

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE RECONVENED CABINET MEETING OF 7
FEBRUARY 2017 HELD AT COUNTY HALL, LLANDRINDOD WELLS ON TUESDAY,
14 FEBRUARY 2017**

PRESENT

County Councillor W B Thomas (Chair)

County Councillors R G Brown, J H Brunt, M R Harris, S M Hayes, E A Jones,
W T Jones, W J T Powell and A G Thomas

In attendance: County Councillors KW Curry, AW Davies, CJ Gibson-Watt and JM Williams.

1.	EDUCATION STANDARDS REPORT FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2015-16	C23- 2017
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Cabinet considered the Education Standards report for the academic year 2015-16. Powys schools remained in the top 5 of Welsh authorities in respect of Foundation Phase, Key Stage 2, Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4 GCSE results. Cabinet congratulated staff and pupils on the results achieved. However, in doing so Cabinet noted that some secondary schools were performing below their expected level and that there was a significant decline in the number of pupils taking three or more A levels. There was also emerging evidence of slippage in performance in some subject areas at GCSE due to non-specialist teaching.

RESOLVED	Reason for Decision:
To note the report.	To ensure the cabinet has an understanding of the performance of Powys schools and how the performance compares against other Local Authorities

Education Scrutiny Working Group comments on Education Standards

Cabinet noted the Education Scrutiny Working Group comments on the education standards report.

2.	SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT	C24- 2017
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Cabinet considered the School Improvement report which had been requested by the Strategic Overview Board. The Head of Schools confirmed that a preliminary report on results could be provided to Cabinet earlier in the year on a confidential basis.

RESOLVED	Reason for Decision:
That the Cabinet notes the content of the report.	Information requested by the Strategic Overview Board.

3.	STRATEGIC OVERVIEW BOARD	C28- 2017
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Cabinet received the report arising from the last meeting of the Strategic Overview Board held on 13 December 2016 together with the minutes of that meeting. Cabinet felt that the Board was working very well measuring performance against agreed priorities and objectives.

RESOLVED	Reason for Decision:
That Cabinet receive the Strategic Overview Board Quarter 2 2016-17 – Summary Report.	To ensure effective evaluation and challenge relating to performance against agreed priorities and Objectives.

4.	DELEGATED DECISIONS TAKEN SINCE THE LAST MEETING	C30- 2017
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Cabinet received details of delegated decisions taken by Portfolio Holders.

5.	FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME	C31- 2017
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Cabinet received the forward work programme. The Solicitor to the Council stressed the importance of ensuring it was kept up to date at least 8 months in advance to help Scrutiny plan their work.

6.	EXEMPT ITEMS	C32- 2017
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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 3 of The Local Authorities (Access to Information) (Variation) (Wales) Order 2007).

7.	LEARNING DISABILITY DAY SERVICES NORTH POWYS	C33- 2017
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Cabinet considered options for day services for people with learning disabilities in Montgomeryshire. This was the third phase of the project to review and remodel all of the day and employment services for people with a learning disability to meet their needs in a more efficient manner and deliver the required level of cost savings. Service users and their families, advocacy services, providers, current staff, professional teams and third sector partners had been consulted on a series of options. The second most favoured option and the one being recommended was option 5, a mixed model of services which would require separate solutions for each service area.

County Councillor Michael Williams spoke as a local member in support of the work of Cyfle Newydd Day Service.

The Portfolio Holder for Adult Social Care noted the comments of the Scrutiny Working Group and group leaders but advised that he would not be bringing a further report back to Cabinet with more detail of option 5 noting that he had not done so for phases 1 and 2.

RESOLVED	Reason for Decision:
That option 5 is adopted and agreed as the future direction of service development.	Option 5 would allow for revision of the service specification, reassessment of service users where appropriate and better alignment of resources to need. This option will give us the ability to deliver the required savings and also evidence the Council responding to the information and responses received through consultation and will align with the Council's requirement to support strong communities through individual solutions for different areas.

County Councillor W B Thomas (Chair)