

Public Document Pack



County Hall
Rhadyr
Usk
NP15 1GA

Wednesday, 29 November 2023

Notice of Reports Received following Publication of Agenda.

County Council

Thursday, 7th December, 2023 at 2.00 pm,
Council Chamber - Council Chamber

Attached are reports that the committee will consider as part of the original agenda but were submitted to democratic services following publication of the agenda.

Item No	Item	Pages
8.	OUTCOME of CALL-IN OF DEVELOPING THE FUTURE OF MY DAY MY LIFE BASES	1 - 8

Paul Matthews
Chief Executive

This page is intentionally left blank

**SUBJECT: REPORT OF THE PLACE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE: CALL-IN OF
'DEVELOPING THE FUTURE OF THE MY DAY MY LIFE BASES'**

MEETING: Council

DATE: 7th December 2023

DIVISION/WARDS AFFECTED: All

1. PURPOSE:

- 1.1 To provide Council the opportunity to consider the decision taken by Cabinet on 15th November concerning 'Developing the Future of the My Day My Life Bases'. This follows the call-in of the decision and the subsequent recommendation of the People Scrutiny Committee to refer the matter to full Council.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That Council considers the discussion held at the People Scrutiny Committee and makes a decision whether to:
- i) Accept the Cabinet Decision; or
 - ii) Refer the Decision to Cabinet for reconsideration (with reasons)

3. KEY ISSUES:

- 3.1 The Council's Constitution gives scrutiny committees the right to call-in, for reconsideration, decisions made but not yet implemented by the Cabinet. This is one of the ways in which the executive can be held to account.
- 3.2 The Constitution requires that a Scrutiny Meeting is held within 15 working days of the receipt of a call-in of an Executive decision to consider the call-in request. Following debate of the issue, the Committee can either:
- Accept the Cabinet decision; or
 - Refer the matter back to the Cabinet with reasons; or
 - Refer the matter to full Council for consideration with reasons.
- 3.3 On 15th November 2023, Cabinet considered a report recommending:

That Cabinet considers the findings of the options appraisal and the recommendations set out in the My Day, My Life Future Bases Final Options Appraisal report, and agrees the following recommendations:

- (i) As per the options appraisal and consultation that has already been undertaken the Melville Centre for the Arts will be the long-term base for MDML and we will now proceed to make this building more accessible and suitable. Whilst this work is being undertaken the MDML service is also able to use the Wellbeing Centre in Abergavenny.

- (ii) That support will be provided to interested groups to assist them in developing their proposals for providing community-based support for a range of people in Abergavenny. Support will include being able to use the Wellbeing Centre in Abergavenny as a base for their current activities and meetings; and advice about the developing business proposals.
 - (iii) That the decision regarding Tudor Street building is deferred until the end of this financial year. This will allow any interested groups that might be interested in the building the opportunity to come forward with their proposals.
 - (iv) That a review of community-based support for people with learning disabilities in Monmouthshire is undertaken.
- 3.4 On the 11th October, Cabinet agreed that the new base for the My Day My Life service in Monmouth would be the Overmonnow Family Learning Centre. The decision about a base for My Day My Life in Abergavenny was deferred to allow further engagement with interested community-based groups and further consideration of the options.
- 3.5 The report taken to Cabinet on 15th November 2023 subsequently presented the findings of the final options appraisal for the proposed future My Day, My Life bases in Abergavenny, and sought approval of the recommended base (as per the recommendations above in paragraph 3.3). The decision resolved by Cabinet on 15th November was to accept the recommendations set out in paragraph 3.3.
- 3.7 A review of the My Day My Life Service was undertaken between November 2022 - March 2023 by Practice Solutions Ltd. The final review report was produced in March 2023 with recommendations to the council for the future for the My Day, My Life service. The review made 10 recommendations for the service's future development which were scrutinised by People Scrutiny Committee on 18th July 2023 together with the Council's response to the review and the implementation plan. The People Scrutiny Committee offered broad support and expressed a desire that the work be progressed at pace. The review of the My Day My Life Service was agreed in full by Cabinet on 26th July 2023.
- 3.7 The decision was subsequently called in for the following reasons:
- Lack of pre-decision scrutiny
 - Lack of proper community and service user engagement
- 3.8 The Special People Scrutiny Committee held on 1st December 2023 considered the call-in of this decision and the Members who called in the decision outlined their reasons for doing so. The Cabinet Member for Social Care, Safeguarding and Accessible Health Services attended and provided his response.
- 3.9 The Cabinet decision report provides full context of the background and key issues relating to the decision taken on 15th November 2023, outlined in sections 3 and 4 together with an options appraisal provided under section 5, accessed via [Agenda for Cabinet on Wednesday, 15th November, 2023, 5.00 pm \(monmouthshire.gov.uk\)](https://www.monmouthshire.gov.uk/agenda/cabinet-on-wednesday-15th-november-2023-5.00-pm) .
- 3.10 Appendix 1 provides the formal minute of the call-in and a fuller account of the debate being available via [Agenda for People Scrutiny Committee on Friday, 1st December, 2023, 10.00 am \(monmouthshire.gov.uk\)](https://www.monmouthshire.gov.uk/agenda/people-scrutiny-committee-on-friday-1st-december-2023-10.00-am) .
- 3.11 Relating to the specific matters raised in the calling-in of the decision, the debate that took place led the Committee to confirm its intention to refer the decision for

reconsideration, and following a vote, the majority agreed to refer the decision to full council for the reasons outlined below:

- Members have reservations about the decision and concerns about the robustness of the consultation process carried out with service users.
- Doubts that the remit of My Day, My Life fits with a building such as the Melville Theatre.
- There were continuing concerns of various members about the consultation process and the decisions relating to the My Day My Life bases indicate a fault in the administration's decision-making.
- Concerns about accessibility at Melville Theatre.
- Concerns about communication with service users.

