

**CABINET  
DECISION RECORDING LOG**

**DECISION DETERMINED ON: 5<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2014**

**DECISION WILL COME INTO EFFECT ON: 14<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2014**  
**(Subject to "Call-in" by appropriate Select Committee)**

**SUBJECT: EVALUATING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF SAFEGUARDING IN MONMOUTHSHIRE**

**DIVISION//WARD AFFECTED: ALL**

**PURPOSE:**

To ensure effective Cabinet leadership and scrutiny of safeguarding by presenting a suite of three safeguarding reports:

- i) Strategic Overview Report
- ii) Safeguarding Report Card and Performance Information
- iii) Service Improvement Plan (Quarter 2 review).

**DECISION:**

To receive the reports and use these as the basis for evaluation and challenge of the whole authority approach to safeguarding children and young people

**REASONS:**

Safeguarding and child protection concerns some of the most vulnerable children in Monmouthshire. This is an important opportunity for Cabinet to receive and debate information about the current arrangements for safeguarding and evaluate the authority's response to the challenges raised through our external regulators.

**RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:**

None directly from this report

**CONSULTEES:**

CYP Select Committee, Internal Monitoring Board

**CABINET MEMBERS PRESENT:**

County Councillors G.C. Burrows, P.A. Fox, R.J.W. Greenland, E.J. Hackett Pain, G. Howard and P. Murphy

**OTHER ELECTED MEMBERS PRESENT:**

County Councillors D. Batrouni, R. Harris and M. Powell.

**INTEREST DECLARED:**

None

**AUTHOR:**

Simon Burch, Chief Officer, Social Care and Health

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**SUBJECT: BUDGET PROPOSALS 2015/16 TO 2018/19**

**DIVISION//WARD AFFECTED: ALL**

**PURPOSE:**

To provide detailed proposals on the budget savings required to meet the gap between available resources and need to spend in 2015/16, for consultation purposes.

To consider the 2015/16 budget within the context of the 4 year Medium Term Financial Plan

**DECISION:**

To approve the release of the budget savings proposals for 2015/16 for consultation purposes

To approve that the consultation period and opportunity to present alternative proposals that have been Equality Impact assessed ends on 14th January 2015

To agree to continue to work on the areas required to balance the Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP)

**REASONS:**

To agree budget proposals for 2015/16 through to 2018/19 for consultation purposes

**RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:**

As identified in the report and appendices

**CONSULTEES:**

SLT  
Cabinet  
Head of Legal Services  
Head of Strategic Personnel

**CABINET MEMBERS PRESENT:**

County Councillors G.C. Burrows, P.A. Fox, R.J.W. Greenland, E.J. Hackett Pain, G. Howard and P. Murphy

**OTHER ELECTED MEMBERS PRESENT:**

County Councillors D. Batrouni, R. Harris and M. Powell.

**INTEREST DECLARED:**

None

**AUTHOR:**

Joy Robson  
Head of Finance

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**SUBJECT: CAPITAL BUDGET PROPOSALS 2015/16 TO 2018/19**

**DIVISION//WARD AFFECTED: COUNTYWIDE**

**PURPOSE:**

To outline the proposed capital budget for 2015/16 and the indicative capital budgets for the three years 2016/17 to 2018/19.

**DECISION:**

To issue its draft capital budget proposals for 2015/16 to 2018/19 for consultation purposes as set out and referred to in Appendix 2.

To affirm the capital strategy, linked to the Asset Management Plan, which seeks to work towards a financially sustainable core capital programme without recourse to further prudential borrowing or use of capital receipts so that these resources can be directed towards the Council's priority of 21st Century Schools Programme, whilst recognizing the risks associated with this approach.

To review the priorities in the Capital programme in the light of the Asset Management Plan and other demands for capital resources

To approve the principle that new schemes can only be added to the programme if the business case demonstrates that they are self financing or the scheme is deemed a higher priority than current schemes in the programme and therefore displaces it.

To agree to the sale of the assets in accordance with the Asset Management Plan and identified in the exempt background paper in order to support the capital programme, and that once agreed, no further options are considered for these assets.

To agree to the associated costs of disposal outlined in appendix 7 required to process the sale of assets identified in the exempt background paper.

**REASONS:**

To provide an opportunity for consultation on the capital budget proposals.

**RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:**

Resource implications are noted throughout the report both in terms of how the core programme is financially sustainable, but also the risks associated with not addressing the pressures outlined in Appendix 1.

**CONSULTEES:**

Senior Leadership Team  
All Cabinet Members  
Head of Legal Services  
Head of Finance

**CABINET MEMBERS PRESENT:**

County Councillors G.C. Burrows, P.A. Fox, R.J.W. Greenland, E.J. Hackett Pain, G. Howard and P. Murphy

**OTHER ELECTED MEMBERS PRESENT:**

County Councillors D. Batrouni, R. Harris and M. Powell.

