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County Hall
Rhadyr
Usk
NP15 1GA

Wednesday, 5 May 2021

Notice of meeting

County Council

Thursday, 13th May, 2021 at 2.00 pm,
Remote Meeting

AGENDA

Prayers will be said prior to the Council meeting at 1.50pm. All members are welcome to join the Chairman for prayers should they wish to do.

Item No	Item	Pages
1.	Apologies for absence	
2.	Declarations of interest	
3.	To elect a Chairman of the County Council for the Civic Year 2021/22	
4.	To appoint a Vice-Chairman of the County Council for the Civic Year 2021/22	
5.	Public Questions	
6.	Receipt of petitions	
7.	To elect the Leader of the Council and to receive notification of Leader delegations (appointments to the Cabinet)	
8.	Representation of Political Groups	1 - 10
9.	Appointments to Committees	11 - 38
10.	Appointments to Outside Bodies	39 - 50
11.	Freedom of the Borough - Royal British Legion (RBL)	51 - 54
12.	Members Questions	
12.1.	From County Councillor M. Groucutt to County Councillor R. Greenland	

<p>13.</p>	<p>The two Inspire programmes – Inspire to Achieve and Inspire to Work – both seek to support young people who have complex home backgrounds, and who are among our most vulnerable and challenging. The programmes are currently funded by the European Union and matched funding from the county council. The present funding period expires in December 2022 and, although talks are underway to prepare a bid under the Shared Prosperity Fund, there is currently nothing definite in place to continue the current provision. Even if alternatives to the current programmes are agreed, there might be a potential gap in funding. This would mean that the current, very experienced team who deliver the programmes in our four secondary schools, face an uncertain future, as do the schemes themselves.</p> <p>Can the cabinet member for enterprise give assurances that the county council will do all within its powers to ensure that equivalent funding is made available once the current EU funding stream ends, including the provision of any short-term support to plug a gap should a new funding stream not be agreed by the time the current provision ends?</p> <p>To confirm the minutes of the meeting of County Council held on 11th March 2021</p>	<p>55 - 64</p>
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Paul Matthews

Chief Executive / Prif Weithredwr

MONMOUTHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
CYNGOR SIR FYNWY

THE CONSTITUTION OF THE COMMITTEE IS AS FOLLOWS:

