

**CABINET
DECISION RECORDING LOG**

DECISION DETERMINED ON: 18th MARCH 2015

DECISION WILL COME INTO EFFECT ON: 27th MARCH 2015
(Subject to "Call-in" by appropriate Select Committee)

SUBJECT: BROADBAND IN MONMOUTHSHIRE: Superfast Broadband in Monmouthshire and Associated Opportunities for Delivery of External iCounty Activities

DIVISION//WARD AFFECTED: ALL

PURPOSE:

1. To present a review of a report commissioned in 2014 (produced by Disconnected Wales and the Community Broadband Network) to inform MCC of the likely and continued digital deprivation following the implementation of Next Generation Broadband Access or Superfast Cymru in Monmouthshire.
2. To raise awareness of ICT exploitation opportunities associated with Superfast Cymru, the Superconnected Cities programme and other alternative connection technologies such as wireless and satellite deployed in the county.
3. To recognise the need for additional resources to enable Monmouthshire Business and Enterprise to capitalise on Monmouthshire's existing and emerging Broadband infrastructure assets, to ensure opportunities and experience are maximised and gaps in provision, skills and impact are addressed.

DECISION:

1. To consider the findings from the report and opportunities associated with Superfast Cymru and associated programmes.

2. For Cabinet to endorse this report to secure funding of £73,200 from the ICT transformation reserve to allow additional resources to be secured to ensure that the potential of Superfast Cymru and associated programmes are maximised for the benefit of Monmouthshire businesses and residents.

REASONS:

1. Monmouthshire residents have high demand for broadband services as reflected in Ofcom figures indicating a 74% adoption rate in comparison to 72% in neighbouring Torfaen and Newport and Powys at 66%. There is also a need to ensure that Monmouthshire children have full access to a quality internet connection to ensure successful home learning. Other drivers include the council needs to prepare for increased digital public service delivery, the implementation of the Online Universal Credit system and the provision of digital health care.
2. Independent information made available from the Broadband report commissioned highlights that if all BT cabinets in Monmouthshire are upgraded under *Superfast Cymru* indicated that there was a risk that only 78% of Monmouthshire's premises would be predicted to receive a superfast broadband service with a further 4% likely to receive at least 10Mbps. However these figures are based on the premise that a certain VDSL technology will be used whereby the signal degrades the further the telephone wire is from the telephone cabinet.
3. However BT is intending to deploy new technology solutions and fibre to the premise (FTTP) in order to ensure that its contract conditions are met and that across 96% of premises in Wales have access to superfast broadband. Unfortunately until the deployment programme is complete in 2016 the actual percentage for Monmouthshire will remain unknown. However, a number of liaison meetings have taken place with WG which has provided additional comfort that BT will meet the terms of the Superfast Cymru contract. BT has also requested support from MCC not only in terms of negotiating civil and planning notifications but also in their promotional activities, all of which require MCC resource, MCC Officers are also offering this service to other suppliers to ensure vendor neutrality.
4. The Authority has also been successful to date using alternative technologies. MCC's 'Connecting Monmouthshire' initiative funded via the Rural Development Programme (RDP) and an [EU acclaimed best practice example](#) has been successful in enabling over 2000 premises with up to 50Mbps; border areas have benefited from Herefordshire and Gloucestershire's 'Fasterhire' programme and remote areas have gained broadband access via a sustainable approach using renewables and masts resulting in reduced infrastructure costs due to the limited need for civil works.
5. However given the recent cessation of the RDP funds and continuing lack of clarity surrounding *Superfast Cymru* and the potential for a proportion of premises and businesses to miss out on the Superfast broadband step change, including local Industrial Enterprise Zones, this unknown percentage is proving a risk to future inward investment projects. There is therefore a clear need for intervention from either the Public or Private sector or both to address the gap between those Monmouthshire residents enjoying superfast broadband and those who could well be left digitally deprived following *Superfast Cymru* deployment. WG will be rolling out a Superfast Cymru [infill project](#) that looks to target the 'white areas' that remain once the Superfast Cymru project has been deployed.