3.12 Following a vote, four Members agreed to accept the Cabinet's decision and five Members agreed to refer the decision to full Council, which was carried.

4.0 EQUALITY AND FUTURE GENERATIONS EVALUATION (INCLUDES SOCIAL JUSTICE, SAFEGUARDING AND CORPORATE PARENTING):

4.1 There are no direct considerations from this report.

5. EVALUATION CRITERIA

5.1 Not applicable.

6. REASONS:

6.1 To refer the Cabinet's decision taken on 15th November 2023 on Developing the Future of the My Day My Life Bases to full Council for the reasons outlined above.

7. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

7.1 There are no direct resource implications arising from this report.

8. CONSULTEES:

Chief Officer People, Performance and Partnerships

9. BACKGROUND PAPERS:

Appendix 1: Draft Minutes of the People Scrutiny Committee held on 1st November 2023 on Developing the Future of the My Day My Life Bases.

10. AUTHOR:

Hazel Ilett, Scrutiny Manager

11. CONTACT DETAILS:

Tel: 01633 644233

E-mail: hazelilett@monmouthshire.gov.uk

This page is intentionally left blank

Monmouthshire Select Committee Minutes

Meeting of People Scrutiny Committee held at The Council Chamber, County Hall, Rhadyr, Usk, NP15 1GA with remote attendance on Friday, 1st December, 2023 at 10.00 am

Councillors Present

County Councillor John Crook (Chairman)
County Councillor Jackie Strong (Vice Chairman)

County Councillors: Fay Bromfield,
Christopher Edwards, Simon Howarth,
Penny Jones, Sue Riley, Ian Chandler, Tony Kear
(substituting for Maureen Powell), Peter Strong
(substituting for Maria Stevens)

Also in attendance County Councillors: Frances
Taylor, Ian Chandler, Cabinet Member for Social
Care, Safeguarding and Accessible Health
Services and Martyn Groucutt, Cabinet Member
for Education

Officers in Attendance

Hazel Ilett, Scrutiny Manager
Robert McGowan, Policy and Scrutiny Officer
Matthew Gatehouse, Chief Officer People,
Performance and Partnerships.
Clare Morgan, Service Manager, All Age Disability
and Mental Health
Paige Moseley, Solicitor
Ceri York, Group Manager Service Development
and Commissioning
Jenny Jenkins, Head of Adult Services

APOLOGIES: County Councillors Richard John, Maureen Powell and Maria Stevens, and Jane Rogers Chief Officer for Social Care, Safeguarding and Accessible Health Services

1. Declarations of Interest.

None

2. Public Open Forum.

Two written representations had been received in advance of the People Scrutiny Committee meeting and these had been distributed to committee members, the Cabinet Member and Officers. A video submission had also been received from Professor David Abbot, which was played at the meeting.

3. Call-in of the decision by Cabinet of 15th November 2023 in relation to developing the future of My Day My Life Bases.

The Scrutiny Manager explained the Call-in process, as outlined in the Council's Constitution. Councillor Kear spoke as the Call-in Lead, detailing the reasons for calling in the decision, as stated in the Call-in request. Councillor Howarth also outlined his reasons for the call-in.

Key points raised by Call-in Members:

- Concerns about the consistency and thoroughness of the consultation process.

- Concern about the evidence base for the decision and a feeling the process is flawed.
- Concerns about the suitability of the venue proposed for the service in Abergavenny and concerns around the funding plans for ensuring the accessibility of the building.
- Concern around the robustness of the strategy overall.
- Concern that the decision is being rushed and that scrutiny members have not had the opportunity to inspect wider background information that they feel is relevant to their scrutiny of the decision.

Cabinet Member Ian Chandler responded to the points of the call-in and answered the members' questions with Jenny Jenkins, Head of Adult Services. The Cabinet Member addressed the specific grounds for the call-in of the decision, outlining the pre-decision scrutiny that had been undertaken by the committee on 18th July prior to the Cabinet consideration of the matter on 11th October 2023, prior to the decision taken on 15th November 2023. He recognised the commitment by elected members in scrutinising the decision, but commented that the scrutiny process had been robust. He also provided an explanation of the consultation process undertaken and the positive engagement of service users in the process.

The Head of Adult Services confirmed that service users are still receiving the service, but that there is a need to move toward an inclusive and vibrant service as soon as possible.

Key points raised by Committee Members:

- The suitability of the Melville Theatre building was raised and some members spoke of concerns around accessibility.
- Some members expressed their desire that the decision be accepted and that the transformation of the service be progressed with a pace.
- A member expressed doubt that the remit of My Day, My Life fits with a building such as the Melville Theatre.
- There were continuing concerns of various members about the consultation process and the decisions relating to the My Day My Life bases, indicating a fault in the administration's decision-making.
- There were concerns about the communication with service users.

Formal Outcome of the Scrutiny (Chair's Summary):

Following significant debate which can be (in significant part) accessed via the live stream, the Committee proceeded to a vote:

Four Members agreed to accept the Cabinet decision. Five Members agreed to refer the decision to full Council, for the following reasons:

Members have reservations about the decision and concerns about the robustness of the consultation process carried out with service users.

The decision to refer the matter to Council was carried.

The meeting ended at **11.28 am**

This page is intentionally left blank