County Councillor Peter Clarke	Llangybi Fawr;	Welsh Conservative Party
County Councillor Dimitri Batrouni	St. Christophers;	Welsh Labour/Llafur Cymru
County Councillor Jeremy Becker	St. Mary's;	Liberal Democrats
County Councillor Debby Blakebrough	Trellech United;	Independent Group
County Councillor Louise Brown	Shirenewton;	Welsh Conservative Party
County Councillor Alan Davies	Green Lane;	Independent
County Councillor Lisa Dymock	The Elms;	Welsh Conservative Party
County Councillor Tony Easson	Dewstow;	Welsh Labour/Llafur Cymru
County Councillor Christopher Edwards	St. Kingsmark;	Welsh Conservative Party
County Councillor Peter Clarke	Llangybi Fawr;	Welsh Conservative Party
County Councillor Dimitri Batrouni	St. Christophers;	Welsh Labour/Llafur Cymru
County Councillor Jeremy Becker	St. Mary's;	Liberal Democrats
County Councillor Debby Blakebrough	Trellech United;	Independent Group
County Councillor Louise Brown	Shirenewton;	Welsh Conservative Party
County Councillor Alan Davies	Green Lane;	Independent
County Councillor Lisa Dymock	The Elms;	Welsh Conservative Party
County Councillor Tony Easson	Dewstow;	Welsh Labour/Llafur Cymru
County Councillor Ruth Edwards	Llantilio Crossenny;	Welsh Conservative Party
County Councillor David Evans	West End;	Welsh Labour/Llafur Cymru
County Councillor Mat Feakins	Drybridge;	Welsh Conservative Party
County Councillor Peter Fox	Portskewett;	Welsh Conservative Party
County Councillor Robert Greenland	Devauden;	Welsh Conservative Party
County Councillor Martyn Groucutt	Lansdown;	Welsh Labour/Llafur Cymru
County Councillor Linda Guppy	Rogiet;	Liberal Democrats
County Councillor Roger Harris	Croesonen;	Welsh Labour/Llafur Cymru
County Councillor Jim Higginson	Severn;	Welsh Labour/Llafur Cymru
County Councillor Giles Howard	Llanfoist Fawr;	Welsh Conservative Party
County Councillor Simon Howarth	Llanelly Hill;	Independent Group
County Councillor Richard John	Mitchel Troy;	Welsh Conservative Party
County Councillor Dave Jones	Crucorney;	Independent Group
County Councillor Laura Jones	Wyesham;	Welsh Conservative Party
County Councillor Penny Jones	Raglan;	Welsh Conservative Party
County Councillor Sara Jones	Llanover;	Welsh Conservative Party
County Councillor Bryan Jones	Goytre Fawr;	Welsh Conservative Party
County Councillor Paul Jordan	Cantref;	Welsh Conservative Party
County Councillor Malcolm Lane	Mardy;	Welsh Conservative Party
County Councillor Phil Murphy	Caerwent;	Welsh Conservative Party
County Councillor Paul Pavia	Larkfield;	Welsh Conservative Party
County Councillor Maureen Powell	Castle;	Welsh Conservative Party
County Councillor Jane Pratt	Llanelly Hill;	Welsh Conservative Party
County Councillor Richard Roden	Dixton with Osbaston;	Welsh Conservative Party
County Councillor Val Smith	Llanbadoc;	Independent Group
County Councillor Brian Strong	Usk;	Welsh Conservative Party
County Councillor Frances Taylor	Mill;	Independent Group
County Councillor Tudor Thomas	Priory;	Welsh Labour/Llafur Cymru
County Councillor Jamie Treharne	Overmonnow;	Welsh Conservative Party
County Councillor Jo Watkins	Caldicot Castle;	Liberal Democrats
County Councillor Armand Watts	Thornwell;	Welsh Labour/Llafur Cymru
County Councillor Ann Webb	St Arvans;	Welsh Conservative Party
County Councillor Kevin Williams	Llanwenarth Ultra;	Welsh Labour/Llafur Cymru
County Councillor Sheila Woodhouse	Grofield;	Welsh Conservative Party

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Welsh Language

Mae'r Cyngor yn croesawu cyfraniadau gan aelodau'r cyhoedd trwy gyfrwng y Gymraeg neu'r Saesneg.
Gofynnwn yn barchus i chi roi rhybudd digonol i ni er mwyn darparu ar gyfer eich anghenion
The Council welcomes contributions from members of the public through the medium of Welsh or English.
We respectfully ask that you provide us with adequate notice to accommodate your needs.

Aims and Values of Monmouthshire County Council

Our purpose

Building Sustainable and Resilient Communities

Objectives we are working towards

- Giving people the best possible start in life
- A thriving and connected county
- Maximise the Potential of the natural and built environment
- Lifelong well-being
- A future focused council

Our Values

Openness. We are open and honest. People have the chance to get involved in decisions that affect them, tell us what matters and do things for themselves/their communities. If we cannot do something to help, we'll say so; if it will take a while to get the answer we'll explain why; if we can't answer immediately we'll try to connect you to the people who can help – building trust and engagement is a key foundation.

Fairness. We provide fair chances, to help people and communities thrive. If something does not seem fair, we will listen and help explain why. We will always try to treat everyone fairly and consistently. We cannot always make everyone happy, but will commit to listening and explaining why we did what we did.

Flexibility. We will continue to change and be flexible to enable delivery of the most effective and efficient services. This means a genuine commitment to working with everyone to embrace new ways of working.

Teamwork. We will work with you and our partners to support and inspire everyone to get involved so we can achieve great things together. We don't see ourselves as the 'fixers' or problem-solvers, but we will make the best of the ideas, assets and resources available to make sure we do the things that most positively impact our people and places.

MONMOUTHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL REPORT

SUBJECT:	REPRESENTATION OF POLITICAL GROUPS - REVIEW
MEETING:	COUNCIL
DATE:	13th May 2021
DIVISION/WARDS AFFECTED:	ALL

1. PURPOSE

The Council is required to review at, or as soon as practicable after, the Council's annual meeting, the representation of different political groups on the bodies to which the Council makes appointments.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 That the Council decides to accept the report (and appendices) as a review under Section 15 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 and to initially allocate ordinary committees with the numbers as indicated below as a fair representation:

Committee	Con	Lab	Lib Dem	Ind Gp	Ind
Select (x 5) (9)	26	9	3	6	1
Licensing & Regulatory (12)	7	3	1	1	0
Planning (16)	9	3	1	2	1
Democratic Services (12)	7	3	1	1	0
Governance & Audit (11) note – this excludes 1 lay	7	2	1	1	0
Aggregate Entitlement (96)	56	20	7	11	2

- 2.2 That the 2 Planning Committee seats allocated to the Independent Group continue to be filled by representatives of the Conservative and Labour Groups only with the permission of the Independent Group Leader.

3. KEY ISSUES

- 3.1 The Council must determine the allocation to the different political groups of all the seats to be filled by appointment by the Council and exercise its power of appointment to the body concerned so as to give effect to such wishes about who is to be appointed to the seats on that body which are allocated to a particular group as are expressed by that group.

- 3.2 The Council is required "to make only such determinations as give effect, so far as reasonably practicable to" the following principles:

- (a) that not all the seats on the body are allocated to the same political group;
- (b) that the majority of the seats on the body is allocated to a particular political group if the number of persons belonging to that group is a majority of the Council's membership;
- (c) (subject to (a) and (b)), the number of seats on the ordinary committees which are allocated to each political group bears the same relationship to

the total seats on all the committees as the number of members of that group bears to the Council's membership;

- (d) identical to (c) but relates to other bodies where the Council is entitled to fill seats by appointment.

3.3 The following are bodies to which s15 applies:

- (a) ordinary committees and sub-committees;
- (b) advisory committees and sub-committees of an advisory committee;
- (c) any such of the following bodies (or classes of bodies) which is a body at least 3 seats on which are from time to time to be filled by appointments made by the Council (so far as relevant to the Council):
 - (i) a fire authority constituted under a combination scheme;
 - (ii) a superannuation committee;
 - (iii) a National Parks Committee;
 - (iv) a joint committee (with one or more other authorities) whose function is to discharge council (as opposed to executive) functions and is not purely advisory.

This is not a full list but comprises the most likely classes of bodies to which the Council makes appointments. Thus it will be seen that if the Council is asked to make appointments to any other body the political balance rules do not apply even if the Council is asked to appoint 3 or more members.

3.4 In certain cases the Council/committee does not have to comply with the statutory requirements. The exceptions are as follows:

- (a) alternative arrangements approved by the Council following notice of the proposed arrangement being included in the agenda for the relevant meeting of Council and without any member of the Council/committee voting against the proposal (s17 and Reg. 20).
- (b) the committee or sub-committee is established exclusively to discharge functions or to advise in respect of part of the area of the authority and where that area of that part does not exceed one-half of the total area of the authority or the population of that part does not exceed one-half of the total population of the area. In addition, that part must consist of one or more electoral divisions and all the members of the authority who are elected for that electoral division (or those electoral divisions) (and only those members) are entitled to be members of the area committee or sub-committee.

4. REASONS

To comply with the requirements of the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990 as amended.

5. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

Nil

6. CONSULTEES

Political group leaders
SLT
Democratic Services

7. AUTHOR:

Matt Phillips – Chief Officer People and Governance and Monitoring Officer
matthewphillips@monmouthshire.gov.uk

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APPENDIX A

Methodology applied to appointments

1. The guiding principles are set out in para 3 of the main report.
2. Appointments by the Council

The principles are considered separately for ordinary committees, advisory committees and for other bodies to which appointments must be made. Ordinary committees are committees that take action on behalf of the Council. The other form of committee, the advisory committee, is one appointed to advise the Council on any matter relating to the discharge of its functions