6. In addition a significant skills issue exists in the County. Recent figures obtained from the 'Get Monmouthshire On Line' initiative indicate that 19% of Monmouthshire households don't have internet access and 20% (approximately 14,363) adults in Monmouthshire don't use the internet. Given the recent push by UK government with the rollout of Universal Credit, Universal Job Match and on-line payments to farmers there is clear evidence that a continuation of the 'Get Monmouthshire On Line' initiative post March 2015 is required. In addition there is potential to evolve the scheme to support volunteering and collaboration with the Barclays Bank Digital Eagles programme, active in Monmouthshire's towns.
7. The Authority's iCounty strategy maintains a focus on digitally enabled and smart communities. Beyond the need for universal access to broadband in the County, there is also a need for improved mobile coverage across the County. OFCOM research from July 2014 highlights that mobile services are now seen as essential or important for most consumers. Monmouthshire is currently benefitting from a £150m UK government funded project to provide mobile coverage in "not spot" areas (where there are no voice or text based services), working with all four mobile network providers in the UK. Four sites have been identified in Monmouthshire where installation of mobile phone masts are planned. The four identified sites are north east of Glyn, Grosmont, east of Skenfrith and north of Trellech. The Authority is also looking to progress wider discussions with WG and mobile network and telecommunications companies in order to understand what role it can play in accelerating improvement in the mobile infrastructure and coverage across the County.
8. Given the rurality of the county, Monmouthshire has a diverse range of needs translating to a wide range of solutions that are being employed such as wireless and satellite for broadband purposes (as exemplified in point 4.4). It is therefore recommended that the following activities are undertaken to maximise the opportunities available:
 - a) **Superconnected Cities:** Since its inception in September 2014 26 businesses in Caldicot, and Tintern have already signed up for broadband connection voucher scheme with an additional 25 Expressions of Interest having been received. It is possible that the next activity in voucher take-up will be Chepstow High Street. Five champions have come to the fore within the County, taking up the campaign in their respective neighbourhoods. Leaflet drops have taken place by MCC staff in industrial estates across the county raising awareness of the scheme as well as attending Chamber meetings in Chepstow, Monmouth, Abergavenny and Usk to gain more interest. The ambition is to exceed a total of 100 participating businesses however it is recognised that given the limited capacity of the Monmouthshire Business and Enterprise team of three, an additional resource will be required to enable coordination of activity to maximise impact, marketing and promotional activities, business network engagement activities, data management and forward planning.
 - b) **Data Mapping:** A key output of the Monmouthshire Business Growth and Enterprise Strategy is the establishment of baseline data to determine the current level of digitally enabled Monmouthshire businesses in order to chart progress in their digital maturity i.e. from *Novice Entrants* (basic company website, on line banking transactions through to *Digital Innovators* (active presence on social media, limited off line transactions, continual investment in modern digital infrastructure). Taking lessons learned from WG's evaluation of the Digital Gwynedd ICT exploitation pilot the establishment of this benchmark data is essential in measuring the success of any planned ICT

exploitation activities undertaken in the county and achieving MCC's vision of *becoming one of the UK's most inspiring spaces for digital advancement*.

c) Digital Presence: In order to bring strength and coherence to this external strand of iCounty there is a need for a coordinated web presence which is accessible to both businesses and communities. The web portal will provide up to date information on the progress of the *Superfast Cymru* rollout, encourage sign up for superfast services, raise awareness of the benefits of improved broadband, inform businesses and individuals of how they can improve their skills and access support and alert citizens to the new public services that are available on line. The portal will be maintained by the Monmouthshire Business and Enterprise team as part of their digital offer to ensure it remains accurate and fresh. This presence would also support resident engagement with the 'Monmouthshire Made Open' platform.

d) ICT Exploitation: An extensive programme of ICT exploitation activities will be undertaken to encourage the take up of broadband services, so residents and businesses will have the necessary skills to take full advantage of the digital world and ecommerce opportunities that are available to them. Activities will include:

