rural areas 							
<p><i>Youth services re-modelled</i> – In order to continue delivering the youth service within available budgets, we have re-modelled the service saving £180k in 2017/18 and a further £207k has already been achieved in 2018/19. This was achieved by removing three buildings from our portfolio (Newtown, Llandrindod, Brecon). The youth clubs in these areas have re-located to venues not owned by the council. Negotiations are still being undertaken with regards the buildings in Ystradgynlais and Welshpool. We have also restructured the open access team and reduced staff hours to make efficiencies. We currently have 13 youth workers in secondary schools across Powys and one youth club in the five main towns (Welshpool, Newtown, Llandrindod, Brecon, Ystradgynlais). We commissioned the Urdd to deliver Welsh language youth work and the YFC to deliver rural youth work across Powys.</p>					✓	✓	
<p><i>Recycling targets met</i> – 60.65% of waste was reused or recycled. Whilst this exceeds the Welsh Government’s Statutory Recycling Target (SRT), it is a fall of 4% on the previous year’s recycling rate. This was principally down to how wood waste from household waste recycling centres is now reported to NRW,</p>		✓					

A globally responsible Wales

and also the loss of some recycling as a result of sending some waste to incineration which does allow the authority to claim the bottom ash as recycled. The fall in recycling has been seen across most Welsh councils for the same reasons and we will be working to divert additional material from the residual stream to recycling in order to meet the next SRT of 64% in 2019/20. A new household waste recycling centre was developed in Llandrindod Wells, providing an upgrade to what was a popular community recycling site. It is centrally located to serve mid Powys residents and will help the council to recycle as much waste as possible. Opening days of the council's HWRC were also increased to encourage residents to recycle more.

How much did we save/ spend?

Headline capital investments:

- **£2.9m** – Highways, Transport and Recycling Service vehicle replacement programme. For example, a capital investment of over £425,000 has seen the council purchase two Archway Roadmaster spray injection patching machines, which will tackle several times the number of road defects compared to traditional patching methods. One of the machines, which is operated by one person from the cab of the vehicle, recently repaired 40 square metres of potholes. It would have taken a four-person workforce using traditional patching methods and numerous pieces of equipment all day to repair the same amount of potholes. With budgets under increasing pressure, the new machines are seen as a cost-effective way of maintaining the county's highway network.
- **£330k** – Llandrindod Wells Household Waste and Recycling Centre
- **£295k** – ICT replacement infrastructure

Headline savings:

- **£100k** - Implementing the LED conversion programme for street lights and reviewing the service
- **£189,210** - Review the provision of Household Waste and Recycling Centres
- **£20k** - Decommissioning direct management of some museums and pursuing joint arrangements in the management of the Brecon Cultural Hub
- **£350k** - Year on year reductions in contract fees for managing the council's leisure facilities
- **£111k** - Business support (New Model)



What are our improvement plans for 2018-2023?

Vision 2025: Our Corporate Improvement Plan 2018-2023

You can see more detail about how we will continue to provide effective and efficient services in our Vision 2025: Corporate Improvement Plan 2018-2023. One of our priorities for 2018-2023 is called 'Making it happen' which focusses on:

- Engagement and communication
- Leadership and governance
- Changing how we work

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SUPPORTING PEOPLE IN THE COMMUNITY TO LIVE FULFILLED LIVES

An inspection of our Children's Services in July 2017 followed by an inspection of Adults Services in January 2018, highlighted some critical areas for improvement and in response we prepared two key improvement plans to help implement immediate and urgent changes.

- Children's Improvement Plan
- Adults Improvement Plan

These plans focussed on improving the standards of our statutory social care services, ensuring that our most vulnerable children and adults are safe. Recognising the importance of these plans, we took the decision to replace our original priority - 'Supporting people in the community' with a priority called 'Social Service Improvement'. The commitments and measures of success set out in the CIP 2016-20 were therefore changed to better reflect the outcomes being sought. From October 2017 onwards our performance monitoring focussed on implementation of the improvement plans and it is therefore progress against these that is the main focus of this section of the report.

More information on the Children's and Adults Services inspections can be found in section 6 of this report.

Summary assessment of performance:

Overall, performance for this priority has been adequate and improvements in our social care services will continue to be a priority for 2018-2023. In total, there were 113 commitments/ activities supporting delivery of this priority. 84 (74%) of the commitments/ activities were either complete or on target by the end of 2017-18, leaving 29 (26%) off-track. Only 3 out of the 10 measures being monitored met their target while three showed improvement compared to 2016-17 performance.

We said we wanted to make the following difference:

In Children's Services, we will:

- Support families to stay together and reduce the need for children to be looked after, by focusing on services which provide timely help, build on family's strengths and prevent greater problems arising
- Manage risk confidently and effectively when providing support to families where children and young people need to be safeguarded or they are judged to be on the 'edge of care' by making sure that their needs are accurately assessed and met effectively, with positive outcomes for them
- Provide and commission a flexible and affordable mix of high quality placements for children who are looked after to meet the diverse range of their needs and circumstances
- Give children and young people clearly planned journeys through care and into adulthood

In Adult Services, we will:

- Improve access to services through timely information, advice and assistance, as well as receiving and processing enquiries appropriately and swiftly
- Keep safe, adults at risk by ensuring that initial screening of concerns is effective and consistent, with a prompt assessment of risk and safeguarding action

- Avoid delays by providing sufficient service and fieldwork capacity
- Meet new statutory responsibilities towards individuals and their carers by increasing the range and quality of the services available for meeting needs

What difference have we made?

Technology enabled care

A 95 year old lady lives alone with her son living close by. She is adamant she wants to stay in her own home as long as possible but she has early stage dementia and although there is a care package in place the concern is that the lady might get up in the middle of the night and have a fall. Telecare was installed which included a bed occupancy sensor. This was programmed to monitor her activity between 10pm and 8am and it is programmed so that if she gets up and then doesn't return to bed within 30 minutes, the lifeline is activated and the call centre respond to check she is well.

Community connectors

Client A, now in his late 70's, recently left hospital. He refused a care package and reablement. His sister cared for him but she had to return to work. His ex-wife is caring but she can't continue any longer as it is a strain for her; in her 80's and not living locally. He doesn't want care workers coming in and can't abide ready meals. He is managing with washing and dressing. However, at the moment he can't manage getting to the shops or cooking meals. His ex-wife contacted Powys People Direct (PPD) to see if social services could help her to care for him. While speaking with client A's ex-wife, the PPD contact officer consulted with the Community Co-ordinator to see what options might available to him. In negotiation with client A and his ex-wife it was agreed that he would be referred to Red Cross support at home for preventative work (primarily shopping and confidence building) and the Community Co-ordinator would try to locate someone to deliver a hot meal to him each day. Client A relented and agreed to be referred to reablement to support him with meal preparation. This removes the stress of caring for his ex-wife and supports the immediate need of the client.

Red Cross continued to support him by taking him to the shops, encouraging improved mobility and building confidence. At the shops, client A gets to catch up with friends and enjoys hearing the local news. He told the Red Cross staff "when I know you are coming, I know it is only shopping, but I really do look forward to getting out, doing my own shopping and seeing people. As client A comes to the end of his time with the Red Cross, his confidence has improved. He is determined to increase his independence and hopes to be able to start sailing again. The Red Cross staff will put him in touch with local Community Support befriending and community transport schemes so he can continue doing his shopping and building his strength.

Early Help Team Around the Family

Person 'B', was 15 years old when a CAF was completed. His father has mental health problems and his mum has a complex health condition which meant Paul helped care for his mum at night and cared for her in the morning when she had 'bad days,' (prior to Adult Services becoming involved).

'B' had low self-esteem and low self-confidence and he rarely went out socially. He was bullied in school. He is dyslexic which means learning is hard for him. He and his parents felt he did not get the support in school. 'B' had been involved with the Police at one stage, and he had also ran away.

'B' initially received support from a Youth Intervention Service Worker (YIS) worker. The work helped increase his self-esteem and self-confidence. They helped with school issues such as bullying. A referral was made to Young Carers. 'B' went on group activities but preferred one to one support such as mountain biking. TAF meetings were held at school (which included dad's mental health advocate and a SW from Adult Services) which meant everyone came together to work to a plan and ensure a strong link between home and school. School became fully aware of the level of caring responsibilities 'B' had at home. When YIS had finished their work, 'B' had support from a volunteer from a mentoring service until he went to college.

'B' contacted the department in March 2018 to say: *"I just want to say thank you for all you did for me, to let you know that you may not get a medal at the time but a couple of years down the line I have realised that what you lot did helped more than I realised, although at the time I may not have seen it that way. My life would have been different without both you at TAF and my head of year at school (yr11). You gave me my confidence back. Going out with my mentor was something to look forward too away from my problems"*

'B' has been awarded an unconditional offer to go to university in Sept 2018.

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Measure of success	Result 2016-17	Target 2017-18	Result 2017-18	Have we improved?
Children's				
The percentage of assessments completed for children within statutory timescales	95%	95%	66%	✘
% of children looked after on 31 March who have had three or more placements during the year (This measure is based on a rolling 12 month period and details all those looked children who have been in 3 or more placements during that year as a percentage of all the children looked after on the last day of the reporting period)	13.5%	6%	13%	✓
% of LAC Statutory Visits carried out within timescale	n/a	95%	75%	-
% of CP Statutory Visits carried out within timescale	n/a	95%	73%	-

% of operational staff who have had Case Supervision on a monthly basis	n/a	95%	43%	-
Adults				
The number of persons (per 1000 population) aged 75 and over who experience a delay in returning to their own home or social care setting following hospital treatment decreases	8.13	7.5	10.49	✘
Following a period of reablement support, the number of clients requiring no ongoing support will increase	66.5%	70%	76.43%	✓
The number of adult clients supported in their own home through assistive technology will increase	104.75	380	412	✓
The percentage of Carers identified offered an assessment	93.87%	91%	88.47%	✘
The number of service users with learning disabilities receiving residential care or supported tenancies outside of Powys will reduce	-	Reduce	Reduced by 1	-

What progress did we make against our commitments?

National well-being goals	How has our progress contributed to the well-being goals?	Contribution to other goals						
		Yellow	Orange	Red	Dark Red	Dark Blue	Light Blue	Blue
A healthier Wales Page 107	<i>Children's Services:</i>							
	<i>Powys People Direct (PPD)</i> - To meet the need of children and families for a timely and proportionate early contact response, we have increased capacity in Powys People Direct, our contact and early screening centre. It both provides information, advice and assistance and also receives social services enquiries from the public and professionals. Recent concerns raised about people's ability to get access to PPD were addressed through a restructuring exercise. Supervision and support for contact officers has been increased and management oversight enhanced.			✓				
	<i>Safeguarding</i> - We agreed a Corporate Safeguarding Policy which sets out the steps that the council as a whole will take to protect and safeguard children and adults at risk. We also set up a Corporate Safeguarding Group chaired by the Chief Executive to monitor delivery of the policy.			✓	✓			
	<i>Working with partners</i> – We demonstrated renewed commitment to engaging effectively with the Regional Safeguarding Board, the Regional Partnership Board, the Children and Young People's Partnership and structures for national working in areas such as fostering and adoption so that we can benefit more from partnership working and external accountability. We have re-established the Powys Local Operational Group which operates on a multi-agency basis to co-ordinate the work of the Regional Safeguarding Board and we are ensuring that senior officers make a stronger contribution to the work of the Board.			✓				

<p><i>Foster Carers</i> - We are committed to Increasing the number and range of local fostering placements. 23 foster carers have been approved in the current financial year (9 Generic and 14 Connected Persons). 13 foster carer assessments are in progress. The council's fostering recruitment strategy will set annual targets, complemented by regional recruitment work. We will explore the potential for reduced or waived council tax for Foster Carers and for their prior consideration in allocations of larger council housing properties. A listen and learn exercise has been completed with Foster Carers and recommendations are being considered and implemented. A marketing strategy has also been completed. We aim to reduce inappropriate use made of Independent Fostering Agency (IFA) placements and clearly specify their role. Agencies can continue to play a role in complementing our in-house provision through targeted commissioning of more specialist provisions rather than being used because a local authority foster placement is not available.</p>			✓		✓		
<p><i>Assessments</i> - The service has focused strongly on assessments, with twice weekly meetings of operational managers to ensure timescales are met and performance improved. An independent auditor also reviewed a small number of files and suggested more appropriate timescales for completing assessments to ensure that they are more proportionate. The council is determined to achieve 100% compliance for completion of assessments for children within the statutory timescale of 42 days. However, we are starting from a very low base of 53% completion in April, May and June 2017. In January 2018 we saw a significant improvement to 72% of assessments being completed within timescale and this has increased further to 86% for February 2018, and 96% for March 2018. This takes us past the 90% target set for March 2018. We will continue to make every effort to deliver our aspirations of 100% compliance and this will be monitored by the Leader of the council on a monthly basis and exceptions will be challenged to be understood.</p>			✓				
<p><i>Involvement of children and families in their care plans</i> - There are good examples of outcome-focused care planning which consistently reflects the outcomes of the assessment and the views of children and families. People are actively involved in planning and delivery of their care and support and they are supported to identify what matters to them and how they might achieve their personal well-being outcomes. These outcomes are clearly described and the actions to achieve them are identified. We have seen an increase in the numbers of Children who require care and support plans since April 2017. However, this has been steadily reducing since the high of 751 in December, falling to 668 by March 2018.</p>			✓	✓			
<p><i>Workforce</i> - We recruited agency staff to cover vacancies or longer-term sickness absence. On a temporary basis, we have appointed to a number of social worker posts above establishment in order to support staff, reduce caseloads and stabilise the workforce. As well as increasing social worker capacity in front line teams, the council is also committing to provide additional support staff so that front line practitioners and managers can focus on delivering safe and high quality services to children and their families. This includes strengthening the quality assurance functions (including Independent Reviewing Officers) and increasing capacity in Powys People Direct and the fostering and adoption services. A workforce strategy is being</p>	✓		✓				

<p>developed and will be relevant to both children and adult services. Having extra agency staff does increase capacity and experience within the workforce but we are aware that if workers change frequently, it can also add to instability for children and families.</p>						
<p><i>Improved HR, IT and performance monitoring systems</i> - We have improved the accuracy of data to support managers in addressing practice issues across the service. Detailed performance dashboards have been developed for front-line managers (updated daily) and for elected Members (updated monthly).</p>			✓			
<p><i>Financial planning</i> - We have produced a financial plan that incorporates a safe and sustainable budget for Children's Services. The level of political and corporate support for our Children's Services has been demonstrated especially by the level of additional financial support made available in 2017/18 and agreed for 2018/19 to deliver our improvement plans. The budget for next year includes investment of £6.172m for Children's Services, an increase of 47% at a time when the overall budget for the council is experiencing considerable pressures. This figure emerged from a structured and methodical approach to developing a safe and sustainable budget for Children's Services, including a costed Improvement Resource Plan which identifies the additional staffing and other resource requirements. An overall commissioning strategy for Children's Services is being developed, together with specific strategies in areas such as placements for children who are looked after. This will ensure that an appropriate level of budget is allocated to the service.</p>			✓			
<p><i>Looked After Children (LAC)</i> - The council has responsibilities to act when children are at risk in the family home. In some cases this means that they are removed for their own safety and well-being. The number of LAC has remained over 200 from January to March 2018 and is much higher than at April 2017 (160). One of our important roles is to ensure that we undertake visits to our LAC. The percentage of statutory visits held within the statutory timescale has improved from 49% in January 2018 to 55% in February, and 86% in March 2018. This is however below the target of 100% and it is recognised that further immediate improvement is required. This will be one of our priorities for 2018/19 going forward. The percentage of 'looked after' children who returned home from care during the year was 15.3%. The percentage of children who were supported to remain living with their family was 73.9%.</p>			✓	✓		
<p><i>Children on the Child Protection Register</i> - We have been focussed on the impact that we can have on our child population and how we need to perform in responding to those at risk. The number of children on the child protection register was 111 in March 2018, which is a drop of 12 since January 2018, but is still far higher than at April 2017 (80). The average length of time on the Child Protection Register for those removed has reduced from 229 days in January 2018 to 195 days in March 2018. To keep children safe the service must ensure statutory visits are undertaken at the right time. At the end of January 2018 performance was low at 56%, but has increased to 72% at March 2018. The organisation has set a compliance target of 95% for statutory visits.</p>			✓			
<p><i>Adult Services:</i></p>						

	<p><i>Engagement Strategy</i> - We have developed and consulted with stakeholders on an engagement strategy for adult social care and this has recently been finalised in order to implement fully during 2018. We are eager to hear about the services we already deliver and how we can support adults better. In 2017-18, 51% of adults (197 adults) felt that they could do things which were important to them. 47% (182 adults) felt that they couldn't, or could only do so some of the time. This is a reduction from 52% (267) in 2016-17 that felt they could do the things important to them. Health and mobility issues were raised as being the main limiting factors.</p>			✓	✓	✓		
	<p><i>Preventative Services</i> - We worked with the 3rd sector to develop our preventative services, but we recognise that we need to undertake further work to ensure that these are robust. We developed home based support services in East Radnorshire with the 3rd sector and in Llanidloes and Llandrindod. These are pilots for two years and will be evaluated at the end of the second year.</p>			✓		✓		
	<p><i>Powys People Direct</i> - We have used our single point of access, Powys People Direct (PPD), both to provide information, advice and assistance and also to receive social care enquiries from the public and professionals. We recognise that we have not been able to respond to calls as effectively as we would have liked and, therefore, we need to undertake significant work in 2018 to support call answering in a timely manner and to ensure that those requiring support receive it swiftly. During 2017/18 1,327 adults contacted us for information, advice and assistance. Of these individuals who contacted us in the first half of the year 90% have not contacted us again within six months.</p>			✓				
	<p><i>Carers</i> - Adult Social Care is striving to adopt good practice in terms of listening and giving carers time to participate in assessments in their own right, along with providing a timely response to assist them in their caring role. There have been delays in carers assessments being undertaken in some areas because of staffing capacity. However, the data is currently showing a significant increase in the percentage of carers being offered an assessment which is up to almost 95%. A third of carers (33% or seven individuals) felt that they can do things that are important to them, with 24% (five individuals) saying this only applied to part of the time. Three carers (15%) said that they couldn't. One comment related to ensuring the day centres remained open while others said that their caring duties were a barrier.</p>			✓				
	<p><i>Assessments</i> - The ability to provide timely assessments and reviews has varied across the county, reflecting recruitment and retention challenges in some areas of Powys. The Community Team supporting older people in the south of Powys for example has been affected by staffing instability. We have been relying on agency social workers and occupational therapists. In the short-term, an external organisation has been commissioned to undertake assessments on our behalf to eliminate the backlog of work and this is having a positive impact. Annual reviews in adult services remains a challenge but we have started to make some progress in delivering this area of performance. The council has been working closely with Powys Teaching Health Board to manage winter pressures in adopting a team approach to dealing with urgent assessments, supporting flow within both hospital and community systems.</p>			✓	✓			

A more equal Wales	<p><i>Technology Enabled Care (TEC)</i> - During 2017/18 we aimed to introduce technology enabled care (TEC) in the form of assistive technology and accessed the Welsh Government's Integrated Care Funding in order to do so. Prior to this action in April 2017 very few people in Powys (almost zero) would have been provided with assistive technology by the council. However, during 2017/18 we prescribed 893 items of technology to 444 individuals. We have two categories of TEC: Telecare and stand-alone technology for unpaid carers. In terms of the latter, we prescribed 438 items of stand-alone TEC equipment for unpaid carers to look after 257 clients. The total number of carers benefiting would be higher than 257 as some individuals would be supported by more than one carer. We have set a target to double the number of people using assistive technology within two years from April 2018 onwards. A 24/7 rapid response technology enabled care (TEC) and floating support service have been merged. We are also able to provide short periods of domiciliary care to those who need some support to get back on their feet. This is currently being piloted and evaluated in three areas across Powys - Llanidloes, Presteigne and Rhayader (where the current service is being extended to include Llandrindod Wells).</p>			✓	✓			
	<p><i>Accommodation / Extra Care Schemes</i> - We have been working with colleagues in the housing service to develop more extra care schemes and to ensure that there are accommodation options available which provide a home for life. We have also supported the Shared Lives scheme in Powys and intend over the coming year to invest further into this scheme to support its further expansion. This service supports individuals who need support to live with families in the community rather than going into care.</p>	✓		✓				
	<p><i>Joint Health and Care Strategy</i> – With our partner, the Powys Teaching Health Board we launched the Health and Care Strategy for Powys. This is the first integrated health and care strategy in Wales, demonstrating our commitment to lead the way on truly integrated care for the people of Powys. The strategy is the result of thousands of conversations between the people of Powys, Powys Teaching Health Board, Powys County Council and key partners.</p>			✓				
A more equal Wales	<p><i>Gypsy and traveller sites</i> - Construction works commenced on the Welshpool gypsy and traveller site for two additional pitches. The project has been supported by £405,000 capital investment from Welsh Government grant and council funding. There have been some delays to the work due to technical issues but WG have agreed to extend the grant funding to March 2019 for the work to be completed. The site enhancements have been developed in accordance with Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment. Full planning permission was secured to develop a new gypsy and traveller site in Machynlleth with five pitches. We are currently undertaking the process of land de-registration and are negotiating with the land owner with regards acquiring the land prior to starting construction works.</p>				✓	✓		
	<p><i>Website improvements</i> - The website, which already had a broad range of information in both Welsh and English with leaflets to download and print, now offers sign language and a new app to make information even easier to access. Our main aim was to ensure that deaf and deafblind people have the same opportunities as everyone else.</p>				✓			

	<p><i>Active offer</i> - In order to implement the 'Active Offer' effectively we have amended systems and processes to enable staff to ascertain and record service users' first language and other languages spoken and have ascertained and recorded staff's linguistic skills in Welsh. Our next step is to promote the allocation of Welsh speaking staff to work with Welsh speaking service users where possible.</p>							
<p>A Wales of cohesive communities</p>	<p><i>Information, advice and assistance</i> - Through PAVO, the council has commissioned computer programmers to develop a link between InfoEngine and Dewis, the national well-being database, so that information from both systems is regularly shared and updated. Providing access to information is really important if we are to give people the opportunity to help themselves by access what they need.</p>		✓		✓			
	<p><i>Community connectors</i> - During 2017/18 we commissioned Powys Association of Voluntary Organisations (PAVO) to employ Community Connectors who are based within multi-disciplinary teams in the wider community and support PPD on a rota basis. The Community Connectors provide information, advice and assistance, support individuals to gain access to their local community facilities, as well as working with communities/local groups to ensure that activities are accessible. Their roles continue to develop but the evidence from case studies demonstrates that they are facilitating independent community living and that many individuals do not require formal social care as a consequence of being signposted to local community-based options as part of the assessment process. 85% of people that said Community Connectors helped to deliver 'what mattered' to them.</p>		✓		✓			
<p>A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh Language</p>	<p><i>Welsh Language Promotion Strategy</i> – We developed and adopted a Welsh Language Promotion Strategy for 2017 to 2022. The council's target in this strategy, along with subsequent strategies, will be to contribute towards the Welsh Government's target of ensuring a million Welsh speakers by 2050. To achieve that target, a third of Powys' population must speak Welsh by 2050, but in the current strategy, the target is to restore the percentage of Welsh speakers in Powys to 21.1% - the figure of the 2001 Census. The Strategy will aim to increase the number of Welsh speakers, increase the use of Welsh and to create favourable conditions to the development and protection of the language, by working within 6 key areas; i) Planning and language policy, ii) Normalisation, iii) Education, iv) People, v) Support, and vi) Rights.</p> <p>The council has also taken advantage of the Urdd National Eisteddfod's visit to the county in 2018 to promote, raise awareness and increase the number of activities through the medium of Welsh, working in partnership with the Urdd, the Mentrau Iaith and other partners.</p>			✓			✓	
	<p><i>Welsh Language and recruitment policy</i> - The new Welsh Language and Recruitment policy, developed and adopted in 2017-18 will increase the Welsh language skills within the authority, and the council's capacity to deliver services through the medium of Welsh. The policy moves away from the practice of using Welsh Essential or Desirable. This has been replaced by specifying the Welsh language skills required for a post, from Level 1 to Level 5; from being able to pronounce names correctly and being able to give and respond to basic greetings, to fluency, in order to be clearer about the skills required to undertake a role as well as</p>			✓			✓	

	reducing anxiety about linguistic skills for potential recruits. Recruiting Managers will need to consider the skills required for a particular role, along with the skills currently within their team, to ensure they have sufficient Welsh language skills within their teams to provide services according to the Welsh Language Standards and More than Just Words.								
A globally responsible Wales	<i>Re-settled Syrian refugee families</i> - Almost 150 Syrian family members who have settled across Mid and West Wales came together at the Royal Welsh Showground in August 2017. The event, hosted on the Royal Welsh Showground and organised by the council's housing service, was an opportunity for the families to meet each other and to share their experiences. Agencies worked together to make sure the day was filled with fun, family activities from football to Zumba and creative crafts.							✓	✓

How much did we spend?

Headline capital investments:



- **£925k** – Disabled facilities grant
- **£123k** – Safe, warm and secure home improvement loans
- **£105k** – Gypsy and traveller site in Welshpool
- **£800k** – Housing Revenue Account: Older persons dwellings
- **£300k** – Housing Revenue Account: Level access bungalows

Headline savings:

- **£150k** - Older Day Care - Development of hubs to support outcome focused day activities and respite care
- **£480k** - Learning Disabilities - Remodelling of Day Time Opportunities
- **£350** - Right sizing high cost placements/packages and bring some people back into community living
- **£604k** - Right sizing of Packages - Accelerate Reablement referrals and based on current performance achieved 42% reduction in hours

What are our improvement plans for 2018-2023?

You can see more detail about how we will continue to support people in the community in our Vision 2025: Corporate Improvement Plan 2018-2023. One of our priorities for 2018-2023 is 'Health and Care':

- Focussing on well-being
- Early help and support
- Providing joined up care
- Developing a workforce for the future
- Creating innovative environments
- Developing digital solutions
- Transforming in partnership

Another priority for us in 2018 onwards, is 'Residents and Communities' which focusses on:

- Strengthening community development and resilience
 - Support communities to be able to do more for themselves and reduce the demand on our public services
- Strengthening our relationship with residents and communities
 - Improve our understanding of our residents needs and improve our service delivery

Our plans will contribute to creating a healthier Wales and a Wales of cohesive communities, as well as other national well-being goals.

DEVELOPING THE ECONOMY

Summary assessment of performance:

Overall performance has been good with 27 (84%) out of the 32 commitments/activities in place to support this priority either completed or on target. The remaining 5 were marked as amber. Eight out of the 10 measures used to monitor performance met their target and six also showed improvement, compared to performance in 2016-17.

We said we wanted to make the following difference:

- A thriving tourism economy with increased day and stay visitors taking advantage of outdoor activity opportunities and festivals, and increasing spend
- A dynamic, driven and confident council that finds and exploits opportunities for increasing the Powys economy
- A county that is recognised as a great place to live, work and play which is known for its amazing scenery, as a place for outdoor life and interesting and cultural events and festivals
- An increased population of high earners and professional who live in Powys and either work in the county or from home for organisations elsewhere in the world
- A larger percentage of small to medium sized growth businesses in industry sectors that contribute to the prosperity of the county
- Opportunities, including appropriate training and apprenticeships are available and accessible, ensuring workforce skills are aligned to the skills needs of businesses
- A safe, efficient and reliable transport service and network that enables people and businesses to travel safely to their destination

What difference have we made?

Apprentice Story

In March, I was lucky enough to start my apprenticeship with Powys County Council and it's been an exciting first couple of months. University wasn't for me, so when I saw this opportunity advertised on the council's website it was definitely one to go for. And here I am, 2 months later gaining so many great skills and experience. I felt ready to get away from the classroom, so getting paid and gaining a qualification at the same time seemed like an opportunity I could not afford to miss.

I have settled in really quickly with the Culture and Leadership Team in County Hall and already learnt so much. While working full time, I'm also doing a Business Admin Level 2 qualification with ACT training. It's a really flexible course tailored to suit me and it's great that I get a choice of what assignments I do. I'm really looking forward to the next couple of months and to progress further in my role.

Crai Community Led Broadband Project

Support was provided to the community of Crai to address their lack of access to affordable superfast broadband. The community were provided with expertise by Powys County Council's Regeneration Team to assist them in pulling together a community funding bid submitted under the Welsh Government's Access Broadband Cymru Scheme. The bid was successful and by January 2018 has resulted in 75 premises, including 30 businesses in an otherwise isolated rural community now having access to good quality internet services via stable 30MB connection speeds.

The success of the Crai project has already encouraged interest from across the county and particularly around the project area. The project has been developed as a pilot with online tools available on the council's Grow in Powys website to assist other communities looking to develop similar schemes. Since completion of the Crai scheme a further six communities have approached the council for advice and support.

Measure of success	Result 2016-17	Target 2017-18	Result 2017-18	Have we improved?
Provide more apprenticeships, work experience placements and graduate placements to improve opportunities for developing the local workforce	3 apprenticeships and 23 work experiences	To increase from 2016-17 result	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 35 apprenticeship opportunities offered • 32 work experience opportunities offered • 1 Graduate employed in the council 	✓
Number of post 16 learners studying key AS and A2 subjects in key strategic sectors e.g. computing, maths, chemistry	939	To increase from 2016-17 result	1072	✓
The percentage of Year 11 leavers not in education, employment or training (NEET) will be less than 3%	1.93%	Less than 3%	0.9%	✓
Number of businesses has grown in strategic sectors: - Energy & Environment	1290	1295	1305	

- Health & Life Sciences - Creative Industries - Tourism	0 300 850	1 302 855	No Data 300 845	-
The survival rate of business in Powys improves	Not available	90% (after 1 year)	91.4% (2015-16 data)	-
The number of businesses relocating to Powys increases	4	4	6	✓
The percentage of population that are economically active increases	80.4%	80.5%	82.0% (Jan to Dec 2017)	✓
Tourism spend increases as awareness of Powys as a destination improves	£729 million (steam 2015)	£700m	£771.28m (2016 data)	✓
Citizens and businesses in Powys are supported by an efficient planning process. Percentage of planning applications determined within 8 weeks or within agreed time	93%	>75%	87%	✗
Significant economic benefit as the investment in council housing to meet the Welsh Housing Quality Standard is achieved. Number of elemental improvements carried out	2649	2600	1172	✗

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What progress did we make against our commitments?

