Cabinet Prifddinas Ranbarth Caerdydd | Cardiff Capital Region Cabinet

EXTERNAL MINUTES

Minutes of the Cardiff Capital Region Regional Cabinet Public Meeting

9.30am–11.30am on Monday 4 December 2023 Microsoft Teams

Leaders		
Councillor Stephen Thomas	Leader	Blaenau Gwent CBC
Councillor Huw David OBE	Leader	Bridgend CBC
Councillor Sean Morgan (from 9.45)	Leader	Caerphilly CBC
Councillor Huw Thomas (Vice Chair)	Leader	Cardiff Council
Councillor Geraint Thomas	Leader	Merthyr Tydfil CBC
Councillor Paul Griffiths (substitute for Councillor Mary Ann Brocklesby)	Deputy Leader	Monmouthshire CC
Councillor Jane Mudd (Vice Chair)	Leader	Newport CC
Councillor Andrew Morgan OBE	Leader	Rhondda Cynon Taf CBC
Councillor Anthony Hunt (Chair)	Leader	Torfaen CBC
Councillor Lis Burnett	Leader	Vale of Glamorgan Council
Officers		
Damien McCann (DMc)	Interim Chief Executive	Blaenau Gwent CBC
Mark Shephard (MS)	Chief Executive	Bridgend CBC
Christopher Lee (CL)	Acting Chief Executive and Section 151 Officer	Cardiff Council
Ellis Cooper (EC)	Chief Executive	Merthyr Tydfil CBC
Paul Matthews (PM)	Chief Executive	Monmouthshire CC
Bev Owen (BO)	Chief Executive	Newport CC
Paul Mee (PM)	Chief Executive	Rhondda Cynon Taf CBC
Stephen Vickers (SV)	Chief Executive	Torfaen CBC
Rob Thomas (RT)	Chief Executive	Vale of Glamorgan Council
CCR Officers		
Kellie Beirne (KB)	Director	Office of the Cardiff Capital Region (CCR)
Rhys Thomas (RhT)	Chief Operating Officer	Office of the CCR
Hrjinder Singh (HS)	Head of Finance, Risk & Assurance	Office of the CCR

Colan Mehaffey (CM)	Head of Digital & Data Innovation	Office of the CCR
Lynda Bird (LB)	Interim Governance Manager	Office of the CCR
Jayne La Grua (JLG)	Interim Monitoring Officer	Office of the CCR
Jack Latkovic (JL)	Interim Democratic Services Manager	Office of the CCR
Katherine Painter (Minutes) (KP)	Business Support Officer	Office of the CCR
Observers		
John Hawkins		
Gareth Ashman		
Claire Jenkins		

The following list of apologies were recorded:

Apologies		
Councillor Mary Ann Brocklesby (Vice Chair)	Leader	Monmouthshire CC
Christina Harrhy	Chief Executive	Caerphilly CBC

1. Welcome and Apologies

Councillor A Hunt (Chair) opened the meeting and apologies were noted as above.

2. Declarations of Interest - Elected Members' Protocols
The Declarations of Interest process is provided in the procedural note.

No declarations of interest were received.

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting held on 9th October 2023

Cardiff Capital Region Cabinet **APPROVED** the minutes of the meeting from 9th October 2023. as a true and accurate record.

4. 2023/24 Month 06 Budget Monitoring Update

CL introduced the item by providing the details of actual expenditure, income, and the projected full year outturn position as at the 30 September (Month 06), against its approved 20230/24 Joint Committee Revenue Budget.

Leaders agreed to accept the recommendations of the report as moved by Cllr S. Thomas and seconded by Cllr A Morgan.

Cllr Hunt obtained individual votes of acceptance from Leaders in the following order: Blaenau Gwent, Merthyr, Monmouthshire, Newport, Caerphilly, Cardiff, Rhondda

Cynon Taf, Vale of Glamorgan.

Cllr S Morgan and Cllr H David were not present to vote for Caerphilly and Bridgend respectively.

It was RESOLVED that Regional Cabinet noted the actual expenditure, income, and projected full year out-turn position as at the 30 September 2023 (Month 06), against its approved 2023/24 Revenue Budget.