- Local promotion and maximisation of the WG ICT exploitation programme – "[Superfast Business Wales](#)".
- A funding application to the new RDP for an urban/rural skills programme that will take advantage of the existing Wi-Fi structure in Monmouth (as per recommendations included in the evaluation of MonmouthpediA) and the new connection for the school being installed in Shirenewton;
- Transition funding to continue the 'Get Monmouthshire On Line' programme which has successfully trained 350 individuals to date. However the current funding ends in March 2015 so there is a need to fund the gap while the new programme is being developed by Communities 2.0 to ensure momentum is not lost.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

1. Whilst possible external sources of funding are being explored to address many of the requirements above there is a clear need for additional resources if MCC's aspirations with regard to iCounty and the exploitation of ICT and broadband are to be met. Detailed in the table below is a list of the detailed recommendations outlined in section 4.7 above together with the corresponding resource required:

Recommendation	Resource Allocation required
Superconnected Cities exploitation and promotion programme	£43,200 (based on two days per week for twelve months)
Data mapping exercise	£5,000
Digital Presence	£5,000
Transition Funding for 'Get Monmouthshire On Line'	£20,000 (estimate based on 6-month gap funding)
Total resource allocation required	£73,200

2. It is requested that these one-off resources are funded from earmarked reserves, and specifically the ICT transformation reserve.

CONSULTEES:

Digital Board
Senior Leadership Team
Economy and Development Select Committee Members
Cabinet Members

CABINET MEMBERS PRESENT:

County Councillors G. Burrows, P.A. Fox, E. Hackett Pain, P. Hobson, G. Howard and P. Murphy.

OTHER ELECTED MEMBERS PRESENT:

County Councillors D. Batrouni, S. Howarth, P. Jones, J. Prosser and V. Smith.

INTEREST DECLARED:

None

AUTHOR:

Peter Davies, Head of Commercial and People Development

CONTACT DETAILS:

E-mail: **peterdavies@monmouthshire.gov.uk**
Tel: **(01633) 644294**

**CABINET
DECISION RECORDING LOG**

DECISION DETERMINED ON: 18th MARCH 2015

DECISION WILL COME INTO EFFECT ON: 27th MARCH 2015
(Subject to "Call-in" by appropriate Select Committee)

SUBJECT: SCHOOL ADMISSION POLICY ACADEMIC YEAR 2016/17. CONSULTATION ON ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS AND CHANGES TO ADMISSIONS POLICY INCLUDING SCHOOL CATCHMENT AREAS

DIVISION//WARD AFFECTED: Countywide

PURPOSE:

Monmouthshire has recently undertaken a review of its School Admissions policy and entered into a consultation on the proposed changes. The review proposes the following changes for implementation for admissions from September 2016.

1. The consultation process proposed an amendment to the current oversubscription criteria to be applied to school admission applications where the number of applications received for a school exceeds the number of places available.

The proposals include the oversubscription criteria offering priority to children residing within the catchment area, over those children residing outside of the catchment area but with older siblings on roll at the preferred school.

Details of the current and proposed oversubscription criteria are available in **appendix 1**.

2. To amend School catchment areas for Monmouthshire Secondary Schools

The purpose of this report is to provide members with information on the results of the recent consultation exercise undertaken as part of the review, and in turn seek approval from members as to whether the proposed changes should be implemented.

DECISION:

1. To agree to continue with the current oversubscription criteria for the 2016/17 Admission Round subject to the removal of prioritisation for multiple birth children under each category of the oversubscription criteria. The full criteria can be found on page 10/11 of appendix 2,
2. To agree to undertake a further consultation process on proposed changes to the admission policy for implementation during the 2017/18 academic year.
3. To agree to adopted the School Admission Policy 2016/17 as presented in appendix 2, which incorporates the recommendation outlined in 2.1.
4. To agree the catchment areas for Monmouthshire's two welsh medium primary schools, Ysgol Y Ffin (Caldicot) and Ysgol Y Fenni (Abergavenny) Primary schools as per proposal 4 of appendix 3.
5. To agree not to proceed with all remaining proposals outlined in appendix 3 for changes to Secondary School catchment areas, in light of:
 - a) The consultation responses received.
 - b) The estimated significant transport costs anticipated should the proposals be approved.