National well-being goals	How has our progress contributed to the well-being goals?	Contribution to other goals					
		Yellow	Orange	Red	Dark Red	Dark Blue	Light Blue
A prosperous Wales	<i>New apprenticeship scheme launched</i> – The new scheme offers new employment opportunities for young people to help them into work. The council has for a number of years offered fixed-term apprenticeships and now it has launched a new career-graded apprenticeship. It is believed that that Powys is the first council in Wales to offer this. A career-graded apprenticeship is set over an agreed period with proportional pay. On completion of the apprenticeship, individuals take up a permanent position on full-pay. This contrasts with fixed-term apprenticeships which are offered for a specific time period but with no guarantee that suitable permanent employment will be offered.	✓					
	<i>Support for graduates</i> - In partnership with Powys Teaching Health Board we have participated in a graduate scheme run by Cwm Taf Health Board and during 2017-18 five graduates have been on placement within the council and health board offering them good work experience opportunities as well as attracting high quality graduates into public services. This graduate scheme is being ended by Cwm Taf Health Board in November 2018. However, the council have drafted a graduate framework in conjunction with the University of South Wales, to include models that can be adopted by service areas on opportunities for	✓					

	employing/recruiting graduates. Work is currently ongoing to promote and raise awareness of this framework for all council services.						
	<i>Careers festival</i> - Around 3,500 young people from all over Powys visited the second Careers Festival at Builth Wells. Students from high schools, special schools and further education campuses visited the 2018 festival which was organised by the Positive Pathways Powys Group, where they had the opportunity to talk to more than 110 exhibitors. As well as Powys students, this year the festival also welcomed some 40 students from Ysgol Henry Richard in Tregaron, Ceredigion. During 2017-18 we also extended our use of social media to promote employment opportunities, for example we promoted opportunities for young people such as apprenticeship and training, through the Positive Pathways Powys facebook and twitter pages. All partners on the Positive Pathways Powys Multiagency group use this as a platform to promote employment opportunities for young people.	✓					
	<i>Adoption of the Local Development Plan</i> - Following the conclusion of the Examination in Public of the Powys Local Development Plan (LDP) and the receipt of the Inspector's Report, the council adopted the LDP on the 17th April 2018 and it became operative immediately. The adopted LDP replaces the former Powys Unitary Development Plan, 2010. The six week period to challenge the validity of the LDP in accordance with Section 113 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 has passed.	✓	✓		✓		
	<i>Superfast Broadband fibre roll out</i> -The European funded part of Welsh Governments programme came to an end on 31 st December 2017. As a result all engineering works stopped as the contract for delivery expired. In readiness for Phase 2 of the programme we have provided a consultation response to indicate priorities for delivery across Powys. The Phase 2 works are expected to begin in late summer 2018.	✓		✓	✓		
	<i>Agora project</i> – We are a key partner in the development of the Rural Development Programme funded Agora project. Agora aims to help start-up business involved in the production of land based goods and encourages shorter supply chains. The programme is a joint initiative between South Wales local councils and Powys County Council. The three year project was launched at the Winter Fair, Llanelwedd, in November 2017 and there is a dedicated support officer in Powys who is actively engaging with local Powys businesses.	✓					✓
	<i>Marches and Mid Wales Freight Strategy</i> – A new strategy was launched setting out recommendations on how to improve the experience of businesses moving freight within and through the region, whilst enhancing the quality of life for residents near to key freight corridors and reducing environmental impacts. Both rail and road options are included. It is anticipated the strategy could provide benefits to operators of heavy goods vehicles (HGV) worth at least £149m. This would be achieved through a series of highway enhancements focused on increased opportunities for safe overtaking; improvements to alleviate bottlenecks; and changes at certain key locations to allow 44 ton HGVs to operate across the whole of the freight network.	✓					

	<i>Mid Wales Growth Deal</i> - We were tasked with taking the lead on the development of an evidence base for the Mid Wales Growth Deal. Working with Ceredigion County Council we have secured £30K of support from Welsh Government to fund the work needed to develop the evidence base. Tenders for the project were issued in early January 2018 and a contractor, Aecom Ltd, appointed to develop the work.	✓					
	<i>Grow in Powys Promotional Activity</i> – The Grow in Powys email news service has been distributed regularly to over 1500 Powys businesses and organisations. The bulletin compiles all the support that is available to Powys businesses from a range of agencies and council services. The news service includes upcoming local business events, local business intelligence, free support, and business achievements in Powys. Following the success of the Powys Drop in Business Clinic event in 2016 two further events were organised in the spring of 2017. Supported by council departments and external business support agencies the events were held in Newtown and Brecon. The events were a great success and well attended by local businesses. Over 80 businesses were assisted through this support initiative.	✓					
	<i>Workways + Powys</i> - A new project to support people over 54 get back into work was launched and is called Workways + Powys. The service is being delivered by PRIME Cymru on behalf of the council and offers free and individual support to help people overcome barriers to getting back into work, such as mentoring, confidence building, online and traditional job search techniques, interview skills, help with CV writing or guidance on setting-up in business. Through 2017-18 it supported 121 individuals, 18 of whom actually obtained employment in the year.	✓		✓			
	<i>Plans for new council homes</i> - We approved plans to develop a phased five year programme for the development of new council homes across the county. The plan will look to build around 250 properties in the next five years. In October 2017 we purchased 6 one bedroom flats in Crickhowell, developed on the council's behalf by Melin Homes. These are the first new purpose built council homes in Powys since the 1980s.	✓		✓			
	<i>Home grown homes</i> – We secured £1.5 million from the European Rural Development Programme grant to progress the Home Grown Homes project. All new council homes developed from this point on will seek to maximise the use of locally grown and home grown timber.	✓	✓				✓
	<i>Infrastructure improvements</i> - We invested £150k to replace an old bridge near Llanbister. The investment in Bron yr Efail bridge has provided a long-term access solution to a number of properties that need to use this bridge. <i>Other</i> Transport links were also improved through grant funding alongside major maintenance of road links. Operational efficiencies have also been gained through the continued replacement of age expired operational fleet, the introduction of road repair machines, upgrading of out of date car park machines, improving the depot and HWRC infrastructure and completing the replacement of all street lighting units.	✓					
A resilient	<i>Flood protection improvements</i> - We have implemented six small flood alleviation schemes which involve drainage and infrastructure improvements to improve local flood protection measures, the schemes are:		✓			✓	

Wales	Gurnos Woods, Ystradynlais, Oaklands Culvert, Builth Wells, Sarnau village, Gypsy Castle Lane, Hay-on-Wye, Springfields, Forden, Watery Lane, Castle Caereinion.								
	<i>Llandrindod lake regeneration</i> –We successfully secured £126,400 grant funding to carry out works in the Llandrindod Wells’ Lake Park area. The grant, which has been funded by the European Union through the Welsh Government’s Rural Community Development Fund, will also be used to improve the offer for visitors to the area. Works totalling £173k to enhance the lake park area has improved cycle links and footpaths, improved facilities available at the lake itself, and provided commercial concessions for two new business opportunities.	✓	✓	✓					
A healthier Wales	<i>Council home improvement works</i> - We have continued to carry out improvements to the council’s housing stock and are on track to achieve Welsh Housing Quality Standards (WHQS) by December 2018. A total of 1173 elemental improvements were carried out in 2017/18 against a target of 2600. The improvements we didn’t achieve along with underspent budgets were rolled into our 2018-19 programme of work and we are target to achieve the WHQS by the end of 2018. This includes kitchen and bathroom installations, which ensures that all council tenants live in compliant and fit for purpose property. The WHQS continues to provide capital investment year on year, 85% of which is spent with Welsh companies. Tenant satisfaction with the works completed is at 83%. Households continue to live in good quality homes, which affect the health and well-being of our communities. WHQS improves the quality of areas where our communities live, creates jobs, training and sustains the supply chain opportunities in some of our poorest areas.	✓		✓				✓	
	<i>Active travel improvements</i> - Paths have been improved in Presteigne as part of a Safe Routes in Communities project, which has been funded by the Welsh Government. The project aims to improve active travel facilities in the town so that more residents are encouraged to travel short journeys by walking or cycling rather than by vehicle. This will help improve the health and well-being of local people, reduce congestion and improve the environment. Active travel improvements have also been completed in Llandrindod, including widening sections of the footpath along Spa Road and creating a safer crossing point.	✓		✓					
A more equal Wales	<i>Successfully reduced the number of learners not in education, employment or training</i> - We have continued to monitor the percentage of Year 11 school leavers known not to be in education, employment or training (NEET) and in September 2017 the NEET figures were reduced to 0.9%. This is the lowest we’ve ever achieved and the second lowest in Wales after Ceredigion (0.8%). Our Youth Service worked with the high schools and Careers Wales to identify those young people most at risk of becoming NEET following Year 11. Contact was made with these young people in summer 2017 and additional transition support was offered. Work over the late summer and autumn concentrated on Careers Wales and the Detached Youth Work team tracking young people into their post-16 provision.	✓			✓				

A Wales of cohesive communities	<i>Community Regeneration Development fund</i> - The Community Regeneration Development Capital Fund has supported projects to the value of £230,000.					✓		
A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh Language	<i>Y Gaer, cultural hub, Brecon</i> - Work on the new flagship cultural centre facility continued, which will see the town's Grade 2* listed Brecknock Museum and Art Gallery fully refurbished and include a new library and community facilities.	✓				✓	✓	
A globally responsible Wales	<i>Electric vehicle charging points</i> - Proposals were accepted to introduce electrical vehicle charging points in council owned car parks. The country is seeing an increase in electric vehicle ownership so it is important that we look to introduce this infrastructure in Powys now. By providing an accessible network of electric vehicle charging points, we will be playing a key role in encouraging the uptake of electric vehicles, which will help improve air quality by reducing emissions from our roads.		✓					✓

How much did we spend?

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Headline capital investments:



- **£11.145m** - Improvements to the councils housing stock and the acquisition of new council homes
 - **£1.62m** - Delivering improvements and adaptations to the private sector housing stock in Powys
 - **£156k** – Bronyrefail bridge replacement
 - **£1.6m** – Highways Asset Management Plan
- **£120k** – Community Regeneration and development fund
- **£4.7m** – Brecon Cultural Hub

Headline savings:

- **£50k** – Additional income from planning fees
- **£18,740** – Set up Joint Venture company to deliver property services

What are our improvement plans for 2018-2023?

You can see more detail about how we will continue to develop a vibrant economy in our Vision 2025: Corporate Improvement Plan 2018-2023. One of our priorities for 2018-2023 is 'the economy' which focusses on:

- Providing support for businesses to grow
- Promoting Powys as a place to live, visit and do business
- Improving the availability of affordable and sustainable housing
- Improving our infrastructure to support regeneration and attract investment
- Improving skills and supporting people to get good quality jobs

Our plans will contribute to creating a prosperous Wales, a more equal Wales and a globally responsible Wales, as well as other national well-being goals.

DRAFT

LEARNING

Summary assessment of performance:

Overall performance has been adequate with 23 (62%) out of the 37 commitments/activities in place to support this priority either completed or on target. 13 were marked as amber and only 1 red. Only one measure used to monitor success met its target, eight were within 10% of meeting their target and 4 were 10% or more from reaching their target. Only three measures showed improvement, compared to performance in 2016-17.

We said we wanted to make the following difference:

- Our learners will be supported to achieve their potential in a modern, inclusive learning environment
- Access to Welsh medium education will have improved

What difference have we made?

Sensory Services – journey of a young adult

Deuan Sparey, Psychology Student at University of Worcester, in conversation with Heidi Lorenz, Teacher of the Visually Impaired, Powys Sensory Service.

When working with pre-school, primary or secondary aged children and young people, it is impossible to know which of the games played, ideas discussed, programmes implemented, or seeds sown, will take root and flourish in later years. However, one young Powys adult believes that if we “Use children’s personal interests, these and their life experiences can lead them to particular courses.”

“The course is great. There are lots of different branches of psychology; forensic psychology sounds very interesting – it can feed into a range of careers, including working for the National Crime Agency.” And this from a young adult who was inspired to write detective stories when he was in Primary School!

Deuan has always been a reflective individual. He recognises that “Why I’m like I am has probably a lot to do with everything I’ve experienced; just from physio... at first I had a ‘this hurts’, ‘this causes me pain’, ‘I don’t want to do this’ attitude, and after my op, when it was worse than before, I had to start thinking more positively about why I needed to carry out my exercises; and when we used to spend all that time editing my work and grammar and spelling, it did impact me to start thinking about what I liked reading, what I wanted to learn about. You taking an interest made me want to learn the practicalities of good writing, and that’s carried on to now, with my wanting to make my writing more academic - more professional.”

Deuan continued: “Looking back and looking forward, I can see that using, or attempting to use, ‘Dragon Naturally Speaking’ in school was a help for the future. It prepared me for the frustrations of technology for a start! The software is more reliable now thank goodness. I still use ‘Dragon’ at Uni as well as ‘Claro Read’ so they were good skills to learn.”

After leaving John Beddoes, Ieuan went to RNC in Hereford. He thinks the time he spent there further developed his independence and increased his confidence in being able to live away from home. "Knowing what I needed when I got to Worcester definitely helped me. Some of the other people there found it much more difficult. I have been asked by the University to participate in some research in visual impairment and access to assist them improve the experience of any future visually impaired students."

When asked if there was anything in particular to he would like to pass on to educational professionals Ieuan paused for moment: "Teach the child whatever it is you are teaching them, but the main thing, for kids especially, is that they trust you to guide them. The more you can act as advocate for someone, the more you will aid their learning - we learn better from people we trust."

Measure of success	Result 2016-17	Target 2017-18	Result 2017-18	Have we improved?
The percentage of pupils eligible for free school meals attaining the Core Subject Indicator (CSI) at key stage 2	68.3%	78%	73.6%	✓
The percentage of pupils eligible for free school meals attaining the CSI at key stage 3	71%	78%	72%	✓
The percentage of pupils eligible for free school meals attaining the CSI at key stage 4	41.7%	42%	32%	✗
% of pupils with additional learning needs achieving the CSI at key stage 2	65%	68%	64%	✗
% of pupils with additional learning needs achieving the CSI at key stage 3	62.1%	69%	62%	✗
% of pupils with additional learning needs achieving the CSI at key stage 4	24.8%	28%	31%	✓
The number of permanent exclusions in primary schools (per 1,000 pupils)	0	0	0.3	✗
The number of permanent exclusions in secondary schools (per 1,000 pupils)	1.61	0.3	1.21	✓
Attendance levels at primary schools	96%	96.5%	95.5%	✗
Attendance levels at secondary schools	95%	95.5%	94.6%	✗
% of 15 year olds leaving full time education without a recognised qualification	0.073%	0%	0.156%	✗
% of schools inspected that were categorised as 'good' or better by Estyn for prospects for improvement	63.5%	70%	62.4%	✗
% of schools inspected that were categorised as 'good' or better by Estyn for current performance	59.4%	70%	57%	✗

What progress did we make against our commitments?

National well-being goals	How has our progress contributed to the well-being goals?	Contribution to other goals					
A prosperous Wales	<p><i>21st Century School Programme</i> - The first round of the authority's 21st Century Schools Programme, an £80m joint initiative between the local authority and the Welsh Government, had a number of projects in development:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gwernyfed primary schools - Following a reconfiguration of primary education in the Gwernyfed catchment, the council has invested in five new primary schools in this area of Powys. The schools have an innovative 'street' space that provides a flexible area for teaching and learning Brecon high school - Construction has now started on the new 750 place secondary school, to replace the current school which is in a very poor condition. The school is expected to open in 2019 and will provide bilingual education for 11–18 year olds in the area Gwernyfed high school - The authority is working on remodelling of Gwernyfed High School, with plans to develop a new teaching and learning block, a new sports hall and refurbish some of the current teaching blocks. The design process is now underway Ysgol Calon Cymru - Llandrindod High School and Builth Wells High School are merging to become a new school on two sites in September 2018, and the Senior Leadership Team has been appointed Ysgol Bro Hyddgen, Machynlleth - Ysgol Bro Hyddgen was established as the authority's first all-through school in 2014. The next stage of the project will see the construction of a flagship 21st Century School building that will, for the first time, bring the primary and secondary campuses on the same site with brand new sporting and community facilities. The new school will be the first Passivhaus accredited all-through school in Wales and in the UK. Work is expected to start on site in 2019 with the school due to open by September 2020 Welshpool - Following the successful reorganisation of primary education in Welshpool, we are now looking forward to stage 2 of the project, which is the construction of two new primary schools. Welshpool CiW Primary School will be a 360 place English medium school and Ysgol Gymraeg y Trallwng will be a 150 place Welsh medium school. <i>CADW has confirmed that the Howell Drive site (previously Ysgol Maesydre) is now a listed building and we are working on a new design for which includes the listed building. Both schools are expected to open in September 2019 and 2020 respectively.</i> Ffwederasiwn Carno, Llanbrynmair and Glantwymyn - This formal federation of schools will see an investment in a new school building in Carno, to replace the current demountable, and remodelling at Ysgol Glantwymyn 	✓				✓	

<p><i>Performance of secondary schools in Estyn follow up categories has improved</i> – At the end of 2016-17 academic year, five secondary schools were in Estyn statutory follow-up categories. The pace of improvement has significantly improved since the Summer of 2017. We have improved how we hold schools causing concern to account through establishing School Improvement Boards which have clearly defined terms of reference and meet each half term. We have also strengthened the function of these improvement boards through robust challenge by our officers, agreeing actions for improvement and holding schools to account. Most schools causing concern display strong progress in achieving agreed actions within the appropriate timescale. As a result, by the end of the 2017-18 academic year, there are now three Powys secondary schools in an Estyn follow up category.</p>	✓						
<p><i>Excellent performance of Powys pupils in GCSE examinations</i> – Provisional data shows that 63% of year 11 pupils achieved the Level 2 threshold (5 good GCSEs including language and mathematics) in 2018, placing Powys 2nd in Wales behind the Vale of Glamorgan. It also gives us the best outcome in the ERW region (Mid and West Wales. This compares to our previous rankings of 3rd in 2017, 5th in 2016, 4th in 2015 and 6th in 2014, out of the 22 Welsh councils. The results reflect well on the work undertaken by learners and the schools’ workforce, together with those that support them.</p>	✓						
<p><i>Continued support for school leaders</i> - Leadership has remained a key focus with 11 primary schools having acting headships at the start of the academic year 2017-18. Mentor head teachers have been assigned to all new and acting head teachers to provide them with the support needed as they begin to lead their schools. We have also been actively promoting and supporting school to school support by providing financial provision to schools to broker additional support from head teachers and staff from high performing schools. Consequently, a significant number of schools have made good progress as a result of this support. Bespoke core visits during both the spring and summer terms have also focussed clearly on the quality of provision, wellbeing, care, support and guidance and leadership in schools. These visits effectively evaluate the impact of support on pupil outcomes, provision and leadership against the identified priorities. They also identify any further support needs.</p>	✓						
<p><i>Increased early years pre-school education infrastructure</i> – Following a commissioning process there are now 80 early years providers across Powys providing early learning provision for three and four year olds. With the re-commissioning of Early Years provision the local authority has identified a need for focus of training for early years settings both maintained and non-maintained. The local authority is restructuring its support for Early Years/ Foundation Phase to ensure a seamless transition from Flying Start to Early Years to school to ensure appropriate capacity and expertise.</p>	✓		✓				
<p><i>Home to school transport policy</i> – We revised the home to school/college transport policy and consultations on the proposals began in May 2018, including workshops and an online survey.</p>	✓						
<p><i>Schools with deficit budgets</i> - An enhanced multi-disciplinary strategy for managing schools in deficit or at risk of entering deficit has been developed. This work has focused on the secondary sector and has already</p>	✓						

	<p>seen significant improvement in the budget planning and forecasts for schools including Llanfyllin High School and Ysgol Uwchradd Caereinion. Over the last 12 months, we issued a warning notice to six secondary schools and two primary schools, requiring these schools to take action to address their deficit budgets. The few schools with excess surplus balances are consistently challenged regarding the justification for the level of reserves they choose to hold. Almost all the schools with surplus balances in 2017-2018 intend to utilise reserves to mitigate against risk from projected financial challenges in the next three years.</p>							
<p>A more equal Wales</p>	<p><i>Support for children with additional learning needs</i> – We have made significant improvements to our processes and procedures and we continue to evaluate, develop and refine ALN and Inclusion approaches where necessary. Key permanent appointments have been made to the management of the Additional Learning Needs Service which has secured capacity and experience to support the management and development of the service. However, there are challenges in ensuring that there is a consistent approach taken to learner entitlement in all parts of the county and further work is needed to ensure that all schools have the capacity to deliver the aspirations in local policy and in the 2018 national legislation. We have begun a review and transformation project related to ALN and Inclusion to ensure that it is modernised and meets what is required in the ALN and Inclusion Act that will be in place for 2020. This major reform and change programme will affect every school in Powys and related services providing support for children and young people with additional learning needs across universal, targeted and complex levels. At all Key Stages and in respect of all categories of SEN (school action, school action plus and statemented) Powys pupils perform above Wales averages, often being within the top 5 of the 22 Welsh local councils.</p>			✓	✓			
	<p><i>Improving pupil outcomes</i> – School Challenge Advisers have continued to support schools to improve outcomes for all pupils, with a specific focus on narrowing the gap between free school meal pupils and non-free school meal pupils. Comparative data for each phase in English shows that the gap in attainment for FSM pupils narrowed in key stage 2 and key stage 3. However, in foundation phase and key stage 4 the gap increased. Comparative data in Cymraeg shows that there was significant improvement of FSM pupils in key stage 2, whilst the gap in foundation phase remained the same. However, in key stage 3 and key stage 4 the gap in attainment for FSM pupils to non-FSM pupils increased. Schools in need of support for FSM pupils have been identified during the autumn term 2017 and training has been provided for these schools.</p>				✓			
	<p><i>Roll out of the Cashless payment system</i> - Roll out was completed in all our primary, secondary and special schools on target by the end of March 2018 and under budget (capital expenditure for implementing the project was £750k against an original budget of £950k). Significant benefits have been realised from implementing the system, including an increase in the uptake of free school meals and a £172k of savings from removal of cashier’s posts in primary schools. The system has proved to be more efficient for pupils, parents and schools while also reducing risks for the council of holding cash in schools.</p>				✓			

A Wales of cohesive communities	<p><i>New Plans for Powys Schools Policy adopted</i> – The new policy sets out our aims to move forward with a greater focus on working in partnership with schools and the communities they serve, and on alternative models of delivering education, such as collaboration models, federation, multi-site schools and all-through schools. We have also published a Delivery Plan which outlines our work programme for the period 2018-21; the priorities are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secondary schools to become ‘all-through schools’, or part of multi-sited arrangements • Small primary schools to be part of formal collaborations /federations / amalgamations • Remove infant / junior split by creating ‘all-through’ primary schools • New Welsh-medium provision to be established • Improvements to the Powys schools estate, either as part of the Welsh Government’s 21st Century Schools Programme or as part of the council’s Asset Management Programme • A new model for delivering post-16 provision to be implemented; and • Transforming the delivery of support for pupils with additional learning needs 					✓	✓	
A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh Language	<p><i>Welsh Language Charter launched</i> - The Welsh Language charter for Welsh-medium primary schools and streams in the county will encourage and recognise those schools who succeed in creating a positive attitude towards the language and increase the use of Welsh by pupils. Schools will work towards bronze, silver and gold awards, which they will achieve depending on the opportunities they provide for pupils to use Welsh in formal and informal situations.</p>						✓	
	<p><i>Welsh in Education Strategic Plan</i> – We approved a Welsh in Education Strategic Plan covering the next three years up to 2020 to show how we will contribute to achieving the outcomes and targets set out in the Welsh Governments Welsh-medium Education Strategy.</p>						✓	
A globally responsible Wales	<p><i>International school award</i> - Crickhowell High School received the British Council’s International School Award in recognition of their work in bringing the world into the classroom. The International School Award celebrates the achievements of schools that do exceptional work in international education. Fostering an international dimension in the curriculum is at the heart of the British Council’s work with schools, so that young people gain the cultural understanding and skills they need for life and work in today’s world.</p>	✓						✓
	<p><i>New energy-saving project was launched</i> - Our Future’s People’, is a sustainable energy project run by Severn Wye Energy Agency and was launched in 10 Powys schools. The project will equip the next generation with the skills and knowledge necessary to cope with the social and environmental changes that will occur in the near future.</p>	✓	✓					✓

How much did we spend?

Headline capital investments:



- **£17.8m** – Gwernyfed School Catchment modernisation
- **£1m** – Brecon School campus
- **£930k** – Welshpool primary school
- **£325k** – Ysgol Bro Hyddgen
- **£287k** – Cashless system for schools

Headline savings:

- **£873k** - Raise the age of admission to one point of entry in September annually following a child's fourth birthday
- **£150k** – Review of fair funding formula
- **£340k** – Reduction in school roll
- **£25k** – Restructuring of school service

What are our improvement plans for 2018-2023?

You can see more detail about how we will continue to improve learner outcomes for all in our Vision 2025: Corporate Improvement Plan 2018-2023. One of our priorities for 2018-2023 is 'Learning and Skills' which focusses on:

- Improving the educational attainment of all pupils
- Supporting children and families to have the best start in life
- Improving our schools infrastructure
- Improving the skills and employability of young people and adults

Our plans will contribute to creating a prosperous Wales, a resilient Wales and a Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh Language, as well as other national well-being goals.

04. Working sustainably

How have we applied our guiding principles in 2017-18?

The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 challenged public bodies in Wales to think more about the way they work and deliver services. It introduced five ways of working which focus on thinking more about the long term, looking to prevent problems before they arise, taking a more collaborative and integrated approach, and working better with residents and communities. We know that changing the way we work means changing people's behaviours and changing the organisational culture which isn't easy. As a first step we made the five ways of working our guiding principles, which means they are at the heart of our corporate and service planning.

During 2017-18 we started making some changes, but there is still a lot to do to ensure sustainable development shapes all our thinking and helps us deliver better outcomes. We introduced a Corporate Leadership and Governance Plan which has eight areas for improvement.

1. Political leadership
2. Officer leadership
3. Workforce strategy
4. Strategic and financial planning
5. ICT and business systems
6. Performance management
7. Communications strategy/engagement
8. Partnerships

These areas for improvement will help us focus change where it is needed most and will help us adapt our ways of working in line with the seven corporate areas of change set out in the guidance of the Act (these are: corporate planning, performance management, financial planning, workforce planning, risk, assets and procurement).

The table below outlines some of the initial steps we have put in place to implement our Corporate Leadership and Governance Plan and apply the principles in our work.

Sustainable development principles:	How have we applied the principle?	What we plan to improve in 2018-19
<p>Long-term Balancing short-term needs with the need to safeguard the ability to also meet long-term needs</p> 	<p><i>Corporate planning</i> – For the first time, the council's Cabinet developed a Corporate Improvement Plan covering four years, rather than focusing on annual improvements. Work has also been undertaken to integrate the corporate planning cycles of the PSB partners, to ensure our plans say and do the same things, where relevant.</p>	<p>We will continue to strengthen our financial planning arrangements and are in the process of agreeing a Medium Term Financial Strategy which will</p>

	<p><i>Performance management</i> - We agreed and began to implement a new Performance Management and Quality Assurance Framework which lays out the common systems and methods needed to perform and improve, helping us to work as one 'joined up' community rather than separate services. A new more robust approach to performance management has seen our Executive Management Team and Cabinet be challenged on a quarterly basis and think more about the longer term impact of our performance. We have continued to develop a suite of standard, integrated and interactive desktop reports for staff across the organisation to provide them with relevant and accurate performance information for making decisions and identifying areas for improvement.</p> <p><i>Financial planning</i> – We have developed a modern five year budget plan for revenue and capital in order to improve our financial resilience and meet the financial challenges we face. This includes the holding and use of reserves to ensure that we maintain a level of contingency for unexpected pressures. Our well established budget monitoring framework ensures that we identify variances to budget as early as possible in order to take corrective action if required. We have also developed a clearly defined financial framework and timetable and have held budget seminars and workshops with members and officers.</p> <p><i>Workforce planning</i> – We started developing operational workforce plans at a service level including having a planned approach to those leaving the organisation through retirement etc. We also continued to deliver ILM leadership programmes which raise awareness of the council's vision and priorities for the long term. Dedicated member development sessions have been held with elected members to raise awareness of the Well-being duty and we also continued to deliver impact assessment training to staff.</p>	<p>be clearly aligned to our Vision 2025 Corporate Improvement Plan.</p> <p>We will continue to implement the new Performance Management and Quality Assurance Framework and will introduce performance management training for all new managers as part of their induction training.</p> <p>We will embed workforce planning as part of the business planning cycle – using 6 steps methodology.</p>
<p>Prevention Putting resources into preventing problems occurring or getting worse</p>	 <p><i>Corporate Planning</i> - The Children and Young People Partnership has started testing how it can help deliver an Early Help Model and other elements of the Start Well Programme (part of the Powys Heath and Care Strategy/Joint Area Plan). This also involves aligning Early Help/Child Poverty programmes in preparation for an integrated commissioning strategy. We are exploring models of early help hubs in other places to design an appropriate service for Powys.</p> <p><i>Risk</i> – We developed a risk management guide and toolkit to help ensure that at all</p>	<p>A key next step is to ensure that all professionals understand and respect the role of Information, Advice and Assistance (IAA) and their responsibility for it in changing the way families can interact with organisations at an early stage of their involvement.</p>

	<p>levels of the organisation we are able to identify risks which would prevent us from achieving our objectives (including failing to take advantage of opportunities). All the council’s risks are recorded and monitored centrally ensuring that they are managed effectively and we look to put action in place to prevent problems occurring or getting worse.</p> <p><i>Assets</i> – During 2017-18 we agreed a new Strategic Asset Management Plan, which is based on a ‘place’ approach. Rather than looking at each council service area separately, we have looked at each geographic “place” across Powys instead so we can better understand our portfolio in the round, identify regional opportunities e.g. co-locations and better plan for the future. Taking a “place” approach recognises the importance of communities and should improve community involvement and engagement. Effective management and development of our assets also provides opportunities for employment and business start-ups.</p> <p>Through our community delivery project and Community Asset Transfer work, we have continued to seek opportunities for ensuring we make the best use of our assets and ensure that they are retained by communities who value them. When building our new schools we also ensure that they are designed for the benefit of our communities and are environmentally sustainable.</p> <p><i>Procurement</i> – We signed up to the Welsh Government Code of Practice on Ethical Employment in Supply Chains, which means we will commence the journey to meet the 12 requirements of the code to ensure that workers in the public sector supply chains are employed ethically. We are also in the process of developing a Modern Slavery Policy which adopts an integrated approach bringing together key areas of Safeguarding, Policy Support, Human Resources, Procurement and Civil Contingencies to ensure that there is no modern slavery or human trafficking in our supply chains or in any part of our business.</p>	<p>The Children and Young People Partnership has made this a priority action, within the work being done to develop prevention and early intervention across all public services. We will implement regular reporting under the Corporate Improvement Plan for delivery of Information, Advice and Assistance (IAA).</p>
<p>Integration (cross-cutting) Considering how our priorities may impact upon one another, on the well-being goals and on the priorities of other public bodies</p> 	<p><i>Corporate planning</i> - We have ensured that our revised well-being objectives published in Vision 2025 Our Corporate Improvement Plan 2018-2023 fully support and complement each other. For example, learning and skills are key to a thriving economy and business growth and will help attract inward investment. Good education and employment opportunities will help maintain resilient residents and communities and resilient communities are vital to health and care. We also reviewed and changed our</p>	

<p>Collaboration Working together with other partners to deliver our priorities</p> 	<p>objectives to ensure that they align with the PSB well-being objectives.</p> <p><i>Corporate planning</i> – We have worked with partners in the PSB to develop a collaborative Well-being plan and we have also worked closely with Powys Teaching Health Board to develop a Health and Care Strategy that will strengthen integration between our social services and health care services.</p>	<p>We will establish effective joint scrutiny arrangements for the Public Service Board, Regional Partnership Board and Joint Partnership Board.</p> <p>We will update the population and wellbeing assessment to inform our plans and decisions.</p>
<p>Involvement Involving those with an interest in achieving the well-being goals, and ensuring that those people reflect the diversity of the area</p> 	<p><i>Consultation and engagement</i> - Over the past year we have continued to build a dialogue and engage with Powys citizens in a number of ways, whilst also beginning to grow and utilise social media channels to ensure we hear from as many stakeholders as possible when we are looking to change the way we deliver services.</p> <p>During 2017/18, we carried out a wide range of engagement work with our residents, covering a wide range of topics and using a variety of methodologies. Some of the major projects included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We have also consulted the public on proposals for reshaping the way the council delivers its youth service via an online survey alongside engagement with all the youth workers themselves to capture views and ideas on how to develop and deliver the service going forward • A comprehensive consultation was carried out to seek views on the council’s current rights of way network ahead of writing a new 10 year Rights of Way Improvement Plan. The consultation consisted of three specific surveys targeting key stakeholders – the public, Town and Community Councils and landowners alongside meetings and workshops held with access groups, the healthy weights group and the older people’s forum • The schools organisation code was also the subject of a consultation during the year, with drop –in sessions organised across the county to seek the public’s views in tandem with online and offline surveys • On a more localised note, the council also asked the community of Machynlleth for their views on a location for additional cemetery provision for the town. Again, online and offline surveys and drop-ins were used to seek the views of the community 	<p>We will create an overarching Council Communications and Engagement Plan which is aligned to our Vision 2025 programmes of work. As part of the plan we will review and enhance ways of engaging with people around the difficult challenges we are facing, e.g. Annual Resident Satisfaction Survey, ‘Taking the Council to the People’ roadshows and digital approaches including Delib Dialogue tool.</p>

- Working with a variety of partners under the banner of the Powys Local Service Board, we sought the public's views on the development of a Well-being Plan as part of the Well-being of Future Generations Act responsibilities. This involved a three phase consultation. Over a thousand residents were engaged in Phase I and Phase III and views expressed helped shape the final plan which has now been adopted by the Powys Public Service Board. Drop in sessions at libraries and supermarkets, face to face meetings with community groups and an online survey helped to capture the views of residents from across all walks of life including disability groups, housing tenants and the voluntary sector. We also worked together with Powys Teaching Health Board to seek public input into our joint Health and Care Strategy
- We also carry out extensive engagement with social care clients to seek their views on the services we deliver - as part of the Social Care and Wellbeing Act – using a mixture of online and offline surveys. Other services also carry out customer research into the services they deliver – both internally and externally – including the Registration Service and internal departments such as Human Resources

05. How does our performance compare to other Welsh councils?

N.B. The all Wales analysis currently excludes data on waste and social care indicators as they are not yet available (8 out of the indicators).

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As well as monitoring performance against the commitments and performance measures in our own Corporate Improvement Plan 2016-19, there are a set of national performance indicators which the Welsh Government requires us to monitor and report to the public. They allow us to compare our performance with the other 21 council's across, Wales in delivering key statutory services.



In summary:

- We were among the top quartiles in Wales for 10 (56%) indicators
- We were among the bottom quartiles in Wales for 7 (39%) indicators. There is no quartile data available for one of the indicators
- We improved our performance in 28.6% of the indicators, compared to performance in 2016-17
- Our performance fell for 42.9% of the indicators, when compared to performance in 2016-17

We are among the highest in Wales (Upper Quartile) for:

- Page 135
- The average number of calendar days taken to deliver Disabled Facilities Grant (ranked 1st)
 - Percentage of appeals against planning applications dismissed (ranked 1st)
 - Percentage of pupil attendance in primary schools (ranked 2nd)
 - Percentage of year 11 leavers known not to be in education, training or employment (NEET) (ranked 2nd)

We were among the lowest in Wales (Lower Quartile) for:

- Percentage of empty private sector properties brought back into use during the year through direct action by the local authority (ranked 19th)
- The percentage of reported fly tipping incidents cleared within 5 working days (ranked 19th)
- The percentage of principal B roads that are in overall poor condition (ranked 20th)
- The percentage of principal C roads that are in overall poor condition (ranked 22nd)

The following table details our performance against each of the individual indicators, showing our performance in 2017-18 compared to previous year's performance and our rank and quartile position on an all Wales level.

