

**INDIVIDUAL CABINET MEMBER DECISIONS
DECISION RECORDING LOG**

DECISION DETERMINED ON: Wednesday, 24 February 2016

DECISION WILL COME INTO EFFECT ON: Friday, 4th March 2016
(Subject to "Call-in" by appropriate Select Committee)

DECISION 1

SUBJECT: Various Restrictions and Provisions of Parking, (Agincourt Square and Priory Street, Monmouth)

DIVISION/WARD AFFECTED: Drybridge

PURPOSE:

To consider the proposed Order subsequent to representations received following advertisement in accordance with the Local Authorities Traffic Orders (Procedure) (England and Wales) Regulations 1994.

DECISION:

Not to hold an inquiry into the proposal

Approved the proposed Order as consulted and advertised upon to implement the Order.

REASONS:

Several onsite visits have been undertaken by officers to observe and assess the current parking provisions and restrictions and how this locality operates in terms of traffic flows and unnecessary obstructions to the free flow of traffic in this town center location. Officers have liaised closely with Gwent Police (prior to formalizing measures and drafting this proposed Traffic Order) in order to consider appropriate solutions to the traffic problems being regularly experienced here.

The proposed traffic order is necessary to address long standing concerns regarding obstructions to the free flow of traffic in this town center which adversely affects the economy of the Town and its business's.

Regulation 9 of the Local Authorities' Traffic Orders (Procedure) (England and Wales) Regulations 1996 enables the Council to hold a public inquiry into the proposal if there are unresolved objections. The purpose of such an inquiry would be for the proposal to be explained and subjected to examination; and for the public to be given the opportunity to make their views known. Should a public inquiry be held then it would not be possible for it to be implemented for at least six months.

Officers consider that in view of the fact that no objections have been received as set out in the report, that the Council's proposals do not warrant the holding of any inquiry.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

The costs of the proposed Traffic Regulation Order, road markings and signage are being funded by Monmouthshire County Council and are included in the current road safety and traffic management programme.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

There are no sustainability and equality implications.

SAFEGUARDING AND CORPORATE PARENTING IMPLICATIONS

None

CONSULTEES:

Senior Leadership Team
County Councillor B Jones, Cabinet Member for County Operations
County Councillor A.Wintle

AUTHOR:

Paul Keeble, Traffic & Network Manager

CONTACT DETAILS

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SIGNATURE:

In taking this decision, I declare that I have no personal interest as defined under the County Council's Code of Conduct for Members.

Signed:

Dated:

Cabinet Member for County Operations

DECISION 2

SUBJECT: Transfer of Post from Aneurin Bevan University Health Board to MCC

DIVISION/WARD AFFECTED: All Wards

PURPOSE:

To transfer the joint post of 'Planning and Commissioning Assistant' currently employed by Aneurin Bevan University Health Board to the employment of Monmouthshire County Council.

DECISION:

The employing agency for the post of Planning and Commissioning Officer is transferred from Aneurin Bevan University Health Board to Monmouthshire County Council by the creation of a new post within the Carers Team from existing funding from the Carers budget. The post would be at Band F for 15 hours per week. This is in line with the current equivalent posts in the Authority.

REASONS:

ABUHB have given notice that they wish to end the current arrangement which is essentially now a secondment to MCC and an anomaly in their staffing structure. The post-holder has indicated that she wishes to continue working for the MCC Carers Team.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

MCC currently pay ABUHB £9,068 per annum for the 2 days' work. On ABUHB rates this would equate to 1.5 days work. ABUHB have never charged for the shortfall in the funding.

The proposed new post will continue at the current hours of 2 days per week (15 hours at Band F - SCP 29 – £10,314). With on-costs this will be £12,965. Therefore it will require e extra funding of £3,897 over current spend.

The shortfall in funding has been budgeted for from the Carers budget (S.160).

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

The significant equality impacts identified in the assessment (Appendix 1) are summarised below for members' consideration:

There are no significant impacts. The post has been effectively working in MCC for 10 years.

The actual impacts from this report's recommendations will be reviewed every year and criteria for monitoring and review will include:

The effectiveness of the work of the post monitored through supervision and appraisal.

SAFEGUARDING AND CORPORATE PARENTING IMPLICATIONS

N/A

CONSULTEES:

Bronwen John – ABUHB
Julie Boothroyd – Head of Adult Services
Ailsa Macbean – Group Manager

AUTHOR:

Bernard Boniface, Adult Protection Manager

CONTACT DETAILS

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SIGNATURE:

In taking this decision, I declare that I have no personal interest as defined under the County Council's Code of Conduct for Members.

Signed:

Dated:

Cabinet Member for Social Care,
Safeguarding and Health

DECISION 3

SUBJECT: Purchase of an area of Land for Highway Use at Poplars Road, Mardy, Abergavenny

DIVISION/WARD AFFECTED: Mardy

PURPOSE:

To seek approval for the purchase of an area of land for highway use.

DECISION:

Approved the purchase of a piece of land utilised for part of a recently constructed footway.