(a) Ordinary Committees

According to the draft circular issued in 1990, a suitable sequence for applying the principles will be:

- (i) calculate the total seats with votes on all the ordinary committees;
- (ii) calculate the proportion that each political group forms of the total membership of the authority (and that membership does not include a chairman who is no longer a councillor but remains a member of the Council by virtue of section 26 of the 1972 Act); the “total membership of the authority” does, however, include vacant seats;
- (iii) apply those proportions to the total number of ordinary committee seats to give the aggregate entitlement of each group; the requirement (here as elsewhere) to apply the proportions “so far as reasonably practicable” can be met by rounding up entitlements of a half or more; if this results in a greater aggregate than the number of seats available, the fractional entitlement(s) closest to a half should be rounded in the other direction until entitlements balance the available seats;
- (iv) apply the proportions to the number of members on each ordinary committee to give a provisional entitlement to seats on that committee;
- (v) where the provisional entitlement gives only one group the seats on the committee, adjust the entitlement so that the next largest group has a seat (thus applying the principle in 3(a));
- (vi) where one group has a majority of the membership of the Council, but does not have a majority on any committee as a result of the provisional entitlement, increase its share on that committee so that it does have a majority (thus applying the principle in 3(b));
- (vii) finally, adjust the seats on each committee so that the total allocated to each group is as near as possible to their

aggregate entitlement, while preserving the results reached at steps (v) and (vi) (thus applying the principle in 3(c)).

This sequence of steps has been adopted in this report.

(b) Advisory Committees

The intention of the provision is to ensure that those seats to be filled by councillors are (in the absence of unanimous agreement to the contrary) shared fairly between the political groups.

It is, therefore, necessary for the Council first to decide how many of the seats on each advisory committee are to be filled by members of the Council; the statutory requirements then only apply to those seats; the allocation of those seats can conveniently be made by following steps (ii), (iv), (v) and (vi) above.

(c) Other Bodies (see para 4(c) of the main report)

The intention is to ensure a fair distribution of the available seats among the political groups; since a majority group would reasonably be entitled to all the seats where the authority makes only one or two appointments, the duty to allocate seats to political groups only applies where the Council appoints to three or more seats.

The allocation can conveniently be made by following steps (ii), (iv), (v) and (vi) above.

3. Appointments by Committees

Where an ordinary committee appoint a sub-committee with executive powers, the relevant principles are as contained in paragraphs 3(a), (b) and (d) of the main report: the allocation can be conveniently carried out by following steps (ii), (iv), (v) and (vi) above.

When an advisory sub-committee is appointed, the committee will first need to determine how many seats are to be filled by members of the Council (not just members of the committee). The duty to allocate to political groups then applies only to those seats. The same steps can be followed.

APPENDIX B

Appointments by Council

1. The following committees are appointed by the Council with the number of seats shown:

<i>Committee</i>	<i>Seats</i>
Planning	16
Licensing and Regulatory	12
Audit (Excluding 1 lay member)	11
Strong Communities Select	9
Children & Young People Select	9
Economy & Development Select	9
Adult Select	9
Public Service Board Select	9
Democratic Services	12
Total	96

Note:

- (i) Member/Officer Working Groups are not Committees or Sub-Committees;
 - (ii) the Standards Committee is not subject to the political balance rules;
 - (iii) the Joint Advisory Group (Teachers/LGE) is a Cabinet advisory committee;
 - (iv) political balance rules do not apply to Area Committees;
 - (v) the Public Service Board Select Committee will comprise of the chairs of the 4 other Select Committees along with 5 other members;
 - (vi) the Investment Committee membership is stipulated by the May 18 Council decision and not subject to political balance rules.
2. The rest of this appendix deals with the appointment of committees only. The rules applying to other bodies are the same as for sub-committees and are considered in Appendix C.
 - (a) Total number of members - 43

Conservative	25
Labour	9
Independent Gp	5
Liberal Democrat	3
Independent	1
 - (b) Provisional statutory entitlement multiplier (i.e. the relevant number of members divided by 43):