Measure	2013/14 Actual	2014/15 Actual	2015/16 Actual	2016/17 Actual	2017/18 Actual	Trend between 2016/17 to 2017/18	Welsh Average	All Wales Rank and quartile position (Upper=1 st to 6 th (Upper Middle=7 th to 11 th Lower middle=12 th to 16 th Lower=17 th to 22 nd)
Adults – Social Care								
Percentage of adults who are satisfied with the care and support that they receive	Awaiting National Data							
The rate of delayed transfers of care for social care reasons per 1,000 population aged 75 or over								
Percentage of carers reporting that they feel supported to continue in their caring role								
Children – Social Care								
Percentage of children who are satisfied with the care and support that they receive	Awaiting National Data							
Percentage of assessments completed for children within statutory timescales								
The percentage of children looked after on 31 March who have had three or more placements during the year								
Housing / Homelessness / Planning								
The average number of calendar days taken to deliver a Disabled Facilities Grant	268	170	152	126	122	↑	213	1st Upper

Measure	2013/14 Actual	2014/15 Actual	2015/16 Actual	2016/17 Actual	2017/18 Actual	Trend between 2016/17 to 2017/18	Welsh Average	All Wales Rank and quartile position (Upper=1 st to 6 th (Upper Middle=7 th to 11 th Lower middle=12 th to 16 th Lower=17 th to 22 nd)
Percentage of empty private sector properties brought back into use during the year through direct action by the local authority	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	1.4	n/a	5.2	19th Lower
Percentage of households threatened with homelessness successfully prevented from becoming homeless	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	63.3	n/a	66.4	14th Lower Middle
Percentage of all planning applications determined within required time periods					88.1	n/a	88.5	16th Lower Middle
Percentage of appeals against planning applications dismissed					100	n/a	62.2	1st Upper
Leisure / Libraries								
(LCL/001) The number of visits to Public Libraries during the year, per 1,000 population	6399	6,002	6,193	5,726	5,411	↓	5,270	7th Upper Middle
LCS/002(b): The number of visits to local authority sport and leisure facilities during the year per 1,000 population where the visitor will be participating in physical activity	7885	7,348	7,075	8511	8,873	↑	8,502	9th Upper Middle
Education								
Percentage of pupil attendance in primary schools	94.2	95.6	95.7	95.7	95.5	↓	94.9	2nd Upper
Percentage of pupil attendance in secondary schools	93.3	94.4	94.7	95	94.6	↓	94.1	5th Upper

Measure	2013/14 Actual	2014/15 Actual	2015/16 Actual	2016/17 Actual	2017/18 Actual	Trend between 2016/17 to 2017/18	Welsh Average	All Wales Rank and quartile position (Upper=1 st to 6 th (Upper Middle=7 th to 11 th Lower middle=12 th to 16 th Lower=17 th to 22 nd)
The percentage of year 11 pupils achieving the Level 2 threshold including a GCSE grade A*-C in English or Welsh first language and mathematics in schools maintained by the local authority	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	62.2	n/a	54.8	3rd Upper
Percentage of year 11 leavers known not to be in education, training or employment (NEET)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.9	N/A	1.6	2nd Upper
Waste Management								
(WMT/004) The percentage of municipal waste collected by local authorities sent to landfill	37.56	35.62	25.79	21.02	Awaiting National Data			
(WMT/009) The percentage of municipal waste collected by local authorities and prepared for reuse and/or recycled, including source segregated biowastes that are composted or treated biologically in another way	52.52	52.07	59.13	65.20				
Street Scene								
The percentage of highways inspected of a high or acceptable standard of cleanliness	99.6	97.8	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
The percentage of reported fly tipping incidents cleared within 5 working days	91.81	90.09	91.56	85.95	87.69	↑	95.08	19th Lower
Transport and Highways								

Measure	2013/14 Actual	2014/15 Actual	2015/16 Actual	2016/17 Actual	2017/18 Actual	Trend between 2016/17 to 2017/18	Welsh Average	All Wales Rank and quartile position (Upper=1 st to 6 th (Upper Middle=7 th to 11 th Lower middle=12 th to 16 th Lower=17 th to 22 nd)
The percentage of principal A roads that are in overall poor condition			2.8	3.6	3.9	↓	3.7	14th Lower Middle
The percentage of principal B roads that are in overall poor condition			5.2	5.5	5.7	⇒	4.3	20th Lower
The percentage of principal C roads that are in overall poor condition			25.1	24.4	23.0	↑	14.1	22nd Lower
Public protection								
The percentage of food establishments which are 'broadly compliant' with food hygiene standards	90.28	94.69	90.93	96.01	95.88	↓	95.27	10th Upper Middle
Corporate Services								
CHR/002: The number of working days/shifts per full-time equivalent (FTE) local authority employee lost due to sickness absence	N/A	7.4	10.6	9	9.7	↓	10.4	7th Upper Middle

06. Listening to our regulators

We are answerable to a number of external regulatory bodies, who perform inspections on our services. We have embraced the findings of these inspections and will work in partnership with our regulators to put actions in place to deliver the required service improvements.

Further to the key messages that we published in Vision 2025: Our Corporate Improvement Plan 2018-2023, outlined below is a summary of the feedback that we received from regulators during 2017-18.

WALES AUDIT OFFICE

The Wales Audit Office (WAO) has a duty to report to the public on the arrangements councils in Wales put in place to secure continuous improvement. The Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009 (the Measure) requires the Auditor General to undertake a forward-looking annual improvement assessment, and to publish an annual improvement report, for each improvement authority in Wales.

Their Annual Improvement Report 2017-18 states:

“The Council is not meeting its statutory requirements in relation to continuous improvement”.

In his annual audit letter issued in January 2018 the Auditor General stated that in his view the Council did not have sufficient appropriate arrangements in place to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources, and the current and future financial position represents a significant challenge. He issued a statutory recommendation covering this area – outlined below.

As a consequence, based on, and limited to, the work carried out by the Wales Audit Office and relevant regulators, the Auditor General believes that the Council is not complying with the requirements of the Local Government Measure (2009).

Statutory Recommendation: In setting a balanced budget, the Council must ensure that all savings plans are sufficiently well developed for inclusion in the annual budget. The Council must also act immediately to update its Medium Term Financial Strategy to enable the Council to live within its means going forward, and design and implement actions to address the weaknesses identified and reports by me in respect of its corporate and financial arrangements.

The Council accepted the Statutory Recommendation at a meeting on 22nd February 2018 and agreed an Action Plan for improving Strategic and Financial Planning. This action plan forms part of the council’s wider Corporate Leadership and Governance Plan that is monitored monthly at the Improvement and Assurance Board.

The WAO has carried out a number of audit, regulatory and inspection work during 2017-18. The table below outlines the reviews where proposals for improvement or recommendations were issued:

Brief description	Key conclusions	Proposals for improvement
-------------------	-----------------	---------------------------

<p>Service User Perspective Review In Powys County Council, we reviewed the Housing service.</p>	<p>The Council is making progress towards achieving the Welsh Housing Quality Standard for many components and most Council tenants are satisfied with the quality of the service and their homes, but it needs to accelerate its approach to ensuring tenants homes are warm.</p>	<p>Three proposals for improvement were issued by WAO.</p>
<p>'Scrutiny: Fit for the Future?' Review Review of how well placed Councils' overview and scrutiny functions are to respond to current and future challenges.</p>	<p>The Council has been slow to develop its scrutiny arrangements and there are fundamental areas it needs to address if scrutiny is to operate effectively and have impact in the face of future challenges.</p>	<p>Six proposals for improvement were issued by WAO.</p>
<p>Annual audit letter 2016-17 Letter summarising the key messages arising from the Auditor General's statutory responsibilities under the Public Audit (Wales) Act 2004 and his reporting responsibilities under the Code of Audit Practice.</p>	<p>The Council complied with its responsibilities relating to financial reporting but did not have sufficient appropriate arrangements in place to secure economy, efficient and effectiveness in its use of resources. I issued a certificate confirming that the audit of the accounts has been completed on 22 November 2017. My work to date on certification of grant claims and returns has not identified significant issues that would impact on the 2017-18 accounts or key financial systems. The Council did not have sufficient appropriate arrangements in place to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources, and the current and future financial position represents a significant challenge.</p>	<p>WAO issued a statutory recommendation.</p>

The WAO also undertook a number of national reviews, which included proposals for improvement, these include:

- Savings Planning in Councils in Wales
- Public Procurement in Wales
- Good governance when determining significant service changes – National Summary
- How Local Government manages demand – Homelessness
- Housing Adaptations
- Speak my language: Overcoming language and communication barriers in public services

- Strategic Commissioning of Accommodation Services for Adults with Learning Disabilities

The full report can be found on the WAO website: www.audit.wales

CARE INSPECTORATE WALES

The Care Inspectorate Wales (CIW) encourages improvement of social care, early years and social services by regulating, inspecting, reviewing and providing professional advice to ministers and policy makers. During 2017-18 the council received comprehensive inspections of both its children's and adult services.

Inspection of Children Services:

CIW inspected the quality and effectiveness of children's services during July 2017 and published their findings in a report in October 2017. The inspection report highlighted a significant number of serious concerns with regard to the performance, quality and delivery of children's services compounded by instability in management, poor and confused direction and weak governance. The council fully accepted the findings in the inspection report and the subsequent warning notices issued by Welsh Government. It quickly acknowledged the need for urgent and sustained change which would demonstrate both a genuine commitment to safeguarding children in Powys and also deliver effective systems for helping them to achieve positive well-being outcomes.

In response to the First Warning Notice, the council:

- appointed an interim Director of Social Services;
- appointed an Improvement Board to oversee the actions of the Director, to provide constructive challenge and strategic oversight of the Director's actions as regards all social services functions relating to children;
- ensured that the Improvement Board has provided reports to the Leader of the Council with a copy to the Director of Social Services and Integration, Welsh Government;
- delivered an improvement plan drawn up by the interim Director of Social Services to address the issues raised in the July inspection report within the 20 days required ;
- started to implement the improvement plan

CIW carried out a follow-up monitoring visit in December 2017 where they continued to be concerned about a range of issues including timescales for the completion of assessments and care and support plans, safeguarding practice issues and performance and quality monitoring. A follow up warning notice was issued setting out further actions required by the council.

Further CIW monitoring activity undertaken in March 2018 concluded the following:

1. *We have increased confidence the local authority understands more fully what it needs to do to improve services and has taken tangible steps toward this. We found evidence of progress in assessment and care and support services for children. We also recognise increased corporate support for the improvement journey and appreciation of the importance of this for the safety and well-being of the most vulnerable children in Powys.*
2. *We note investment in additional resources has reduced caseloads and increased senior management capacity to support the performance of individual frontline staff and managers. There is now sufficient performance information in most areas to provide a clear view of the service provided.*
3. *We saw evidence of the implementation of the quality assurance framework with comprehensive case file reviews providing much needed information on the quality of practice. People we spoke to, at all levels, were able to articulate what needs to be done, including a concerted effort to improve recording practice by frontline staff. However until staff have more confidence in the electronic case management system there will continue to be questions around the reliability of performance data.*
4. *While some performance indicators have improved, progress is still required in other key areas. Now there are reduced caseloads, it is vital the workforce is committed to quality and timely support for children and families and has the means to deliver on this. At this visit, senior managers were clear about the need to address any performance issues directly with individual staff through additional support and training.*

We spoke to social workers who trained outside Wales who received very little induction into the Welsh legal context when taking up their contract. We are disappointed planned training on the Social Services and Well-being Wales Act has not yet occurred. The high turnover of staff continues. This prevents stability and security within teams and continues to impact on the children and families the authority is supporting.

The Head of Service is clear about planned work to review the efficacy of early help services and the quality of direct work being delivered by statutory social services. There are substantial improvements required in commissioning, quality assurance, multi-agency decision making and support of looked after children placed out of the area.

Inspection of Adult Services:

CIW carried out a comprehensive and detailed inspection of front line services and safeguarding in January 2018 and published their findings in a report in May 2018. We developed an improvement plan in readiness for the inspection. It identified the financial investment needed to strengthen reform of services and the council is committed to investing further support over the next 12 months if needed. The investment will increase the numbers of frontline care staff and provide Powys People Direct (the single point of access to services) with more resources.

Inspectors provided positive feedback about a number of areas, including urgent safeguarding work and staff morale, but they also described significant concerns about the need for prompt responses to people in need of help to keep them safe and improve their quality of life. Their report states:

Access

The high number of abandoned calls by people attempting to contact Powys People Direct (PPD) means a significant number of people do not get consistent access to timely information, advice and support. Opportunities for people to have their voices heard are being missed, as are opportunities to prevent the need for further care and support.

Assessment

Not all geographic areas of Powys have suitable arrangements in place for assessing need and determining people's eligibility for care and support or for assessing the support needs of carers. This means some people are waiting too long for assessment and support. Some of these delays are very significant. They have a negative impact on people, their carers and families and create a burden on other parts of the social and healthcare system.

Care & support

There are many good quality care and support plans in Powys; most demonstrate positive engagement with people. Some could be improved with a renewed focus on strengths as outlined in the SSWBA. Too many people were waiting an excessive amount of time for care and support to begin.

Safeguarding

Safeguarding referrals that explicitly articulated and clearly identified risks received a robust, timely response. In these cases there was evidence of intelligent working and well written comprehensive record keeping. However, not all safeguarding referrals received a timely, proportionate and where appropriate well-coordinated multi-agency response. There was a backlog of safeguarding work at screening and enquiry stages and an insufficient focus on multi-agency safeguarding discussions and meetings.

Leadership, management & governance

Senior managers and elected members held a shared vision for improving safeguarding and for promoting services that supported people to lead independent lifestyles. Neither performance management arrangements nor quality assurance mechanisms were sufficiently well embedded to provide a thorough understanding of the difference that help, care and support and/or protection was making for people. Senior leaders need to improve their knowledge about performance to enable them to discharge their responsibilities more effectively. High level plans, including joint plans, need to be translated into tangible action plans for the delivery of good quality and well integrated services. Recruitment and retention of the adult social services workforce presents some significant challenges.

Their report set out six priority recommendations and a further ten where they expect to see improvement in the next 12 months. The Assurance Board, which is independently chaired and includes external advisors to secure improvement across social services, monitors progress towards the recommendations on a monthly basis and will continue to challenge poor performance. CIW will carry out a monitoring visit in July 2018.

Estyn are the main inspectorate of educational outcomes, provision and leadership at a regional, local authority and school and pre-school setting level. All inspections are carried out by a team of Her Majesty's Inspectors against a Common Inspection Framework. Estyn visit on a termly basis for one day to assess progress against previous inspections and to challenge current performance.

Improvement Conference 2018:

Powys was selected to be one of three councils involved in piloting the new improvement conference inspection activity. The schools service has carried out a lot of work to ensure that it responds to the scrutiny which takes place in these meetings as well as the recommendations made by HMI. A Self-Assessment Report was developed in preparation for the second Improvement conference held in April 2018. The conference focussed on:

- The council's plans for addressing the underperformance of secondary aged pupils, including the response to the recommendations from the initial improvement conference
- The effectiveness of central finances support in overseeing schools budgets

The Estyn outcome letter, which was published following the improvement conference in April 2018 states:

Inspectors sought assurance that the authority:

- *has taken appropriate action since the initial improvement conference*
- *is making suitable progress in securing better outcomes for learners*
- *has coherent plans to continue to address the issues raised at the initial improvement conference, and that these plans may need to be revised to take into account changing circumstances*
- *has sufficient resources to implement its plans*

- *has rigorous processes in place to monitor the implementation of its plans and evaluate the impact*

The authority's plans for addressing the underperformance of secondary aged pupils

Estyn remains assured that the local authority understands the reasons behind the relative weak performance of its secondary schools in recent years. Two-thirds of secondary schools in Powys have been identified locally as requiring significant support and are amber or red category. Although progress has been slow and the local authority acknowledged that its monitoring of schools had not been rigorous enough, the authority is strengthening its work to quicken the pace of improvement in schools. This includes new staff to support school improvement work, a more robust approach to challenging, supporting and monitoring schools causing concern and tighter performance management arrangements.

Four secondary schools have appointed a new head teacher since the initial conference, and the authority has ensured that there is support available to these new head teachers, though it is not possible to evaluate this as part of the conference process. Only two secondary schools have middle leaders participating in the professional learning programme for middle leaders available through ERW, and I am concerned at this low take-up. I recommend that the authority works with ERW to ensure that middle leaders in other schools are receiving appropriate professional learning to meet their needs and to strengthen the quality of leadership and management in schools where this is an area for improvement.

The effectiveness of central finance support in overseeing school budgets

The local authority knows that its current budget position is unacceptable and has a good understanding of the reasons that have caused this. The authority has detailed financial data on the position of every school as well as its internal service areas. School leaders and governors as well as senior offices and elected members are all aware of relevant financial information to enable them to fulfil their responsibilities. Over the last 12 months, the authority has issued a warning notice to six secondary schools and two primary schools, requiring these schools to take action to address their deficit budgets. The local authority has recently ensured that Brecon High School, which is in a very poor deficit position, agreed a plan to address their budget. I note that, as a result, the local authority has not used its powers to suspend the governing body's right to a delegated budget.

No further improvements were requested, but there is now a clear mandate to continue on the improvement journey that the service has commenced and to show clear evidence of impact. A new cycle of local government education services inspections will commence in September 2018.

07. Scrutiny and Audit Reviews

Examples of Scrutiny and Audit Reviews undertaken in 2017/18

The following are examples of areas which were scrutinised / Pre-scrutinised during 2017/18:

Scrutiny Committee A:

- **Commissioning of the Highways, Transport and Recycling Service (Pre-scrutiny)** – a full business case for future options for delivery of the HTR Service was considered in association with representatives of Scrutiny Committee B and Audit Committee. However, following a change in political leadership, it was agreed that a modified in-house option would be pursued and Scrutiny will now take place on a regular basis as proposals develop.
- **Adult Social Care Scrutiny Group** – a number of briefing sessions have been held to ensure that new Members are fully informed. Pre decision scrutiny has been undertaken on Residential Care Pooled Budgets (Joint with Audit Committee representatives), Fee Setting in Residential Care and Charging for Community Based Services. The Group scrutinized the draft Adult Services Improvement Plan and contributed to the pre inspection Self-Assessment. Ongoing exception monitoring of the Action Plan is underway and this will be revised once the CIW Inspection Report is received. The Group considers financial details on a quarterly basis and monitors the service Risk Register at every meeting.
- **Household Waste Recycling Centres** – Members reviewed the changes to reduce days of operation implemented in April 2017 and supported a change to increased opening hours bearing in mind the additional costs to the service and the requirement for savings under the Medium Term Financial Strategy.
- **North Powys Office Accommodation Review** – reviews of office accommodation are to be undertaken across the County and the first area considered was in the North. Members were briefed on a number of options together with costs.
- **Crime and Disorder** - the Committee continues to monitor performance reports of the Community Safety Partnership biannually.
- **General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR)** – a review was undertaken of the council's preparedness for the implementation of GDPR in May 2018. The review considered the action plan as well as its progress. A further review will consider the position once the regulations have been implemented.

Finance Scrutiny Panel

The Finance Scrutiny Panel has reviewed proposals for the 2018/19 and 19/20 budgets. However, the Panel were frustrated by the lack of information on the budget until late in January which compromised their ability to provide effective scrutiny. The Panel continues to support the development of 5 year budget plans but the lack of detail going forward poses a substantial risk to the delivery of savings. The Panel are pleased that there will be a thorough review of the Medium Term Financial Strategy but remain concerned that the 2018/19 budget has been balanced by use of one off inputs and technical accounting practices.

Audit Committee

In addition to its regulatory requirements, the Committee reviews the Corporate Risk Register, Regulatory Tracker and Treasury Management on a quarterly basis. Summary reports relating to the work of the Finance Scrutiny Panel and Internal Audit Working Group are also considered.

- **Internal Audit Working Group** – the Group reviews action plans arising from Internal Audit reports which have limited or low assurance. Consideration is also given to reports relating to internal fraud.

- **Joint Audit / Education Scrutiny Group** – the group has been asked to undertake work on the financial viability of Schools following receipt of a WAO report. A report was prepared and considered by Cabinet.

Joint Adult and Children’s Services Scrutiny Group

- **Powys People Direct** - the joint Group met to consider concerns relating to Powys People Direct following the CIW Inspection of Children’s Services. The service is to be reviewed by Children’s and Adults’ Services, and the Joint Scrutiny Group will monitor progress of that review.
- **Health and Care Strategy** – the joint Group considered ‘A Healthy Caring Powys – Discharging our Duties in Relation to the Area Plan which considers delivery of the first five year’s of the Health and Care Strategy. Comments were made to Cabinet and were submitted to the Welsh Government by 1st April 2018.

Scrutiny Committee B

- Annual Report of Director of Social Care
- Pre-Cabinet scrutiny of the new Schools Policy promoting collaborative working
- Welsh in Education Strategic Plan

Children’s Scrutiny Group

- Members undertook pre-Cabinet scrutiny of the redesign of Youth Services
- Members received the CIW Inspection report on Children’s Services. The initial Improvement Plan was considered along with further iterations of the Plan. The group have received performance monitoring reports, the Member Tracker and have undertaken specific work on the following areas:
 - Safeguarding
 - Governance
 - Looked After Children, Fostering and Out of County Placements
 - Assessment compliance and quality assurance

Education Scrutiny Group

- Ongoing education scrutiny:
 - Standards (provisional and verified)
 - Attendance and exclusions
 - Inspection outcomes
- Annual scrutiny of the regional consortia for education improvement (ERW)
- Pre-Cabinet Scrutiny of the Education Self Evaluation Report
- Pre-Cabinet Scrutiny of Home to School/College Transport Policy
- Scrutiny of proposals regarding implementation of 30 hours free child care
- Scrutiny of Transformation of Additional Learning Needs and Inclusion Service
- Scrutiny of Governor Training programme

Two representatives of the Education Scrutiny Group also attend twice yearly meetings of the Joint ERW Scrutiny Group.

Schools Scrutiny Panel

- Monitoring progress of schools who have attended School Scrutiny Panel
- School categorisation

Leisure/Culture Scrutiny Group

- Members undertook pre-Cabinet Scrutiny of proposals regarding changes to the Leisure provision (closure of the Staylitttle Outdoor Pursuits Centre)

Joint Chairs and Vice-Chairs Steering Group

The Steering Group scrutinised the following:

- Draft CIP
- Draft Annual Performance Statement 2016-17
- PSB: Vision 2040
- Draft Well-Being Plan
- Corporate Leadership, Governance Improvement Plan.

The Steering Group also reviewed:

- Work Programmes for all scrutiny committees (each meeting)
- The Scrutiny Service.
- The Scrutiny Committee Structure
- Arrangements for the Scrutiny of the PSB in Powys

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The seven goals of The Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015

A prosperous Wales An innovative, productive and low carbon society which recognises the limits of the global environment and therefore uses resources efficiently and proportionately (including acting on climate change); and which develops a skilled and well-educated population in an economy which generates wealth and provides employment opportunities, allowing people to take advantage of the wealth generated through securing decent work.

A resilient Wales A nation which maintains and enhances a biodiverse natural environment with healthy functioning ecosystems that support social, economic and ecological resilience and the capacity to adapt to change (for example climate change).

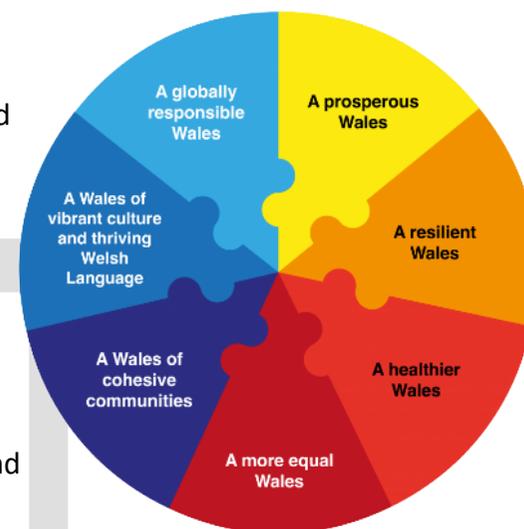
A healthier Wales A society in which people's physical and mental well-being is maximised and in which choices and behaviours that benefit future health are understood.

A more equal Wales A society that enables people to fulfil their potential no matter what their background or circumstances (including their socio economic background and circumstances).

A Wales of cohesive communities Attractive, viable, safe and well-connected communities.

A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language A society that promotes and protects culture, heritage and the Welsh language, and which encourages people to participate in the arts, and sports and recreation.

A globally responsible Wales A nation which, when doing anything to improve the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales, takes account of whether doing such a thing may make a positive contribution to global well-being.



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WALES AUDIT OFFICE
SWYDDFA ARCHWILIO CYMRU

Annual Improvement Report 2017-18

Powys County Council

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This Annual Improvement Report has been prepared on behalf of the Auditor General for Wales by Colin Davies, Jeremy Evans and Justine Morgan under the direction of Jane Holownia and Huw Rees.

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The Auditor General is independent of government, and is appointed by Her Majesty the Queen. The Auditor General undertakes his work using staff and other resources provided by the Wales Audit Office Board, which is a statutory board established for that purpose and to monitor and advise the Auditor General. The Wales Audit Office is held to account by the National Assembly.

The Auditor General audits local government bodies in Wales, including unitary authorities, police, probation, fire and rescue authorities, national parks and community councils. He also conducts local government value for money studies and assesses compliance with the requirements of the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009.

Beyond local government, the Auditor General is the external auditor of the Welsh Government and its sponsored and related public bodies, the Assembly Commission and National Health Service bodies in Wales.

The Auditor General and staff of the Wales Audit Office aim to provide public-focused and proportionate reporting on the stewardship of public resources and in the process provide insight and promote improvement.

We welcome correspondence and telephone calls in Welsh and English. Corresponding in Welsh will not lead to delay. Rydym yn croesawu gohebiaeth a galwadau ffôn yn Gymraeg a Saesneg. Ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

This document is also available in Welsh.

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Summary report

2017-18 performance audit work

- 1 In determining the breadth of work undertaken during the year, we considered the extent of accumulated audit and inspection knowledge as well as other available sources of information including Powys County Council's (the Council) own mechanisms for review and evaluation. For 2017-18, we undertook improvement assessment work at all councils. We also undertook work at all councils in relation to the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act, a service-user-perspective themed review and a review of overview and scrutiny arrangements. At some councils, we supplemented this work with local risk-based audits, identified in the Audit Plan for 2017-18.
- 2 The work carried out since the last Annual Improvement Report (AIR), including that of the relevant regulators, is set out in [Exhibit 2](#).

The Council is not meeting its statutory requirements in relation to continuous improvement

- 3 Following a critical report by Care Inspectorate Wales (CIW) relating to their inspection of Children's Services, the Cabinet Secretary issued a warning notice requiring the Council to publish an improvement plan and establish an Improvement and Assurance Board. The Improvement Board has an independent chair and is supported by Welsh Local Government Association (WLGGA) advisors. The Board is tasked with overseeing the progress the Council is making in delivering its improvement plan.
- 4 In May 2018 CIW published their report on Adult Services, as a result the Council extended its improvement plan to cover this area and bring this activity into the Improvement and Assurance Boards remit.
- 5 In his annual audit letter issued in January 2018 ([Appendix 3](#)) the Auditor General stated that in his view the Council did not have sufficient appropriate arrangements in place to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources, and the current and future financial position represents a significant challenge. He issued a statutory recommendation covering this area. ([Exhibit 1](#)).
- 6 As a consequence, based on, and limited to, the work carried out by the Wales Audit Office and relevant regulators, the Auditor General believes that the Council is not complying with the requirements of the Local Government Measure (2009).

Recommendations and proposals for improvement

- 7 Given the wide range of services provided by the Council and the challenges it is facing, it would be unusual if we did not find things that can be improved. The Auditor General is able to:
- make proposals for improvement – if proposals are made to the Council, we would expect it to do something about them and we will follow up what happens;
 - make formal recommendations for improvement – if a formal recommendation is made, the Council must prepare a response to that recommendation within 30 working days;
 - conduct a special inspection, and publish a report and make recommendations; and
 - recommend to ministers of the Welsh Government that they intervene in some way.
- 8 During the course of the year, the Auditor General issued a statutory recommendation and made a number of proposals for improvement and these are repeated in this report. We will monitor progress against them and relevant recommendations made in our national reports ([Appendix 2](#)) as part of our improvement assessment work.

Statutory Recommendation

- 9 The table below contains the statutory recommendation issued by the Auditor General.

Exhibit 1 – statutory recommendation

Statutory Recommendation	
R1	<p>In setting a balanced budget, the Council must ensure that all savings plans are sufficiently well developed for inclusion in the annual budget.</p> <p>The Council must also act immediately to update its Medium Term Financial Strategy to enable the Council to live within its means going forward, and design and implement actions to address the weaknesses identified and reported by me in respect of its corporate and financial arrangements.</p>

Audit, regulatory and inspection work reported during 2017-18

Exhibit 2 – audit, regulatory and inspection work reported during 2017-18

Description of the work carried out since the last AIR, including that of the relevant regulators, where relevant.

Issue date	Brief description	Conclusions	Proposals for improvement
August 2018.	<p>Service User Perspective Review</p> <p>To understand the 'service user perspective' at every Council within Wales. In Powys County Council, we reviewed the Housing service. In particular, whether the Council was using the experiences and aspirations of service users to inform the design and delivery of services for the Welsh Housing Quality Standard.</p>	<p>The Council is making progress towards achieving the Welsh Housing Quality Standard for many components and most Council tenants are satisfied with the quality of the service and their homes, but it needs to accelerate its approach to ensuring tenants homes are warm.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the Council is making progress towards achieving the Welsh Housing Quality Standard for many components by 2020, but it needs to accelerate its approach to ensuring tenants homes are warm; tenant engagement has worked well in the past but now needs to be built upon and strengthened to gather more views; and most Council tenants are very satisfied with the quality of the service and their homes. 	<p>P1 The Council should urgently strengthen the future delivery of the WHQS by accelerating its development of a comprehensive strategy and action plan to address the issues facing tenants who are living in cold homes.</p> <p>P2 The Council should work with tenants to strengthen its approach to assisting people experiencing problems with condensation and damp.</p> <p>P3 The Council should strengthen its approach to engagement and explore more innovative ways to reach the many people who are hard to reach due to the geographical challenges of living in Powys.</p>

Issue date	Brief description	Conclusions	Proposals for improvement
July 2018	<p>‘Scrutiny: Fit for the Future?’ Review</p> <p>Review of how well placed council’s overview and scrutiny functions are to respond to current and future challenges.</p>	<p>The Council has been slow to develop its scrutiny arrangements and there are fundamental areas it needs to address if scrutiny is to operate effectively and have impact in the face of future challenges.</p> <p>We came to this conclusion because:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the Council’s governance framework does not help to create a supportive environment for scrutiny to operate effectively and to have impact; • the Council recognises that its scrutiny function needs to improve. There is scope for improvement in how scrutiny is planned, how scrutiny meetings are conducted and how forward work programmes are developed; and • the Council does not evaluate the impact of overview and scrutiny and cannot demonstrate its overall effectiveness. 	<p>P1 Be specific in the reports presented to overview and scrutiny why the committee is receiving the information and how this relates to the role of the scrutiny committee.</p> <p>P2 Provide more training specifically for Chairs and Vice Chairs of overview and scrutiny committees to enable them to be more effective in their role.</p> <p>P3 Make arrangements for further training for scrutiny committee members on the Well-Being of Future Generations (WFG) Act in order to help embed WFG considerations into the Council’s decision-making processes</p> <p>P4 Strengthen arrangements for public and other stakeholder engagement in overview and scrutiny.</p> <p>P5 Clarify the arrangements for feeding back overview and scrutiny committees’ views to Cabinet and for Cabinet to respond to recommendations made.</p> <p>P6 Put in place arrangements for assessing the effectiveness and impact of overview and scrutiny.</p>

Issue date	Brief description	Conclusions	Proposals for improvement
January 2018	Follow-up review of Powys County Council whistleblowing and grievance policy arrangements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Council's whistleblowing policy has improved since our last review and complies with recommended good practice • The Council signposts its whistleblowing policy to staff but the Council may wish to consider more formal training arrangements • The Council withdrew its Fairness and Dignity at Work policy in October 2015 but the Grievance Policy is not clear on how to raise a complaint in respect of bullying and harassment. 	None.
March 2018	Observations of the HTR Commissioning Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In our observation role we did have concerns about aspects of the project but were ultimately reassured by the level of challenge shown; and • Certain governance aspects of the project could have been more robust. 	None

Issue date	Brief description	Conclusions	Statutory recommendation
January 2017	<p>Annual Audit Letter 2016-17</p> <p>Letter summarising the key messages arising from the Auditor General's statutory responsibilities under the Public Audit (Wales) Act 2004 and his reporting responsibilities under the Code of Audit Practice. The Annual Audit Letter is in Appendix 2 of this report.</p>	<p>The Council complied with its responsibilities relating to financial reporting but did not have sufficient appropriate arrangements in place to secure economy, efficient and effectiveness in its use of resources.</p> <p>I issued a certificate confirming that the audit of the accounts has been completed on 22 November 2017.</p> <p>My work to date on certification of grant claims and returns has not identified significant issues that would impact on the 2017-18 accounts or key financial systems.</p> <p>The Council did not have sufficient appropriate arrangements in place to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources, and the current and future financial position represents a significant challenge.</p>	<p>In setting a balanced budget, the Council must ensure that all savings plans are sufficiently well developed for inclusion in the annual budget. The Council must also act immediately to update its Medium Term Financial Strategy to enable the Council to live within its means going forward, and design and implement actions to address the weaknesses identified and reported by me in respect of its corporate and financial arrangements.</p>

Issue date	Brief description	Conclusions	Proposals for improvement
Improvement planning and reporting			
April 2017	<p>Wales Audit Office annual improvement plan audit</p> <p>Review of the Council's published plans for delivering on improvement objectives.</p>	The Council has complied with its statutory improvement planning duties.	None
November 2017	<p>Wales Audit Office annual assessment of performance audit</p> <p>Review of the Council's published performance assessment.</p>	The Council has not complied with its statutory improvement reporting duties. The Local Government Measure 2009 requires the Council to publish its assessment before 31 October in the financial year following that to which the information relates, or by any other such date as Welsh Ministers may specify by order. The Council published its assessment on 20 November 2017.	None

Issue date	Brief description	Conclusions	Recommendations
Reviews by inspection and regulation bodies			
CIW July 2017	<u>Inspection of Children's Services</u>	<p>The implementation of the recommendations of an external review further exacerbated failings in children's services, and destabilised the workforce to a significant extent and as a result placed children at risk of harm.</p> <p>Children and young people do not appear to be well served by the current arrangements for accessing support services in Powys. A lack of assessment, care and support planning combined with an inconsistent approach to working in line with the child sexual exploitation guidance and the management of sexual exploitation and risk assessment framework process placed children at risk of harm. In addition, child protection processes did not always comply with statutory guidance with delays in investigations and assessments being undertaken and completion of statutory visits.</p> <p>There is evidence of missed opportunities to safeguard children, despite requests for support. Risks were not being appropriately and robustly assessed and there is no effective system to identify and manage risks.</p>	<p>Immediate priority (within 1 month):</p> <p>Case management</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 The local authority must ensure assessments are carried out within statutory timescales and are undertaken in partnership with children and families. <p>Staffing</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2 Arrangements for team managers and senior practitioners should be reviewed to ensure capacity to effectively and consistently provide management and leadership oversight and testing of decision making along with support and direction for frontline staff. 3 The local authority and senior managers should take steps to improve the frequency, consistency and quality of supervision for front line staff; an assurance mechanism must be implemented to ensure compliance with expectations and quality of decision making, recordkeeping and reporting. 4 Caseloads monitoring is required to ensure there is sufficient capacity for workers to engage effectively with children and their families.

