

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CABINET HELD AT COUNCIL CHAMBER - COUNTY HALL, LLANDRINDOD WELLS, POWYS ON TUESDAY, 18 JUNE 2019

PRESENT

County Councillor M R Harris (Chair)

County Councillors A W Davies, MC Alexander, P Davies, J Evans, R Powell and M Weale

In attendance: County Councillors J Charlton and P Roberts and Mrs A Davies.

1.	APOLOGIES
-----------	------------------

Apologies for absence were received from County Councillor S M Hayes.

2.	MINUTES
-----------	----------------

The Leader was authorised to sign the minutes of the last meeting held on 21st May 2019 as a correct record.

3.	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
-----------	---------------------------------

County Councillors Aled Davies and James Evans declared personal and prejudicial interests in agenda item 7, School Budgets.

4.	FINAL VISION 2025: OUR CIP 2019/20 UPDATE AND ANNUAL REPORT 2018-19
-----------	--

Cabinet considered the draft Vision 2025 CIP Update and Annual Performance Report 2019 which set out the Council's performance during 2018-19 against delivering the well-being objectives in Vision 2025 and updates to the plan for 2019-20. The draft report had been considered by the Joint Scrutiny Working Group and the Leader thanked members of the group for their input.

Portfolio Holders noted key areas of progress in their service areas, from the building of five new schools and the success of the Powys Pound scheme to completion of the Welsh Housing Quality Standard programme.

Some further amendments would be made to the draft to be considered by Council and a video presentation for Council was being finalised.

RESOLVED	Reason for decision:
To approve the DRAFT Vision 2025 CIP Update and Annual Performance Report 2019 (attached at Appendix A), and recommend to County Council for	To ensure the report gives a balanced and open account of Powys County Council's performance during the 2018-19 financial year, against the well-

approval on 11 th July 2019.	<p>being objectives set out in Vision 2025: Our Corporate Improvement Plan 2018-2023.</p> <p>To ensure the Council meets its statutory obligations as outlined in the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009.</p>
---	--

5. FINANCIAL OUTTURN FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2019

Cabinet considered the budget outturn report for the year ended 31st March 2019. The final outturn position was an overspend of £713k versus the working budget, which would be funded from the General Fund reserve. The figures included savings delivered of £6.536m, 58% of the £12.296m target. Of the £5.76m of savings unachieved, £2.2m related to the Children's Service budget which were achievable and had been written out of the 2019/20 budget. Adjusting for these, recurrent savings of £1.86m or 22% of the 2018-19 target had to be delivered in 2019/20. The Head of Finance noted that the delivery of savings in 2019/20 would be a significant challenge and that reserves needed to be kept at an appropriate level to support any potential slippage in delivery of savings or additional potential demand pressures.

RESOLVED	Reason for decision
That the report be noted.	<p>To outline the end of year financial position and the council's financial performance.</p> <p>To ensure appropriate reserves are established.</p>

6. CAPITAL PROGRAMME OUTTURN POSITION FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH 2019

Cabinet was advised that the revised working budget for the 2018/19 Capital Programme, after accounting for approved virements, was £81.170m. The actual spend to the end of March 2019 was £76.971m, leaving £4.799m or 5.87% of the budget uncommitted. The report set out a number of virements to be rolled forward into 2019/20, with those above £500,000 requiring approval by Council. The Portfolio Holder for Learning and Welsh Language noted that the collapse of Dawnus had caused a delay to the Welshpool school reorganisation project and she thanked staff and pupils for their forbearance.

The report also set out details of capital receipts from the sales of land, property and vehicles. The Leader noted the need for a review of sales from the County Farms Estate.

RESOLVED:	Reason for decision:
<p>1. That the contents of this report are noted by Cabinet.</p> <p>2. That Cabinet approves the virements proposed in section 2 of the report.</p> <p>3. That all virements over £500k are recommended to Council for approval.</p>	<p>To report on the Capital Outturn position for the 2018/19 financial year.</p> <p>To ensure appropriate virements, are carried out to align budgets and financing requirements.</p> <p>To ensure that budgets for uncompleted projects is made available in the new financial year.</p>

7. SCHOOL BUDGETS 2019/20

County Councillors Aled Davies and James Evans declared personal and prejudicial interests in this report and left the meeting while it was being considered.