REASONS:

School Admission Policy Oversubscription Criteria

To comply with the Welsh Government School Admissions Code of Practice (2013) which requires admission Authorities to consult upon its arrangements on an annual basis, seeking political approval for any significant changes proposed to existing arrangements.

School Catchment areas

Monmouthshire is geographically comprised of four in county Secondary School catchment areas serving in the region of 4749 children in years 7 to 13. These include:

- King Henry VIII Comprehensive School in the Northwest
- Monmouth Comprehensive School in the Northeast
- Chepstow School in the East
- Caldicot School in the Southeast

And one out of county Secondary School catchment area:

- Caerleon Comprehensive School in the Southwest

These catchment areas have not been reviewed since the reorganisation of Local Government in 1996 and it is thought that they have been in place for many years prior to this. A review of School catchment areas was undertaken with the view to addressing following issues:

- To ensure that where possible, Secondary School catchment areas within Monmouthshire align with feeding Primary Schools with the view to support transitional arrangements between Primary and Secondary Schools.
- To provide a catchment area for a School within Monmouthshire for those children whose current Secondary School catchment resides outside of Monmouthshire, enabling them to be prioritised for School places within Monmouthshire if this is to be their wish.
- To formulate catchment areas for the two Welsh Medium Primary Schools aiding transitional arrangements from Primary to Secondary School

The consultation process was undertaken with the view to address the above, however, the results of the consultation exercise together with the estimated significant transport costs have formulated the recommendation 2.5 above.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

There are no resource implications associated with the proposals to the School Admissions Policy.

There are no resource implications associated with the formulation of catchment areas for the two Welsh Medium Primary Schools within Monmouthshire. The resource implications including home to School transport costs for the proposed Secondary provision will be considered through the consultation exercise to be undertaken by Newport City Council on their proposals to establish a new Welsh Medium Secondary School on the Duffryn site.

CONSULTEES:

The following have been consulted on the changes to the Admission Policy.

Parents of pupils on roll at Monmouthshire Primary Schools
Admission Forum Members
Directorate Management Team
Member Panel

CYP Scrutiny Committee
Chairs of Governing Bodies
Neighbouring Local Education Authorities
Headteachers of all schools affected
Voluntary Aided Admission Authorities
Diocesan Directors

CABINET MEMBERS PRESENT:

County Councillors G. Burrows, P.A. Fox, E. Hackett Pain, P. Hobson, G. Howard and P. Murphy.

OTHER ELECTED MEMBERS PRESENT:

County Councillors D. Batrouni, S. Howarth, P. Jones, J. Prosser and V. Smith.

INTEREST DECLARED:

None

AUTHOR:

Matthew Jones, Acting Access Unit Manager

CONTACT DETAILS:

Tel: 01633 644508

E-mail: matthewdjones@monmouthshire.gov.uk

**CABINET
DECISION RECORDING LOG**

DECISION DETERMINED ON: 18th MARCH 2015

DECISION WILL COME INTO EFFECT ON: 27th MARCH 2015
(Subject to "Call-in" by appropriate Select Committee)

SUBJECT: SEWC STRATEGIC ATTENDANCE POLICY, LOCAL ATTENDANCE POLICY AND WG GUIDANCE ON FIXED PENALTY NOTICES AND LOCAL CODE OF CONDUCT

DIVISION//WARD AFFECTED: COUNTYWIDE

PURPOSE:

To advise cabinet and members of Strategic Developments in relation to attendance.

DECISION:

It is recommended that members agree the adoption of the following policies:-

- South East Wales Consortia Strategic Attendance Policy
- South East Wales Consortia Code of Conduct re Fixed Penalty Notices
- Monmouthshire Local Model Attendance Policy

REASONS:

1. The adoption of the above documents will support schools in their practice to further improve the already good levels of attendance in Monmouthshire.