Issue date	Brief description	Conclusions	Recommendations
Reviews by inspection and regulation bodies			
CIW July 2017	<u>Inspection of Children's Services</u>	<p>The vision and strategic direction for children's services has been set out by the interim leadership team, together with members of the operational management team. However, this vision requires significant corporate and political support for it to be delivered. There is a lack of awareness of its content outside of children's services and considering its reliance on the full support of council this is of concern.</p> <p>There are serious performance issues with front line services, however these arose because of instability in management, poor and confused direction and weak governance. Without effective support and capacity to undertake the work frontline staff cannot be expected to undertake the complex work required in children's social services.</p> <p>Inspectors noted the commitment of the staff, who have shown resilience and professionalism whilst coping with significant changes, and depletion in support services and leadership capacity. We have seen real commitment to protect and respond to safeguarding children in very difficult circumstances. Staff have been mutually supportive through challenging and difficult times and have shown us their real desire to move on.</p>	<p>Leadership</p> <p>5 The chief executive must immediately provide strong corporate support for children's services to ensure service improvements are prioritised and the pace of improvement accelerated and sustained.</p> <p>6 The council leader and the portfolio member must provide strong political support to children's services and take the necessary steps to put in place well informed and effective scrutiny to make sure service improvements are made quickly, effectively and are sustainable.</p> <p>Assurance</p> <p>7 An assurance mechanism must be implemented as a priority to ensure compliance with legislation, statutory guidance and protocols with regard to looked after children and children at risk.</p>

Issue date	Brief description	Conclusions	Recommendations
Reviews by inspection and regulation bodies			
CIW July 2017	<u>Inspection of Children's Services</u>		<p>Medium term priority (within 4 months):</p> <p>Case management</p> <p>8 The quality of assessments and plans must be improved to ensure they are consistently of a good quality, with a clear focus on the needs, risks, and strengths of children and families, and that desired outcomes, timescales and accountabilities for actions are clear.</p> <p>9 The quality and consistency and timeliness of record keeping must be improved; all staff and managers must ensure that records are of good quality, up to date and systematically stored.</p> <p>10 The local authority must clarify the role and purpose of Powys People Direct (PPD) within the overall provision of information, advice and assistance and must ensure staff and partners have clear guidance to support decision making. The local authority must ensure that all staff are suitably trained, skilled and supported to deliver this role. A clear protocol is required between PPD and the Emergency Duty Team to ensure cases are not lost between services.</p> <p>11 The local authority must implement an effective model of assessment to support its interventions with families, which is understood by all staff and partners, underpinned by robust training and development.</p> <p>12 The local authority must ensure its fostering service provides consistent support, training and guidance to foster carers in order to improve the quality and availability of placements.</p> <p>13 The local authority must ensure that all care and support plans have a clear focus on outcomes for children, which incorporate the voice of the child.</p>

Issue date	Brief description	Conclusions	Recommendations
Reviews by inspection and regulation bodies			
CIW July 2017	<u>Inspection of Children's Services</u>		<p>Staffing</p> <p>14 The local authority must ensure every employee understands the legislative and statutory requirements in safeguarding children and action is taken to address poor performance.</p> <p>15 A robust workforce strategy should be developed as a matter of urgency to include short, medium and long term plans for recruitment and retention of social work and senior staff. Permanent appointments are required in key posts as a high priority to provide resilience and stability to the service.</p> <p>Interagency/partnership working</p> <p>16 Effective multi-agency quality assurance systems and training arrangements should be established to ensure thresholds for assessments to statutory children's services are understood by staff and partners and are consistently applied; this should include multiagency child protection decision making protocols.</p> <p>17 There is a need for clear strategic direction supported by operational protocols to enable partners to have a clear understanding of the purpose, structure and decision making in children's services. Leadership</p> <p>18 There should be an early consideration of the impact of the changes made as a result of the commissioned review and whether decisions made as part of the review should be revisited.</p> <p>19 Elected members need to be clear about the vision for children's services and recognise this as a high risk area for the council. To support this members need clarity about, and training to understand, the direction of services and the particular risks inherent in children's services.</p>

Issue date	Brief description	Conclusions	Recommendations
Reviews by inspection and regulation bodies			
CIW July 2017	<u>Inspection of Children's Services</u>		<p>20 The chief executive with support from the statutory director of social services must make arrangements to ensure all elected members have a clear understanding of, and are able to fulfil, their corporate parenting responsibilities</p> <p>21 The local authority needs to undertake further work in relation to implementing the requirements of the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014 so there is understanding at a corporate level in relation to the delivery of information, advice and assistance. Assurance</p> <p>22 Performance management and quality assurance arrangements, including scrutiny of service demand and routine auditing of the quality of practice needs to be embedded so that managers at all levels have timely, relevant and accurate performance and quality assurance information.</p> <p>23 At a corporate level the local authority must establish systems and structures effectively monitor and evaluate progress within children's services'.</p> <p>24 The consistent application of a quality assurance system must be implemented to ensure families who are referred to the Team around the Family service are not subject to drift and delay and to ensure there 10 are targeted plans in place which are reviewed and checked by managers.</p> <p>25 The local authority must strengthen the oversight of the response to complaints to improve reporting and analysis and ensure there is a mechanism to capture lessons learned.</p>

Issue date	Brief description	Conclusions	Recommendations
Reviews by inspection and regulation bodies			
CIW July 2017	<u>Inspection of Children's Services</u>		<p>Longer term priority (within 12 months):</p> <p>Case management</p> <p>26 The local authority must ensure compliance with the active offer of the Welsh language. Interagency/ partner working.</p> <p>27 .A multi-agency child protection protocol (drawing on regionally agreed arrangements) should be implemented to support decision making on the need for assessments in statutory children's services. This needs to be understood by staff and partners and consistently applied. Multiagency quality assurance systems and training arrangements are required to support this.</p> <p>28 The local authority and partners must work together to develop a cohesive approach to the collection and analysis of information about the needs of communities, which includes the views of children and families. This should be used to inform the shaping of strategic plans to achieve effective alignment of service delivery between information, advice and assistance services, the preventative sector and statutory services.</p> <p>Leadership</p> <p>29 Future changes to structure and service delivery need to include consultation with all stakeholders in its shape and development. The change needs to be incremental and with changes implemented at a pace that will ensure the full involvement of staff and young people and ensure children are not placed at risk.</p>

Issue date	Brief description	Conclusions	Recommendations
Reviews by inspection and regulation bodies			
CIW May 2018	<u>Inspection of Adult Service</u>	<p>Some people received good care and support but this was not consistent. Some people faced significant delays in being assessed for care and support and in receiving a service. Significant improvement is required.</p> <p>There was good co-operation between frontline health and social care staff and a range of voluntary sector and community groups.</p> <p>Urgent safeguarding referrals were dealt with swiftly and effectively but there was an unacceptable backlog of safeguarding work at screening and enquiry stages.</p> <p>Inspectors noted the commitment of staff who have shown professionalism whilst coping with many changes and depleted resources</p>	<p>As a priority:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • senior leaders must continue to provide strong political and corporate support for adult services to ensure service improvements; • ensure all safeguarding enquiries are undertaken within statutory timescales; • ensure clear management oversight and understanding of demand, capacity and prioritisation of workflow within adult safeguarding; • strengthen the existing adult services improvement plan; and • produce a robust workforce strategy including short, medium and long term plans for recruitment and retention of the adult services workforce.

Appendices

Appendix 1 – Status of this report

The Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009 (the Measure) requires the Auditor General to undertake a forward-looking annual improvement assessment, and to publish an annual improvement report, for each improvement authority in Wales. Improvement authorities (defined as local councils, national parks, and fire and rescue authorities) have a general duty to 'make arrangements to secure continuous improvement in the exercise of [their] functions'.

The annual improvement assessment considers the likelihood that an authority will comply with its duty to make arrangements to secure continuous improvement. The assessment is also the main piece of work that enables the Auditor General to fulfil his duties. Staff of the Wales Audit Office, on behalf of the Auditor General, produce the annual improvement report. The report discharges the Auditor General's duties under section 24 of the Measure, by summarising his audit and assessment work in a published annual improvement report for each authority. The report also discharges his duties under section 19 to issue a report certifying that he has carried out an improvement assessment under section 18 and stating whether (as a result of his improvement plan audit under section 17) he believes that the authority has discharged its improvement planning duties under section 15.

The Auditor General may also, in some circumstances, carry out special inspections (under section 21), which will be reported to the authority and Ministers, and which he may publish (under section 22). An important ancillary activity for the Auditor General is the co-ordination of assessment and regulatory work (required by section 23), which takes into consideration the overall programme of work of all relevant regulators at an improvement authority. The Auditor General may also take account of information shared by relevant regulators (under section 33) in his assessments.

Appendix 2 – Annual Audit Letter

Councillor Rosemarie Harris – Leader / David Powell - Acting Chief Executive
Powys County Council
County Hall
Llandrindod Wells
Powys
LD1 5LG

Reference: AJB356

Date issued: 25 January 2018

Dear David and Councillor Harris

Annual Audit Letter Powys County Council 2016-17

This letter summarises the key messages arising from my statutory responsibilities under the Public Audit (Wales) Act 2004 and my reporting responsibilities under the Code of Audit Practice.

The Council complied with its responsibilities relating to financial reporting but did not have sufficient appropriate arrangements in place to secure economy, efficient and effectiveness in its use of resources

It is Powys County Council's (the Council) responsibility to:

- put systems of internal control in place to ensure the regularity and lawfulness of transactions and to ensure that its assets are secure;
- maintain proper accounting records;
- prepare a Statement of Accounts in accordance with relevant requirements; and
- establish and keep under review appropriate arrangements to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources.

The Public Audit (Wales) Act 2004 requires me to:

- provide an audit opinion on the accounting statements;
- be satisfied that the Council has appropriate arrangements to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources; and
- issue a certificate confirming that I have completed the audit of the accounts.

Local authorities in Wales prepare their accounting statements in accordance with the requirements of the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom. This code is based on International Financial Reporting Standards. On 28 September 2017, I issued an unqualified audit opinion on the accounting statements confirming that they present a true and fair view of the Council's and Powys Pension Fund's financial position and transactions. My report is contained within the Statement of Accounts.

The key matters arising from the accounts audit were reported to members of the Audit Committee in my Audit of Financial Statements report on the 22 September 2017, and a more detailed report will follow in due course.

I issued a certificate confirming that the audit of the accounts has been completed on 22 November 2017

My report dated 28 September 2017, highlighted that at that point in time I could not formally conclude my audit until I had completed my consideration of matters brought to my attention by a local authority elector. This matter has now been resolved and I issued my certificate confirming the completion of the audit on 22 November 2017.

My work to date on certification of grant claims and returns has not identified significant issues that would impact on the 2017-18 accounts or key financial systems

My ongoing work on the certification of grant claims and returns has not identified any significant issues to date in relation to the accounts or the Council's key financial systems. A more detailed report on my grant certification work will follow in the spring 2018 once this year's programme of certification work is complete.

The financial audit fee for 2016-17 is currently expected to be in line with the agreed fee set out in the Annual Audit Plan.

The Council did not have sufficient appropriate arrangements in place to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources, and the current and future financial position represents a significant challenge

My consideration of the Council's arrangements to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness has been based on the audit work undertaken on the accounts as well as placing reliance on the work completed under the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009. In my [Annual Improvement Report](#), I highlighted a number of areas where the effectiveness of these arrangements has yet to be demonstrated or where improvements could be made.

I have concluded that whilst the Council has clearly articulated a strategic ambition to achieve transformational change, its ability to drive the pace of change required is compromised by a lack of capacity and expertise. Strategic workforce planning has been slow in development, and staff resources have been depleted as a result of the Council's response to austerity. New business planning and programme management is placing demands for specialist skills and competencies which are in scarce supply, and the Council has difficulty in recruiting to fill some key positions. A significant proportion of key management positions are now held under interim arrangements.

I have further concluded that given the ambition and pace of its service change programme, there is significant scope for the Council to strengthen its governance arrangements. The findings of our corporate assessment, undertaken in November 2016, were that the Council's scrutiny and decision-making arrangements were neither strategic nor robust. Key decisions around fundamental service change have been predominantly driven by the need to deliver financial savings, with Council policy and service outcomes being less influential. There has been an insufficient clear line of sight, for example through the Cabinet Forward Work Programme, to facilitate appropriate and timely scrutiny. At the time of our assessment relationships between the then Cabinet and Scrutiny function were strained, and scrutiny recommendations were not always valued or appropriately responded to by the then Cabinet. The conduct of Cabinet meetings we observed in November 2016 led to a lack of clarity and consequently transparency with regard to decision-making. It was not clear to us at that time that key officers were providing members with appropriate advice and direction in the circumstances. For some key service changes that we reviewed, the quality of option appraisals was mixed as were the arrangements for engaging with citizens and stakeholders in relation to those proposed changes. Overall, I concluded that there were weaknesses in the sufficiency and timeliness of information made available to members in relation to both scrutiny and decision-making functions of the Council.

In relation to its use of resources, I:

- recommended that the Council strengthen its financial planning arrangements by ensuring that all savings plans are sufficiently well developed for inclusion in the annual budget; forecasting the use of reserves over the medium term financial plan period; and ensuring that the service savings targets set for third party spend, income and cost improvement opportunities can be achieved in planned timescales; and
- reported the need for the Council to increase the pace and scale of change in implementing its 'Schools Organisation Policy, Planning Education Provision', in order to achieve an affordable and sustainable education service.

In October 2017, the Care and Social Services Inspectorate Wales (CSSIW) issued a critical report in respect of the provision of Children's Services within the Council. An independently chaired Children's Services Board is in place and the Council has submitted an improvement plan in response to the recommendations contained within the report. This improvement plan is in the process of being costed. Some of the resource needed has been identified but if the requirements impacting on the current financial year exceed the amount set aside then this could have a further significant impact on the forecast operating deficit for the financial year ended 31 March 2018. In addition, the Council has drafted a Corporate Leadership and Governance Plan.

The Council has contacted the Cabinet Secretary for Local Government and Public Services (the Cabinet Secretary) seeking support under section 28 of the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009. As a result a formal package of support will be provided.

The Council has acknowledged that it is facing significant financial challenges in the 2017-18 financial year and as at November 2017, the Council anticipated an operating deficit of £4.5 million for the year ended 31 March 2018. The Council has reported that the projected operating deficit is largely due to the combination of unachieved in year (and previous years) savings plans, coupled with service overspends primarily within Adult Social Care and Children's Services.

The Council is currently exploring a range of options to reduce the level of forecast deficit as at 31 March 2018. These include:

- reducing projected spend across services by either not incurring or delaying non-essential expenditure;
- utilising under committed revenue budgets set aside to support transformation and change; and
- reviewing a number of technical accounting options to generate in year revenue.

The Council intends to utilise a combination of the above options to reduce the forecast operational deficit to a balanced position for the financial year to 31 March 2018. Specifically, it intends to utilise the release of non-recurrent savings of £4 million via a planned reduction to the Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) charge. The projected General Fund reserves position is expected to remain at £8.5 million as at 31 March 2018. In addition to the General Fund, the Council has two specific reserves (Budget Management Reserve £3.6 million and Adult Services Reserve £2.0 million) which are ring fenced to support financial pressures and these specific reserves are projected to amount to approximately £5.6 million as at 31 March 2018.

The Council continues to face significant financial challenges in 2018-19 and beyond. Initially, the Council identified the need to find savings of £8.4 million in 2018-19 but further annual costs pressures have been identified of £8.3 million and £6.8 million for Children's Services and Adult Social Care respectively. Therefore, the Council will need to find savings totalling approximately £23 million in 2018-19.

We understand that plans are in place to deliver a balanced financial budget for the financial year 2018-19. However, a balanced position is primarily dependent on:

- the need to deliver £8 million of efficiency savings;
- the release of non-recurrent savings of £5 million via a planned reduction to the MRP charge; and
- the use of the specific reserve set aside to support financial pressures (Adult Social Care £2 million) and following a review of other reserves, the use of the specific reserve originally set- aside for 21st Century Schools of £5 million.

Given that the Council has acknowledged that it has had difficulty in achieving its planned level of efficiency savings in previous years, this represents a significant risk to the Council. It is imperative that the Council delivers these savings plans and adopts a more robust approach to budgetary control to manage and mitigate the potential for in-year over spends. Both Cabinet and scrutiny committees will need to play a key role in monitoring the delivery of the savings plans.

As outlined above, the Council intends to utilise reserves to support the financial pressures identified in 2018-19. Whilst reserves provide a temporary cushion against financial pressures, they should not be considered as a sustainable medium or longer term solution. In this respect, the Council's General Fund reserve (and any other reserves utilised to support the financial position) will need to be closely monitored to ensure they are maintained at appropriate levels.

Financial pressures continue in 2019-20 with the Council predicting the need to deliver efficiency savings of £17 million.

Given the scale of the future financial challenge, a strategic and transformational approach is required to the way the Council currently delivers its services as it can no longer afford to deliver its services in their current form. In this respect, the Council need to revisit and update their medium term financial strategy to enable it to live with its means going forward.

I have decided to make a Statutory Recommendation to the Council under section 25(2) of the Public Audit (Wales) Act 2004

Having carefully considered the improvements required to the Council's governance arrangements and financial challenges outlined above, I have decided to make a Recommendation pursuant to section 25(2) of the Public Audit (wales) Act 2004 (the Act).

In setting a balanced budget, the Council must ensure that all savings plans are sufficiently well developed for inclusion in the annual budget. The Council must also act immediately to update its Medium Term Financial Strategy to enable the Council to live within its means going forward, and design and implement actions to address the weaknesses identified and reported by me in respect of its corporate and financial arrangements.

In accordance with sections 25 and 26 of the Act, the Council is now required to consider my Recommendation at a meeting within one month of the date of this letter.

Specifically, and in accordance with section 26(5) of the Act, that meeting of the Council should decide:

- 1 whether the report requires the Council to take any action;
- 2 whether the Recommendation made is to be accepted; and
- 3 what action, if any, is to be taken in response to the Recommendation.

As soon as is practicable after the meeting, I should be notified of the decisions made by the Council and provided with a notice summarising the decisions which, once approved by me, must be published in a local newspaper circulating in the Council's area, subject to the exceptions in relation to confidential issues contained in section 26(5) of the Act. The Council is also required to publish the recommendation and its decisions in relation to it.

Yours sincerely



Anthony Barrett

Assistant Auditor General

For and on behalf of the Auditor General for Wales

Appendix 3 – National report recommendations 2017-18

Exhibit 3 – national report recommendations 2017-18

Summary of proposals for improvement relevant to local government, included in national reports published by the Wales Audit Office, since publication of the last AIR.

Date of report	Title of review	Recommendation
June 2017	<u>Savings Planning in Councils in Wales</u>	The report did not include any recommendations or proposals for improvement, although proposals for improvement were included in local reports issued to each Council.
October 2017	<u>Public Procurement in Wales</u>	The report contained seven recommendations. Six of the recommendations were for the Welsh Government, one of the recommendations was for public bodies: R3 It was clear from our sampling that some procurement strategies are out of date and there has also been a mixed response to new policy and legislation, such as the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. We recommend that public bodies review their procurement strategies and policies during 2017-18 and on an annual basis thereafter to ensure that they reflect wider policy and legislative changes and support continuous improvement.
October 2017	<u>Good governance when determining significant service changes – National Summary</u>	The report did not include any recommendations or proposals for improvement, although proposals for improvement were included in local reports issued to each Council. The report was designed primarily to provide insight, share existing practice and prompt further conversations and discussions between councils and other organisations.
December 2017	<u>Local Government Financial Reporting 2016-17</u>	The report did not include any recommendations or proposals for improvement.

Date of report	Title of review	Recommendation
January 2018	How Local Government manages demand – Homelessness	<p>R1 Implementing the Housing (Wales) Act 2014 requires local authorities to develop services which are focussed on preventing homelessness and reducing demand. These are very different to traditional casework led homelessness services, and prevention work requires new skills and early interaction with users and potential users. We found local authorities' progress in revising and strengthening services is variable (paragraphs 1.12 to 1.20). We recommend that local authorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ensure their staff are sufficiently skilled to deal with the new demands of mediating, problem solving, negotiating and influencing with homeless people; and • review and reconfigure their services to engage more effectively with homeless and potentially homeless people to prevent homelessness. <p>R2 The Welsh Government provided funding to support local authorities to implement the Housing (Wales) Act 2014 and this funding has been critical in enabling new preventative services to be developed. The funding is in place until 2019-20 but authorities need to ensure they use headspace provided by these resources to revise their services to deliver their responsibilities in the future (paragraphs 1.21 to 1.28). We recommend that local authorities review their funding of homelessness services to ensure that they can continue to provide the widest possible preventative approach needed. Reviews should consider use of Supporting People as well as General Council fund monies to support delivery of the authority's homelessness duties.</p> <p>R3 How services are configured and managed at the first point of contact can significantly influence how effective local authorities are in managing and reducing demand. Easy to access services which maximise usage, avoid gate keeping and focus on early solutions can significantly improve the prospects for successful homelessness prevention. We found that some authority point of entry systems are poorly designed which reduces the authority's prospects for early intervention to prevent homelessness from occurring (paragraphs 2.4 to 2.11). We recommend that local authorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • design services to ensure there is early contact with service users; • use 'triage' approaches to identify and filter individuals seeking help to determine the most appropriate response to address their needs; and • test the effectiveness of first point of contact services to ensure they are fit for purpose.

Date of report	Title of review	Recommendation
January 2018	How Local Government manages demand – Homelessness	<p>R4 Establishing clear standards of service that set out what the authority provides and is responsible for is critical to ensuring people know what they are entitled to receive and what they need to resolve themselves. We found that authorities are not always providing clear, concise and good quality information to help guide people to find the right advice quickly and efficiently (paragraphs 2.12 to 2.17). We recommend that local authorities publish service standards that clearly set out what their responsibilities are and how they will provide services to ensure people know what they are entitled to receive and what they must do for themselves. Service standards should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • be written in plain accessible language. • be precise about what applicants can and cannot expect, and when they can expect resolution. • clearly set out the applicant’s role in the process and how they can help the process go more smoothly and quickly. • be produced collaboratively with subject experts and include the involvement of people who use the service(s). • effectively integrate with the single assessment process. • offer viable alternatives to the authority’s services. • set out the appeals and complaints processes. These should be based on fairness and equity for all involved and available to all. <p>R5 Local authorities need to design services to engage with service users effectively and efficiently, but current standards are too variable to ensure service users are getting access to the advice they need (paragraphs 2.18 to 2.24). To improve current performance we recommend that local authorities make better use of their websites to help manage demand by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • testing the usability and effectiveness of current website information using our lines of enquiry set out in Appendix 5; • increasing and improving the range, quality and coverage of web based information; making better use of online applications; and • linking more effectively to information from specialist providers and advice specialists, such as Citizens Advice. <p>R6 The Housing (Wales) Act 2014 introduces a new duty on social services and housing associations to collaborate with local authority homelessness services in preventing homelessness. We found that these arrangements are not operating effectively and service responses to prevent homelessness and assist homeless people are not always being provided, nor are they consistently effective (paragraphs 3.13 to 3.25). We recommend that local authorities set out and agree their expectations of partners identifying how they will work together to alleviate homelessness. The agreement should be reviewed regularly and all partners’ performance reviewed to identify areas for improvement.</p>

Date of report	Title of review	Recommendation
January 2018	How Local Government manages demand – Homelessness	<p>R7 Local authorities monitoring systems and evaluation approaches to ensure compliance with their responsibility under the Equality Act 2010 and the Public Sector Equality Duty are not working as well as they should (paragraph 3.35 to 3.39). We recommend that local authorities address weaknesses in their equalities monitoring, and ensure that their homelessness service accurately records and evaluates appropriate data to demonstrate equality of access for all service users that the local authority has a duty towards.</p> <p>R8 Managing demand can be challenging for local authorities. There are some clear lessons to be learnt with regard to the implementation of the Housing (Wales) Act 2014 and homelessness prevention duties that can be applied to managing demand in other services (paragraphs 4.24 to 4.27). We recommend that local authorities use the checklist set out in Appendix 10 to undertake a self-assessment on services, to help identify options to improve how they can help manage demand.</p>

Date of report	Title of review	Recommendation
February 2018	Housing Adaptations	<p>The report contained nine recommendations. One of the recommendations was for the Welsh Government, eight of the recommendations were for local authorities and/or delivery organisations:</p> <p>R1 There are many sources of funding and policies for adaptations, which results in disabled and older people receiving very different standards of service (paragraphs 1.5 to 1.9). To address these discrepancies we recommend that the Welsh Government set standards for all adaptations to ensure disabled and older people receive the same standard of service irrespective of where they live, who their landlord is and whether they own their own home.</p> <p>R2 Most public bodies are clear on how their work on adaptations can positively impact on disabled and older people, and have set suitable aims that provide focus for action. For adaptations, having the right strategic goals also establishes a clear basis for decision-making on who should be prioritised for services and how and where to use resources. However, we found that current policy arrangements have a number of deficiencies and public bodies are not maximising the benefit of their investment (paragraphs 3.8 to 3.15). We recommend that local authorities work with partner agencies (health bodies, housing associations and Care and Repair) to strengthen their strategic focus for the provision of adaptations by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • setting appropriate strategic objectives for adaptations that focus on wellbeing and independence; • improving the quality of information on the demand for adaptations by using a wide range of data to assess need including drawing on and using information from partners who work in the local-authority area; and • linking the system for managing and delivering adaptations with adapted housing policies and registers to make best use of already adapted homes. <p>R3 Ensuring that all those who might need an adaptation have all the information they need in order to apply for and receive an adaptation is important. Good-quality and accessible information is therefore essential for delivery organisations to demonstrate fair access and transparency. However, we identified weaknesses in the quality and coverage of public information relating to housing adaptations (paragraphs 2.6 to 2.15). We recommend that delivery organisations provide information on housing adaptations in both Welsh and English, and accessible formats including braille, large fonts, audio versions and other languages. Information should be promoted widely via a range of media including social media, websites and published information, and also through key partners. Preferably, information should be produced jointly and policies aligned between delivery bodies to improve coverage and usage.</p>

Date of report	Title of review	Recommendation
February 2018	Housing Adaptations	<p>R4 Given the wide number of routes into services, delivery organisations need to ensure they have robust systems to deal effectively and quickly with applications. However, we found that the processes used by delivery organisations vary widely and often create difficulties for disabled and older people seeking assistance (paragraphs 2.16 to 2.19). We recommend that delivery organisations streamline applications by creating single comprehensive application forms covering all organisations within a local-authority area that are available via partners and online.</p> <p>R5 Delivery of adaptations can be delayed by a variety of factors (paragraphs 2.20 to 2.33). To improve timeliness in delivery we recommend that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the Welsh Government reviews whether local authorities should continue to use the means test for Disabled Facilities Grants (DFGs); • local authorities provide or use home improvement agency services to support disabled and older people to progress their DFG applications efficiently; • delivery organisations work with planning authorities to fast track and streamline adaptations that require approvals; • delivery organisations use Trusted Assessors to undertake less complex adaptation assessments; and • the Welsh Government streamlines its approval processes for Physical Adaptation Grants (PAGs).

Date of report	Title of review	Recommendation
February 2018	Housing Adaptations	<p>R6 Most local authorities, housing associations and Care and Repair agencies have established processes to appoint, oversee and manage builder and/or contractor performance. However, we found wide variations in how delivery organisations arrange, contract and deliver building works (paragraphs 2.37 to 2.44). We recommend that delivery organisations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • introduce formal systems for accrediting contractors to undertake adaptations. These should include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – standards of customer care such as keeping to appointments, keeping the site tidy, controlling noise etc; – vetting of financial standing, tax and VAT status; – promoting good health and safety practices; – requiring the use of warranty schemes; – ensuring that adequate insurance is held; and – requiring references. • use framework agreements and partnered contracts to deliver adaptations; • address weaknesses in the contracting of adaptations, updating Schedule of Rates used to tender work and undertaking competitive tendering to support value for money in contracting; • develop effective systems to manage and evaluate contractor performance by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – setting an appropriate range of information to judge performance and delivery of works covering timeliness of work; quality of work; applicant/tenant feedback; cost of work (including variations); health and safety record; and customer feedback; – regularly reporting and evaluating performance to identify opportunities to improve services; and – providing formal feedback to contractors on their performance covering key issues such as client satisfaction, level and acceptability of variations, right first-time work, post-inspection assessment and completion within budget and on time.

Date of report	Title of review	Recommendation
February 2018	Housing Adaptations	<p>R7 Maximising impact and value for money in provision of adaptations requires effective joint working between housing organisations and health and social care services to ensure the needs of often very vulnerable people can be met, and their quality of life improved. However, our findings highlight that delivery organisations continue to have a limited strategic focus on adaptations, concentrating on organisational specific responses rather than how best collectively to meet the needs of disabled or older people (paragraphs 3.16 to 3.21). We recommend that local authorities work with partner agencies (health bodies, housing associations and Care and Repair) to develop and improve joint working to maximise both take-up and the benefits of adaptations in supporting independence by pooling of resources, co-locating staff and creating integrated delivery teams.</p> <p>R8 Most public bodies recognise the value of adaptations in reducing the risk of falls, preventing hospital admissions and speeding up discharge from hospital. However, the importance of adaptations is not always reflected in local partnership arrangements and outside of Occupational Therapists, health professionals noted that the different local-authority and housing-association systems for administering, approving and delivering adaptations are difficult to navigate (paragraphs 3.22 to 3.24). To enhance take-up and usage of adaptations with health bodies we recommend that delivery organisations jointly agree and publish joint service standards for delivery of adaptations within each local-authority area. The service standards should clearly set out how each agency approaches delivery of adaptations and how they will provide services to ensure people know what they are entitled to receive. Service Standards should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • be written in plain accessible language; • be precise about what people can and cannot expect to receive; • be produced collaboratively to cover all adaptations services within an area; • set out the eligibility for the different funding streams, application and assessment processes, timescales and review processes; and • offer the viable options and alternatives for adaptations including linking with adapted housing registers to maximise use of already adapted homes.

Date of report	Title of review	Recommendation
February 2018	Housing Adaptations	<p>R9 Having the right performance indicators and regularly reporting performance against these are important for public bodies to manage operational performance, identify areas of improvement and evaluating the positive impact of services. We found that the current range of performance indicator data is extremely limited and not sufficient to enable a full evaluation of performance (paragraphs 4.5 to 4.20). To effectively manage performance and be able to judge the impact of adaptations, we recommend that the Welsh Government and delivery organisations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • set appropriate measures to judge both the effectiveness and efficiency of the different systems for delivering adaptations and the impact on wellbeing and independence of those who receive adaptations; • ensure delivery organisations report against their responsibilities in respect of the Equalities Act 2010; • ensure performance information captures the work of all delivery organisations – local authorities, housing associations and Care and Repair agencies; and • annually publish performance for all delivery organisations to enable a whole systems view of delivery and impact to support improvement to be taken.
April 2018	Speak my language: Overcoming language and communication barriers in public services	<p>Ensuring that people who face language and communication barriers can access public services</p> <p>R1 Public bodies are required to ensure that people can access the services they need. To take account of the requirements of the 2010 Equality Act and other legislation, we recommend that public bodies regularly review the accessibility of their services to people who do not speak English or Welsh as a main language including Deaf people who use sign language. This assessment can include using our checklist.</p> <p>Developing interpretation and translation services in Wales</p> <p>R2 Our work with public bodies, interpretation and translation service providers and service users has identified some challenges for interpretation and translation services. We recommend that the Welsh Government work with public bodies, representative groups and other interested parties to make sure that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the supply of interpreters is sufficient especially for languages in high demand such as BSL and Arabic; • interpreters with specialist training are available to work in mental health services and with people who have experienced trauma or violence; and • quality assurance and safeguarding procedures are in place.

Date of report	Title of review	Recommendation
May 2018	<u>Reflecting on Year One: How Have Public Bodies Responded to the Well-being of Future Generations</u>	<p>The report did not include any recommendations or proposals for improvement.</p>
May 2018	<u>Strategic Commissioning of Accommodation Services for Adults with Learning Disabilities</u>	<p>R1 People with a learning disability have a right to live independently. The last 50 years have seen significant changes in the provision of accommodation and support. Service provision has moved to a model that enables people to live in the community in ordinary houses throughout Wales (paragraphs 1.3 to 1.10). We recommend that local authorities continue to focus on preventing people becoming dependent on more expensive placements in care homes by providing effective support at home and a range of step up accommodation by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • improving the evaluation of prevention activity so local authorities understand what works well and why. • utilising the mapping of prevention services under the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 that covers other agencies and service providers. • improving the signposting of additional help so carers and support networks can be more resilient and self-reliant. This should include encouraging carers to make long-term plans for care to maintain and protect their dependants' wellbeing. • sharing risk analysis and long-term planning data with other local authorities, service providers, and partners to agree a shared understanding of the range of options. <p>R2 Population projections show that the number of people with a learning disability will increase in the future, and those aged over 65 and those with a moderate or severe learning disability will rise significantly (paragraphs 1.3 to 1.10). We recommend that local authorities improve their approach to planning services for people with learning disabilities by building on the Regional Partnership Boards' population assessments for people with learning disabilities and agreeing future priorities.</p>

Date of report	Title of review	Recommendation
May 2018	<u>Strategic Commissioning of Accommodation Services for Adults with Learning Disabilities</u>	<p>R3 The Welsh Government produced guidance to local authorities, entitled 'developing a commissioning strategy for people with a learning disability' to support authorities in producing strategic plans for the commissioning of learning disability services. In conjunction with codes of practice developed following the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014, the Welsh Government requires local authorities to develop integrated commissioning options with Local Health Board services. The aim is to provide a joined-up and cost-effective approach to the commissioning of services but our review highlighted weaknesses in current arrangements (paragraph 2.4 to 2.12). We recommend that local authorities do more to integrate commissioning arrangements with partners and providers and take account of the work of the National Commissioning Board by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • understanding the barriers that exist in stopping or hindering further integration; • improving the quality of joint strategic plans for learning disability services (see also paragraphs 3.11 to 3.14); • establishing investment models and sustainable financial structures, joint workforce planning and multi-year budgeting; and • developing appropriate governance and data sharing frameworks with key local partners that include a clear process for managing risk and failure. <p>R4 Local authorities' engagement with people with learning disabilities and their carers is variable. Whilst many authority services have positive relationships with advocacy groups, some are less successful in involving these groups and carers in evaluating the quality of services (paragraph 2.18 to 2.20). We recommend that local authorities do more to involve people with learning disabilities and their carers in care planning and agreeing pathways to further independence by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • consistently including people with learning disabilities and their carers in the writing, monitoring and development of care plans; • systematically involving carers and advocacy groups in evaluating the quality of services; • involving people with learning disabilities in procurement processes; and • ensuring communications are written in accessible and appropriate language to improve the understanding and impact of guidance and information.