Cabinet was advised that since the agenda had been published, Llanfyllin High School and Ysgol Meifod had submitted compliant budgets and therefore the recommendation in the report would be amended to reflect this. The Portfolio Holder for Learning and Welsh Language advised that setting school budgets had become more difficult with the move from funding supported through the Revenue Support Grant to one off grants which schools could not guarantee would last from one year to the next. This was also one of the reasons that some schools built up reserves.

The Chair and Vice-Chair of the Learning and Skills Scrutiny Committee presented the Committee's recommendations on the report highlighting in particular concerns over the deficit at Ysgol Calon Cymru, the level of central support available to schools and the training available to governors. With regard to the budget deficit at Ysgol Calon Cymru, the Head of Schools did not regard this as insurmountable with appropriate leadership and support and he outlined how the authority would be more proactive in recruiting a new headteacher. The points made about making training more accessible to governors either through webcasts or locally held events were accepted. A full response to the Scrutiny recommendations was required by 18th August.

RESOLVED	Reason for decision
<p>1. That the proposal in section 5.4 regarding the licensing of deficit budget positions for 2019/20 for the following schools is approved and recommended actions (Appendix A) are agreed.</p> <p>Churchstoke C P Llanbister C P</p>	<p>To comply with the Authority's scheme for the financing of schools</p>

<p>Llanfechain C in W Llangedwyn C in W Maesyrhandir C P Ysgol Bro Cynllaith Llanidloes High Brynllwarch Hall Ysgol Meifod</p>	
<p>2. That the proposal in section 5.5 regarding the unlicensed deficit budget positions for 2019/20 for the following schools is approved and recommended actions (Appendix A) are agreed.</p> <p>Brynhafern C P Carreghofa C P Llanbedr C in W Llandrindod Wells C P Cefnlllys Llanerfyl C in W Llansantffraid C in W Presteigne C P Rhayader C in W St Michael's C in W Ysgol Gymraeg Dyffryn Y Glowyr Ysgol y Bannau Brecon High Ysgol Maesydderwen Crickhowell High Ysgol Bro Hyddgen Welshpool High Ysgol Calon Cymru Ysgol Cedewain</p>	<p>To comply with the Authority's scheme for the financing of schools</p>
<p>3. That the Portfolio Holder for Education has the delegated decision on whether to apply clawback as mentioned in paragraph 4.2 of the report, pending reasons for the surplus being in excess of the position submitted to cabinet in June 18.</p>	<p>To comply with the Authority's scheme for the financing of schools</p>

<p>4. That all schools that are potentially subject to clawback for 2019/20 as set out in paragraph 4.3 have their budgets re-assessed after spending plans have been submitted by the 5th July 2019 and a further report brought back to Cabinet during the Autumn Term 2019.</p>	<p>To comply with the Authority's scheme for the financing of schools</p>
<p>5. Existing Loans are monitored.</p>	<p>To comply with the Authority's scheme for the financing of schools</p>
<p>6. All actions recommended in Appendix A for the schools that are non-compliant on submitting budgets as stated in 1.7 are approved.</p>	<p>To comply with the Authority's scheme for the financing of schools</p>

County Councillors Aled Davies and James Evans returned to the meeting.

8.	STRATEGIC RISK REGISTER REPORT QUARTER 4 - 2018/19
-----------	---

Cabinet considered the Strategic Risk Register report for Quarter 4. During the quarter, 3 risks had been removed from the register and a 4th, on the decrease in the working age population in the county had been added.

RESOLVED	Reason for Decision:
<p>That;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cabinet notes the risk register and the current risks faced by the organisation. • Risks for each Service, and any Programme and Projects are recorded on JCAD. 	<p>To ensure appropriate understanding and management of risk and good governance of the Council.</p>

9.	IMPROVEMENT AND ASSURANCE BOARD MINUTES
-----------	--

The minutes of the Improvement and Assurance Board meeting held on 1st May 2019 were received.

10. CORRESPONDENCE

There were no items of correspondence reported.

11. DELEGATED DECISIONS TAKEN SINCE THE LAST MEETING

Cabinet received details of delegated decisions taken by portfolio holders since the last meeting.

12. FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

The Leader asked portfolio holders to make sure that the Cabinet forward work programme was kept populated.

The Leader thanked everyone involved in the organisation of stage 5 of the Women's Tour cycle race held in Powys on 14th June.

Cabinet welcomed the news that Machynlleth would be the host of the Urdd Eisteddfod in 2022, which would be the centenary of the event.

County Councillor M R Harris (Chair)