2. The adoption of the above documents will further enhance the capacity of the Education Welfare Service in Monmouthshire and ensure a seamless continuum of intervention between schools and Education Welfare Service if a pupil's attendance is presenting course for concern.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

1. The proposals will have some resource implications on the Education Welfare Service and Principal Officer Inclusion in that they will have to implement the Fixed Penalty Notices if schools' requests meet the criteria
2. There will also be some resource implications on Colleagues in CYP finance as they will have to administer the financial aspect of fixed penalty notices.
3. The regulations provide that the LA can retain revenue from their penalty notice scheme to cover the costs of issuing or enforcing notices, or the cost of prosecuting recipients who do not pay. Revenue is payable to the LA in respect of pupils registered at a school in their area or, in the case of an unregistered pupil, for whom they have arranged alternative provision. **Hence the proposals will be cost neutral.**

CONSULTEES:

Cabinet
Directorate Management Team
Chief Officers across the SEWC
Strategic Director EAS
Head Teachers
Governing Bodies
Education Welfare Service leads across the SEWC
Police
Trade Unions

CABINET MEMBERS PRESENT:

County Councillors G. Burrows, P.A. Fox, E. Hackett Pain, P. Hobson, G. Howard and P. Murphy.

OTHER ELECTED MEMBERS PRESENT:

County Councillors D. Batrouni, S. Howarth, P. Jones, J. Prosser and V. Smith.

INTEREST DECLARED:

None

AUTHOR:

Richard Austin

CONTACT DETAILS:

Tel: **01633 644559**

E-mail: **Richardaustin@monmouthshire.gov.uk**

**CABINET
DECISION RECORDING LOG**

DECISION DETERMINED ON: 18th MARCH 2015

DECISION WILL COME INTO EFFECT ON: 27th MARCH 2015
(Subject to "Call-in" by appropriate Select Committee)

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 meetings 5 and 6 held on the 22nd January and the 26th February 2015.

DECISION:

Resolved that the following grants be awarded to:

MEETING 5 (22ND January 2015)

- 1) Tintern Village Hall & Recreation Centre requested a £1,500 contribution towards essential replacement to the gas supply and ancillary equipment at the Hall

Recommendation – £1,088 awarded towards the cost of equipment required to bring the gas supply up to standards required for Health & Safety in this Community Building.

- 2) Alexander Lovell requested £1,570 for living maintenance whilst studying for his Masters course

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

- 3) Swansea City Opera requested £2,000 towards the cost of putting on an operatic performance of 'Faust' at the Abergavenny Borough Theatre involving the 'Gwent Bach Choir'.

Recommendation – £500 awarded to assist in aiding this cultural event for the citizens of Monmouthshire.

- 4) Chepstow Tennis Club requested £5,000 towards the provision of a new all weather playing surface, maintenance equipment and safety fencing

Recommendation - £1,000 awarded to contribute to the provision of facilities that support this sports club in enabling the youth of Chepstow and greater community to participate in activity leisure activities.

Deferred Applications:

Louise Giovanelli requested £150 to assist in providing resource materials for her Fine Arts further education course

No recommendation made – agreed to defer pending due to the request for further information.

MEETING 6 (26th February 2015)

- 5) Caldicot Musical Theatre Society – requested £1,000 to assist in financing the cost of the society's production of 'Oliver'

Recommendation – £500 awarded to the community arts group to assist in the production and sustainability of live theatre in the county

- 6) Usk in Bloom – requested £1,000 to assist in replacing shrub and flower containers in the town as been invited by the Royal Horticultural Society to compete in a Uk wide 'Champion of Champions' Britain in Bloom competition

Recommendation - £1000 was awarded to help enhance the environment and profile of Usk Town and that of the County of Monmouthshire within this national competition

- 7) St Arvans Memorial Hall – requested £250 to assist in the purchase of black out blinds for the hall to enhance privacy for community groups using the facility

Recommendation – £250 was awarded to the community hall for improvements in its physical environment to ensure a relaxed and safe environment for users.