Conservative	0.581
Labour	0.209
Independent Gp	0.116

APPENDIX C – OTHER BODIES

Total seats on body	Lab		Con		Lib Dem		Ind Gp		Ind		Notes
3	0.627	1	1.74	2	0.21	0	0.35	0	0.069	0	
4	0.836	1	2.32	2	0.28	0	0.46	0	0.092	0	2
5	1.045	1	2.91	3	0.35	0	0.58	1	0.115	0	
6	1.254	1	3.49	3	0.41	0	0.70	1	0.138	0	2
7	1.463	1	4.07	4	0.48	0	0.81	1	0.161	0	2
8	1.672	2	4.65	5	0.55	1	0.93	1	0.184	0	3
9	1.881	2	5.23	5	0.62	1	1.04	1	0.207	0	
10	2.09	2	5.81	6	0.69	1	1.16	1	0.23	0	
11	2.299	2	6.39	6	0.76	1	1.28	1	0.253	0	2
12	2.508	3	6.97	7	0.83	1	1.39	1	0.276	0	
13	2.717	3	7.55	8	0.90	1	1.51	2	0.299	0	3
14	2.926	3	8.13	8	0.97	1	1.62	2	0.322	0	
15	3.135	3	8.72	9	1.04	1	1.74	2	0.345	0	
16	3.344	3	9.30	9	1.10	1	1.86	2	0.368	0	2

Notes:

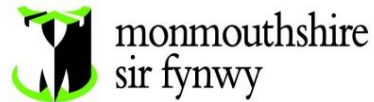
1. Above calculations used using the ratios determined in Appendix B:

Provisional statutory entitlement multiplier (i.e. the relevant number of members divided by 43):

Conservative	0.581
Labour	0.209
Independent Gp	0.116
Liberal Democrat	0.069
Independent	0.023

2. The 'Independent Independent' category means that the total number of seats, when rounded, do not meet the requirement of the body. Therefore it is proposed that Group Leaders discuss any allocation on a case by case basis.
3. The 'Independent Independent' category means that the total number of seats, when rounded, exceed the requirement of the body. Therefore it is proposed that Group Leaders discuss any allocation on a case by case basis.

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SUBJECT:	APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES
MEETING:	County Council
DATE:	13th May 2021
DIVISION/WARDS AFFECTED:	All

1. **PURPOSE:**

To appoint committees together with their membership and terms of reference in accordance with the Council's Constitution.

2. **RECOMMENDATION:**

That the following committees be appointed together with their membership as set below, and their terms of reference attached as appendices.

That Council appoints the Chair of Democratic Services Committee.

2.1 **Area Committees**

That Area Committees be appointed, with the terms of reference attached as appendix A.

North Monmouthshire, Ward Members for:

Castle
Llanelly Hill
Grofield
Priory
Lansdown
Croesonen
Llanover
Goetre Fawr
Llanwenarth Ultra
Mardy
Llanfoist Fawr
Crucorney
Cantref

Central Monmouthshire, Ward Members for:

Mitchel Troy
Llangybi Fawr
Raglan
Llantillio Crossenny
Dixton with Osbaston
Wyesham
Usk

Llanbadoc
Trellech United
Overmonnow
Drybridge

Lower Wye, Ward Members for:

St Christopher's
St Kingsmark
Shirenewton
Devauden
St Mary's
Thornwell
St Arvans
Caerwent
Larkfield

Severnside, Ward Members for:

Dewstow
West End
Portskewett
Rogiet
The Elms
Severn
Mill
Green Lane
Caldicot Castle

2.2 GOVERNANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE

That the Governance and Audit Committee be appointed, with the terms of reference attached as appendix B.

That the membership of the Committee comprises 11 members of the Council, to be appointed in accordance with political balance, plus one lay member.

That it be noted that the Chair of the Governance and Audit Committee will be appointed by the Committee.

2.3 DEMOCRATIC SERVICES COMMITTEE

That a Democratic Services Committee be appointed, with the terms of reference attached as appendix C.

That the membership of the Committee comprises 12 members of the Council, politically balanced.

That the Chair of the Democratic Services Committee be appointed by the Council.