Date of report	Title of review	Recommendation
May 2018	<u>Strategic Commissioning of Accommodation Services for Adults with Learning Disabilities</u>	<p>R5 Local Authorities could do more to involve service providers in commissioning and make the tendering process more effective by making it easier to navigate and more outcome focused. However, providers are not as effectively engaged as they should be (paragraphs 2.28 to 2.38). We recommend that local authorities collaborate with providers, the third sector and suppliers in understanding challenges, sharing data, and pooling expertise by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • improving the quality, range, and accessibility of tendering information; and • working with providers to shape local markets by coming to a common understanding of the opportunities, risks, and future priorities in providing learning disabilities services. <p>R6 Most local authorities do not have effective arrangements to monitor and evaluate their commissioning of learning disability services (paragraphs 3.3 to 3.15). We recommend that local authorities develop a more appropriate set of performance indicators and measures of success that make it easier to monitor and demonstrate the impact of service activity by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • co-designing measures, service and contract performance indicators with service providers, people with learning disabilities and their carers; • ensure commissioners have sufficient cost and qualitative information on the full range of placement and care options available; • equipping commissioners with data to demonstrate the long-term financial benefits of commissioning choices, this includes having the right systems and technology; • integrating the outcomes and learning from reviews of care plans into performance measures; • evaluating and then learning from different types of interventions and placements; and • including learning disability services in local authority scrutiny reviews to challenge performance and identify improvements.

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Scrutiny Chairs and Joint Chairs meeting – 11th September 2018

Notes and recommendations regarding:

Corporate Improvement Plan 2017-18 Annual Performance Report

This relates to previous plan and not Vision 2025 and previous objectives. It has been presented to the Executive Management Team and Heads of Service. This report does not relate to the year when we had the poor CIW inspections. The report has to be approved by the County Council by the end of October to meet statutory deadlines.

Steering Group reminded of the 6 questions they were asked to address.

79% of commitments / targets were complete or on target.
£1.5m had been saved against a target of £1.7m

Members asked if the report was too positive rather than showing what we needed to achieve? The inspections of Social Care were not positive and what the inspectors had said were articulated in the document.

As an authority we were in the top 5 authorities in wales in 2016-17. This year 2017-18 we are in the top 6 (excluding waste)

Members commented that whilst there were improvements in learning we are not achieving in terms of numbers receiving free school meals and also school budgets are out of control (p47). The summary on learning is not positive.

There is a need to include explanations at the beginning of the document e.g. what does adequate etc mean.

The Leader's statement refers to a 5 year MTFS being completed. Currently there is only a draft version but this has not been approved for a 5 year period.

Some matters may have also been subject to action in the following year but these changes are not reflected back to the year in question.

P33 – Children's Services – financial planning. The original budget was £12m which was wrong as it was insufficient, and therefore it was increased by £6m. However it did not account for an increase in placements. Based on the data at the time the service thought that the budget was sufficient. Therefore there needs to be a caveat in the report that the projection was incorrect which has led to the increase in funding for 2018/19.

P30/31 – Looked after children – 16/17 figures were prepared on Draig and need to be treated carefully. 17/18 figures produced from WCCIS system.

Members asked if the document was really geared for the public. They also asked what the colour coding and ticks meant. It was explained that the colours were set from the well-being goals but perhaps their meaning could be explained clearer. This is a public report as we have to produce it in accordance with the Local Government

Wales Measure. Members asked if there was any way to make the document more readable by the public.

P55 – Working Sustainably – no explanation here that the budget went awry due to Children’s Services. This also ties into the development of the MTFs.

P57 – Consultation and engagement – School Transport. Blu Badges public consultation was May 2018.

P62 – Year 11 pupils – text is missing in first box. Also older statistics are missing. There is also a need to explain what the rankings mean.

Personal names should be redacted in the case studies.

P63/64 – Street Scene – the information is split between pages.

Social Services data – no Public Accountability Measure information (PAMs) has been released for social care across Wales since the Well-Being Act came into force. This needs to be explained and the tables withdrawn.

WAO report – the draft report is expected by the end of September, so that comment from it can be included in the report.

P59 – 43 indicators.
8 indicators are social services indicators.

In the box – highest / lowest should be shown rather than best / need to improve. Some of these are local indicators but may not be the highest priorities for the Council which may be acceptable to the Council hence the positioning in the tables.

Topics do not always have any context against them as to why they are best / need to improve – the explanation is included in later pages. Should be a link included to My Council to provide local context against this information.

P59 – roads in poor condition – needs to be an explanation of the length of roads within the county area.

At the bottom of the summary box needs to be an explanation which links this information to following pages or place the summary box after the explanations. Otherwise the alternative would be to remove the summary box.

Roads targets – the increase in funding required to improve the situation means that Powys’ position is unlikely to improve significantly.

P69 – effectiveness of central funding support in schools – how does this tie back to the schools issue identified earlier in the discussion. Also there is no link between inspectorate reports and service detail.

There is no comment on the effect of Brexit on the Council’s economic position.

CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL

Powys County Council
18th October 2018

REPORT AUTHOR: County Councillor Aled Davies
Portfolio Holder for Finance

SUBJECT: Virement for Housing Revenue Account:
Welsh Housing Quality Standards (WHQS)
Older Person Accommodation

REPORT FOR: Decision

1. Summary

1.1 This report is to request a capital virement in respect of the Welsh Housing Quality Standards (WHQS) of £6.790m to be transferred from 2018/19 to 2019/20.

1.2 **Welsh Housing Quality Standards (WHQS)** £1.790m - The WHQS Schemes are progressing well with a total spend of £3.8m to date which represents 25% of the budget for 2018/19 financial year. As reported in July, the spend profile for the WHQS has been revised, with a virement of £1.790m required from 2018-19 to 2019-20, in line with current projection.

1.3 **Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Newbuilds** – Works are progressing on various sites, but it is anticipated that site works will commence around the end of the financial year, a request is made to roll £5m forward into 2019-20, to match the intended works schedule and ensure that the target of 250 extra homes is met.

2. Options Considered / Available

2.1 No alternative options are considered appropriate as a result of this report.

3. Preferred Choice and Reasons

3.1 None to consider.

4. Impact Assessment

4.1 Is an impact assessment required? Yes/No

4.2 If yes is it attached? Yes/No

5. Corporate Improvement Plan

- 5.1 To achieve the Corporate Improvement Plan (CIP) objectives the Council undertakes forward planning with its medium term financial strategy (MTFS) - this sets out the financial requirements to deliver the short and longer term council vision. These capital and revenue monitoring reports, are used to ensure the funding identified to deliver the council priorities is spent appropriately and remains within a cash limited budget.

7. Local Member(s)

- 7.1 This report relates to all service areas across the whole County.

8. Other Front Line Services

- 8.1 This report relates to all service areas across the whole County.

9. Communications

This report has no specific communication considerations. Detailed finance reports are presented to Heads of Service, Cabinet and the Audit Committee. These reports are public and are part of a range of statutory and non-statutory financial information documents including the Statement of Accounts.

10. Support Services (Legal, Finance, Corporate Property, HR, ICT, Business Services)

- 10.1 This report has no specific impact on support services other than reporting on those service areas with capital programmes. Financial Services work closely with all service areas in monitoring financial performance on capital programmes against budgets.

The Capital and Financial Planning Accountant confirms this project is included in the Capital Programme.

11. Scrutiny

- 11.1 This report presents financial information which will help inform the future capital strategy and therefore has implications for any related organisation.

12. Statutory Officers

- 12.1 The Strategic Director, Resources (Section 151 Officer) notes the overall capital position.

The Monitoring Officer has no specific concerns with this report.

13. Members' Interests

13.1 The Monitoring Officer is not aware of any specific interests that may arise in relation to this report. If Members have an interest, they should declare it at the start of the meeting and complete the relevant notification form.

Recommendation:	Reason for Recommendation:
To approve the following virements; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £1,790k Welsh Housing Quality Standards • £5m HRA Newbuilds as detailed above in paras. 1.2 and 1.3	To ensure appropriate virements are carried out that reflect the forecasted capital spend.

Relevant Policy (ies):	
Within Policy:	Y
Within Budget:	Y

Relevant Local Member(s):	
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Person(s) To Implement Decision:	
Date By When Decision To Be Implemented:	

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CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL

LICENSING COMMITTEE

REPORT AUTHOR: Sue Jones, Senior Licensing Officer

SUBJECT: Consultation on Draft Statement of Principles,
Gambling Act 2005

5th September 2018

UPDATE REPORT

1. SUMMARY

- 1.1 The reason for the update is that consultation on a Draft Statement of Principles under the Gambling Act 2005 presented to this committee on 16th July 2018 was completed on 24th August 2018. A copy of the original report is attached at Annex A
- 1.2 Following July's meeting a copy of the draft statement was shared with stakeholders including representatives from the Gambling industry, licence holders, the responsible authorities, and to the public via Community Councils. Notification of the consultation also appeared on the Council's website
- 1.3 Only one response was received making comment and that was from the local Gambling Commission compliance officer , Andrew Wright who made the following comments in respect of the policy content:

Just as a follow up to our conversation today based on my opinion and by way of an informal basis you may want to consider the following :

1. *Local Risk Assessment stuff at section 19 you may want to consider including something on them keeping it on the premises*
2. *Also in part 21 about machines in pubs the inference at para 21.6 is that only those with an alcohol licensed machine permit must comply with the [COP for machines in pubs](#), where as its actually also applicable to those with the automatic entitlement to 2 machines. So, you may want to consider the wording.*

Point 1 above is addressed by amending the wording from 'strongly advised' to 'must' at section 19

Operators **must** ensure that a copy of the current premises risk assessment is kept at the premises alongside the premises licence document and made available to staff

and the 2nd point has been addressed by including the wording ‘automatic entitlement notification’ so that para 21.6 reads:

It should also be noted that the holder of a permit **or automatic entitlement notification** must comply with any Code of Practice issued by the Gambling Commission about the location and operation of the machine

A copy of the draft policy statement including these amends is attached at Annex B

- 1.4 As recommended in July’s report the revised draft policy will need to be referred to the full council meeting on 18th October with a recommendation that it be adopted in time for January 2019.

Recommendation:		Reason for Recommendation:	
To agree the amends to the policy as set out in the report following the consultation period and that the Statement of Principles made in accordance with The Gambling Act be recommended for approval by the Council at its meeting on 18th October for implementation on 1st January 2019		In accordance with the Gambling Act 2005 to prepare and publish a Licensing Policy to come into effect January 2019	
Relevant Policy (ies):			
Within Policy:	Y	Within Budget:	Y
Relevant Local Member(s):	N/A		
Relevant Portfolio Holder	Cllr James Evans		
Person(s) To Implement Decision:	Sue Jones		
Date By When Decision To Be Implemented:	With immediate effect		
Contact Officer Name:	Tel:	Fax:	Email:
Sue Jones	01597 827389		Susan.jones@powys.gov.uk

Background Papers used to prepare Report:

CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL

LICENSING COMMITTEE

REPORT AUTHOR: Sue Jones, Senior Licensing Officer

SUBJECT: Consultation on Draft Statement of Principles,
Gambling Act 2005

16th July 2018

REPORT FOR: Decision

1. SUMMARY

- 1.1 The Gambling Act 2005 gives licensing authorities various functions in relation to the licensing of premises and issuing of permits for gambling. Under section 349 of the Act, licensing authorities are required to produce, at least every three years, a statement of the principles that they propose to apply when exercising their functions under the Act.
- 1.2 The Gambling Act 2005 (Licensing Authority Policy Statement) (England and Wales) Regulations 2006 set out precise requirements as to the form, content and publication of a statement, or a revision of a statement.
- 1.3 The last Powys Statement of Principles was approved by this committee in 2015 and has been effective since 1st January 2016. The authority is required to consider the policy and update it, where appropriate, so that any revised up to date policy is in place ready for 1st January 2019.

2. PROPOSAL

- 2.1 Powys Licensing is represented on a Four Counties Licensing Forum that covers the policing area of Dyfed Powys, and therefore includes Powys, Pembrokeshire, Ceredigion and Carmarthenshire. This group has recently started meeting regularly with a view to achieving consistency and sharing best practice across the common policing area in relation to a number of licensing matters.
- 2.2 To that end the group agreed that a common Statement of Principles be produced that could be replicated, where possible, by all authorities. The group need then only consider and update one single policy every 3 years, removing unnecessary duplication of effort for licensing officers across the region. However, the policy will contain an element of local area profiling that will be specific to each particular County
- 2.3 Representatives from The Gambling Commission attended a meeting with the Four Counties Licensing Forum to provide advice and guidance on drafting a new policy and this work has now been completed with input from Licensing Officers across the four counties

- 2.3 It is recommended that the authority consult on the new Statement of Principles recently drafted by the Four Counties Licensing Forum, with additional local area information included in the introduction at paragraph 2. The policy is attached at Annex A
- 2.4 In accordance with Government guidance, the authority is required to seek views on the draft 2019 Policy Statement. A list of those invited to comment on the document is set out (in the policy at Annex B).
- 2.5 It is proposed that the draft policy will go out for consultation for a 4 week period, to allow for any comments / feedback to be taken into consideration in producing a final policy for approval at a further meeting of the licensing committee in September.
- 2.6 The revised draft policy will need to be referred to the full council meeting on 18th October with a recommendation that it be adopted in time for January 2019.

3.0 Options Considered/Available

- 3.1 The proposal laid out as above is required to comply with statutory requirements.

4.0 Preferred Choice and Reasons

- 4.1 To ensure compliance with statutory requirements the proposal as laid out is the preferred choice.

5.0 Impact Assessment

- 5.1 Is an impact assessment required? No

6.0 Corporate Improvement Plan

- 6.1 Licensing contributes to various aspects of the 'Vision 2025' document - 'Change for Powys – delivering an open, pro-active and engaging council for 2025'. This proposal supports the priority areas of developing a vibrant economy whilst supporting and protecting our residents and communities .

7.0 Local Member(s)

- 7.1 This report has no particular significance on one or some electoral divisions.

8.0 Other Front Line Services

- 8.1 Does the recommendation impact on other services run by the Council or on behalf of the Council? No

9.0 Communications

9.1 Once approved by committee the policy will be consulted on.

10.0 Support Services (Legal, Finance, Corporate Property, HR, ICT, Business Services)

10.1 The Principal Solicitor Public Protection confirms that the policy complies with the regulations set out in the Gambling Act 2005 and that the 3 year review of our policy is integral to the authorities compliance and review process

10.2 The Finance Business Partner Place – The Finance Business Partner is happy to support the draft policy as there are no financial implications.

11.0 Scrutiny

11.1 This report has not been scrutinised.

12.0 Statutory Officers

12.1 The Head of Financial Services (Deputy S151 Officer) notes the comment of the Finance Business Partner.

12.2 The Solicitor to the Council (Monitoring Officer) commented as follows : “ I note the legal comments and have nothing to add to the report.”

13.0 Members' Interests

13.0 The Monitoring Officer is not aware of any specific interests that may arise in relation to this report. If Members have an interest they should declare it at the start of the meeting and complete the relevant notification form.

Recommendation:	Reason for Recommendation:
1. To approve consultation as set out in section 2 of the report on a revised Gambling Act 2005 Policy as set out in Annex A of the report.	In accordance with the Gambling Act 2005 to prepare and publish a Licensing Policy to come into effect January 2019

Relevant Policy (ies):	
Within Policy:	Y
Within Budget:	Y

Relevant Local Member(s):	N/A
Relevant Portfolio Holder	Cllr James Evans

Person(s) To Implement Decision:	Sue Jones
Date By When Decision To Be Implemented:	With immediate effect

Contact Officer Name:	Tel:	Fax:	Email:
Sue Jones	01597 827389		Susan.jones@powys.gov.uk

Background Papers used to prepare Report:



Gambling Policy Gambling Act 2005

STATEMENT OF GAMBLING POLICY

Gambling Act 2005

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PART A

Statement of Gambling Policy

1. The Licensing Objectives

1.1 In exercising most of their functions under the Gambling Act 2005, licensing authorities must have regard to the licensing objectives as set out in section 1 of the Act. The licensing objectives are:

- **Preventing gambling from being a source of crime or disorder, being associated with crime or disorder or being used to support crime;**
- **Ensuring that gambling is conducted in a fair and open way;**
- **Protecting children and other vulnerable persons from being harmed or exploited by gambling.**

1.2 It should be noted that the Gambling Commission has stated: “The requirement in relation to children is explicitly to protect them from being harmed or exploited by gambling”.

1.3 This licensing authority is aware that, as per Section 153, in making decisions about premises licences and temporary use notices it should aim to permit the use of premises for gambling in so far as it thinks it is:

- **in accordance with any relevant code of practice issued by the Gambling Commission;**
- **in accordance with any relevant guidance issued by the Gambling Commission;**
- **reasonably consistent with the licensing objectives and**
- **in accordance with the authority’s statement of Gambling policy.**

2. Introduction

2.1 Powys is the largest county in Wales in geographic terms, with a population in 2013 of 133000, however it has the lowest population density in Wales. As a primarily rural area, Powys has a strong agricultural base key market towns providing for the needs of communities in those rural areas rural settlements.

2.2 Powys has a low number of authorisations issued under the Gambling Act 2005, there are no Casinos, Bingo halls, Licensed Adult Gaming Centres or Family Entertainment Centres, and it is unlikely that operators would consider locating such premises in Powys due to the low population density. There are 7 betting premises in these 2 are independently run the others national chains.

2.3 The South of Powys is home to the largest number of clubs, of these currently 20 of benefit from either a Club Gaming Permit or Club Machine Permit which permits higher pay out machines. There are roughly 400 pub/bars in Powys of which half benefit from a notification authorising up to 2 category D machines, only 4 premises benefit from a Gaming Machine Permit authorising more than 2 such machines.

2.4 The area hosts a number of temporary gambling activities notably trotting races authorised by way of Temporary use notices.

2.5 Licensing authorities are required by the Gambling Act 2005 to publish a statement of the principles, which they propose to apply when exercising their functions. This

statement must be published at least every three years. The statement must also be reviewed periodically and any amended parts re-consulted upon. The statement must be then re-published. This document is Powys County Council's statement of principles in accordance with the Act.

- 2.6 This policy has been formulated as a result of collaboration between the four Counties in the Dyfed Powys police area namely, Carmarthenshire, Ceredigion, Pembrokeshire and Powys (The Four Counties Licensing Forum) and following advice and guidance given by representatives of the Gambling Commission. The aim was for a consistent policy across the areas represented.
- 2.7 The policy will be subject to consultation with the responsible authorities and interested parties.
- 2.8 It should be noted that this policy statement will not override the right of any person to make an application, make representations about an application, or apply for a review of a licence, as each will be considered on its own merits and according to the statutory requirements of the Gambling Act 2005.
- 2.9 It is noted that applicants for premises licences need to obtain operating licences from the gambling commission and have responsibilities to the Commission as a result.

3. Declaration

- 3.1 In producing this policy document, Powys County Council declares that it has had regard to the licensing objectives of the Gambling Act 2005 and the guidance issued by the Gambling Commission.

3.2 Glossary of Terms

Within this Statement of Policy, the following words and terms are defined as stated:

Licensing Objectives:	As defined in section 1.1 above
Council:	Powys County Council (hereinafter referred to as "the Council")
County	The area of Powys administered by Powys County Council referred to in the map attached (see Appendix C)
Licences:	As defined in Part B
Applications:	Applications for licences and permits as defined in Parts B and C
Licensing Authority	A Licensing Authority within the meaning of Section 2 of the Gambling Act 2005 (hereinafter referred to as "the Authority")
Notifications:	Means notification of Temporary and Occasional Use Notices
Act:	The Gambling Act 2005
Regulations:	Regulations made under the Gambling Act 2005

Premises:	Any place
Code of Practice:	Means any relevant code of practice under section 24 of the Gambling Act 2005
Mandatory Condition:	Means a specified condition provided by regulations to be attached to a licence
Default Condition:	Means a specified condition provided by regulations to be attached to a licence, unless excluded by Powys County Council

4. Responsible Authorities

The following are responsible authorities in relation to premises licences under the Act :-

- The Gambling Commission
- The Chief of Dyfed Powys Police
- Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service
- Planning Department Powys County Council and Brecon Beacons National Parks
- Environmental Protection, Powys County Council
- Safeguarding Team, Powys County Council
- HM Revenue and Customs
- Licensing Department Powys County Council
- any other person prescribed for the purposes of this section by regulations made by the Secretary of State

5. Interested parties

5.1 Interested parties can make representations about licence applications, or apply for a review of an existing licence. These parties are defined in the Gambling Act 2005 as follows:

“For the purposes of this Part a person is an interested party in relation to an application for or in respect of a premises licence if, in the opinion of the licensing authority which issues the licence or to which the applications is made, the person:

- a) lives sufficiently close to the premises to be likely to be affected by the authorised activities,
- b) has business interests that might be affected by the authorised activities, or
- c) represents persons who satisfy paragraph (a) or (b)”.

5.2 The licensing authority is required by regulations to state the principles it will apply in exercising its powers under the Gambling Act 2005 to determine whether a person is an interested party. The principles are:

- Each case will be decided upon its merits. This authority will not apply a rigid rule to its decision-making. It will consider the examples of considerations provided in the Gambling Commission’s Guidance for local authorities at 8.9 and 8.17. It will also consider the Gambling Commission's Guidance that "has business interests" should be given the widest possible interpretation and include partnerships, charities, faith groups and medical practices.

- Interested parties can be persons who are democratically elected such as councillors and MP's. No specific evidence of being asked to represent an interested person will be required as long as the councillor / MP represents the ward likely to be affected. Likewise, community councils likely to be affected will be considered to be interested parties. Other than these however, this authority will generally require written evidence that a person/body (e.g. an advocate/relative) 'represents' someone who either lives sufficiently close to the premises to be likely to be affected by the authorised activities and/or has business interests that might be affected by the authorised activities. A letter from one of these persons, requesting the representation is sufficient.
- If individuals wish to approach councillors to ask them to represent their views then care should be taken that the councillors are not part of the Licensing Committee dealing with the licence application. If there are any doubts then please contact the Licensing Section.

5.3 Any community or County Councillors who are approached to represent interested persons should ensure that they comply with the Code of Conduct and seek dispensation from the Standards Committee if appropriate.

6. Exchange of Information

6.1 Licensing authorities are required to include in their statements the principles to be applied by the authority in exercising the functions under sections 29 and 30 of the Act with respect to the exchange of information between it and the Gambling Commission, and the functions under section 350 of the Act with respect to the exchange of information between it and the other persons listed in Schedule 6 of the Act.

6.2 The principle that this licensing authority applies is that it will act in accordance with the provisions of the Gambling Act 2005 in its exchange of information which includes the provision that the General Data Protection Regulation 2016 and Data Protection Act 2018 will not be contravened. The licensing authority will also have regard to any guidance issued by the Gambling Commission to local authorities on this matter when it is published, as well as any relevant regulations issued by the Secretary of State under the powers provided in the Gambling Act 2005.

6.3 Should any protocols be established as regards information exchange with other bodies then they will be made available.

7. Enforcement

7.1 Licensing authorities are required by regulation under the Gambling Act 2005 to state the principles to be applied by the authority in exercising the functions under Part 15 of the Act with respect to the inspection of premises; and the powers under section 346 of the Act to institute criminal proceedings in respect of the offences specified.

7.2 This licensing authority's principles are that it will be guided by the Gambling Commission's Guidance for local authorities, and will endeavour to be:

- Proportionate: regulators should only intervene when necessary: remedies should be appropriate to the risk posed, and costs identified and minimised;

- **Accountable:** regulators must be able to justify decisions, and be subject to public scrutiny;
- **Consistent:** rules and standards must be joined up and implemented fairly;
- **Transparent:** regulators should be open, and keep regulations simple and user friendly; and
- **Targeted:** regulation should be focused on the problem, and minimise side effects.

7.3 As per the Gambling Commission's Guidance for local authorities this licensing authority will endeavour to avoid duplication with other regulatory regimes so far as possible.

7.4 The main enforcement and compliance role for this licensing authority in terms of the Gambling Act 2005 will be to ensure compliance with the premises licences and other permissions, which it authorises. The Gambling Commission will be the enforcement body for the operating and personal licences. It is also worth noting that concerns about manufacture, supply or repair of gaming machines will not be dealt with by the licensing authority but will be notified to the Gambling Commission

7.5 This licensing authority will also keep itself informed of developments as regards the work of the Better Regulation Executive in its consideration of the regulatory functions of local authorities.

7.6 Bearing in mind the principle of transparency, this licensing authority's enforcement/compliance protocols/written agreements will be available upon request to the Licensing Section.

8. Licensing Authority functions

8.1 Licensing Authorities are required under the Act to:

- Be responsible for the licensing of premises where gambling activities are to take place by issuing Premises Licences; for Bingo premises, Betting premises, Tracks, Adult Gaming Centres and Family Entertainment Centres.
- Issue Provisional Statements;
- Regulate members' clubs and miners' welfare institutes who wish to undertake certain gaming activities via issuing Club Gaming Permits and/or Club Machine Permits;
- Issue Club Machine Permits to Commercial Clubs
- Grant permits for the use of certain lower stake gaming machines at unlicensed Family Entertainment Centres;
- Receive notifications from alcohol licensed premises (under the Licensing Act 2003) for the use of two or fewer gaming machines;
- Issue Licensed Premises Gaming Machine Permits for premises licensed to sell/supply alcohol for consumption on the licensed premises, under the Licensing Act 2003, where there are more than two machines;
- Register small society lotteries below prescribed thresholds;
- Issue Prize Gaming Permits;
- Receive and Endorse Temporary Use Notices;
- Receive Occasional Use Notices;
- Provide information to the Gambling Commission regarding details of licences issued (see section above on 'information exchange');
- Maintain registers of the permits and licences that are issued under these functions.

8.2 It should be noted that local licensing authorities will not be involved in licensing remote gambling at all. This will fall to the Gambling Commission via operating licences.

PART B

PREMISES LICENCES – CONSIDERATION OF APPLICATIONS

9. General Principles

9.1 Premises licences will be subject to the requirements set out in the Gambling Act 2005 and regulations, as well as specific mandatory and default conditions which will be detailed in regulations issued by the Secretary of State. Licensing authorities are able to exclude default conditions and also attach others, where it is believed to be appropriate.

9.2 All applicants for Premises Licences will be required to set out how they will have regard to the licensing objectives, as specified in section 1.1 above, and what measures they intend to employ to ensure compliance with them.

9.3 Decision-making

This licensing authority is aware that in making decisions about premises licences it should aim to permit the use of premises for gambling in so far as it thinks it is:

- in accordance with any relevant code of practice issued by the Gambling Commission;
- in accordance with any relevant guidance issued by the Gambling Commission ;
- reasonably consistent with the licensing objectives; and
- in accordance with the authority's statement of licensing policy.

9.4 It is appreciated that as per the Gambling Commission's Guidance for local authorities "moral objections to gambling are not a valid reason to reject applications for premises licences" and also that unmet demand is not a criterion for a licensing authority.

This licensing authority also notes Gambling Commission guidance on ensuring that betting is the primary activity of a licensed premises. Gaming machines may be made available for use in licensed betting premises only at times when there are also sufficient facilities for betting available. Operators will need to demonstrate that betting will continue to be the primary activity of the premises when seeking variations to licenses.

In making this determination, this licensing authority will have regard to the six indicators of betting as a primary gambling activity.

- The offer of established core products (including live event pictures and bet range)
- The provision of information of products and events
- The promotion of gambling opportunities and products
- The actual use made of betting facilities
- The size of premises
- The delivery of betting facilities

- 9.5 **Definition of “premises”** – In the Act, "premises" is defined as including "any place". Section 152 therefore prevents more than one premises licence applying to any place. But a single building could be subject to more than one premises licence, provided they are for different parts of the building and the different parts of the building can be reasonably regarded as being different premises. This approach has been taken to allow large, multiple unit premises such as a pleasure park, pier, track or shopping mall to obtain discrete premises licences, where appropriate safeguards are in place. However, we will pay particular attention if there are issues about sub-divisions of a single building or plot and should ensure that mandatory conditions relating to access between premises are observed.
- 9.6 The Gambling Commission states in S7.6 of the fifth edition of its Guidance to Licensing Authorities that: “In most cases the expectation is that a single building / plot will be the subject of an application for a licence, for example, 32 High Street. But, that does not mean 32 High Street cannot be the subject of separate premises licences for the basement and ground floor, if they are configured acceptably. Whether different parts of a building can properly be regarded as being separate premises will depend on the circumstances. The location of the premises will clearly be an important consideration and the suitability of the division is likely to be a matter for discussion between the operator and the licensing authority.S7.7 The Commission does not consider that areas of a building that are artificially or temporarily separated, for example by ropes or moveable partitions, can properly be regarded as different premises. If a premises is located within a wider venue , a licensing authority should request a plan of the venue on which the premises should be identified as a separate unit”
- 9.7 This licensing authority takes particular note of the Gambling Commission’s Guidance to Licensing Authorities which states that: licensing authorities should take particular care in considering applications for multiple licences for a building and those relating to a discrete part of a building used for other (non-gambling) purposes. In particular they should be aware of the following:
- The third licensing objective seeks to protect children from being harmed by gambling. In practice that means not only preventing them from taking part in gambling, but also preventing them from being in close proximity to gambling. Therefore premises should be configured so that children are not invited to participate in, have accidental access to or closely observe gambling where they are prohibited from participating.
 - Entrances to and exits from parts of a building covered by one or more premises licences should be separate and identifiable so that the separation of different premises is not compromised and people do not “drift” into a gambling area. In this context it should normally be possible to access the premises without going through another licensed premises or premises with a permit.
 - Customers should be able to participate in the activity named on the premises licence.
- 9.8 The Guidance also gives a list of factors which the licensing authority should be aware of, which may include:
- Do the premises have a separate registration for business rates?
 - Is the premises’ neighbouring premises owned by the same person or someone else?
 - Can each of the premises be accessed from the street or a public passageway?
 - Can the premises only be accessed from any other gambling premises?

This authority will consider these and other relevant factors in making its decision, depending on all the circumstances of the case.

9.9 The Gambling Commission's relevant access provisions for each premises type are reproduced below:

7.23:

Casinos

- The principal access entrance to the premises must be from a street (as defined at 7.21 of the Guidance)
- No entrance to a casino must be from premises that are used wholly or mainly by children and/or young persons
- No customer must be able to enter a casino directly from any other premises which holds a gambling premises licence

Adult Gaming Centre

- No customer must be able to access the premises directly from any other licensed gambling premises

Betting Shops

- Access must be from a street (as per para 7.20 Guidance to Licensing Authorities) or from another premises with a betting premises licence
- No direct access from a betting shop to another premises used for the retail sale of merchandise or services. In effect there cannot be an entrance to a betting shop from a shop of any kind unless that shop is itself a licensed betting premises.

Tracks

- No customer should be able to access the premises directly from:
 - a casino
 - an adult gaming centre

Bingo Premises

- No customer must be able to access the premise directly from:
 - a casino
 - an adult gaming centre
 - a betting premises, other than a track

Family Entertainment Centre

- No customer must be able to access the premises directly from:
 - a casino
 - an adult gaming centre
 - a betting premises, other than a track

Part 7 of the Gambling Commission's Guidance to Licensing Authorities contains further guidance on this issue, which this authority will also take into account in its decision-making.

Premises "ready for gambling"

The Guidance states that a licence to use premises for gambling should only be issued in relation to premises that the licensing authority can be satisfied are going to be ready to be used for gambling in the reasonably near future, consistent with the scale of building or alterations required before the premises are brought into use.

9.10 If the construction of a premises is not yet complete, or if they need alteration, or if the applicant does not yet have a right to occupy them, then an application for a provisional statement should be made instead.

9.11 In deciding whether a premises licence can be granted where there are outstanding construction or alteration works at a premises, this authority will determine applications on their merits, applying a two stage consideration process:-

- First, whether the premises ought to be permitted to be used for gambling
- Second, whether appropriate conditions can be put in place to cater for the situation that the premises are not yet in the state in which they ought to be before gambling takes place.

9.12 Applicants should note that this authority is entitled to decide that it is appropriate to grant a licence subject to conditions, but it is not obliged to grant such a licence.

9.13 More detailed examples of the circumstances in which such a licence may be granted can be found at paragraphs 7.58-7.65 of the Guidance.

9.14 Location - This licensing authority is aware that demand issues cannot be considered with regard to the location of premises but that considerations in terms of the licensing objectives can. As per the Gambling Commission's Guidance for local authorities, this authority will pay particular attention to the protection of children and vulnerable persons from being harmed or exploited by gambling, as well as issues of crime and disorder. This does not preclude any applications being made and each application will be decided on its merits.

9.15 When determining an application to grant a Premises Licence or review a Premises Licence, regard will be taken regarding the proximity of the premises to schools, vulnerable adult centres or residential areas where there is an evidential link between the proximity of such premises and the gambling premises. The proximity of premises taken into consideration will vary depending on the size and scope of the gambling premises concerned. Each case will, however, be decided on its merits and will depend to a large extent on the type of gambling that it is proposed will be offered on the premises. Therefore, if an Applicant can effectively demonstrate how they might overcome licensing objective concerns, this will be taken into account.

9.16 Duplication with other regulatory regimes

When determining an application, the Authority shall not take into account matters not relevant under the Act such as the likelihood of the applicant obtaining planning permission or building control approval.

An applicant can apply for a "provisional statement" if the building is not complete or if he does not yet have a right to occupy it. Such an application is, however, a separate and distinct process to the granting of planning permission or building control approval.

9.17 This licensing authority will seek to avoid any duplication with other statutory/regulatory systems where possible, including planning. This authority will not consider whether a premises is likely to be awarded planning permission or building regulations approval or comply with any existing permission or approval, in its consideration of it. It will though, listen to, and consider carefully, any concerns about conditions, which are not able to be met by licensees due to planning restrictions, should such a situation arise.

9.18 When dealing with a premises licence application for finished buildings, this authority will not take into account whether those buildings have to comply with the necessary planning or buildings consents. Fire or health and safety risks will not be taken into account, as these matters are dealt with under relevant planning control, buildings and other regulations and must not form part of the consideration for the premises licence.

9.19 Licensing objectives - Premises licences granted must be reasonably consistent with the licensing objectives. With regard to these objectives, this licensing authority has considered the Gambling Commission's Guidance to local authorities and some comments are made below.