- 8) Shirenewton Recreation Association – requested £1.100 for the purchase and installation of security cameras and recording equipment

Recommendation – £250 was awarded to assist in the purchase of security equipment for this community asset.

- 9) St Cadoc's Church, Llangattock, Usk – requested £600 to assist in the cost of the Architect's fees for the assessment and survey of the church roof which is in need of replacement

Recommendation - £600 was awarded towards the project costs for essential maintenance of the church

- 10) Louise Giovanelli requested £150 to assist in providing resource materials for her Fine Arts further education course

Recommendation – That £150 be awarded to alleviate poverty and support educational achievement

REASONS:

MEETING 5 22nd January 2015

A meeting took place on Thursday, 22nd January 2015 of the Welsh Church Fund Cabinet Working Group to recommend the payment of grants as detailed in the attached schedule.

County Councillors in attendance:

D. Edwards (Chairman), B. Strong and A. E. Webb

Officers in attendance:

Mr D. Jarrett

Apologies for absence:

D. Evans

Declarations of Interest:

County Councillor A. E. Webb declared an interest pursuant to the Members Code of Conduct, Local Government Act 2000, within the capacity of signatory of the application from the Tintern Village Hall & Recreation Centre and took no part in the decision.

County Councillor B. Strong declared an interest pursuant to the Members Code of Conduct, Local Government Act 2000, within the capacity of signatory of the application from Louise Giovanelli and took no part in the decision.

MEETING 6 - 26th February 2015

A meeting took place on Thursday, 26th February 2015 of the Welsh Church Fund Cabinet Working Group to recommend the payment of grants as detailed in the attached schedule.

County Councillors in attendance:

D. Edwards (Chairman), B. Strong and D. Evans

Officers in attendance:

Mr D. Jarrett, Miss Nicola Perry

Apologies for absence:

A Webb

Declarations of Interest:

County Councillor B. Strong declared an interest pursuant to the Members Code of Conduct, Local Government Act 2000, within the capacity of signatory of the application from Usk in Bloom and took no part in the decision.

County Councillor B. Strong declared an interest pursuant to the Members Code of Conduct, Local Government Act 2000, within the capacity of signatory of the application from Louise Giovanelli and took no part in the decision.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

A total of £2,588 was allocated at meeting 5 of the Welsh Church Fund Committee, Thus, £12,186 remains available for distribution within the financial year.

A total of £2,750 was allocated at meeting 6 of the Welsh Church Fund Committee, Thus, £9,436 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. Burrows, P.A. Fox, E. Hackett Pain, P. Hobson, G. Howard and P. Murphy.

OTHER ELECTED MEMBERS PRESENT:

County Councillors D. Batrouni, S. Howarth, P. Jones, J. Prosser and V. Smith.

INTEREST DECLARED:

None

AUTHOR:

David Jarrett – Central Finance Management Accountant

CONTACT DETAILS:

Tel. 01633 644657

e-mail: daveJarrett@monmouthshire.gov.uk

**CABINET
DECISION RECORDING LOG**

DECISION DETERMINED ON: 18th MARCH 2015

DECISION WILL COME INTO EFFECT ON: 27th MARCH 2015
(Subject to "Call-in" by appropriate Select Committee)

SUBJECT: 2014/15 EDUCATION AND WELSH CHURCH TRUST FUNDS INVESTMENT AND FUND STRATEGIES

DIVISION//WARD AFFECTED: ALL AUTHORITY

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this report is to present to Cabinet for approval the 2015/16 Investment and Fund strategy for Trust Funds for which the Authority acts as sole or custodian trustee for adoption and to approve the 2015/16 grant allocation to Local Authority beneficiaries of the Welsh Church Fund.