**INTEREST DECLARED:**

None

**AUTHOR:**

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**SUBJECT: PROPOSED STRATEGIC ASSET MANAGEMENT PLAN**

**DIVISION//WARD AFFECTED: ALL**

**PURPOSE:**

To introduce the proposed Strategic Asset Management Plan for the management of the Council's property portfolio.

**DECISION:**

To endorse and approve the Strategic Asset Management Plan which will be updated and refined as service delivery evolves and financial needs change.

The implementation of the County Farms strategy and the associated disposal of assets contained therein is delegated to the County Farms Working Group.

**REASONS:**

The prevailing financial climate necessitates an ongoing review of the Councils property estate to wherever possible minimise the revenue costs, maximise financial and social value and ensure that the policies and portfolio maintain alignment with the Councils priorities and the Medium Term Financial Plan.

## **RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:**

The Asset Management Plan sets the framework and policies within which decisions about properties should be made. It is presumed that the Council will continue to release its assets at market value, unless a disposal would meet the criteria required by the General Disposals Consent Order (Wales) 2003 and is in accord with the Community Asset Transfer Policy.

## **CONSULTEES:**

Cabinet  
Senior Leadership Team  
Strong Communities Select

## **CABINET MEMBERS PRESENT:**

County Councillors G.C. Burrows, P.A. Fox, R.J.W. Greenland, E.J. Hackett Pain, G. Howard and P. Murphy

## **OTHER ELECTED MEMBERS PRESENT:**

County Councillors D. Batrouni, R. Harris and M. Powell.

## **INTEREST DECLARED:**

County Councillor P. Fox declared a personal interest pursuant to the Members' Code of Conduct as a County Farms Tenant.

## **AUTHOR:**

Ben Winstanley	Acting Estates Manager
Debra Hill-Howells	Head of Community Delivery

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**SUBJECT: EFFECTIVENESS OF COUNCIL SERVICES – QUARTER 2 UPDATE**

**DIVISION//WARD AFFECTED: ALL**

**PURPOSE:**

To provide Cabinet with a quarter 2 update on how Council is performing against a set of outcome measures that are important when forming an opinion on the current effectiveness of Council services and the likely year end position.

**DECISION:**

To use the report to help their continuous monitoring and evaluation of the effectiveness of services and the extent to which they are contributing to the council's priorities of the education of children, support for vulnerable people and enterprise and job creation.

To use this report as an opportunity to identify any action that may need to be taken to drive improvement, ensuring that services are as effective and efficient as possible in the context of current resources.

To agree that for quarter 3 the updated content of this report is combined with the programmed quarter 3 financial analysis of the organisation to more clearly associate service and financial performance.

**REASONS:**

To provide Cabinet with timely information to ensure that the authority is well-run and able to maximise its contribution to achieving the vision of sustainable and resilient communities.

**RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:**

None

**CONSULTEES:**

Senior Leadership Team  
Cabinet

**CABINET MEMBERS PRESENT:**

County Councillors G.C. Burrows, P.A. Fox, R.J.W. Greenland, E.J. Hackett Pain, G. Howard and P. Murphy

**OTHER ELECTED MEMBERS PRESENT:**

County Councillors D. Batrouni, R. Harris and M. Powell.

**INTEREST DECLARED:**

None

**AUTHOR:**

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**SUBJECT: BUILDING THE ESTABLISHMENT AND CAPACITY FOR ENTERPRISE**

**DIVISION//WARD AFFECTED: ALL**

**PURPOSE:**

To build the establishment and capacity for the Enterprise directorate, both in terms of the management structure and where appropriate the relevant services' staffing structures.

**DECISION:**

To agree to the establishment of the proposed management and staff structures for the Enterprise directorate, recognising that ongoing service reviews will result in further reports needing to be subsequently brought forward.

To agree to the creation and deletion of posts contained within 3.5 of this report.

To agree that any amendments to the structure that may arise through the consultation exercise (currently underway) be approved by the Chief Officer for Enterprise in consultation with the relevant cabinet members subject to any alternations continuing to provide the savings required in the approved budgets.

**REASONS:**

This is not a restructure report. This report allows for the Enterprise directorate to ensure that it has the management and leadership capacity in place to allow the directorate to move forward and manage the significant challenges ahead. In order to successfully navigate the next few years the directorate needs to ensure that it has the optimum capacity to deliver the required savings, as well as enabling its three customers: staff, communities and businesses, to successfully navigate the challenges ahead.

The management structures that have been inherited following the creation of the Enterprise directorate are not fit for purpose in allowing for effective and effective decision making. This report will allow Heads of Service to be able to more effectively manage and lead their service portfolios through a rationalised leadership and management structure.

### **RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:**

The proposed structure for Community Led delivery will result in a combined saving of £303,404, necessary to deliver savings required from budget mandates being considered separately by Cabinet on this agenda. The proposals include the creation of a one-year fixed term Project Manager post to oversee a pilot property development. It is intended that this post will be funded through capital as a result of an anticipated enhanced capital value.