2.4 INVESTMENT COMMITTEE

As determined by Full Council on 10 May 2018 with powers as set out by the Council's Asset Management Strategy. The Committee is to comprise the Leader, Deputy Leader, Cabinet Member for Resources and the Leaders of the 2 next largest Groups. Terms of reference set out in Appendix G

2.4 REGULATORY AND OTHER COMMITTEES

That the following Committees, together with their terms of reference, attached as appendix D, be appointed, subject to any changes to be notified by the political groups.

- (a) Planning (16 Members)
- (b) Licensing and Regulatory (12 Members)
- (c) Sub-Committees under the Licensing Act 2003
 - Three sub-committees of three members to be established to meet on Monday, Wednesday and Friday.
 - The Chairman, Vice Chairman and Opposition spokesman of the Licensing and Regulatory Committee to be appointed as Chairman of each sub-committee
 - The nine remaining members be called to attend sub-committee meetings on a rota basis in discussion with the Chairman of the relevant sub-committee.
- (d) Appeals Committee (3 members)

3 members to be nominated on an ad hoc basis.
- (e) Appointment of Local Authority Governors Committee (7 Members)
- (f) Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE) (6 Members)

Persons representing such Christian denominations and other religions and denominations in such religions as in the opinion of the County Council will approximately reflect the principal religious traditions in the area.

Persons to represent such associations representing teachers as in the opinion of the County Council ought to be represented, having regard to the circumstances of the area.

- i. Monmouthshire County Council 6 members
- ii. Christian denominations and other religions and denominations as set out below:

13 members

The Church in Wales	1 member
The Roman Catholic Church	1 member

Free Churches	4 members
Baha'I Faith	1 member
Buddhist Faith	1 member
Hindu Faith	1 member
Muslim Faith	1 member
Jewish Faith	1 member
Sikh Faith	1 member
Teachers' Associations	7 members
Co - opted	2 members

The Chair of SACRE will be the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People as agreed by Council in May 2018.

(g) The following committees will be appointed as and when required, based on the below membership arrangements, and the constitution:

- Appointment Committee (5 members)
- Remuneration Committee (Chief Executive) (5 members)
- Investigation Committee (3 members)
- Disciplinary Committee (3 members)

2.5 SELECT COMMITTEES

That the following Select Committees be appointed, together with their terms of reference, attached as appendix E:

- Economy and Development (9 Members)
- Strong Communities (9 Members)
- Children and Young People (9 Members)
- Adults (9 Members)
- Public Service Board (9 Members)

That the following members be co-opted to the Children and Young People Select Committee:

Voting on Education Issues only

Mrs E Thomas (Church in Wales)
 Vacancy (Parent Governor Representative)
 Vacancy (Parent Governor Representative)
 Vacancy (Catholic Church)

Non-Voting

Vacancy (ASCL)
 Vacancy (NAHT)
 F. Middleton (NASUWT)
 P. Strong (NEU)

That each Select Committee shall be entitled to recommend to Council the appointment of a maximum of five people as non-voting co-optees.

2.6 STANDARDS COMMITTEE

That the Standards Committee be appointed with the terms of reference attached as appendix F.

That the membership of the Committee comprise 3 members of the authority other than the Leader, 5 voting co-optees and one community member.

3. REASONS

To ensure the Council is compliant with its constitution.

4. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

Members to be remunerated in line with the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales Annual Report for this Council year unless explicitly requested to opt-out of receiving some or all of their remuneration by individual Members.

5. CONSULTEES:

Senior Leadership Team, Cabinet, Monitoring Officer

6. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS:

None

7. SAFEGUARDING AND CORPORATE PARENTING IMPLICATIONS:

None

8. BACKGROUND PAPERS:

Monmouthshire County Council Constitution, as revised March 2021.

9. AUTHOR:

Nicola Perry, Senior Democracy Officer
Email: nicolaperry@monmouthshire.gov.uk

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Article 10 – Area Committees and Forums

10.01 Area committees

The Council may appoint area committees as it sees fit, if it is satisfied that to do so will ensure improved service delivery in the context of best value and more efficient, transparent and accountable decision making.