DECISION:

1. That the proposed Investment and Fund Strategy for 2015/16 for the Monmouthshire Farm School Endowment Trust Fund be approved.
2. That the proposed Investment and Fund Strategy for 2015/16 for the Welsh Church Fund be approved.
3. To delegate responsibility for the execution and administration of treasury management decisions to the Head of Finance (S151 officer) who will act in accordance with the Investment and Funds Strategy (appendix 2).
4. To extend the contract with Arlingclose as treasury advisor to the Welsh Church Act Fund to provide ongoing advice and support on investments from 1st April 2015 until 31st March 2016 in line with the Treasury Management contract for the Council.

5. To approve the 2015/16 grant allocation to Local Authority beneficiaries to the Monmouthshire Welsh Church Act Fund of £160,000 to be distributed in accordance with population shares as per the 2010 Census.

REASONS:

1. To produce an annual Investment and Fund Strategy in order that the Authority fulfills its responsibilities as corporate and sole trustee in order to comply with the Trustee Act 2000.
2. To approve the 2015/16 grant allocation for the Welsh Church Fund, enabling constituent Local Authorities to make qualifying grant allocations under the Welsh Church Fund Trust Scheme.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

1. The grant allocation to beneficiaries of the Welsh Church Fund is set in the context of the fund balance being maintained over the long term. It is funded through net income generated through investment returns.
2. The appointment of a dedicated treasury advisor to the Welsh Church Fund will be an ongoing annual charge against the Fund. However, in light of the revised treasury strategy which attracts more treasury risk it is deemed prudent and it is anticipated will be more than outweighed by increased investment returns. The fee negotiated is considered to be competitive and further efficiencies are generated from the Authority dealing with one advisor for its treasury advice.

CONSULTEES:

Strategic Leadership Team
Cabinet Members
Head of Legal Services

CABINET MEMBERS PRESENT:

County Councillors G. Burrows, P.A. Fox, E. Hackett Pain, P. Hobson, G. Howard and P. Murphy.

OTHER ELECTED MEMBERS PRESENT:

County Councillors D. Batrouni, S. Howarth and V. Smith.

INTEREST DECLARED:

None

AUTHOR:

Joy Robson – Head of Finance

CONTACT DETAILS:

E-mail: joyrobson@monmouthshire.gov.uk

Tel: 01633 644270

**CABINET
DECISION RECORDING LOG**

DECISION DETERMINED ON: 18th MARCH 2015

DECISION WILL COME INTO EFFECT ON: 27th MARCH 2015
(Subject to "Call-in" by appropriate Select Committee)

SUBJECT: SEVERNSIDE 3G PITCH CALDICOT

DIVISION//WARD AFFECTED: ALL WARDS IN THE LOWER WYE AND SEVERNSIDE AREAS

PURPOSE:

1. To advise Cabinet of an overspend on the project for the new 3G pitch at the Caldicot School/Leisure Centre site;
2. To recommend to elected members the use of balances accrued from another Section 106 Agreement in the area to offset the overspend so that this does not impact on other projects in the Capital Programme.

DECISION:

1. Cabinet recommends to Council that the gross expenditure budget for the Severnside 3G project is increased from £660,000 to £718,000
2. Cabinet recommends to Council that this is funded by
 - a contribution of £5,000 from Caldicot Comprehensive School;
 - a contribution of £53,000 from the balances held by the County Council in respect of the Church Road (3) Caldicot (Taylor Wimpey) development site

REASONS:

1. The reasons for the overspend on the contract can be attributed mainly to previously unforeseen poor ground conditions and flooding issues on the school/leisure centre site.
2. The recommendation to fund the outstanding overspend on the 3G contract is to avoid any knock on effect to other projects in the capital programme.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