1. Preventing gambling from being a source of crime or disorder, being associated with crime or disorder or being used to support crime –

- a) This licensing authority is aware that the Gambling Commission will be taking a leading role in preventing gambling from being a source of crime.
- b) The Gambling Commission's Guidance does however envisage that licensing authorities should pay attention to the proposed location of gambling premises in terms of this licensing objective.
- c) Thus, where an area has known high levels of organised crime this authority will consider carefully whether gambling premises are suitable to be located there and whether conditions may be suitable such as the provision of door supervisors. This licensing authority is aware of the distinction between disorder and nuisance and will consider factors such as whether police assistance was required and how threatening the behaviour was to those who could see it, so as to make that distinction. Issues of nuisance cannot be addressed via the Gambling Act provisions.
- d) When preparing licence applications, applicants are advised to consider the following:-
 1. The design and layout of the premises;
 2. Location in so far as the location relates to the licensing objectives
 3. The training given to staff in crime prevention measures appropriate to those premises;
 4. Physical security features installed in the premises. This may include matters such as the position of cash registers or the standard of CCTV that is installed;
 5. Where premises are subject to age restrictions, the procedures in place to conduct age verification checks;
 6. The likelihood of any violence, public order or policing problem if the licence is granted.
 7. In relation to the prevention of disorder, the Authority has the ability (under S169 of the Act) to impose licence conditions.
 8. The staffs awareness of the Money Laundering Regulations and the provision of a clear procedure for reporting any suspicious activity to senior management

2. Ensuring that gambling is conducted in a fair and open way –

This licensing authority has noted that the Gambling Commission has stated that it would generally not expect licensing authorities to become concerned with ensuring

that gambling is conducted in a fair and open way as this will be addressed via operating and personal licences. There is however, more of a role with regard to tracks which is explained in more detail in the 'tracks' section below – page 16).

3. Protecting children and other vulnerable persons from being harmed or exploited by gambling –

- a) This licensing authority has noted the Gambling Commission's Guidance for local authorities states that this objective means preventing children from taking part in gambling. The licensing authority will therefore consider, as suggested in the Gambling Commission's Guidance, whether specific measures are required at particular premises, with regard to this licensing objective. Appropriate measures may include supervision of entrances/machines, segregation of areas within the same premises, staff training and design and layout of the premises.
- b) This licensing authority is also aware of the Gambling Commission Codes of Practice as regards this licensing objective, in relation to specific premises.

c) Children and vulnerable persons

1. Children

The Gambling Act and guidance issued by the commission make detailed provision for the protection of children from gambling harm. Licence holders should familiarise themselves with these provisions.

2. Test Purchasing

The Authority supports the stance of the Gambling Commission in promoting operators to test the integrity of their age verification policies and procedures to prevent children from accessing gambling facilities. Each premises will be expected to inform their Primary Authority (where there are such agreements in place with specific operators) in writing of the approach they have adopted and share the results of such tests with the Authority annually with a view to working with the Authority to enhance robustness of procedures preventing children using gambling facilities.

Those who do not have such primary authority agreements are expected to share the results of such test purchases with this Licensing Authority.

d) Vulnerable Persons

- 1. As regards the term “vulnerable persons” it is noted that the Gambling Commission is not seeking to offer a definition but states that “it will for regulatory purposes assume that this group includes people who gamble more than they want to; people who gamble beyond their means; and people who may not be able to make informed or balanced decisions about gambling due to a mental impairment, alcohol or drugs.” This licensing authority will consider this licensing objective on a case by case basis.
- 2. The Authority expects all gambling premises to make available information regarding the Financial Exploitation Safeguarding Scheme (FESS) .Given the evidence of a link between gambling and financial exploitation. Further information regarding the scheme can be obtained from the Licensing Section.

e) Local Health Board Notification.

The Licensing Authority will notify the Local Health Board of applications for gambling premises licences.

f) Good Practice Guidance

Premises operators, responsible authorities and decision makers are strongly advised to consider best practice guidance when assessing the impact of granting a licence. Particular reference should be made to the following reports:-

- Welsh Government Framework on Tackling the Night Time Economy
- The Relationship Between Alcohol and Gambling behaviours - Alcohol Concern Cymru (2015)
- Gambling with Our Health – Chief Medical Officer for Wales Annual Report 2016/17

g) Training

Where premises operators are providing staff training consideration should be given on including training on drug and alcohol related issues, particularly training on local policies for dealing with discarded needles and the risks of blood borne virus in order to protect staff. Training could also include awareness of the types of new and emerging drugs referred to as “New Psychoactive Substances” (previously “Legal Highs”) in order to better equip staff to handle use on premises.

Local services can provide short, bespoke courses free to licensed premises and operators are strongly advised to contact the licensing authority for details of how to access these courses.

Premises operators are also strongly advised to promote local help services for addressing gambling, drug and alcohol issues. Details of where to obtain relevant promotional material can be obtained from the licensing authority.

h) Safeguarding

1. Powys County Council believes that the safeguarding of Children and Vulnerable adults is a priority.
2. The authority believes that businesses offering gambling activities need to ensure that their staff have been adequately trained in relation to safeguarding matters in order to respond appropriately and quickly where issues arise. This advice is equally as important to operators of premises which offer gaming machines alongside the sale or supply of alcohol.
3. The authority strongly suggests that applicants for authorisations include information regarding their arrangements for staff safeguarding training as part of the application documents.
4. Gambling businesses are advised to contact the licensing section or visit the Authority’s gambling web pages to obtain copies of the documents.

i) Bet – Watch

The Authority encourages and will support local operators to create and maintain an information sharing network to discuss issues of problem gamblers that are identified. This will also be an opportunity for operators to discuss issues with licensing officers.

9.20 Any conditions attached to licences will be proportionate and will be:

- relevant to the need to make the proposed building suitable as a gambling facility;
- directly related to the premises and the type of licence applied for;
- fairly and reasonably related to the scale and type of premises; and
- reasonable in all other respects.

9.21 Decisions upon individual conditions will be made on a case by case basis, although there will be a number of measures this licensing authority will consider utilising should there be a perceived need, such as the use of supervisors, appropriate signage for adult only areas etc. There are specific comments made in this regard under some of the licence types below. This licensing authority will also expect the licence applicant to offer his/her own suggestions as to ways in which the licensing objectives can be met effectively.

9.22 This licensing authority will also consider specific measures, which may be required for buildings that are subject to multiple premises licences.

9.23 Such measures may include the supervision of entrances; segregation of gambling from non-gambling areas frequented by children; and the supervision of gaming machines in non-adult gambling specific premises in order to pursue the licensing objectives. These matters are in accordance with the Gambling Commission's Guidance.

9.24 This authority will also ensure that where category C or above machines are on offer in premises to which children are admitted:

- that all such machines are located in an area of the premises which is separated from the remainder of the premises by a physical barrier which is effective to prevent access other than through a designated entrance;
- that only adults are admitted to the area where these machines are located;
- that access to the area where the machines are located is supervised;
- that the area where these machines are located is arranged so that it can be observed by the staff or the licence holder; and
- that at the entrance to and inside any such areas there are prominently displayed notices indicating that access to the area is prohibited to persons under 18.

These considerations will apply to premises including buildings where multiple premises licences are applicable.

9.25 This licensing authority is aware that tracks may be subject to one or more than one premises licence, provided each licence relates to a specified area of the track. As per the Gambling Commission's Guidance, this licensing authority will consider the impact upon the third licensing objective and the need to ensure that entrances to each type of premises are distinct and that children are excluded from gambling areas where they are not permitted to enter.

9.26 It is noted that there are conditions which the licensing authority cannot attach to premises licences which are:

- any condition on the premises licence which makes it impossible to comply with an operating licence condition;
- conditions relating to gaming machine categories, numbers, or method of operation;
- conditions which provide that membership of a club or body be required (the Gambling Act 2005 specifically removes the membership requirement for casino and bingo clubs and this provision prevents it being reinstated; and

- conditions in relation to stakes, fees, winning or prizes.

9.27 Door Supervisors - The Gambling Commission advises in its Guidance to Licensing Authorities that if a licensing authority is concerned that a premises may attract disorder or be subject to attempts at unauthorised access (for example by children and young persons) then it may require that the entrances to the premises are controlled by a door supervisor, and is entitled to impose a premises licence condition to this effect.

Where it is decided that supervision of entrances/machines is appropriate for particular cases, a consideration of whether these need to be SIA licensed or not will be necessary. It will not be automatically assumed that they need to be licensed, as the statutory requirement for different types of premises vary (as per the Guidance, Part 33).

9.28 However, where an applicant chooses not to engage SIA registered door supervisors this Licensing Authority will expect the applicant to describe in their application how they intend to: -

- a) Carry out Criminal Record checks (CRB) on each individual
- b) Provide details of their criminal convictions criteria
- c) Explain the proposed method of identifying these individuals when working in the capacity of door supervisors.
- d) Indicate the ratio of male and female operatives
- e) Provide details of the appropriate training for the role
- f) Provide a work register showing the duty time and date (same applies to SIA registered).

9.29 Closed Circuit Television Systems - This Licensing Authority recognises the value of CCTV systems in preventing crime and disorder. Applicants are advised to follow the guidance available from the Dyfed Powys Police regarding the standards and specifications of any proposed system to ensure that it is appropriate for the premises.

10 Adult Gaming Centres

10.1 This licensing authority will specifically have regard to the need to protect children and vulnerable persons from harm or being exploited by gambling and will expect the applicant to satisfy the authority that there will be sufficient measures to, for example, ensure that under 18 year olds do not have access to the premises.

10.2 This licensing authority will expect applicants to offer their own measures to meet the licensing objectives however appropriate measures/licence conditions should cover issues such as:

- Adopt a proof of age scheme such as challenge 21 or 25;
- How any risks to vulnerable adults from gambling that have been identified in a risk assessment carried out in accordance with paragraph 19.5 of this policy will be addressed
- CCTV;
- Supervision of entrances/machine areas;
- Physical separation of areas;
- Location of entry;
- Notices/signage;

- Specific opening hours;
- Self-exclusion schemes;
- Provision of information leaflets / helpline numbers for organisations such as GamCare.

This list is not mandatory, nor exhaustive, and is merely indicative of example measures.

11 (Licensed) Family Entertainment Centres:

11.1 This licensing authority will specifically have regard to the need to protect children and vulnerable persons from harm or being exploited by gambling and will expect the applicant to satisfy the authority, for example, that there will be sufficient measures to ensure that under 18 year olds do not have access to the adult only gaming machine areas. Applicants are strongly advised to refer to the safeguarding information set out on page 13 of this policy document.

11.2 This licensing authority will expect applicants to offer their own measures to meet the licensing objectives however appropriate measures/licence conditions should cover issues such as:

- CCTV;
- Supervision of entrances/machine areas;
- Physical separation of areas;
- Location of entry;
- Notices/signage;
- Specific opening hours;
- Self-exclusion schemes;
- Provision of information leaflets/helpline numbers for organisations such as GamCare;
- Measures/training for staff on how to deal with suspected truant school children on the premises.
- How any risks to vulnerable adults from gambling that have been identified in a risk assessment carried out in accordance with paragraph 19.5 of this policy will be addressed

This list is not mandatory, nor exhaustive, and is merely indicative of example measures.

11.3 This licensing authority will, as per the Gambling Commission's guidance, refer to the Commission's website to see any conditions that apply to operating licences covering the way in which the area containing the category C machines should be delineated. This licensing authority will also make itself aware of any mandatory or default conditions on these premises licences, when they have been published.

12 Casinos

12.1 There are currently no casinos operating within the county.

12.2 There is no resolution to prohibit casinos in the county at present. However the Council reserves the right to review this situation and may, at some time in the future, resolve not to permit casinos.

12.3 Should the Council choose to make such a resolution, this will be a resolution of Full Council following considered debate, and the reasons for making the resolution will be given. There is no right of appeal against this resolution.

13 Bingo premises

13.1 This licensing authority notes that the Gambling Commission's Guidance states:

18.4 Licensing authorities will need to satisfy themselves that bingo can be played in any bingo premises for which they issue a premises licence. This will be a relevant consideration where the operator of an existing bingo premises applies to vary their licence to exclude an area of the existing premises from its ambit and then applies for a new premises licence, or multiple licences, for that or those excluded areas.

13.2 This authority also notes the Guidance at paragraph 18.8 regarding the unusual circumstances in which the splitting of a pre-existing premises into two adjacent premises might be permitted, and in particular that it is not permissible to locate sixteen category B3 gaming machines in one of the resulting premises, as the gaming machine entitlement for that premises would be exceeded.

13.3 Paragraph 18.7 further states that children and young people are allowed into bingo premises; however they are not permitted to participate in the bingo and if category B or C machines are made available for use these must be separated from areas where children and young people are allowed.

14 Betting premises

14.1 Betting machines - This licensing authority will, as per the Gambling Commission's Guidance, take into account the size of the premises, the number of counter positions available for person-to-person transactions, and the ability of staff to monitor the use of the machines by children and young persons (it is an offence for those under 18 to bet) or by vulnerable people, when considering the number/nature/circumstances of betting machines an operator wants to offer. This Licensing Authority expects applicants to demonstrate suitable measures to ensure children do not have access to such machines.

14.2 This licensing authority will expect applicants to offer their own measures to meet the licensing objectives however appropriate measures/licence conditions should cover issues such as:

- Adopt a proof of age scheme such as challenge 21 or 25;
- How any risks to children and vulnerable persons from gambling that have been identified in a risk assessment carried out in accordance with paragraph 19.5 of this policy will be addressed
- CCTV;
- Supervision of entrances/machine areas;
- Physical separation of areas;

- Location of entry;
- Notices/signage;
- Specific opening hours;
- Self-exclusion schemes;
- Provision of information leaflets / helpline numbers for organisations such as GamCare.

14.3 The Authority recognises that certain bookmakers may have a number of premises within its area. In order to ensure that any compliance issues are recognised and resolved at the earliest stage, operators are requested to give the Authority a single named point of contact, who shall be a senior individual, and whom the Authority will contact first should any compliance queries or issues arise.

15 Tracks

15.1 This licensing authority is aware that tracks may be subject to one or more than one premises licence, provided each licence relates to a specified area of the track. As per the Gambling Commission's Guidance, this licensing authority will especially consider the impact upon the third licensing objective (i.e. the protection of children and vulnerable persons from being harmed or exploited by gambling) and the need to ensure that entrances to each type of premises are distinct and that children are excluded from gambling areas where they are not permitted to enter.

15.2 This authority will therefore expect the premises licence applicant to demonstrate suitable measures to ensure that children do not have access to adult only gaming facilities.

15.3 It is noted that children and young persons will be permitted to enter track areas where facilities for betting are provided on days when dog-racing and/or horse racing takes place, but that they are still prevented from entering areas where gaming machines (other than category D machines) are provided.

15.4 This licensing authority will expect applicants to offer their own measures to meet the licensing objectives however appropriate measures/licence conditions may cover issues such as:

- Proof of age schemes, such as challenge 21 or 25;
- CCTV;
- Supervision of entrances/machine areas;
- Physical separation of areas;
- Location of entry;
- Notices/signage;
- Specific opening hours;
- Self-exclusion schemes
- Provision of information leaflets/helpline numbers for organisations such as GamCare.

This list is not mandatory, nor exhaustive, and is merely indicative of example measures.

- 15.5 Gaming machines** - Where the applicant holds a pool betting operating licence and is going to use the entitlement to four gaming machines, machines (other than category D machines) should be located in areas from which children are excluded.
- 15.6 Betting machines** - This licensing authority will, as per Part 6 of the Gambling Commission's Guidance, take into account the size of the premises and the ability of staff to monitor the use of the machines by children and young persons (it is an offence for those under 18 to bet) or by vulnerable people, when considering the number/nature/circumstances of betting machines an operator proposes to offer.
- 15.7 Condition on rules being displayed** - The Gambling Commission has advised in its Guidance for local authorities that "...licensing authorities should attach a condition to track premises licences requiring the track operator to ensure that the rules are prominently displayed in or near the betting areas, or that other measures are taken to ensure that they are made available to the public. For example, the rules could be printed in the race-card or made available in leaflet form from the track office."
- 15.8** This Licensing Authority will expect applicants to demonstrate how they will comply with this guide as part of their application.
- 15.9 Applications and plans**
The Gambling Act (s51) requires applicants to submit plans of the premises with their application, in order to ensure that the licensing authority has the necessary information to make an informed judgement about whether the premises are fit for gambling. The plan will also be used for the licensing authority to plan future premises inspection activity. (See Guidance to Licensing Authorities, para 20.43).
- 15.10 Plans** – Applicants will be expected to provide a plan of the premises in a scale of 1:100 unless the Authority has agreed in writing to the applicant to accept a plan in an alternative scale. The plan should show:
- The entire boundary of the premises, and all buildings and structures within the premises.
 - The location of the points of access to and egress from the premises.
 - The areas to be used for gambling activities whether permanent or temporary.
 - Any areas where access by children is restricted/prohibited.
 - Location of any warning or information notices.
 - Location of any public conveniences.
 - Location of any gambling areas at the premises covered by separate licences or permits.
 - The plan may include a legend through which the above matters may be identified.
- 15.11** This Licensing Authority is of the view that, it would be preferable for all self-contained premises operated by off-course betting operators on track to be the subject of separate premises licences, to ensure that there is clarity between the respective responsibilities of the track operator and the off-course betting operator running a self-contained unit on the premises.
- 15.12** This authority appreciates that it is sometimes difficult to define the precise location of betting areas on tracks. The precise location of where betting facilities are provided is not required to be shown on track plans, both by virtue of the fact that betting is permitted anywhere on the premises and because of the difficulties associated with

pinpointing exact locations for some types of track. Applicants should provide sufficient information so that this authority can satisfy itself that the plan indicates the main areas where betting might take place. For racecourses in particular, any betting areas subject to the “five times rule” (commonly known as betting rings) must be indicated on the plan. (See Guidance to Licensing Authorities, para 20.46).

16 Travelling Fairs

- 16.1** It will fall to this licensing authority to decide whether, where category D machines and/or equal chance prize gaming without a permit is to be made available for use at travelling fairs, the statutory requirement that the facilities for gambling amount to no more than an ancillary amusement at the fair is met.
- 16.2** The licensing authority will also consider whether the applicant falls within the statutory definition of a travelling fair.
- 16.3** It has been noted that the 27-day statutory maximum for the land being used as a fair, is per calendar year, and that it applies to the piece of land on which the fairs are held, regardless of whether it is the same or different travelling fairs occupying the land. This licensing authority will work with its neighbouring authorities to ensure that land which crosses our boundaries is monitored so that the statutory limits are not exceeded.

17 Provisional Statements

- 17.1** Developers may wish to apply to this authority for provisional statements before entering into a contract to buy or lease property or land to judge whether a development is worth taking forward in light of the need to obtain a premises licence. There is no need for the applicant to hold an operating licence in order to apply for a provisional statement.
- 17.2** S.204 of the Gambling Act provides for a person to make an application to the licensing authority for a provisional statement in respect of premises that he or she:
- expects to be constructed;
 - expects to be altered; or
 - expects to acquire a right to occupy.
- 17.3** The process for considering an application for a provisional statement is the same as that for a premises licence application. The applicant is obliged to give notice of the application in the same way as applying for a premises licence. Responsible authorities and interested parties may make representations and there are rights of appeal.
- 17.4** In contrast to the premises licence application, the applicant does not have to hold or have applied for an operating licence from the Gambling Commission and they do not have to have a right to occupy the premises in respect of which their provisional application is made.
- 17.5** The holder of a provisional statement may then apply for a premises licence once the premises are constructed, altered or acquired. The licensing authority will be constrained in the matters it can consider when determining the premises licence application, and in terms of representations about premises licence applications that

follow the grant of a provisional statement, no further representations from relevant authorities or interested parties can be taken into account unless:

- they concern matters which could not have been addressed at the provisional statement stage, or
- they reflect a change in the applicant's circumstances.

17.6 In addition, the authority may refuse the premises licence (or grant it on terms different to those attached to the provisional statement) only by reference to matters:

- which could not have been raised by objectors at the provisional statement stage;
- which in the authority's opinion reflect a change in the operator's circumstances; or
- where the premises has not been constructed in accordance with the plan submitted with the application. This must be a substantial change to the plan and this licensing authority notes that it can discuss any concerns it has with the applicant before making a decision.

18 Reviews:

18.1 Requests for a review of a premises licence can be made by interested parties or responsible authorities; however, it is for the licensing authority to decide whether the review is to be carried-out. This will be on the basis of whether the request for the review is relevant to the matters listed below;

- in accordance with any relevant Code of Practice issued by the Gambling Commission;
- in accordance with any relevant guidance issued by the Gambling Commission;
- reasonably consistent with the licensing objectives; and
- in accordance with the authority's statement of principles.

18.2 The request for the review will also be subject to the consideration by the authority as to whether the request is frivolous, vexatious, or whether it will certainly not cause this authority to wish to alter/revoke/suspend the licence, or whether it is substantially the same as previous representations or requests for review.

18.3 The licensing authority can also initiate a review of a particular premises licence, or a particular class of premises licence on the basis of any reason which it thinks is appropriate.

18.4 Once a valid application for a review has been received by the licensing authority, representations can be made by responsible authorities and interested parties during a 28 day period. This period begins 7 days after the application was received by the licensing authority, who will publish notice of the application within 7 days of receipt.

18.5 The licensing authority must carry out the review as soon as possible after the 28 day period for making representations has passed.

18.6 The purpose of the review will be to determine whether the licensing authority should take any action in relation to the licence. If action is justified, the options open to the licensing authority are:-

- (a) add, remove or amend a licence condition imposed by the licensing authority;
- (b) exclude a default condition imposed by the Secretary of State (e.g. opening hours) or remove or amend such an exclusion;
- (c) suspend the premises licence for a period not exceeding three months; and
- (d) revoke the premises licence.

- 18.7** In determining what action, if any, should be taken following a review, the licensing authority must have regard to the principles set out in section 153 of the Act, as well as any relevant representations.
- 18.8** In particular, the licensing authority may also initiate a review of a premises licence on the grounds that a premises licence holder has not provided facilities for gambling at the premises. This is to prevent people from applying for licences in a speculative manner without intending to use them.
- 18.9** Once the review has been completed, the licensing authority must, as soon as possible, notify its decision to:
- the licence holder
 - the applicant for review (if any)
 - the Commission
 - any person who made representations
 - the chief officer of police or chief constable; and
 - Her Majesty's Commissioners for Revenue and Customs

19 Risk Assessments

- 19.1 Such risk assessments are required from new applicants, and from existing premises licensees seeking to vary a licence. The Licence Conditions and Code of Practice issued by the Gambling Commission (The code) requires all operators of; Adult Gaming Centres (AGC's), Bingo Premises, Family Entertainment Centres (FEC's), Betting shops and remote betting intermediaries to assess local risks to the licensing objectives, and to have policies, procedures and control measures in place to mitigate those risks.
- 19.2 Operators are required by the code from 6th April 2016 to make the risk assessment available to licensing authorities when an application is submitted either for new premises licence or variation of a premises licence, or otherwise on request, and this will form part of the Authority's inspection regime and may be requested when officers are investigating complaints.
- 19.3 Operators must ensure that a copy of the current premises risk assessment is kept at the premises alongside the premises licence document and made available to staff.
- 19.4 The code requires the Authority to set out matters they expect the operator to take account of in the risk assessment in its statement of policy and this Authority expects the following matters to be considered by operators when making their risk assessment.
- Information held by the licensee regarding self-exclusions and incidences of underage gambling,
 - Gaming trends that may reflect benefit payments and paydays.
 - Arrangement for localised exchange of information regarding self-exclusions and gaming trends.
 - Urban setting such as proximity to schools, commercial environment, factors affecting footfall,
 - Range of facilities in proximity to the licensed premises such as other gambling outlets, banks, post offices, refreshment and entertainment type facilities
 - Known problems in the area such as problems arising from street drinkers, youths participating in anti-social behaviour, drug dealing activities, etc.

19.5 The Authority expects the following matters to be considered by Operators when making their risk assessment.

Matters relating to children and young persons, including;

- Institutions, places or areas where presence of children and young persons should be expected such as schools, youth clubs, parks, playgrounds and entertainment venues such as bowling alleys, cinemas etc.
- Any premises where children congregate including bus stops, cafés, shops, and any other place where children are attracted,
- Areas that are prone to issues of youths participating in anti social behaviour, including such activities as graffiti/tagging, underage drinking, etc.
- Recorded incidents of attempted underage gambling

19.6 Matters relating to vulnerable adults, including;

- Information held by the licensee regarding self-exclusions and incidences of underage gambling,
- Gaming trends that may mirror days for financial payments such as pay days or benefit payments
- Arrangement for localised exchange of information regarding self-exclusions and gaming trends.
- Proximity of premises which may be frequented by vulnerable people such as hospitals, residential care homes, places of worship, medical facilities, doctor's surgeries, council housing offices, addiction clinics or help centres, places where alcohol or drug dependant people may congregate, etc.

19.7 This list is not exhaustive and other relevant factors not in this list that are identified must be taken into consideration.

PART C

Permits/Temporary & Occasional Use Notice

20. Unlicensed Family Entertainment Centre gaming machine permits (Statement of Principles on Permits – Schedule 10 paragraph 7).

20.1 Where a premises does not hold a premises licence but wishes to provide gaming machines, it may apply to the licensing authority for this permit. It should be noted that the applicant must show that the premises will be wholly or mainly used for making gaming machines available for use (Section 238 of the act).

20.2 An application for a permit may be granted only if the licensing authority is satisfied that the premises will be used as an unlicensed FEC, and the Chief Officer of Police has been consulted on the application. This Licensing Authority will expect applicants to :

- Demonstrate a full understanding of the maximum stakes and prizes of the gambling that is permissible in unlicensed FECs;
- Demonstrate that the applicant has no relevant convictions (those that are set out in Schedule 7 of the Act; and
- Demonstrate that staff are trained to have a full understanding of the maximum stakes and prizes.
- Demonstrate an understanding of safeguarding issues highlighted on page 13 of this policy.

- Provide a basic DBS check dated within one calendar month of the date of application being submitted (unless the applicant holds a current Operator's licence issued by the Gambling Commission)
- Provide plans of the premises which comply with the requirements of paragraph 15.9 – 15.10 of this policy and which illustrate the proposed locations of gaming machines and the locations of staff managing and supervising the centre.

20.3 When considering any convictions revealed in an application the licensing authority will consider the nature and relevance of the offence, how long ago it took place and any other factors that may be relevant. The application will be subject to the terms of the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act and "spent" convictions may not be referred to when considering the permit application. The application process will make specific reference to the Relevant Offences listed in Schedule 7 to the Gambling Act 2005.

20.4 It should be noted that a licensing authority cannot attach conditions to this type of permit.

20.5 **Statement of Principles** - This licensing authority will expect the applicant to show that there are policies and procedures in place to protect children from harm. Harm in this context is not limited to harm from gambling but includes wider child protection considerations.

20.6 The efficiency of such policies and procedures will each be considered on their merits, however, they may include appropriate measures/training for staff as regards suspected truant school children on the premises, appropriate measures / vetting of staff/training covering how staff would deal with unsupervised very young children being on the premises, or children causing perceived problems on/around the premises. This licensing authority will also expect, as per Gambling Commission Guidance, that applicants demonstrate a full understanding of the maximum stakes and prizes of the gambling that is permissible in unlicensed FECs; that the applicant has no relevant convictions (those that are set out in Schedule 7 of the Act); and that staff are trained to have a full understanding of the maximum stakes and prizes.

20.7 Applicants are advised to refer to the Safeguarding advice outlined on page 13 of this Policy or contact the relevant Responsible Authorities for further guidance.

21.(Alcohol) Licensed premises gaming machine permits

Gaming Machines -Automatic Entitlement

21.1 There is provision in the Act for premises licensed to sell alcohol for consumption on the premises, to automatically have 2 gaming machines, of categories C and/or D. The premises merely need to notify the licensing authority and pay the prescribed fee.

21.2 The licensing authority can remove the automatic authorisation in respect of any particular premises if:

- provision of the machines is not reasonably consistent with the pursuit of the licensing objectives;
- gaming has taken place on the premises that breaches a condition of section 282 of the Gambling Act (i.e. that written notice has been provided to the licensing authority, that a fee has been provided and that any relevant code of practice issued

by the Gambling Commission about the location and operation of the machine has been complied with);

- the premises are mainly used for gaming; or
- an offence under the Gambling Act has been committed on the premises.

21.3 Gaming Machine Permit: 3 or more machines – (schedule 13 paragraph 4(1))

If a premises wishes to have more than 2 machines, then it needs to apply for a permit and the licensing authority must consider that application based upon the licensing objectives under the 2005 Act, any guidance issued by the Gambling Commission issued under Section 25 of the Gambling Act 2005, and “such matters as they think relevant”.

This licensing authority considers that “such matters” will be decided on a case by case basis but generally there will be regard to the need to protect children and vulnerable persons from harm or being exploited by gambling and will expect the applicant to satisfy the authority that there will be sufficient measures to ensure that under 18 year olds do not have access to the adult only gaming machines. Measures which will satisfy the authority that there will be no access may include the adult machines being in sight of the bar, or in the sight of staff who will monitor that the machines are not being used by those under 18. Notices and signage may also help. As regards the protection of vulnerable persons, applicants may wish to consider the provision of information leaflets/helpline numbers for organisations such as GamCare.

Applicants for Licensed premises Gaming Machine Permits are therefore required to provide the following information alongside their application:-

1. A plan of the premises in accordance with paragraph 15.10 of this policy on which they shall show the proposed location of each gaming machine along with details of the locations of supervising staff as well as Notices and signage.
2. Information regarding the nature of the premises including access to the premises by persons aged under 18.

21.4 It is recognised that some alcohol licensed premises may apply for a premises licence for their non-alcohol licensed areas. Any such application would most likely need to be applied for, and dealt with as an Adult Gaming Centre premises licence.

21.5 It should be noted that the licensing authority can decide to grant the application with a smaller number of machines and/or a different category of machines than that applied for. Conditions (other than these) cannot be attached.

21.6 It should also be noted that the holder of a permit or automatic entitlement notification must comply with any Code of Practice issued by the Gambling Commission about the location and operation of the machine.

21.7 The Local Authority may consult the Police prior to determining any such applications.

22.Prize Gaming Permits - (Statement of Principles on Permits - Schedule 14 paragraph 8 (3)).

22.1 The Gambling Act 2005 states that a licensing authority may “prepare a statement of principles that they propose to apply in exercising their functions under this Schedule”

which “may, in particular, specify matters that the licensing authority propose to consider in determining the suitability of the applicant for a permit”.

22.2 Statement of Principles - Applicants should set out the types of gaming that he or she is intending to offer and that the applicant should be able to demonstrate:

- that they understand the limits to stakes and prizes that are set out in Regulations;
- and that the gaming offered is within the law.
- Clear policies that outline the steps to be taken to protect children from harm.

22.3 In making its decision on an application for this permit the licensing authority does not need to have regard to the licensing objectives but must have regard to any Gambling Commission guidance (Gambling Act 2005, Schedule 14 paragraph 8(3)).

22.4 It should be noted that there are conditions in the Gambling Act 2005 by which the permit holder must comply, but that the licensing authority cannot attach conditions. The conditions in the Act are:

- the limits on participation fees, as set out in regulations, must be complied with;
- all chances to participate in the gaming must be allocated on the premises on which the gaming is taking place and on one day; the game must be played and completed on the day the chances are allocated; and the result of the game must be made public in the premises on the day that it is played;
- the prize for which the game is played must not exceed the amount set out in regulations (if a money prize), or the prescribed value (if non-monetary prize); and
- participation in the gaming must not entitle the player to take part in any other gambling.

23. Club Gaming and Club Machines Permits

23.1 Members Clubs and Miners’ welfare institutes (but not Commercial Clubs) may apply for a Club Gaming Permit. The Club Gaming Permit will enable the premises to provide gaming machines (3 machines of categories B, C or D), equal chance gaming and games of chance as set-out in forthcoming regulations.

Members Clubs and Miner’s welfare institutes – and also Commercial Clubs – may apply for a Club Machine Permit. A Club Machine permit will enable the premises to provide gaming machines (3 machines of categories B, C or D). NB Commercial Clubs may not site category B3A gaming machines offering lottery games in their club.

23.2 This licensing authority notes that the Gambling Commission’s Guidance states:

25.44 The LA has to satisfy itself that the club meets the requirements of the Act to obtain a club gaming permit. In doing so it will take account a number of matters as outlined in sections 25.45-25.47 of the Gambling Commission’s Guidance. These include the constitution of the club, the frequency of gaming, and ensuring that there are more than 25 members.

The club must be conducted ‘wholly or mainly’ for purposes other than gaming, unless the gaming is permitted by separate regulations. The Secretary of State has made regulations and these cover bridge and whist clubs.

23.3 The Commission Guidance also notes that "licensing authorities may only refuse an application on the grounds that:

- (a) the applicant does not fulfil the requirements for a members' or commercial club or miners' welfare institute and therefore is not entitled to receive the type of permit for which it has applied;
- (b) the applicant's premises are used wholly or mainly by children and/or young persons;
- (c) an offence under the Act or a breach of a permit has been committed by the applicant while providing gaming facilities;
- (d) a permit held by the applicant has been cancelled in the previous ten years; or
- (e) an objection has been lodged by the Commission or the police".

23.4 There is also a 'fast-track' procedure available under the Act for premises which hold a Club Premises Certificate under the Licensing Act 2003 (Schedule 12 paragraph 10). As the Gambling Commission's Guidance for local authorities states: "Under the fast-track procedure there is no opportunity for objections to be made by the Commission or the police, and the grounds upon which an authority can refuse a permit are reduced". The grounds on which an application under the process may be refused are:

- (a) that the club is established primarily for gaming, other than gaming prescribed under schedule 12;
- (b) that in addition to the prescribed gaming, the applicant provides facilities for other gaming; or
- (c) that a club gaming permit or club machine permit issued to the applicant in the last ten years has been cancelled."

23.5 There are statutory conditions on club gaming permits that no child uses a category B or C machine on the premises and that the holder complies with any relevant provision of a code of practice about the location and operation of gaming machines.

23.6

This licensing authority will expect applicants to offer their own measures to meet the licensing objectives however appropriate measures/licence conditions should cover issues such as:

- Adopt a proof of age scheme such as challenge 21 or 25;
- How any risks to children and vulnerable persons from gambling will be addressed;
- CCTV;
- Supervision of entrances/machine areas;
- Physical separation of areas;
- Location of entry;
- Notices/signage;
- Specific opening hours;
- Self-exclusion schemes;
- Provision of information leaflets / helpline numbers for organisations such as GamCare.

24. Temporary Use Notices

24.1 Temporary Use Notices allow the use of premises for gambling where there is no premises licence but where a gambling operator wishes to use the premises temporarily for providing facilities for gambling. Premises that might be suitable for a Temporary

Use Notice, according the Gambling Commission, would include hotels, conference centres and sporting venues.

24.2 The licensing authority can only grant a Temporary Use Notice to a person or company holding a relevant operating licence, i.e. a non-remote casino operating licence.

24.3 The Secretary of State has the power to determine what form of gambling can be authorised by Temporary Use Notices, and at the time of writing this Statement the relevant regulations (SI no 3157: The Gambling Act 2005 (Temporary Use Notices) Regulations 2007) state that Temporary Use Notices can only be used to permit the provision of facilities or equal chance gaming, where the gaming is intended to produce a single winner, which in practice means poker tournaments.

