

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CABINET HELD BY TEAMS ON TUESDAY, 25
MAY 2021**

PRESENT

County Councillor M R Harris (Chair)

County Councillors MC Alexander, G Breeze, A W Davies, P Davies, H Hulme,
R Powell and I McIntosh

1.	APOLOGIES
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Apologies were received from the Corporate Director (Children and Adult Services).

2.	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
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There were no declarations of interest reported.

3.	QUARTER 4/END OF YEAR PERFORMANCE REPORT
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Cabinet considered the performance report for the fourth quarter of 2020/21. The first part of the report dealt with the Council's response to COVID-19 and the second on performance against the Corporate Improvement Plan (CIP) objectives and Public Accountability Measures.

During quarter 4, the council also continued to deliver its Transformation Programme projects, Vision 2025 priorities and some business as usual activities.

Despite the pandemic, 73% of the 90 CIP objectives were on target (and 3% complete) and 49% of the 107 CIP measures had met their target which was a significant improvement on the same period in the previous year. 28% of the 18 Public Accountability Measures had met their target which was a marked decline on the previous year.

Quarter 4 monitoring and performance had been undertaken in line with the Council's Performance Management and Quality Assurance Framework to ensure appropriate actions were taken and resources allocation to bring performance back on track.

Cabinet noted that the pandemic had meant a higher than usual demand for Adult and Children's Services and for Homelessness services. The Head of Children's Services advised that at times the surge in demand had been unprecedented. She also reported that the unreliability of WCCIS was impacting on the service. The Leader asked for a report back on the steps being taken to fix the WCCIS system. The Leader noted that despite of the challenges of the past year, this was an outstanding report and she thanked staff, the Executive Management Team and Cabinet colleagues for all of their work. The Chief Executive also thanked colleagues for their work.

RESOLVED that Cabinet notes the continued achievements and the tremendous response of the organisation during the unprecedented and challenging times of a global pandemic, while balancing the need to progress business as usual and Vision 2025 priorities.

4. STRATEGIC RISK REGISTER REPORT QUARTER 4 2020/2021
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Cabinet considered the Strategic Risk Register for the fourth quarter of 2022/21. The report set out details of the 12 strategic risks and the mitigating actions being taken to control them.

A number of changes had been made to the Strategic Risk Register:

- WCCIS unreliability had been added.
- The Housing Service had amalgamated the risk HO0018 'Compliance in Powys County Council Housing Stock' with risk HO0024 'Failing to meet all applicable statutory requirements providing for the health and safety of the occupants in the home'.
- Education had replaced ED0023 'The council fails to make the necessary improvements in response to Estyn recommendations' with COVID0058 'Post Inspection Action Plan (PIAP) for Estyn' in an effort to streamline the services risks, reducing duplication and thus enabling them to have oversight of all significant risks in one place.

RESOLVED that Cabinet notes the current Strategic Risk and COVID-19 Risk Registers and is satisfied with progress against mitigating actions for quarter 4.

5. TREASURY MANAGEMENT QUARTER 4 REPORT
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Cabinet considered the Treasury Management report for Quarter 4. The Portfolio Holder for Finance and Transportation advised that the council had accepted an offer from Welsh Government of £50 million interest free, repayable funding towards the development of the Global Centre of Rail Excellence (GCRE) in the south of the county. The funding would be held by the council until it could be suitably invested in the project and could not be used for any other purpose. If the investment was not able to be made, for whatever reason, the funds would be returned to Welsh Government.

The report also noted the revised MRP policy approved by Council. The Head of Finance advised that the reprofiling of some projects and the additional government funding received in the last year had reduced the need to borrow to £18m in the financial year. 3.8% of the net revenue budget was being used to support the capital programme.

RESOLVED that the Treasury Management report for Quarter 4 be accepted.

6.	FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME
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Cabinet received the forward work plan. The Portfolio Holder for Adult Social Care advised that the service would be coming forward with major transformative reports in the coming months as well as continuing to deal with the ongoing pandemic.

County Councillor M R Harris (Chair)