REASONS:

The purchase is required to obtain title to the land used for footway improvements.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

The costs will be met from the Councils highways budget.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

No significant impacts

SAFEGUARDING AND CORPORATE PARENTING IMPLICATIONS

NONE

CONSULTEES:

Local Member
Head of Legal Services
Estates Manager

AUTHOR:

Peter Woodrow, Traffic & Development

CONTACT DETAILS

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Tel: 01633 644781

SIGNATURE:

In taking this decision, I declare that I have no personal interest as defined under the County Council's Code of Conduct for Members.

Signed:

Dated:

Cabinet Member for County Operations

DECISION 4

SUBJECT: Early Years & Childcare Development Officer

DIVISION/WARD AFFECTED: All Wards

PURPOSE:

To employ an Early Years & Childcare Development Officer to provide support and guidance to further improve the quality of childcare provision and support the implementation of the Healthy and Sustainable Pre-School Scheme in childcare settings across Monmouthshire.

DECISION:

Approved the post of Early Years & Childcare Development Officer.

REASONS:

The Childcare Sufficiency Assessment 2014-17 and subsequent Refresh have highlighted gaps in the childcare market but there are currently no staff with the capacity to develop additional childcare provision.

Welsh Government has a 10 year plan for the Early Years, Childcare and Play Workforce so there are a lot of changes taking place; this includes changes to the National Minimum Standards and extension of the age at which children require registration. This post holder would be able to keep settings informed of these changes and organise training to ensure they comply with National Minimum Standards.

The post holder will provide business support to childcare providers to improve sustainability.

There are currently settings on a waiting list to take part in the Healthy & Sustainable Pre-School Scheme but, without this post, there is not the capacity to take on any more settings.

In Monmouthshire, 23.3% of children aged 4-5 years are overweight or obese; this is lower than the all Wales figure of 26.5% but there are still targets we need to meet around childhood obesity.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

The post will initially be offered on a one year contract and will be fully grant funded.

Public Health Wales have allocated Monmouthshire a grant of £15,000 from April 2016 – March 2017 in order to tackle childhood obesity. They have agreed that this funding can be utilised towards an Early Years & Childcare Development Officer, with specific targets around preventing obesity.

Welsh Government have allocated an Out of School Childcare Grant of £70,785 from April 2016 – March 2017 in order to meet any gaps highlighted by the Childcare Sufficiency Assessment and to raise the quality of childcare provision; £15,000 of this grant has been allocated towards this post.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

The Equality Impact Assessment and Sustainable Development Checklist is attached. The main positive impact of this proposal is around meeting our statutory duty to ensure there is sufficient childcare provision in Monmouthshire to meet the needs of working parents; this will contribute to the wellbeing goals of creating a more equal and prosperous Wales. Childcare workers will be well trained and better informed, hence raising the quality of childcare provision.

The proposal also contributes towards the wellbeing goal of creating a healthier Wales where health impacts are understood, as all settings will have the opportunity to join the Healthy & Sustainable Pre-School Scheme and interventions will be put in place to prevent childhood obesity and develop a holistic approach to Health and Wellbeing. The only negative impact is around discontinuing the financial support given to Clybiau Plant Cymru Kids' Clubs (CPCKC).

SAFEGUARDING AND CORPORATE PARENTING IMPLICATIONS

CONSULTEES:

The Early Years Development & Childcare Partnership (EYDCP) have discussed and approved the post.

AUTHOR:

Sue Hall, Early Years Manager

CONTACT DETAILS

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Tel: Tel: 01633 644461

SIGNATURE:

In taking this decision, I declare that I have no personal interest as defined under the County Council's Code of Conduct for Members.

Signed:

Dated:

DECISION 5

SUBJECT: Redundancy Request

DIVISION/WARD AFFECTED:

PURPOSE:

To approve the redundancy of the Revenues Team Manager within the Revenues, Systems and Exchequer Team.

DECISION:

That redundancy costs of £24,918.36 be met from the Revenues, Systems and Exchequer's 2015/16 Revenue Budget. However should this not be possible the costs will be met from the Redundancy and Pensions Reserve.

REASONS:

To approve the redundancy costs for the Revenues Team Manager, as part of the restructure of the Revenues, Systems and Exchequer Team, approved by Cabinet on 7th May 2014.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

The Authority's Protection of Employment and Severance Policy provides that employees whose employment is terminated as result of redundancy will be entitled to enhanced redundancy. In this instance this equates to a redundancy payment of £24,918.36.

This redundancy cost has been included in the month 9 revenue outturn forecast for the Revenues, Systems and Exchequer Team. However if the position changes and it is not possible to pay this redundancy from the departmental budget, funding is requested from reserves.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

There are no sustainable development or equality implications linked with this report.

SAFEGUARDING AND CORPORATE PARENTING IMPLICATIONS

There are no safeguarding or corporate parenting implications linked with this report.

CONSULTEES:

Strategic Leadership Team
All Cabinet Members
Head of Finance
Head of Legal

AUTHOR:

Ruth Donovan, Assistant Head of Finance, Revenues, Systems & Exchequer

CONTACT DETAILS

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SIGNATURE:

In taking this decision, I declare that I have no personal interest as defined under the County Council's Code of Conduct for Members.