The Council has recognised the need to engage the community in Area Working which in its early stages has involved establishing 4 Area Committees with the following roles and functions:

1. To help the Council shape major proposals affecting the area and to advise the Council about the implications for the area of its objectives, plans and policies.
2. To lead the development of the local community planning process and produce a Community Plan for each area in a way which promotes the council's overall policies as well as safeguarding local interest.
3. To ensure properly co-ordinated services on a local level.
4. To encourage effective collaboration with public, private and voluntary sector partners locally to help the Council meet the aspirations of local people.
5. To provide a forum for views of local communities and to encourage discussions and debate on matters of particular relevance to the area including participating in the process of Best Value Reviews as a formal consultee.
6. To make decisions on matters within the area that have been delegated by the Executive provided those decisions are within the Council's overall policies and budgetary allocations and do not adversely affect other areas of Monmouthshire.

Additional Representation

Each Area Committee may identify and agree 'communities of interest' within its area from which a representative may be invited to participate at meetings of the committee. Such invitees will not be co-opted members of the committee but may speak (not vote) on matters whenever the press and public are able to attend.

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TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE GOVERNANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE

- (a) to review and scrutinise the authority's financial affairs,
- (b) to make reports and recommendations in relation to the authority's financial affairs,
- (c) to review and assess the risk management, internal control and corporate governance arrangements of the authority,
- (d) to make reports and recommendations to the authority on the adequacy and effectiveness of those arrangements,
- (e) to oversee the authority's internal and external audit arrangements, and
- (f) to review the financial statements prepared by the authority.
- (g) to undertake any other functions as the authority considers suitable to be exercised by the Governance and Audit Committee

Core functions

In order to meet the terms of reference above the Governance and Audit Committee will undertake the following core functions:

- Approve internal audit's strategy, plan and performance.
- Review summary internal audit reports and the main issues arising, and seek assurance that action has been taken where necessary.
- Consider the reports of external audit and inspection agencies.
- Consider the effectiveness of the authority's risk management arrangements, the control environment and associated anti-fraud and anti-corruption arrangements. Seek assurances that action is being taken on risk related issues identified by auditors and inspectors.
- Be satisfied that the authority's assurance statements, including the Statement on Internal Control and Governance Statement, properly reflect the risk environment and any actions required to improve it.
- Ensure that there are effective relationships between external and internal audit, inspection agencies and other relevant bodies, and that the value of the audit process is actively promoted.
- Review the financial statements, external auditor's opinion and reports to members, recommend the adoption of the financial statements by full Council and monitor management action in response to the issues raised by external audit.
- Maintain an overview of the Council's constitution in respect of contract procedure rules and financial regulations
- Make recommendations, as appropriate, to Cabinet and Council on any matters reported through the Governance and Audit Committee.

TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE DEMOCRATIC SERVICES COMMITTEE

- (a) To exercise the function of the local authority under section 8(1)(a) (designation of head of democratic services)
- (b) To review the adequacy of provision by the authority of staff, accommodation and other resources to discharge democratic services functions, and
- (c) To make reports and recommendations to the authority in relation to such provision.
- (d) To fully support the non-executive role of councillors.
- (e) To undertake pieces of work aimed at improving the democratic function, in line with the ethos of the Local Government Measure 2011.
- (f) To draw up a job description for elected members and improve clarity, transparency and public engagement.
- (g) To review the ICT policy for members.

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TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR REGULATORY AND OTHER COMMITTEES

(a) PLANNING

With delegated powers:

1. Planning and conservation

Functions relating to town and country planning and development control as specified in Schedule 1 to the Local Authorities Executive Arrangements (Functions and Responsibilities) (Wales) Regulations 2007 as amended ('the Functions Regulations') save in relation to footpaths and bridleways.

2. Powers relating to the preservation of trees, the protection of important hedgerows and the power to make limestone pavement order.

(b) LICENSING AND REGULATORY

With delegated powers:

To determine traffic orders.

To act as the Licensing Committee designated for the purpose of Section 6 of the Licensing Act 2003.