1. An overspend of £71,000 has been incurred on the contract for a new 3G pitch on the Caldicot School/Leisure Centre site. This is due to £56,000 in relation to stabilising the ground conditions and £15,000 for remedial flood works. These overspends can be partially offset by a reduction of £13,000 on the internal fees relating to the design and supervision of the contract, leaving a new overspend of £58,000;
2. To partially offset this overspend Caldicot Comprehensive School has contributed £5,000 from its balances;
3. To avoid the remaining net overspend of £53,000 having a negative impact on the overall capital programme or on specific projects within that programme, it is proposed to utilise some of the balances held by the Council in respect of the Church Road Caldicot (3) development site (the Taylor Wimpey site – Finance Code N574). The off site recreation contribution received from the developer of that site is £162,288 and £17,500 has been earmarked from this sum to partially offset the previously unforeseen cost of the sewer diversion works;
4. Potential additional works not proceeded with have been estimated as follows:
 - Improved site drainage - £19,504
 - Upgrade electrical supply - £25,500
 - Site security fencing - £3,068
5. If members agree to go ahead with the additional sections of bow top fencing in order to maintain site security (para 3.7 of the report refers) then the amount to be offset against the Church Road (3) Section 106 Agreement will increase from £53,000 to £56,000.
6. The budget mandate for 2015/16 includes an income target of £30,000 for the new 3G pitch in its first full year of operation. This income target involves creating new users of the facility but, if the electrical supply is not upgraded before September 2015, then this will impair the ability of the service to create new income, as it will need to transfer existing bookings (and therefore existing income) from the ATP onto the new 3G pitch.

CONSULTEES:

Cabinet Members
Local County Council Members for Caldicot
Strategic Leadership Team

Caldicot Town Council
Head of Legal Services
Economy Select Committee (via email)
Assistant Head of Finance/Deputy S151 Officer
Monitoring Officer

CABINET MEMBERS PRESENT:

County Councillors G. Burrows, P.A. Fox, E. Hackett Pain, P. Hobson, G. Howard and P. Murphy.

OTHER ELECTED MEMBERS PRESENT:

County Councillors D. Batrouni, S. Howarth and V. Smith.

INTEREST DECLARED:

None

AUTHOR:

Mike Moran, Community Infrastructure Coordinator

CONTACT DETAILS:

Email: mikemoran@monmouthshire.gov.uk

Tel: 07901 854682

**CABINET
DECISION RECORDING LOG**

DECISION DETERMINED ON: 18th MARCH 2015

DECISION WILL COME INTO EFFECT ON: 27th MARCH 2015
(Subject to "Call-in" by appropriate Select Committee)

SUBJECT: RESTRUCTURE OF DISABILITY SERVICES TEAM – BUDGET MANDATE IMPLEMENTATION

DIVISION//WARD AFFECTED: ALL

PURPOSE:

To seek approval for the implementation of the proposal set out in Mandate 10 to restructure the disability services staffing establishment to deliver agreed budget savings

DECISION:

1. The restructure is agreed and implemented; resulting in the deletion of one post.
2. In the event of redeployment not being successful, approval is given for redundancy costs that cannot be met by the service to be funded from reserves, in line with common practice.

REASONS:

The post is no longer needed as people who use the service are able to access a variety of different meal time options which are more suited to how they spend their day engaged in meaningful activities within the community. These proposals will improve the financial efficiency and deliver agreed budget savings in 2015/16.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

Budget area	Existing Staffing	Saving due to post deletion	New Staffing Total
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	Budget		
Ty'r Fenni	275,549	£12,860 (inc 2% efficiency saving)	262,689
Total	275,549	£12,860	262,689

1. The new structure will be implemented from 1st April 2015 and will result in a full year efficiency saving of £12,860, thus delivering the savings set out in the mandate 10.
2. We will be seeking all redeployment opportunities within the Council.

CONSULTEES:

The Social Care and Health Directorate Management Team
SCH Finance Team
Employee Services
Post holder
Trade Union (Unison)

CABINET MEMBERS PRESENT:

County Councillors G. Burrows, P.A. Fox, E. Hackett Pain, P. Hobson, G. Howard and P. Murphy.

OTHER ELECTED MEMBERS PRESENT:

County Councillors D. Batrouni, S. Howarth, and V. Smith.

INTEREST DECLARED:

None

AUTHOR:

Ceri York, Group Manager Service Delivery and Commissioning

CONTACT DETAILS:

E-mail: ceriyork@monmouthshire.gov.uk
Tel: 01633 644933