Cllr S Morgan joined the meeting at 9.45am.

5. Gateway Review: Mid Term Report Preparation

CM Introduced the item by providing an update on progress against the Cardiff Capital Region City Deal (CCRCD) Gateway Review and seek delegated authority to submit Mid-Term evidence papers and report.

Leaders agreed to accept the recommendations of the report as moved by Cllr S Morgan and seconded by Cllr S Thomas.

Cllr Hunt obtained individual votes of acceptance from Leaders in the following order: Blaenau Gwent, Merthyr, Monmouthshire, Newport, Caerphilly, Cardiff, Rhondda Cynon Taf, Vale of Glamorgan and Torfaen

Cllr H David was not present to vote for Bridgend.

It was RESOLVED that Regional Cabinet

1) **Noted the progress against the CCRCD Gateway Review process.**
2) **Delegated the authority to the CCR Director to approve and submit the final version of the Mid-Term evidence papers and report to the Department of Levelling-Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC).**

6. South East Wales Corporate Joint Committee Transition Report

KB updated the meeting on a progress towards the South East Wales Corporate Joint Committee achieving fully functioning status with the transition of the Cardiff Capital Region City Deal to the Corporate Joint Committee; and to make recommendations for decisions to be taken to further those objectives.

KB advised the meeting that an individual report would be available for members to update councillors in their respective constituencies by 29 January 2024.

JLG provided an overview focusing on governance arrangements, as per report.

Cllr A Morgan queried existence of good legal ground on which decisions can be made by the proposed Working Group. JLG commented that decision making would still be within existing Regional Cabinet and Corporate Joint Committee remit.

Cllr S Thomas queried the overspend of £210k on page 56 paragraph 52. JLG clarified that this was around financial implications surrounding CJC transition. KB explained that this was captured in an earlier report and that overall, there had been an underspend, but more resource was needed in legal work in relation to CJC transition.

Cllr Hunt noted the busy landscape across local authorities and expressed hope that existing relationships would progress into CJC. Cllr Hunt noted that the work of CCR, Local Authorities and partnerships had been recognised by both Welsh and UK Governments. Cllr Hunt expressed his gratitude to the Regional Economic Growth Partnership, especially J. Frank Holmes for his chairing and work on relationships with businesses.

Leaders welcomed the report and agreed to accept the recommendations of the report as moved by Cllr S Morgan and seconded by Cllr S Thomas.

Cllr Hunt obtained individual votes of acceptance from Leaders in the following order: Blaenau Gwent, Merthyr, Monmouthshire, Newport, Caerphilly, Cardiff, Rhondda Cynon Taf, Vale of Glamorgan, Bridgend, Torfaen.

It was RESOLVED that Regional Cabinet:

1) **Consented to novate the Cardiff Capital Region City Deal Funding Agreement and rights and obligations in all other incoming funding agreements held by Cardiff Council as Accountable Body on behalf of the Cardiff Capital Region to the South East Wales Corporate Joint Committee**
2) **Consented to transfer all interests in the portfolio of projects funded by Cardiff Capital Region, together with any ancillary agreements, from Cardiff Council as Accountable Body on behalf of Cardiff Capital Region to the South East Wales Corporate Joint Committee, subject to novation of the incoming funding agreements referred to at paragraph (1) of the report.**
3) **Delegated authority to the Cardiff Capital Region Director, in consultation with the Interim Monitoring Officer, to agree and execute the final form of the deeds of novation and all other legal documents necessary to implement the transfers referred to at paragraphs (1) and (2) of the report.**
4) **Directed Cardiff Council acting in its capacity as Accountable Body for the Cardiff Capital Region to take all necessary actions to implement the transfers referred to at paragraphs (1) and (2) of the report**
5) **Agreed to transfer responsibility for decision making and implementation of the Cardiff Capital Region City Deal to the South East Wales Corporate Joint Committee (including that Council Contributions be made to the South East Wales Corporate Joint Committee), subject to novation of the City Deal Funding Agreement and approval by the South East Wales Corporate Joint**

Committee of additional standing orders incorporating the key terms of the Joint Working Agreement between the 10 Constituent Councils;