24.4 There are a number of statutory limits as regards Temporary Use Notices. The meaning of "premises" in Part 8 of the Act is discussed in Part 7 of the Gambling Commission Guidance to Licensing Authorities. As with "premises", the definition of "a set of premises" will be a question of fact in the particular circumstances of each notice that is given. In the Act "premises" is defined as including "any place". In considering whether a place falls within the definition of "a set of premises", the licensing authority will look at, amongst other things, the ownership/occupation and control of the premises.

24.5 This licensing authority expects to object to notices where it appears that their effect would be to permit regular gambling in a place that could be described as one set of premises, as recommended in the Gambling Commission's Guidance to Licensing Authorities.

25. Occasional Use Notices

25.1 The licensing authority has very little discretion as regards these notices aside from ensuring that the statutory limit of 8 days in a calendar year is not exceeded. This licensing authority will though consider the definition of a 'track' and whether the applicant is permitted to avail him/herself of the notice. This licensing authority will also ensure that no more than 8 OUNs are issued in one calendar year in respect of any venue.

26. Small Society Lotteries

26.1 This licensing authority will adopt a risk based approach towards its enforcement responsibilities for small society lotteries. This authority considers that the following list, although not exclusive, could affect the risk status of the operator:

- Submission of late returns (returns must be submitted no later than three months after the date on which the lottery draw was held)
- Submission of incomplete or incorrect returns
- Breaches of the limits for small society lotteries

26.2 Non-commercial gaming is permitted if it takes place at a non-commercial event, either as an incidental or principal activity at the event. Events are non-commercial if no part of the proceeds is for private profit or gain. The proceeds of such events may benefit one or more individuals if the activity is organised:

- by or on behalf of, a charity or for charitable purposes
- to enable participation in, or support of, sporting, athletic or cultural activities.

Charities and community groups should contact the licensing authority.

DELEGATION OF FUNCTIONS

Matter to be dealt with	Full Council	Sub-Committee	Officers
Three year licensing policy	X		
Policy not to permit casinos	X		
Fee Setting – when appropriate	X		
Application for premises licenses		Where representations have been received and not withdrawn	Where no representations received/ representations have been withdrawn.
Application for a variation to a licence		Where representations have been received and not withdrawn	Where no representations received/ representations have been withdrawn
Application to transfer a licence		Where representations have been received and not withdrawn	Where no representations received/ representations have been withdrawn
Application for a provisional statement		Where representations have been received and not withdrawn	Where no representations received/ representations have been withdrawn
Review of a premises licence		X	
Application for a club gaming/club machine permits		Where representations have been received and not withdrawn	Where no representations received/ representations have been withdrawn
Cancellation of a club gaming/club machine permits		X	
Applications for other permits			X
Cancellation of licensed premises gaming machine permits			X
Consideration of temporary use notice			X
Decision to give a counter notice to a temporary use notice		X	

X – indicates at the lowest level to which decisions can be delegated.

GAMBLING ACT 2005

GAMBLING POLICY

Appendix B

Contact Details for Responsible Authorities.

Gambling Commission

Gambling Commission
Victoria Square House
Victoria Square
Birmingham
B2 4BP
0121 230 6666

Police

The Licensing Officer,
Dyfed-Powys Police,
Llanidloes Police Station,
9 Lon Glandwr,
Llanidloes,
Powys
SY18 6DD

08453302000
07968220697

Fire Authority

Mid & West Wales Fire & Rescue Service,
Garth Road, Builth Wells,
Powys, LD2 3AR.

Tel: 0370 6060699

Planning

Planning Service
The Gwalia
Ithon Road, Llandrindod Wells,
Powys, LD1 6AA.

Tel: (01597) 827169
OR

Brecon Beacons National Park Authority
Plas y Ffynon
Cambrian Way, Brecon,
Powys, LD3 7HR

Environmental Protection

Senior Environmental Protection Officer
Environmental Health Offices
Neuadd Maldwyn
Severn Road, Welshpool,
Powys, SY21 7AS.

Safeguarding

Tel: (01938) 551299

Powys People Direct
Powys County Hall
Spa Road East
Llandrindod Wells
Powys
LD1 5LG

HM Customs & Excise

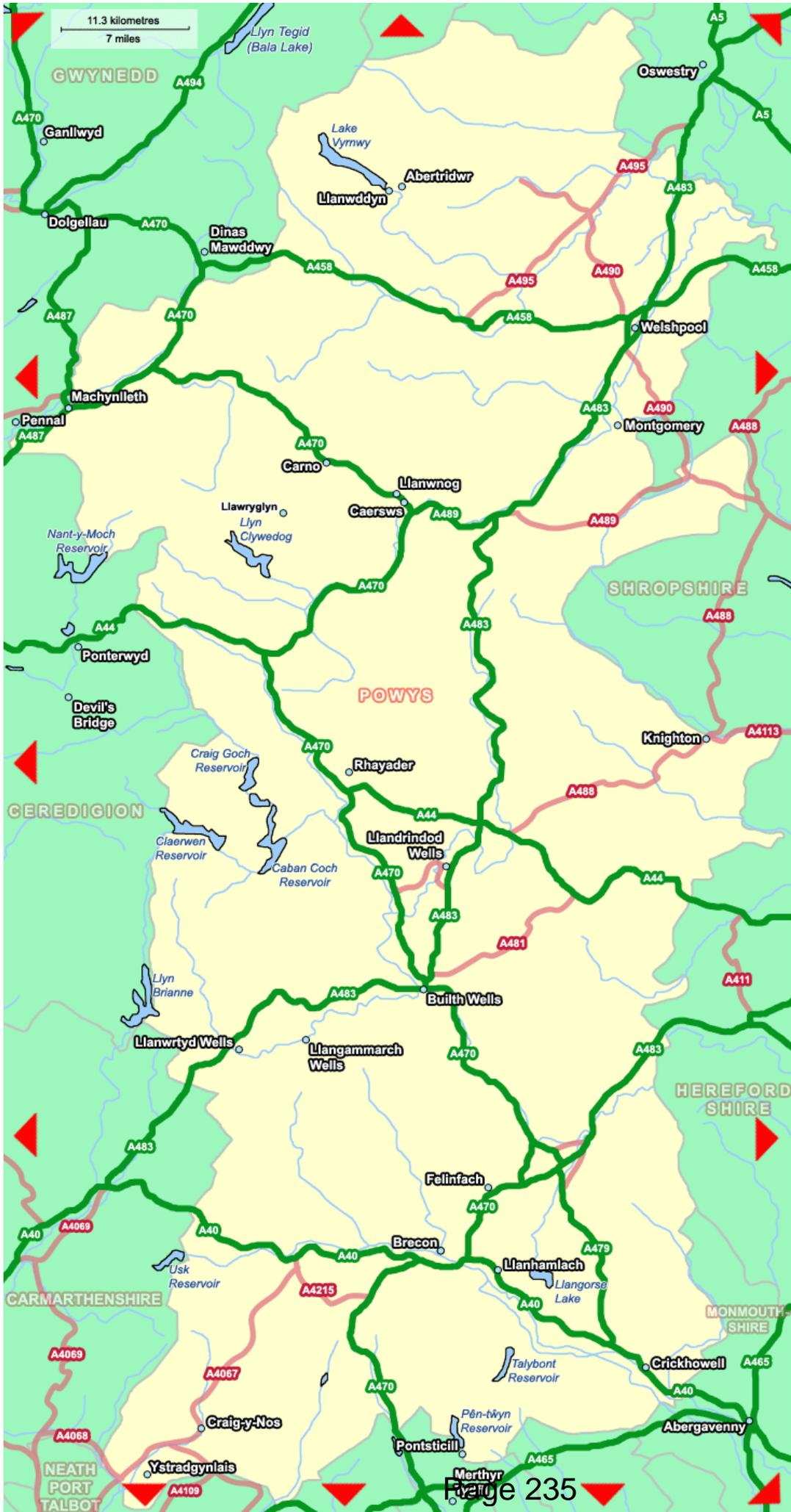
HM Revenue and Customs

HM Revenue and Customs
Excise Processing Teams
Gambling Duties
BX9 1GL
United Kingdom

Email - nrubetting&gaming@hmrc.gsi.gov.uk
Telephone 0300 200 3700

The following interested parties are also invited to comment on the draft Powys Statement Of Principles:

Mecca Bingo/Casinos Ltd
William Hill PLC
Ladbrokes PLC
Betfred Ltd
BCA (The British Casino Association)
The British Holiday & Home Parks Association
BACTA (The British Amusements Catering Trade Association)
BALPPA (The British Association of Leisure Parks, Piers & Attractions Ltd)
The Bingo Association
The British Beer & Pub Association
ABB (The Association of British Bookmakers)
COA (UK) (Casino Operators' Association of the UK)
Racecourse Association Limited
The Gambling Commission
Gala Coral
S P Racing, Llandrindod Wells
Evans & James, Brecon



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CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL.

County Council – 18 October, 2018

Arrangements to fill one vacancy arising from the completion of a term of office of an Independent (Lay) Member on the Standards Committee**1. Forthcoming Vacancy on the Standards Committee.**

- 1.1 The term of office of an Independent Member of the Standards Committee, Mrs Helen Rhydderch-Roberts, ends on 13 May 2019. Mrs Rhydderch-Roberts will have completed the maximum two terms of office permitted, and is therefore not eligible for re-appointment.
- 1.2 The County Council will therefore need to undertake an appointment process for a new Independent Member to replace Mrs Rhydderch-Roberts in accordance with the Standards Committees (Wales) Regulations 2001 (as amended). The Regulations and the Constitution provide that Independent Members are appointed for not less than 4 years and not more than 6 years and the convention has been to appoint for a 6 year term. Approval is sought from the County Council for officers to commence the process as from February 2019.
- 1.3 The starting point under the regulations is a requirement for the Council to publish an advertisement in not less than two newspapers (which are not published by the Council) circulating within Powys advising local government electors that the Council is seeking to appoint an independent (lay) member to its Standards Committee. Such advertisement may also, if the Council considers appropriate, notify electors:
 - (a) that the chairperson and vice-chairperson of the Standards Committee are elected from independent (lay) persons; and
 - (b) the qualities and experience that may be required of independent (lay) members serving on the Standards Committee.
- 1.4 Additionally the Council can also publish such advertisement in any newspaper that it publishes or online. It is intended to publish information on the Council's website.
- 1.5 A suggested draft newspaper advertisement based on the one used on the last occasion is attached as **Appendix A** which will appear in the County Times and the Brecon and Radnor Express. Other news releases will also be made referring to the information on the Council's website.
- 1.6 The Council is also required under the regulations to:
 - (a) Establish criteria for the appointment of independent members to its Standards Committee, and
 - (b) Publish those criteria in the newspaper advertisement referred to above.

- 1.7 A draft set of criteria (based on that used on the last occasion) is attached as **Appendix B** .
- 1.8 The regulations further stipulate that the Council must establish a Panel to:
- (a) Consider every application received;
 - (b) Apply the criteria established in considering applications;
 - (c) Make recommendations to the County Council in relation to applications.
- N.B.** Appointments of Independent (Lay) members must be made by the County Council which must have regard to the recommendations of the Panel.
- 1.9 The previous practice of such Panels has been to invite applicants to attend before the Panel for interview. There may also be need to consider a shortlisting stage in the event of there being a number of applicants.
- 1.10 The regulations go on to provide that a Panel established by the Council must not consist of more than 5 panel members one of whom must be a “lay panel member” and one of whom must be a member of a community council. In this context “lay panel member” means someone who is not or has not been a County Councillor and is not or has not been an independent member of the Standards Committee.
- 1.11 Based upon the composition of panels established previously it is suggested that the panel on this occasion comprises the following:
- Lay Panel Member (Who normally Chairs the Panel) – Lord Lieutenant or the High Sheriff [a previous High Sheriff will be approached as the current holder of the position is also a Councillor] .
 - Vice Chairman of the Standards Committee, as the vacancy relates to the current Chairman.
 - Independent ‘Lay’ Member of the Standards Committee.
 - 1 County Council representative from the Standards Committee – to be selected by the Standards Committee
 - 1 Town / Community Council representative from the Community Standards Sub-Committee – to be selected by the Sub-Committee
- 1.12 In the event of the non-availability of any member of the Panel it is suggested in accordance with past practice that the function of appointing a substitute be delegated to the Monitoring Officer in consultation with the Chairman of the County Council and the Vice Chairman of the Standards Committee.
- 1.13 A provisional timetable for the appointment process in this connection is set out in **Appendix C** and is recommended for adoption by the County Council. It will be observed that this timetable anticipates that the County Council will make the formal appointment of a new Independent (Lay) Member to the Standards Committee at its Meeting in May 2019.
- 1.14 Given the obvious need to attract the widest interest and encourage as many suitable candidates as possible to apply it is suggested that the Chair and Vice Chair of the Standards Committee be authorised to take such steps as appear

necessary to them to achieve these objectives. 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 (iii) produce additional literature/promotional material.

JOIN OUR STANDARDS COMMITTEE

The Council has a vacancy for an Independent (Lay) Member and is looking for a person who would be interested in joining the Standards Committee.

You would join four County Councillors and four other Independent (Lay) Members on the 9 person Standards Committee. You would also sit on the Standards Community Sub-Committee dealing with standards issues relating to all the town and community councils in Powys.

Independent (Lay) Members receive a co-optees allowance of £99 for a half day or £198 for a whole day. Travel expenses may also be claimed.

Further details are obtainable on the Powys County Council website: www.powys.gov.uk or to find about more about the role of the Standards Committee and obtain an application form contact:

Carol Johnson (Clerk to the Standards Committee)
Powys County Council
Llandrindod Wells
Powys
LD1 5LG
Tel (01597) 826980

e-mail: carol.johnson@powys.gov.uk

The deadline for receipt of application is 1 March, 2019.



CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL

STANDARDS COMMITTEE

Criteria for the Appointment of Independent (Lay) Members

1. An interest in seeking to uphold and promote high ethical standards in local government.
2. Candidates should be able to demonstrate the following qualities:-
 - (a) good character;
 - (b) understanding and communication skills;
 - (c) social awareness, including an understanding of local communities within Powys;
 - (d) maturity and sound temperament;
 - (e) sound judgement.
3. Members of the Standards Committee must be able to give a commitment to serve on the Committee and its Sub-Committee as required.
4. Some knowledge of local authority or public sector business, or knowledge or experience gained within a regulatory or ethical standard area, would be an advantage.
5. The following are not eligible to serve as Independent (Lay) Members of the Standards Committee by virtue of regulations made by the National Assembly for Wales :-
 - (i) a councillor, officer, or the spouse of a councillor or officer, of Powys County Council, any other Welsh county council, a Welsh National Park Authority, or a Fire Authority or Town or Community Council in Wales.* N.B. 'Officers' includes all staff of one of these authorities including teaching staff.
 - (ii) any person who was previously a member or officer of Powys County Council (post 1996).
 - (iii) any person who, within the previous 12 months, was a member or officer of any other Welsh county council, or a Welsh Fire Authority.

*Town and Community Councillors are welcome to apply but would be required to resign from their Town or Community Council role if appointed as an Independent Member.

Provisional Timetable for Appointments Panel 2019

It is necessary to have Panel of no more than 5 Members including a Lay Member and a Community Councillor.

Agree process at Council	Thur	18 th October, 2018
Delegate appointment of Standards Committee Panel Members	Wed	20 February 2019
Press Notice to papers	Fri	1 February, 2019
Notice in the papers (2 papers)	Fri	8 & 9 February 2019
News release and publication on the Council's website / social media – ongoing Social media promotion	Fri/Sat	8 & 9 February 2019
Re-issue of press release (if necessary)	w/c	18 February, 2019
Closing date for applications	Fri	1 March 2019
Shortlisting (left longer after closing date to give time to copy pack for selection panel)	w/c	18 – 22 March 2019
Panel Sitting	w/c	8 April 2019
County Council to confirm appointment (and commencement of term of office)		16 May 2019

Term of office of Mrs H Rhydderch-Roberts finishes 13 May 2019

15.1

CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL

County Council
18th October 2018

REPORT AUTHOR: County Councillor Rachel Powell, Portfolio Holder for Young People and Culture

SUBJECT: Question from County Councillor Gareth Jones

To what extent does the YFC movement within Powys support the council's statutory Youth Service?

Response

The YFCs (Young Farmers Clubs) each operate under an agreed SLA (Service Level Agreement), which sets out their contribution to youth support in Powys. They are not statutory bodies but have been provided with grant aid support in recognition of their role in providing services to young people in rural Powys.

The YFC movement in Powys receive a total of £62,405k in funds. In addition, each YFC were provided with a £2k grant by the Council to support their transition in managing their own staff and affairs. In the case of Montgomeryshire, they also took the computers, monitors, printers and office chairs previously provided to them by the Council.

In return for the grant the YFC are expected to provide a quarterly report and basic contact figures. This is all set out in the agreed SLA. The figures from YFC are entered on the Welsh Government annual audit report for Youth Service but are clearly identified as being from YFC, as the Urdd figures are. The YFC figures are used only to report the number of contacts for Powys, not to inflate the youth service figures or to access additional funding, other Youth Services across Wales also provide these figures.

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15.2

CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL

County Council
18th October 2018

REPORT AUTHOR: County Councillor Phyl Davies, Portfolio Holder for Highways, Recycling and Assets

SUBJECT: Question from County Councillor Huw Williams

We rightly celebrate the high level of household waste recycled by Powys residents, but what is the path taken, and final destination of each kerbside recyclate gathered by the Authority's Waste Services? What is the current destination of our residual waste?

Response

Please see the table overleaf.

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Processing and Destinations of Kerbside Collected Recycling & Refuse

	Food	Paper & Card	Cans & Plastics		Glass			Residual
Primary Processing	<p><i>Anaerobic Digestion (AD) plant: Bridgend.</i></p> <p>AD process produces:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Methane, used as biogas for electricity for National Grid (NG) - Slurry, processed into agricultural fertiliser - Mechanical separation of reject material (large bones, plastic packaging etc.) 	<p><i>Sorting Facility: Deeside, Flintshire</i></p> <p>Separation of paper from cardboard</p>	<p><i>Transfer Station: Brecon</i></p> <p>Separation of steel and aluminium cans from plastics before baling all material for onward haulage</p>		<p><i>Glass reprocessor: Cwmbran, Torfaen; Ellesmere Port, Cheshire</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Magnetic and eddy current separation of metals from glass - Wet process to float paper and plastics 'reject' from glass - Classifying of glass into separate grain sizes - Poorest quality 'fines' fraction of glass graded into 'eco-sand' product for sale as aggregate 			<p><i>MBT Plant: Llanidloes</i></p> <p>Material undergoes 'Mechanical Biological Treatment', including shredding and drying. Reduces overall mass of material buried, and stabilises it to prevent subsidence in closed and capped landfill cells.</p>
Page 247 Secondary Processing	<p><i>Incinerator: Typically Cardiff / Bristol.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reject incinerated for electricity for NG - Incineration produces ash 	<p><i>Paper Mills: Manchester (Cardboard); Kings Lynn, Norfolk (Paper)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Separation of reject (packaging tape, staples etc.) - Paper/card pulped and recycled - On-site incineration of non-metal reject for electricity to power plant operations 	<p><i>Material Recovery facility (MRF): South Normanton, Derbyshire</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Separation of reject material (fines, paper, non-recyclable plastics etc.) - Optical sorting of plastics into individual polymer streams. 	<p><i>Metal Reprocessor: Port Talbot (Steel Cans); Warrington, Cheshire (Aluminium Cans)</i></p> <p>Recycled into new cans, car parts and other recycled products.</p>	<p><i>Glass reprocessor: Cwmbran, Torfaen</i></p> <p><i>Best grades of glass are used to produce fibreglass insulation for domestic market.</i></p>	<p><i>Metal Reprocessor: Various</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Magnetic and eddy current separation of metals into ferrous and non-ferrous. - Shredding of metals ready for smelting in furnace 	<p><i>Incinerator: Various</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reject incinerated for electricity for NG - Incineration produces ash 	<p><i>Non-hazardous Landfill: Llanidloes</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Material added to landfill cells for burying and final disposal. - Once cell is capped, methane gas produced by anaerobic digestion within cell is captured and utilised as biogas.
Tertiary Processing	<p><i>Cement Manufacturer: Various.</i></p> <p>Ashes used as replacement for raw material in cement manufacture.</p>	<p><i>Metal Reprocessor: Various</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Separation of metals into ferrous and non-ferrous. - Metals recycled into new products 	<p><i>Plastics Reprocessors: Various</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pelletising of plastic polymers - Recycling into new plastic products: bottles, pots, tubs, trays 	<p><i>Incinerator: Various</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reject (PVC) landfilled as chlorine means it cannot be incinerated. - Reject (non-recyclable material) incinerated in Europe for electricity for their NGs 	<p><i>Cement Manufacturer: Various</i></p> <p>Ashes used as replacement for raw material in cement manufacture.</p>			

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15.3

CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL

County Council
18th October 2018

REPORT AUTHOR: County Councillor James Evans, Portfolio Holder for Corporate Governance, Housing and Public Protection

SUBJECT: Question from County Councillor Huw Williams

In October 2017, the Council agreed to support the following motion:

RESOLVED

1. That Council believes that it must do as much as it can to help residents in fuel poverty to mitigate this situation;
 - a) Residents of Powys would benefit greatly from reduced energy bills through a Powys County Council run collective energy switch scheme;
 - b) The authority can join in with other authorities and organisations in Wales through the Cyd Cymru scheme;
 - c) The Ceredigion run schemes provide a best practice model for the running of such fuel clubs;
 - d) The authority can exert its power of collective bargaining for both dual fuel and oil purchasing schemes
2. To ask the Anti-Poverty Champion and the Anti-Poverty Group to explore the feasibility of implementing its own or joining the Cyd Cymru scheme.
3. To ask the Anti-Poverty Champion and the Anti-Poverty Group to explore the feasibility of implementing an oil purchasing scheme across Powys.
4. To work with local housing associations, Powys Teaching Health Board, voluntary groups, care homes and households across Powys to increase awareness and encourage them to sign up to these schemes.

Can we be provided with a current situation report and a progress update regarding these matters?

Response

Please find the following update relating to the work the Housing Service has undertaken to support households in fuel poverty across Powys during the last twelve months:

Welsh Government's Warm Homes Nest Scheme

Welsh Government Warm Homes, which includes the Nest schemes, provides funding for energy efficiency improvements to low income households and those

living in deprived communities across Wales. The Nest scheme provides householders living in Wales with access to free advice and support to help them reduce their energy bills. Those meeting Nest's eligibility criteria can access a free package of energy efficiency measures.

During 2017/2018, 11% of Nest enquiries came from Powys residents, this was the joint highest in Wales (joint with Flintshire). To raise awareness of the scheme amongst Powys residents, we have carried out 'drop in' sessions across Powys, provided updated information about the scheme on the website, carried out homes visits and the Income and Awards team completed a direct mail campaign.

Welsh Governments Warm Homes ARBED Scheme

A new 'ARBED Am Byth' scheme started this year. We have met the scheme managers, and are currently developing a pipeline of projects to apply for funding for areas and estates.

Welsh Housing Quality Standard

The Housing Service continue to invest heavily in the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) stock by completing improvement works. In 2017/2018 the Housing Service installed 289 energy saving measures in HRA properties, such as new heating systems, loft insulation, external wall insulation and new doors and windows. In the first 6 months of 2018/19 the Housing Service has installed 346 energy saving measures in HRA properties.

In January 2018 the Housing Service established a new contract to complete Energy Performance Certificate surveys (EPCs) on HRA properties. 195 EPCs have been completed under the new contract this year, which assists the Housing Service to:

- Improve WHQS reporting information to Welsh Government;
- Identify and target improvement works to properties which don't achieve a SAP rating of 65;
- Meet the statutory obligations in accordance with the Energy Performance in Buildings Directive; and
- Provide income from the Renewable Heat Incentive where air source heating systems are installed.

ECO Flex

ECO Flex is a UK wide grant scheme allowing energy efficiency improvements for customers in fuel poverty (defined as using 10% of disposable income on heating). The scheme is **not** means tested, nor does it require people to be on benefits. It is not a council funded scheme (or available to Council tenants), funding is provided by energy companies via the Energy Company Obligation (ECO) and sourced directly by agents.

Provision of ECO Flex funding is dependent upon:

- fuel type and energy efficiency of individual properties - assessed by a qualified energy assessor
- client being in fuel poverty
- detailed property survey - undertaken by a qualified surveyor and/or heating engineer

To date, ECO Flex support has covered the following energy efficiency improvements:

- replacement of inefficient oil, LPG and gas boilers with more efficient models - higher levels of funding provided for off gas properties
- replacement of inefficient electric storage heaters with more efficient models
- provision of insulation to improve energy efficiency including measures such as cavity wall, external wall and loft insulation (where appropriate)

Since the scheme was launched in March 2018, the Council has issued thousands of declarations allowing households in Powys access to new energy efficient heating appliances and insulation measures. This has primarily centred on the replacement of inefficient oil boilers (as funding for this measure was very highly subsidised and ceased at the end of September 2018), with the introduction of ECO 3.

The scheme has resulted in;

- approval of over 3,700 grant applications for boilers and insulation (install rate of roughly 50%)
- investment of approximately £9 million into the economy in energy efficiency improvements to the homes of Powys residents, saving on purchase cost of new installations
- reduced average annual household fuel bills of successful applicants by approximately £200, enabling greater expenditure in the local economy
- achieved over £200,000 of income for the authority in fees

ECO 3

The ECOFLEX scheme ended at the end of September 2018, with the end of ECO2 funding. The utility companies have launched the successor scheme (ECO3). Powys County Council intends to issue a revised 'Statement of Intent' to embrace and encourage installation of new 'greener' heating measures set to receive funding. A draft statement of intent is currently in the process of development and will be subject to consultation prior to adoption by the Cabinet.

In an attempt to boost work given to local contractors it is also proposed the revised 'Statement of Intent' will limit the number of agents operating within Powys. It will insist agents make use of local contractors (where possible) when providing installations, whilst ensuring the delivery rate is maintained.

ECO 3 will provide:

- funding for ground source heat pumps
- funding for air source heat pumps
- more attractive funding rates for gas properties
- more attractive funding rates for insulation measures

To compliment this funding stream, we are working in partnership with the **Robert Owen Community Banking Fund** on an offer to provide supplementary measures such as solar PV and battery systems associated with air source heat pumps, to drastically reduce client's energy bills. This will involve use of local solar installers who would otherwise not receive any subsidy under ECO 3. We are also looking to deliver greater levels of External Wall Insulation (EWI) in conjunction with interest free loans, making this potentially costly measure more affordable for Powys residents.

Switching

The energy market has changed drastically over the last few years with vastly increased numbers of energy suppliers. We understand that the following issues should be considered for switching to deliver the maximum benefits to the consumer:

- An impartial Ofgem Approved full market comparison should be undertaken;
- The Risk Profile of the consumer/ Energy Companies track record of customer service should be considered (e.g. has the Ofgem Customer complaints per 100,000 customers been considered);
- Is the consumer eligible for Warm Homes Discount (£140 off their electricity bill), and which energy companies offer it, based on the householders individual circumstances. £140 can significantly impact on which companies offer the greatest savings for the consumer;
- Are there other income maximisation opportunities or savings which can be identified? (e.g. benefit entitlement checks, warm homes discount, cheaper water tariffs etc)
- Would the householder benefit from a third party referral? (e.g. Priority Services Register, Care and Repair, Debt Advice, Money Advice, Fire Service)

Our discussions with other Authorities, third sector organisations and stakeholders in the Industry indicate that that full market comparison is generally the preferred option for switching to ensure that the householder is presented with the best options. We understand that there are several routes for getting switching advice, such as Ofgem Approved websites, Citizens Advice Consumer Helpline, local Citizens Advice offices (when funding becomes available) and Care and Repair. We also recommend that other opportunities for maximising income and saving money are considered, as the issue of fuel poverty can be partly attributed to the limited income of the household. Our feedback from the experiences of other Local Authorities Energy Officers have

found that whilst switching schemes (e.g. Cyd Cymru) can save money, Ofgem Accredited websites (e.g. U-switch) can sometimes yield greater savings, which is why we recommend exploring a range of options.

Oil buying syndicates

The Housing Service have had no involvement with the Ceredigion oil purchasing scheme, but we have heard very positive feedback about both of the schemes in Ceredigion and Carmarthenshire. We consider that if Powys County Council were to invest in this scheme, it has potential to yield significant savings for some rural households in Powys. Officers are currently meeting with colleagues in Regeneration to explore whether there is an opportunity to access ARWAIN to fund a post to promote and support the establishment of syndicates.

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15.4

CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL

County Council
18th October 2018

REPORT AUTHOR: County Councillor Phyl Davies, Portfolio Holder for Highways, Recycling and Assets

SUBJECT: Question from County Councillor Pete Roberts

The consultation earlier this year into charging for the use of disabled spaces in council car parks has caused a significant level of distress and uncertainty for many users. Whilst I appreciate the welcome extension of the consultation it has now been over a month since it closed and there remains significant concerns about the plans the council now has on the issue.

Can I therefore ask the portfolio holder:

1. How many responses he received to the Blue Badge Consultation from affected groups and existing badge holders and is he confident that the consultation did reach the right people, i.e. those most affected?
2. What level of support each of the options received and when he will be bringing forward formal proposals to Cabinet as a result of this consultation or will he be abandoning his plans to charge blue badge holders?

Response

1. Responses to the survey were received from 476 people who either have a blue badge or support someone with a blue badge. In market research terms and given the number of valid blue badges issued to residents of Powys, a response from 370 people would have provided a statistically reliable sample as that provides a confidence level of 95%. This means we are at least 95% sure the views of those responses do reflect those of the wider population of blue badge holders.

A detailed report into the consultation findings will be published along with the decision paper. This report and an Impact Assessment will be considered as part of the decision at the time it being made.

2. The table below shows the way all respondents to the consultation supported each option presented. Those responding were asked to rank the options in order of preference.

A Portfolio Holder decision paper is currently being prepared and once completed I will consider the report with the survey results and Impact assessment. A balanced decision which will be best for this Authority will then be made.

Answer	Ranked 1st	Ranked 2nd	Ranked 3rd	Ranked 4th
Blue badge holders pay the same amount as anyone else and no concession applies	46	65	53	383
Blue badge holders who park in a disabled bay park for free. Those who cannot find a bay will have to pay to park with no additional concession. (first come, first serve basis)	25	205	265	55
Blue badge holders pay towards parking but get an extra hour free on top of the time chosen	86	253	206	14
Blue badge holders continue to park for free. The £100k saving is found elsewhere.	442	30	24	91

15.5

CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL

County Council
18th October 2018

REPORT AUTHOR: County Councillor Rachel Powell, Portfolio Holder for Youth and Culture

SUBJECT: Question from County Councillor Roger Williams

What work has Powys County Council undertaken to understand better the large increase in Looked After Children in its care?

Response

Process

Over the last 15 months the Children's social care services have dealt with a large number of children newly referred to the service whose risks met the criteria to be looked after to ensure they were safe. This is not a decision which the local authority makes on its own except where there is a perceived immediate risk to a child and urgent steps have to be taken. This level of protection is time-limited and any emergency action is then considered by the Court to ensure we have met the appropriate threshold. Applications were made to Court who then heard the evidence of concern and agreed applications for Care Orders.

The Regional Safeguarding Board issued a Threshold Document in October 2017 as a tool to support all staff across all agencies to assess the risks to children and when they should refer to Children's services for assessment. This is being applied more consistently.

We have seen a number of large siblings groups of children who have needed to come into our care. Following review of the Care and Support Plans whilst some children were living at home had been living in circumstances which were not acceptable. They were considered to be at risk of harm or neglect. There is now a greater awareness of the impact on growing children and young adults of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE) and this increased sensitivity amongst our staff and staff in partner agencies has led to a greater awareness of the needs of our vulnerable population resulting in more speedy and appropriate action.

Action by Powys County Council

The Authority has developed the Children Looked After Strategic Framework. This will develop a number of themes and workstreams to safely reduce the numbers of children looked after over the coming years, through placing more children in Powys with our foster carers and local residential providers and bringing children closer to home to help support rehabilitation where that is appropriate.

Children's Services has also developed an Access to Resources Panel which consider packages of support for children on the edge of care or to support children in care to receive the best looked after service or to assist them to return home safely.

We will continue to support families to stay together through developing early help and edge of care services further in co-ordination with our partner agencies, including schools. The benefit of these initiatives will be to ensure that everything will be considered with a family before admitting children to care, (except where emergency action needs to be taken) to ensure that we provide the best possible community and family solutions and supports and ensuring all avenues are explored before children come into care. In this way, we will be sure that only the right children are in care and we can commission the services they require to meet their needs on the short and long term.

A new practice Framework, named Signs of Safety (SOS) will be implemented as part of the future plans for practice here in Powys. This implementation journey has already began during 2018. This approach is based on the ethos that every family has strengths and that children should remain where ever is possible within their own communities. This will require ongoing ambition, in that children can be cared for by their family networks. It is also about creating a learning organisation that will share and carry the risk with practitioners to enable these plans to be effective in practice.

15.7

CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL

County Council
18th October 2018

REPORT AUTHOR: County Councillor Myfanwy Alexander, Portfolio Holder for Learning and Welsh Language

SUBJECT: Question from County Councillor James Gibson-Watt

From the 1st October 2018 Powys County Council is withdrawing from the School Milk Subsidy Scheme and will no longer be making claims to the Rural Payments Agency (RPA) for the school milk subsidy on the county's primary schools' behalf. From that date the primary schools will have to administer the scheme and claim the subsidy themselves if they wish to remain in the scheme.

On the assumption that she was the decision-maker, could the Portfolio Holder confirm or otherwise whether she carried out a full Impact Assessment to determine the effect this change will have on the take up of the school milk subsidy and the provision of free milk to Powys primary school pupils before taking this decision?

Response

The decision to devolve the Free School Milk Subsidy administration to the individual primary schools was made by the Professional Lead for Catering & Cleaning, with a business case to the L & R Head of Service and the Interim Head of Learning.

There was no impact assessment completed for this as the business case details the rationale for this decision. The schools are already completing 70% of the process by submitting their weekly orders to the milk suppliers and returning their monthly claim figures to the catering service for consolidation. The additional tasks that will be devolved to the schools is to pay for the milk suppliers for any milk received and to submit claims to the Rural Payments Agency (RPA) and the Nursery Milk Reimbursement Unit (NMRU) also along with any administration costs to be claimed (admin time, refrigeration, electricity).