The proposed structure for Tourism, Leisure and Culture will result in a combined cost of £40,418. These costs will be met by savings generated from within the Museum, Leisure and Countryside budgets, and that are separate to savings to be achieved in 2014/15 and being proposed within budget mandates for 2015/16.

The proposed structure for Commercial and People Development will result in a net cost of £169,935. The proposals include the deletion of a Senior Innovation Officer that is currently being funded from earmarked reserves (£44,000). These proposals remove the need to draw on such reserve funding. The net cost of £169,935 is being met by savings resulting from a fundamental overhaul of departmental non-pay budgets (£144,935), combined with targeted savings from a pending review of Human Resources (£25,000).

Costs associated with redundancies are reliant upon the implementation of the Council's employment protection policy. To the extent that any costs associated with redundancy cannot be managed within existing revenue budgets, a further report will be brought back to Cabinet to secure the necessary reserve funding.

It is anticipated further to this report, and adjacent to developing budget proposals for 2015/16 to 2018/19, that a case will need to be put forward for any specific skills and expertise that will need to be secured to ensure that budget mandates are delivered successfully, on time and to budget. Any request for further funding for additional posts will be subsequently considered alongside the developing budget proposals.

### **CONSULTEES:**

Cabinet  
Senior Leadership Team  
People Development Manager  
Head of Legal Services

Union representatives

**CABINET MEMBERS PRESENT:**

County Councillors G.C. Burrows, P.A. Fox, R.J.W. Greenland, E.J. Hacket Pain, G. Howard and P. Murphy

**OTHER ELECTED MEMBERS PRESENT:**

County Councillors D. Batrouni, R. Harris and M. Powell.

**INTEREST DECLARED:**

None

**AUTHORS:**

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Ian Saunders – Head of Tourism, Leisure and Culture

Peter Davies – Head of Commercial and People Development

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**SUBJECT: WELSH CHURCH FUND WORKING GROUP**

**DIVISION//WARD AFFECTED: ALL**

**PURPOSE:**

The purpose of this report is to make recommendations to Cabinet on the Schedule of Applications for 2014/15 meeting 3 held on the 25th September 2014

**DECISION:**

We resolved that the following grants be awarded to:

(1) St. Andrew's Church Tredunnuck requested £800 to assist in the removal of churchyard hedgerows to allow access for emergency vehicles as previous access now blocked

Recommendation - £400 to assist in providing necessary safe access for emergency services on Health & Safety grounds

(2) Caldicot & District U3A Ukulele Group requested £702 for Musical Instruments, music and stand covers for this community group which has 19 different section

Recommendation - £260 for the development of this lifelong self help group that entertains other groups within the community

(3) St. Peter's Church, Goetre requested £800 for essential repairs to the churchyard boundary wall

Recommendation – £400 to assist in essential maintenance on the grounds of Health & Safety

(4) BEE Friendly Monmouthshire requested £1,000 for Colour Leaflets and Bee Logo Discs '950 Aluminium 'Lollipop' signs'

Recommendation - £250 to assist this environmental group in protecting the wildlife of the Monmouthshire Countryside

(5) Kate Ffion Nicholls requested £1,500 for assistance in her further education

Recommendation – £640 to assist the applicant in her specific educational needs

(6) Monmouth / Carbonne Twinning Association requested £2,000 to assist in hosting visitors from Monmouth's twin town of Carbonne in France in 2015.

Recommendation – The Committee deferred this application to the last meeting of the financial year for consideration

(7) Name withheld due to sponsoring Councillor request applicant requested £1,000 to assist in financing a further education course

Recommendation – The Committee felt that they could not support the request of this applicant for advanced educational funding

Deferred Applications:

(8) Chepstow & District Rotary Club

Recommendation – After further enquiries, the Committee could not allocate funds to a Charity in raising funds to support another Charity and not to fund a charitable project directly.

## **REASONS:**

A meeting took place on Thursday, 25th September 2014 of the Welsh Church Fund Cabinet Working Group to recommend the payment of grants as detailed in the attached schedule.

County Councillors in attendance:

B. Strong and A. E. Webb

Officers in attendance:

Mr D. Jarrett and Miss N. Perry

Apologies for absence:

County Councillors D.L. Edwards & D. J. Evans

Declarations of Interest:

None recorded.

**RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:**

A total of £1.950 was allocated at meeting 3 of the Welsh Church Fund Committee, Thus, £19,274 remains available for distribution within the financial year.

**CONSULTEES:**

Senior Leadership Team

All Cabinet Members

Head of Legal Services

Head of Finance

Central Management Accountant

**CABINET MEMBERS PRESENT:**

County Councillors G.C. Burrows, P.A. Fox, R.J.W. Greenland, E.J. Hacket Pain, G. Howard and P. Murphy

**OTHER ELECTED MEMBERS PRESENT:**

County Councillors D. Batrouni, R. Harris and M. Powell.

**INTEREST DECLARED:**

None



**AUTHOR:**

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