6) **Noted the proposed governance and partnership structure for the South East Wales Corporate Joint Committee, and transition arrangements, and agree to form a Working Group to consider any amendments to the Interim Constitution, governance and partnership arrangements;**
7) **Delegated general authority to the Cardiff Capital Region Director, in consultation with the S151 Officer and Monitoring Officer as appropriate, to take and implement any decision required for operational effectiveness, provided that:**
   - **(a) the cost of implementing the decision does not exceed agreed budgets.**
   - **(b) the decision does not conflict with any agreed plan or strategy; and**
   - **(c) there are no unusual features or significant political or other issues, otherwise the matter should be referred to Members to determine. The CCR Director may sub-delegate functions to other appropriate officers, provided that any such delegation is recorded in writing.**

7. 2023-24 Annual Business Plan Quarter 2 Performance Report

KB introduced the item by giving an update on Cardiff Capital Region City Deal (CCRCD) progress against the 2023-24 ABP Quarter 2 Performance Report.

Cllr Hunt commended the report by welcoming the progress made so far which was summarised in the document.

Leaders agreed to accept the recommendations of the report as moved by Cllr S Thomas and seconded by Cllr S Morgan.

Cllr Hunt obtained individual votes of acceptance from Leaders in the following order: Bridgend, Vale of Glamorgan, Rhondda Cynon Taf, Cardiff, Caerphilly, Newport, Monmouthshire, Merthyr, Blaenau Gwent, Torfaen.

It was RESOLVED that Regional Cabinet:

1) **Considered, accepted and approved (Appendix 1) Quarter 2 performance report and authorised the Cardiff Capital Region City Deal Regional Programme Director to formally submit the report, including supporting information, to both UK and Welsh Governments, and other stakeholders as required, on behalf of the Regional Cabinet.**
2) **Approved the proposed changes to WIF approved Capital and Revenue Budgets, as set out in paragraphs 13 and 14 and summarised in Table 1; and**
3) **Noted the updates against the AGS Action Plan and the Internal Audit Action Plan as set out in this report and in Appendix 4 and Appendix 5**

respectively. In addition, notes the progress on CJC activity set out in this report – and separately comprehensively reported to the CJC Board.

8. Exclusion of Press and Public

It was agreed to close the public part of the meeting and for Leaders to discuss items which were exempt from public discussion, as moved by Cllr A. Morgan and seconded by Cllr H. David.

Webcasting of the meeting was stopped at 10:24.

EXEMPT ITEMS

The reports and all appendices below are exempt from publication because they contain information of the kind described in paragraphs 14 (information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person) and 21 (public interest test) of parts 4 and 5 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 and in all the circumstances of the case the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

9. Investment and Intervention Framework Report: Recommendation Logs, Project Updates and Wider Projects Update

Strategic Outline Case: HyBont

RhT introduced the item.

Leaders agreed to accept the recommendation of Investment Panel as moved by Cllr S Thomas and seconded by Cllr S Morgan.

It was resolved that Regional Cabinet accepted the recommendations of the exempt report.

Investment Request - Human Data Sciences (HDS)

RhT introduced the item.

Leaders agreed to accept the recommendation of Investment Panel as moved by Cllr S Thomas and seconded by Cllr Sean Morgan.

Cllr Hunt obtained individual votes of acceptance from Leaders in the following order: Bridgend, Vale of Glamorgan, Cardiff, Caerphilly, Newport, Monmouthshire, Merthyr Tydfil, Blaenau Gwent, Torfaen.

It was resolved that Regional Cabinet accepted the recommendations of the exempt report.

10. To consider a Business Case for Investment

RhT introduced the item.

Leaders agreed to accept the recommendation of Investment Panel as moved by Cllr H Thomas and seconded by Cllr A Morgan

Cllr Hunt obtained individual votes of acceptance from Leaders in the following order: Blaenau Gwent, Merthyr Tydfil, Monmouthshire, Newport, Caerphilly, Cardiff Rhondda Cynon Taf, Vale of Glamorgan, Bridgend, Torfaen

It was resolved that Regional Cabinet accepted the recommendations of the exempt report.

Date of Next Meeting: 29th January 2024