The Welsh Government have advised that, "milk is the recommended drink under the Healthy Eating in Schools Regulations 2013, but schools are not obliged to participate in the school milk scheme. The decision is down to the individual school." Therefore, it is not statutory to provide milk, however all schools have been advised that this is a Welsh Government subsidy and the health benefits milk has for growing children has been emphasised. This is the impact to the pupils if the schools decide not to take up the scheme.

Due to the changes in the processing of the claims by the agencies over the past 12 months, primary schools have had to register individually to the NMRU and submit their monthly claim numbers to the NMRU also. The catering service is not allowed visibility of these claim numbers, although the catering service pays the suppliers based on the orders. Invariably the claim numbers have not matched the quantity ordered and the claim figure paid back to the catering service has consistently been at a loss. Therefore, it has been raised as a risk due to financial loss and could be audited by the WAO.

The catering service has and will continue to support the schools throughout this transition and beyond, already providing guidance documentation with FAQ's and contact details. Also the deadline for schools to register has been extended to the 1st November 2018, to allow schools to understand the process.

CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL

County Council
18th October 2018

REPORT AUTHOR: County Councillor Aled Davies, Portfolio Holder for Finance, Countryside and Transport

SUBJECT: Question from County Councillor Jackie Charlton

Financial implications long term on existing projects which rely on European funding support and how the gaps will be bridged.

Can the portfolio holder give Council an indication of what projects are currently funded by direct match funding or other European funding links to localised, Powys wide projects such as Highways improvements, projects in Social Services (both Adult and Children's Services), capital projects and infrastructure projects?

What plans are in place to ensure continuity of service long term in the coming years?

Response

Powys County Council has no Capital programme funded with European grant. There are, however, two revenue projects that have European Grant Funding:

- Families First /Cynnydd - A new Integrated Youth Support Service with a funding of £834,448 of which £208,612 is from the European Union.
- Home Grown Homes Project (funded by RDF) – This is a Regional Development Fund of £1,511,144 for the Timber Supply Chain Study project.

The service areas concerned are aware of the potential risk of losing this funding and are considering their options should this happen. Discussions with funding organisations are being held to understand when the funding could potentially cease. Options, and including potential exit strategies, are being considered.

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15.9

CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL

County Council
18th October 2018

REPORT AUTHOR: County Councillor Phyl Davies, Portfolio Holder for Highways, Recycling and Assets

SUBJECT: Question from County Councillor Elwyn Vaughan

Y Gaer

In view of the listing of this project as one of High Risk for the authority, can we have an update report about the project including any additional costs incurred?

Response

According to programme, it was anticipated that all Kier main contract works would be finished at y Gaer, originally by August, but now by the end of October 2018, with Fit Out to follow. It was hoped that PCC could take over the whole of the interior of the building and give Practical Completion but with an incomplete works element of the remaining part of the external cladding (around the picture frame part of the south elevation) being completed later – all contractually certified. This would have allowed fit out works to complete in time possibly for a Christmas opening. However, as the delay increased the time left for fit out and migration became too compressed and it was decided that to best manage the fit out contacts, migrations and start of service, the opening would have to be put off until the New Year. It is not the cladding delaying opening but the overall delay to the main works and the consequent effects which follow.

A briefing note was presented to the y Gaer Project Board on 20 August to report the delay and approval obtained to move the proposed completion date of Kier's works to 01 October with a consequent understating of the move of the opening date into the new year. A further briefing note was issued on 25 September 2018 to report the latest delay and estimate of completion of main works by the end of October 2018. (Copies of these briefing notes can be provided if required).

None of this will affect the project cost, since the contract sum is fixed.

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CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL

County Council
18th October 2018

REPORT AUTHOR: County Councillor Phyl Davies, Portfolio Holder for Highways, Recycling and Assets

SUBJECT: Question from County Councillor Matthew Dorrance

How is the Council ensuring young people receive healthy, nutritionally balanced meals in schools across Powys?

Response

1 Executive Summary

1.1 The Catering Service within Powys County Council provides an average of 8000 school meals per day across 96 schools within Powys, of which an average of 1200 free school meals (FSM) per day are served which is our statutory obligation to provide.

1.2 There is statutory guidance on the provision of school meals from the Welsh Government and should be adhered to by all local authority schools, governing bodies and school meal providers, this is laid out in the Healthy Eating in Schools (Wales) Measure 2009.

1.3 There is clear evidence that a poor diet and lack of moderate exercise has an impact on health and wellbeing and is a contributing factor to the overweight and obese demographic of today's society. A healthy school meal provides children and young people a balanced diet and promotes healthy eating habits and social interaction within the dining rooms. It is proven that school meals also promote higher concentration and attainment levels in the classroom in the afternoons.

1.4 Our Catering Service work with schools and Powys PTHB colleagues to promote healthy eating and support schools to achieve the Health Schools accreditation. The service promotes the whole school approach and involves the head teachers and staff to encourage and adopt healthy eating and healthy lifestyle within the schools. Attending healthy eating sessions with pupils, organising meetings with pupil school councils to discuss school menus and food choices and attending parent evenings providing school meals information and showing samples of the school dinners.

1.5 The current average cost of the food element of the meal is 85p with the highest cost of a meal within the 3 week menu being roast beef at £1.69 and

the lowest food cost is 54p which is pasta. These averages are based on the hot meal including pudding and is not a true reflection of actual cost as uptake numbers vary daily.

2 Nutritional Analyses

2.1 Our Catering Service employs a monitoring and menu develop officer whose principal role is to develop our school meal menus. Within the legislation from the Welsh Government the guidance is quite strict and dictates what we can and cannot have on our school menus i.e. there is no confectionary, added salt, crisps or energy drinks on our menus. These food standards have been distributed to all schools and have been produced in a poster format which are displayed within school dining areas. [Healthy Eating in Schools Posters](#)

2.2 Part of the development of our school meals menus which are changed twice a year, generally at Easter time for spring and summer and then October for winter. Our menu development officer discusses menu options with the catering managers and school cooks. From these discussions a 3 week menu cycle is drafted and then analysed using a piece of software called Saffron.

2.3 The Saffron software analyses a balance of 14 nutrients across the weekly menu, these weekly graphs must show (green) acceptable nutrient content within the dishes otherwise an alternative dish has to be found or created to achieve the correct nutrient levels. A good example to increase the iron content was to create a recipe for a chocolate sponge but added beetroot to the sponge mix which was high in iron.

2.4 Once the 3 week menu cycle is completed is it sent to the Food in Schools coordinator at the WLGA for compliance and certification, it can then be published and used within our schools.

3 Legislation

3.1 The Welsh Governments statutory guidance and regulations can be found at the following links: [The Healthy Eating in Schools \(Nutritional Standards and Requirements\) \(Wales\) Regulations 2013](#)

[Healthy Eating in Schools \(Wales\) Measure 2009](#)

[Healthy Eating in Maintained Schools - Statutory Guidance](#)

3.2 Governance for these regulations is monitored by the WLGA's Food in Schools Coordinator and usually conducts quarterly cross boundary meetings to discuss healthy eating topics and special diet provision etc. However

generally it is the local authorities catering service that monitor and maintain the food standards.

4 Food Procurement

4.1 Powys County Council has agreed to use the National Procurement Service (NPS) for framework contracts, food delivery being one of these. Currently our main food distributor is Holdsworth Ltd. based in Crickhowell, who deliver frozen, chilled and dry ambient food produce to all of our schools in Powys. There is Powys produce based in Forden near Welshpool who deliver fruit, veg and milk to our north county schools and then Total produce based in Hereford who deliver the same to our mid and south schools. Radnor Hills a Powys supplier based in Knighton deliver water and fruit drinks to our high schools.

4.2 As much as possible we try to use Welsh produce like Radnor Hills and all of our sausages comes from Langford's based in Welshpool. All meat products are red tractor certified so British produce with all fish sustainably sourced with MSC certification. We would like to use Powys local suppliers, however we would need to find a source of suitable school compliant products that would have to apply to go onto the NPS framework and have to be capable to distribute to all of our schools in the county or supply Holdsworth our distributor. This would come at a cost which will in turn increase school meal prices.

5 Monitoring

5.1 Part of our internal audit processes, regular school kitchen monitoring is conducted by our catering support staff not only to check correct procedures are being carried out in line with environmental health checks, but also correct ingredients, recipes and portions are being used as per our school menu.

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CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL

County Council
18th October 2018

REPORT AUTHOR: County Councillor Rosemarie Harris, Leader

SUBJECT: Question from County Councillor Matthew Dorrance

It's more than a year since the Council's regulators inspected Children's Services and found serious failings. The latest Children's Services performance report (August 2018) shows the Council is failing to deliver against the top five performance indicators.

Will the Leader explain to Council why, a year later, her administration is still failing children, young people and families in Powys?

Response

Since the disappointing outcome of last year's Inspection report the authority has prioritised its efforts to meet the challenge to improve the services to vulnerable children.

In this time, we have seen a steady and significant increase in compliance from a low of 12% of Children Looked After (CLA) statutory visits completed on time in March last year and 28% in April 2017 to improving our performance to over 80 per cent on time over the summer.

We have implemented the CYSUR (Regional) Threshold document issued in October last year and rolled out training and awareness raising with partners to ensure we have common thresholds for supporting and intervening where necessary to promote and protect the wellbeing of children.

The authority's children service has a Quality Assurance framework in place and this engages managers across the service undertaking regular audits to consider the impact of our interventions.

The authority had little accurate performance data for children's services in 2017 and this is no longer the case. The information we had during the previous year was shown to be unreliable but the work across children's services and Business Intelligence has very significantly improved this.

Actions taken to strengthen the service.

Appointment of a permanent Director of Social Services
Appointment of a permanent Head of Children's Services
Appointed a Quality Assurance Manager

Establishment of the pilot Assessment team both in the North and South to provide timely, focused assessments for children and their families.

External audits by (DfE assured) auditors earlier this year.

Multi agency audits are undertaken in a number of cases.

Assembly Members are reporting fewer cases of concern are coming to their attention.

We have a programme of regular auditing by our managers and senior managers. Staff supervision is in place

We have had 3 monitoring visits by the Care Inspectorate for Wales (CIW) showing on each occasion improvements to aspects of the service accepting that we have much to do yet as we are on this journey of improvement.

Stronger working partnerships with Health, Police colleagues and schools and Education colleagues to provide more planned and co-ordinated approaches and plans for children.

We have established an access to resources Panel which carefully considers the packages of care high need children require and through our Multi Agency Partnerships (MAAP) agree placements where children have multiple and complex needs.

We have developed our multi agency early help offer under Start Well and developed a model for support to young people and are developing more sophisticated services to children on the edge of care.

A training programme for staff,

Increased recruitment of foster carers with a plan to recruit more and develop some specialist foster care provision.

Developed a Strategic Framework for CLA to provide a plan for delivering more and improved services to CLA over the coming years.

We are ambitious for our CLA and the re-establishment of the Corporate Parenting Group is building on this as we want to see them thrive.

Outcomes for Children

We continue to safeguard more children through the Children Looked After service. Our working arrangements through the Safeguarding services with partners has been strengthened.

We have re-established the multi-agency safeguarding arrangements through the Powys Local Operating Group.

We have re-established the working relationship with the Regional Safeguarding Board (CYSUR).

We have strengthened the workforce to meet the demands of the service and needs of children.

Albeit that we did not reach the targets we have set to undertake visits to all CLA and children on the Child Protection Register in August, I can confirm that all children who required a visit in September received a visit, with a small number of exceptions where it was agreed not to visit the family due to significant issue regarding illness and bereavement for example. These visits were all re-scheduled within a short timeframe.

We know that with the co-ordinated support across the Council from Policy and Performance teams, HR, IT, Finance and Adult Services we have created the foundations and some significant improvements for children and their families and

accept we are on a journey to continue to improve and make Powys a great place to grow up in and a great place for staff to work and be proud of.

Sustainable improvements will continue to be made and we continue to have high expectations for the whole council to do all we can to improve the lives of children and their families.

The current CIW inspection will in the next few months give us a new, independent assessment of our improvement journey to deliver quality services to children and we welcome this opportunity to reflect on our next steps for all members and officers to take to build on the work done to date.

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CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL

County Council
18th October 2018

REPORT AUTHOR: County Councillor Phyl Davies, Portfolio Holder for Highways, Recycling and Assets

SUBJECT: Question from County Councillor Sue McNicholas

It has been brought to our attention in Ystradgynlais that Bring Sites in other areas are still in use. We were told that in order for our Recycling site to remain open we had to agree to close our sites.

We don't want other sites to close but we want to be treated equally. Can the Portfolio Holder tell us what the position actually is?

Response

Community Recycling (Bring) Sites were originally introduced many years ago to give residents somewhere to take their recyclable material. This was before the introduction of the kerbside recycling scheme which has provided a much more convenient option for most residents. All of these bring sites have been under review as they have essentially been simply duplicating a service that is now provided in a different way. The number of sites has been reduced from over 80 to less than 40 with the remaining sites now being considered so that the Council can provide the most cost effective convenient service to residents whilst maximising the amount of material collected for recycling.

The reason that the sites have been removed in Ystradgynlais is because there is now a conveniently located Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC) in the area which will take all of the material previously collected at the bring sites along with many other waste streams for recycling. Maintaining the HWRC at Lower Cwmtwrch was not dependant on the removal of the bring sites, but it is essential that we maximise our limited resources to continue to provide these services.

All of the bring sites in Powys are considered individually, taking into account factors such as proximity to HWRCs, level of flytipping and contamination, as well as where the materials are now collected at the kerbside. The sites in Ystradgynlais were unfortunately prone to contamination which did result in much of this material being landfilled rather than recycled. Along with the close proximity of the HWRC, this is why these facilities were removed. In Welshpool, where there was a problem with flytipping at the bring site, residents are similarly required to use their HWRC for materials that cannot be recycled at the kerbside.

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CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL

County Council
18th October 2018

REPORT AUTHOR: County Councillor Phyl Davies, Portfolio Holder for Highways, Recycling and Assets

SUBJECT: Question from County Councillor Gareth Ratcliffe

Earlier this year the then portfolio holder for highways lifted the moratorium on traffic orders across the county. Whilst the community of Hay understands there are severe financial implications on Powys County Council's budget due to cuts in funding and increased costs across council services hitting budget like highways harder as it's a non-statutory service. Over the next couple of years there are major developments in the community that will involve traffic orders being raised to their works. Will the portfolio holder support Hay Town Council and the local community in engaging with them prior to any orders being raised to support the town plan retaining to speed reduction within town and traffic orders to support safe transport around the town?

Response

As a point of reference, as the Highway Authority Powys County Council do indeed have a statutory duty to maintain the highway.

Developers are encouraged, and generally do, discuss proposals including traffic issues with the council prior to submitting planning applications or applications for traffic regulatory orders and in this case the views of local members and the community would be taken into account and supported where possible.

As part of the planning permission process, highways issues are formally considered and the issues affecting town and communities are fundamental to these considerations along with; in respect of traffic matters etc, the Welsh Government criteria and guidelines. During this process maximum benefit to the highway within reason would be sought and the local member would generally be party to the considerations.

Where traffic regulation orders form part of the process, officers will consult with the local member[s] and also if appropriate the Town or Community Council. In this way we aim to ensure the proposals will be generally accepted by the community prior to the public consultation being undertaken. Any objections would also give rise to further discussions with the Local Member to assist in formulating the final recommendation for my decision.

Whilst the local Member can help shape the TRO, the decision on whether a TRO can actually be made a condition of a planning approval is a matter for the Highway Authority to determine based on what is required for the development following best practice, published guidelines and legislation. This part of the process does not allow for consultation but the planning application process would allow anyone to make comments on the development as part of the planning process.

CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL

County Council
18th October 2018

REPORT AUTHOR: County Councillor Phyl Davies, Portfolio Holder for Highways, Recycling and Assets

SUBJECT: Question from County Councillor Gareth Ratcliffe

Hay-on-Wye residents welcomes the moving forward of replacement rails on Hay bridge it is something the Town council and myself have been pushing for many years to make safe and update one of the entrances in to our community over the river Wye. Can the portfolio holder confirm that the council plans to start works in this financial year?

Response

A scheme to address the condition of the parapets on Hay Bridge has been included in the Capital programme for 2017/2018. It was originally proposed to refurbish the existing parapets, however, following a more detailed investigation it has been decided that it is more beneficial to replace them with new ones. Works to replace the parapets are scheduled to be completed in this financial year with an anticipated start early in the new year.

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CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL

County Council
18th October 2018

REPORT AUTHOR: County Councillor James Evans, Portfolio Holder for Corporate Governance, Housing and Public Protection

SUBJECT: Question from County Councillor Mark Barnes

Powys has had a lot of recent successes in prosecuting rogue traders in Powys and credit must go to the officers who are helping to keep our streets safe. Can the Portfolio Holder comment how much money has been raised from Proceeds of Crime?

Response

Proceeds of crime work means taking the assets off criminals that have ripped off our consumers. Any monies recovered goes direct to a system called JARD administered by the Home office. Since we started this work in 2014 some £349,014.83 has been recorded for Powys work on JARD, some of this going as compensation for victims. In some cases we receive a percentage under a scheme run by the Home Office (38.5%). In cases where compensation is involved all the monies go to victims. We have one accredited financial investigator doing this work.

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CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL

County Council
18th October 2018

REPORT AUTHOR: County Councillor Phyl Davies, Portfolio Holder for Highways, Recycling and Assets

SUBJECT: Question from County Councillor Jackie Charlton

I am seeking information on the process for applying for Road Traffic Orders now the Shire Committees no longer exist.

Cllr Davies has been very helpful in trying to pursue a local issue for me in Llangattock and continues to support my regular requests for an update. Unfortunately he is unable to provide any and I understand this may be the case for other Cllrs.

Could Cllr Davies confirm that Road Traffic Orders are being dealt with, how the process works and how Cllrs can generally be given an idea where in the system their individual requests are?

Response

Requests for all traffic orders can now be considered following the lifting of the moratorium, which to date only allowed for the advancement of parking restriction orders in line with the review of parking throughout the county.

The process is that Members initially discuss their request with officers of the traffic unit who can advise whether it would be suitable or not to take forward and also what other solutions may be more effective. If it is agreed that a traffic order would be appropriate, the proposed order would then be ranked and assessed against other schemes across the County to create a prioritised list.

Currently staff resources continue to be taken up with the ongoing issues associated with the county-wide parking review and therefore the ranking of requested traffic order schemes has not yet taken place. It is planned to prioritise the list of schemes in readiness for 2019-20 financial year which will then determine a programme of those that can be progressed next year and also provide an indication of when the others could be undertaken.

I acknowledge that at present this does not provide you with specific information of when a particular scheme may come to fruition, but that every effort will be made to providing a prioritised programme in due course.

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CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL

County Council
18th October 2018

REPORT AUTHOR: County Councillor Myfanwy Alexander, Portfolio Holder for Learning and Welsh Language

SUBJECT: Question from County Councillor Karl Lewis

Can the Portfolio Holder for Learning and Welsh Language tell council what new methods of digital delivery she is promoting to support the Council's Vision for 2025?

Response

Powys continues to recognise the importance of digital solutions in the delivery of education.

1. We are piloting a digital learning platform with sixth form learners in Powys with two subjects being offered across all sites. It is hoped to develop this further with a commercial partner where teachers in Powys schools will develop courses for delivery using this online platform.
2. A delegation of Head teachers have visited Wrexham to look at the provision of this online learning platform.
3. In line with this we are also planning ICT support with primary schools using a partnership with a neighbouring Local Authority to secure high quality digital hardware for the future. Clearly this will allow the authority to further develop provision and options for working across schools.
4. Ceredigion and Powys are working jointly on an e-learning project called e-sgoil. This is a digital learning platform where pupils from different campuses can join interactive lessons. The e-sgoil form of digital learning has been developed in Scotland. This initiative is being launched in Ceredigion on Thursday 11th October by the Cabinet Minister for Education.

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CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL

County Council
18th October 2018

REPORT AUTHOR: County Councillor James Evans, Portfolio Holder for Corporate Governance, Housing and Public Protection

SUBJECT: Question from County Councillor Peter Lewis

Can the Portfolio Holder update the council on the delivery of the 250 new homes for the County?

Response

The Housing Service has established an Affordable Housing Team to lead on the development of the 250 homes.

The team have been working with Planning and Highways services to consider the viability of approximately 80 sites in council ownership. This work is now complete and the Housing Service will be developing a long term development strategy, based on approximately 60 sites. The team have also been holding engagement events in communities across the county, to identify and confirm housing need.

Progress on the first six sites is detailed below. These sites will deliver approximately 170 of the 250 homes.

Bowling Green, Newtown – planning application was agreed at the Planning Committee on Thursday 13th September. Tender brief to be finalised and tender process to commence in October with a target start on site date of March 2019. The scheme has past the first assessment for Welsh Government Innovative Housing Programme grant.

Sarn – Architect (Hughes Architects) appointed and designs are currently being drawn up for a development which achieves Passivhaus standard. This project will provide a total of 7 units and 3 being made available for elderly tenant farmers that have lived in the area for many years and are looking to retire.

Cradoc Close, Brecon - Architect (Pentan) appointed and designs are currently being drawn up, this scheme will be the largest project providing up to 36 new homes. Anticipated start on site summer of 2019.

Clyro – the Housing Service are currently considering the type of build for this site. Anticipated start on site autumn 2019.

Former Smithfield site, Llanidloes – the site has been transferred into the Housing Revenue Account (HRA). The ecology officer is currently completing her site visits

and we will receive the final report shortly. The design brief is currently being drawn up and it is expected to go out to tender early 2019.

Red Dragon/Youth Centre, Newtown – The Red Dragon and the former youth centre will be demolished in October. The design brief is currently being drawn up and finalised and this will be going out to tender early 2019.

CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL

County Council
18th October 2018

REPORT AUTHOR: County Councillor Rosemarie Harris, Leader

SUBJECT: Question from County Councillor Diane Jones-Poston

Can the Leader update the council on the progress of the Mid Wales Growth Deal?

Response

The Mid Wales Growth Deal is at an early stage but beginning to move quickly to the next stage of the process. It is important to note that this remains a 'potential' Deal until sign-off by central government. To develop the position a series of joint informal cabinets have been held with Ceredigion County Council. The work is also supported by the existing Growing Mid Wales Partnership that, along with the Leaders and officers from both councils, also includes attendees from the business sector, Welsh Government, Higher Education, Agriculture and Tourism. Officers met with senior Civil Servants from Central Government and Welsh Government to establish the approach to be taken for potential projects. A key part of the Deal will be the involvement of the business sector and this will be via an Economic Board to support delivery.

As part of the approach to delivering the Deal a wider regional economic action plan is being researched and drafted with external support from Aecom Ltd. This work is a joint commission involving Powys, Ceredigion and Welsh Government. As part of the process a series of workshops have been held involving businesses, regional groups and the Higher Education sector. The regional economic action plan will be a framework to help inform the Deal. Wales already has 3 existing Deals and contact has been made and we have also met with Shropshire County Council to raise awareness given the close transport links.

As help raise awareness of the Deal there will be an event held at the Senedd and another in Westminster.

There will be an update for all Councillors on the Mid Wales Growth Deal at a member development session over the coming weeks.

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CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL

County Council
18th October 2018

REPORT AUTHOR: County Councillor Aled Davies, Portfolio Holder for Finance, Countryside and Transport

SUBJECT: Question from County Councillor Claire Mills

Will the Portfolio Holder for Finance please update the council on what negotiations are taking place to ensure Powys receives its fair allocation of funding in the budget formula from the Welsh Government?

Response

The Council plays an active part in groups that develop and advise on Welsh Government's Local Government Finance Policies.

The Council has a place on the Distribution Sub Group that reports to the Welsh Government on the local government distribution formula. The Acting Deputy Chief Executive is also local government's representative on the Cabinet Secretary's Local Government Finance and Reform Working Group, looking at the future of local government finance in Wales.

In partnership with other rural areas, Powys successfully made the case to recognise the additional cost of delivering services in a rural area. Evidence was gathered to demonstrate the cost of providing community-based social services for older people in sparsely populated areas. This led to the sparsity allowance being allocated to Powys, amounting to an additional £3million over two years. This provided a permanent change to our allocation and replaced the previous temporary and voluntary arrangement involving all 22 authorities.

The Council responds to all consultations affecting our finances, and also raises this issue with Assembly Members and Members of Parliament.

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CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL

County Council
18th October 2018

REPORT AUTHOR: County Councillor William Powell, Member of the Dyfed-Powys Police and Crime Panel

SUBJECT: Question from County Councillor Michael Williams

In light of concerns expressed over the summer by leaders of the Association of Police and Crime commissioners (APCC) around the dangers of a 'No Deal' Brexit, what contingency plans is the Police and Crime Commissioner for Dyfed-Powys, Dafydd Llywelyn, making, in collaboration with his commissioner colleagues in the North Wales, South Wales and Gwent police force areas?

Given the real concerns expressed around security of supply of food and medical supplies, in the event of 'No Deal,' what consideration has been given to the cancelling of leave across Dyfed- Powys Police in March/April 2019 to ensure community safety?

In addition, what action is being undertaken by the Police and Crime Commissioner to spearhead preparations with the Public Service Boards in Powys, Ceredigion, Carmarthenshire and Pembrokeshire, in the face of this unfortunate eventuality?

Response

The Commissioner's role is to hold the Chief Constable to account for delivering an efficient and effective police force for Dyfed-Powys, but not make operational decisions. As this is an operational matter that requires a multi-agency approach, PCC Dafydd Llywelyn has sought assurance that Dyfed-Powys Police are working with partners via the Local Resilience Forum(s) and other operational groups.

Dafydd has also, on the 5th September, attended a meeting with Jo Hopkins from the Home Office in Wales, alongside Assistant Chief Constable Richard Lewis to explore and understand the operational implications in light of a potential No-Deal Brexit. He has also visited the Welsh Government Cabinet Secretary and Officials, where they had specific discussions regarding the policing concerns and response regarding a No-Deal Brexit.

Dafydd has been informed that at the National Police Chiefs' Council meeting on the 17th September, Chief Constables discussed the impact of a No-Deal Brexit. It is expected that in the coming weeks there will be more rapid progress in relation to contingency planning, however they concluded that there was not any intention at this time to cancel officer's leave. This position will be continually under review and will remain an option operationally for Dyfed-Powys Police

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CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL

County Council
18th October 2018

REPORT AUTHOR: County Councillor Rosemarie Harris, Leader

SUBJECT: Question from County Councillor William Powell

It is a matter of public record that the town of Talgarth and its economy experienced considerable turbulence in the years leading up to and following the closure of the former Mid Wales Hospital from 1995-2000. In the last decade, the opening of the A479 Talgarth Relief Road, a renewed civic pride, enterprise and purpose and earlier this year the establishment of Ysgol y Mynydd Du have all served to signal fresh confidence in the town's future.

However, the sheer scale of Powys County Council owned sites in the town centre, currently or soon to be declared surplus, combined with the consultation on the Development Brief on the former Mid Wales Hospital site and other allocated sites once again see the town at a cross roads.

Given her understanding of the cross portfolio challenges and opportunities that Talgarth faces, what assessment has the Leader made of the merits of a Strategic Development Plan for Talgarth? With the County Council working in renewed partnership with Brecon Beacons National Park Authority, Talgarth Town Council and by harnessing the energy and vision of local people, such a plan would promote holistic, sustainable development of the town at a time of unprecedented growth. To this end, will the Leader please commit to convening an early meeting to establish the groundwork for such a plan?

Response

Officers from Powys County Council have supported many initiatives in the Talgarth area and are currently supporting the Black Mountains College proposal.

The Brecon Beacons National Park being the Planning Authority in the Talgarth area, are actively encouraging communities to develop a Place Plan. I understand that National Park are already progressing the development of a community led plan in Talgarth. Powys County Council will assist the process through our Regeneration Team as required.

As owners of most of the development sites, we cannot wait for a "place plan". I have already spoken with Property & Housing and we are arranging an initial meeting with Head of Housing, Lead Professional – Property, Local Member, Portfolio Holders and me.

Further discussion can then take place with others who will need to be involved.

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CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL

County Council
18th October 2018

REPORT AUTHOR: County Councillor Phyl Davies, Portfolio Holder for Highways, Recycling and Assets

SUBJECT: Question from County Councillor Iain McIntosh

As the current list of farmers and contractors who were called upon to clear the heavy snowfall last winter struggled to cope, will the portfolio holder for highways consider creating a second list of farmers and contractors with equipment suitable for clearing snow, so that they can be called upon should we get the same level of snowfall as last winter at some point in the future?

Response

Recognising the exceptional snow storms that we experienced last year, I consider the response and service provided was very good. An annual review of the Winter Service Plan is undertaken and as part of this exercise the current support network of contractors and farmers is also being reviewed. The experience and feedback gained from last winter has identified geographical areas where additional support will be beneficial.

The arrangements and mechanism for engaging this external support is currently being progressed within a framework to ensure the suitability of any support engaged, bearing in mind the Health & Safety, training/competencies and insurance cover level requirements associated with working on the public highway.

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CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL

County Council
18th October 2018

REPORT AUTHOR: County Councillor Phyl Davies, Portfolio Holder for Highways, Recycling and Assets

SUBJECT: Question from County Councillor Iain McIntosh

The roads around the Yscir ward are in a very bad state. Many areas need resurfacing and numerous pot holes remain unrepaired. Can the portfolio holder for highways offer any reassurance to the residents of rural wards such as Yscir that their roads will be repaired to a better standard soon?

Response

Members will be aware that the budget for basic road maintenance has been continuously and severely reduced for a number of years and it is inevitable that the condition of our highways network will reflect this in a visible deterioration; particularly on the thousands of kilometres of rural roads we have in Powys. New methods of work have been recently introduced (use of Roadmaster patching machines) in an endeavour to combat the budget reduction and maintain a reasonable level of service, as is our duty as the highway authority. The use of this process of repair should ensure a more permanent repair to the increasing number of minor road defects.

I am informed that a considerable number of repairs have already been carried out in the area concerned following your reports, and these will continue within the constraints of the budget resource. A risk analysis of roads is undertaken to ensure that the priority repairs are programmed in a consistent manner across the county.

Roads identified as requiring more major repairs such as structural patching and wholesale surface treatments are ranked for priority and included in a forward programme for Capital funding.

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CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL

County Council
18th October 2018

REPORT AUTHOR: County Councillor Phyl Davies, Portfolio Holder for Highways, Recycling and Assets

SUBJECT: Question from County Councillor Liam Fitzpatrick

What do Puffins and Y Gaer Brecon Cultural Hub have in common? They both come with extremely large mysterious bills. (that's not the question)

Last weeks Brecon and Radnor express had a startling front page advising us that Y Gaer (Brecon cultural hub) will be delayed until next year due to issues with Stone and Puffins breeding.

However, a local ornithologist and the RSPB advised me that Puffins only breed in April and May every year and are not native to Powys but can be found in Scandinavia as well as the Isle of man and Yorkshire as well as Skomer island. Roast Puffin pie is of course a delicacy in Jamtland in northern Sweden and I am sure with the award of a Michelin star to Ynshir in Machynlleth will not be long that it may appear in Northern Powys.

Taking into consideration that Puffins will not be benefiting the Powys Pound soon and that it is October and Not April and they are of course not breeding I will now ask the cabinet member the question.

Will the Cabinet member agree the following; that not only is this possibly the most laughable excuse for incompetence since the classic 'the dog ate my homework' and that it is deeply unfair that all council tax payers throughout Powys will have to continue to pay for this farce when there is a likelihood, with budget cuts in 2019 for libraries, museums and other cultural centres, that the building may not even have sufficient resources to actually open?

Response

We were informed by Kier that their subcontractor, Allesco, who are manufacturing the red sandstone panels for the new library building external cladding, had unfortunately not obtained or arranged to be quarried enough of the stone to complete the required number of panels.

The panels use a thin cut piece of stone on a composite backing on a metal frame, for fixing to the building. The stone, which had been approved by all including BBNPA, was quarried in the UK and shipped to the factory in Germany where the panels were made. We understand that the required matching stone is no longer

available from the original quarry, and an alternative source was found near St Bees Head, in Cumbria. The quarry is adjacent to an RSPB sanctuary. We were advised that the stone could not be quarried until September due to the presence of the puffins (breeding or not). There is a 14 to 16 week manufacturing and delivery period from the date of obtaining the stone. As a result Kier have reported that the last elements of cladding will not be complete until early December.

CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL

County Council
18th October 2018

REPORT AUTHOR: County Councillor James Evans, Portfolio Holder for Corporate Governance, Housing and Public Protection

SUBJECT: Question from County Councillor Karen Laurie-Parry

Good Governance is essential in Local Government and working to Powys County Council's Agreed and Published Vision . Regarding the private housing development south of the former Bronllys CP School and that of Bronllys Village in general, how was the Public Engagement Event for you and how did you engage with significant persons in the process leading up to the day?

Response

The event was one which was of great use to the Council in getting over the message about the Council's plans to develop affordable housing to meet the needs of local communities. At the event which had been developed in consultation with the local councillor and the community council, 79 people from the village of Bronllys attended. The Housing Service received 32 completed questionnaires, of which approximately two thirds considered that there was a need for additional affordable homes in the village. In addition, 6 households who advised that they required affordable homes were encouraged to place their names on the Common Housing Register.

It is hoped that the message the community received from the event was that we want to work with the community to meet its needs for affordable housing, and that affordable homes won't be imposed on communities.

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CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL

County Council
18th October 2018

REPORT AUTHOR: County Councillor James Evans, Portfolio Holder for Corporate Governance, Housing and Public Protection

SUBJECT: Question from County Councillor Karen Laurie-Parry

Regarding Procurement of Housing Association/Private Developer, are you satisfied that the correct procedures and guidelines adopted by Powys County Council have been adhered to, by Councillors and Officers and can you explain the procedure that was utilised?

Response

The purchaser of the site, which was previously in private ownership, is Monmouthshire Housing Association (MHA). As the site will be developed by MHA without recourse to Social Housing Grant (SHG) and will be developed to provide market homes for sale, the council has had no role thus far. Obviously MHA, just like any other developer, will be required to follow planning policy when the scheme is built out. MHA were invited to the consultation event, as Officers were aware of their purchase of the site and it was considered that it would be a useful opportunity for MHA to meet with members of the community to discuss their plans for the site and listen to the views of the local community.

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