Signed:

Dated:

Cabinet Member for Resources

DECISION 6

SUBJECT: Change to the structure of Families First TAF team. (Joint Assessment Family Framework - Team around the Family)

DIVISION/WARD AFFECTED: All Wards

PURPOSE:

To seek approval to appoint an additional Team Around the Family (TAF) Project Officer to provide increased capacity to support families with additional needs earlier and prevent escalation into crisis and support requirements from statutory services.

DECISION:

Added to the establishment one new temporary post, TAF Project Officers. The post will be for a fixed-term – up to 31st March 2017.

REASONS:

It is our intention to increase our TAF resource in order to support more families in Monmouthshire via the TAF approach. As a proportion of overall Families First Funding this is relatively small budget compared to other local authorities who have larger teams involved in the direct delivery of TAF.

We have invested in developing multi-agency Joint Assessment Family Framework (JAFF) panels and our focus has been to deploy volunteer 'lead workers' to lead on the co-ordination of the family's support package.

This approach, has in the most part served Families First well during the initial implementation. However, it has become apparent that partner organisations are unable to take on the lead worker role to the extent that is required. We hope to minimise existing barriers around capacity for lead workers via the plans outlined.

In October, we received a Single Member Decision to appoint 2 x TAF Project Officer whilst making the existing Business Support Officer role redundant. This enabled us to

increase our capacity in terms of TAF cases from 70 to 120. Under this proposal, we aim to further increase the amount of cases completing the TAF process – from 120 to 160 annually.

Bringing the tackling poverty programmes together (Communities First, Supporting People, Flying Start and Families First) is a key objective for Welsh Government's Communities and Tackling Poverty Division and Team around the Family (TAF) is being championed as the mechanism for identifying the needs of the individual and brokering appropriate provision.

The Social Services and Wellbeing Act which is likely to result in an increase in 'Children in Need' being referred to Families First and TAF.

Another important objective is to increase the number of families in tier 2 (lower levels of support needs) who benefit from TAF and Families First preventative work. The additional TAF Project Officer will enable more early intervention work to be completed where the Support Workers pick up the more complex cases so voluntary lead workers can be allocated more lower level tier 2 cases.

The proposed caseload for a JAFF support worker would consist of 30 -40 per annum.

The additional member of staff will allow the provision of more support for volunteer lead workers to manage timescales and support families more effectively.

In order to increase referrals the TAF Co-ordinator will prioritise building partnerships and promoting awareness of the service with agencies, professionals and families in Monmouthshire.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

The proposal will be paid for from within our 2016-17 Welsh Government Families First budget.

The WG Families First funding will be used to appoint:

- Fixed-term Temporary Families First TAF Project Officer - up to 31st March 2017
- Salary Scale: Band E, SCP 21 – 25 (£19,742 - £22,212)

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

This proposal has stemmed from a review of Families First Projects after receiving notification of a £86,061 reduction in funding for 2016-17. We have reviewed existing delivery by TAF and commissioned projects and we are confident that this proposal provides us with a more sustainable Families First model moving forward.

During this process we have been able to identify a number of key areas for development, which this proposal aims to target. The new structure will:

- Increase the number of families supported by Families First Team around the Family.
- Allow the Co-ordinator to focus on developing strategic partnerships, promote the service, develop stronger links with social services, update operational guidelines; and support the training and development of volunteer lead workers.

- Enable us to provide more support to volunteer lead workers.

SAFEGUARDING AND CORPORATE PARENTING IMPLICATIONS

The posts will be subject to CRB checks as per Mon CC procedures.

CONSULTEES:

AUTHOR:

Andrew Kirby, Families First Programme Manager

CONTACT DETAILS

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SIGNATURE:

In taking this decision, I declare that I have no personal interest as defined under the County Council's Code of Conduct for Members.

Signed:

Dated:

Cabinet Member for Social Care,
Safeguarding and Health

DECISION 7

SUBJECT: Usk Play Project - Lottery Bid

DIVISION/WARD AFFECTED: Usk

PURPOSE:

To inform members about a proposed Big Lottery application for capital funding for the replacement of play equipment in the Council owned children's play area on the Old Cattle Market Field, Usk.

DECISION:

The Council agreed to make application to Big Lottery for funding for upgraded play equipment and agree to collaborate with Usk Play Project voluntary group on the redevelopment of the play area.

That a capital budget is set up subject to receipt of the external funding.

REASONS:

To provide a modern, accessible and inclusive equipped play area for the children of Usk and neighbouring villages and provide for the development needs of the users.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

There are no resource implications arising from this report except the cost to insure, inspect and maintain the play area, for which there is an existing revenue provision.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

SAFEGUARDING AND CORPORATE PARENTING IMPLICATIONS

CONSULTEES:

Cabinet Members
Local Member
Countryside Manager
Leadership Team
Head of Legal Services

AUTHOR:

Tim Bradfield

CONTACT DETAILS

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SIGNATURE:

In taking this decision, I declare that I have no personal interest as defined under the County Council's Code of Conduct for Members.

Signed:

Dated:

Cabinet Member for Innovation, Enterprise &
Leisure