To carry out all other functions and powers specified in Schedule 1 to the Functions Regulations, save in relation to the duty to approve the Authority's Statement of Accounts etc., the power to make Standing Orders, to appoint staff and to consider adverse reports from the Local Commissioner, all of which shall be reserved to Full Council.

To carry out all other Licensing functions in accordance with Part 2 of the Licensing Act 2003.

(c) SUB-COMMITTEES UNDER THE LICENSING ACT 2003

With delegated powers:

The discharge of all functions relating to licensable activities, as described in the Licensing Act 2003.

(d) APPEALS COMMITTEE

With delegated authority to determine appeals in accordance with the County Councils' constitution, e.g. School Transport Appeals, Discretionary Housing Payments Appeals

(e) APPOINTMENT OF LOCAL AUTHORITY GOVERNORS COMMITTEE

With plenary powers to act in accordance with the Code of Practice set out below:

1. LA Governors are appointed representatives of the LA on a school's governing body. They are not delegates, but can be removed at the discretion of the LA. Appointments are made on merit, irrespective of political persuasion and in the best interests of the children and school. Nominations of elected members will be viewed in exactly the same way as any other nominations.

2. They may represent the LA view, but in all cases the interests of the school are paramount and all governors shall abide by the governing body's rules and code of conduct.

3. A governor appointed by the LA must, like all governors be in a position to:

- Offer time, commitment and energy to the role.
- Become well informed about current educational thinking.
- Know about the needs of the school, its staff and pupils.
- Visit the school with purpose, sensitivity and understanding.
- Undertake training as necessary.
- Attend meetings regularly.
- Conform to agreed procedures at meetings, including the need for confidentiality concerning certain matters discussed in Governing Body meetings especially in relation to individual staff, pupils and parents.
- Undertake appropriate preparation and reading.
- Work co-operatively as a member of a team, accepting collective responsibility for decisions made.
- Share responsibilities including service on committees
- Find out as much as possible about the community served by the school.
- Understand that the position does not offer a personal or political platform.
- Offer commitment to raising education standards to enable every child and young person to reach their full potential

4. When an LA governor vacancy occurs, the school may advise the LA of its needs in terms of balance of skills, gender or other considerations for the good of the school. It shall have the right to submit names for consideration.

5. When an LA Governor vacancy occurs, the County Councillor in whose electoral area the school is situated, will be informed. (All other County Councillors will be advised by e mail of the vacancy for information.) (S)He should consult the school's headteacher and chairman of governors as well as fellow Councillors in cases where pupils are drawn from beyond his/her electoral division. (S)He may recommend names for consideration.

6. The LA will appoint the persons most suitable to be governors according to the criteria set out above. The appointment will be made as soon as possible after the vacancy arises, recognising the serious operational difficulties which may occur when governing bodies are incomplete.

7. The LA is able to remove governors which it has appointed by giving written notice to the clerk to the Governing Body and to the governor who is to be removed. The governor will be given the opportunity to make written

representation before removal. The LA will only remove a governor for a good reason.

8. Whilst it is anticipated that such procedures will be used infrequently, it is important for there to be a mechanism in place, if required, for the removal of local authority governors in order to ensure that difficulties, if they arise, can be dealt with in a consistent way. It is expected that these procedures would be used, for example, where there is evidence that the governor concerned has seriously or persistently breached their Governing Body's Code of Conduct, or there are significant other issues such as those detailed below. Removal of a local authority governor from office will only be used as a last resort after seeking to resolve any difficulties or disputes in a constructive way. Before the LA begins a formal process of removal, LA Officers will offer some form of conciliation, if appropriate, to seek to resolve the situation. Where there is no effective remedy, then the governor may be considered for removal from office.

9. All requests to remove a local authority governor from office would in the first instance be referred to the Chief Officer, Education who will consider the grounds for removal. The Chief Officer will then make a recommendation to the Chair of the LA Governor Appointments Committee on whether there are grounds for removal and he/she will take a decision. If the Chair of the Committee decides that there are no grounds for removal, he/she will write to the proposer and if appropriate, the governor concerned, setting out the reasons for the decision and advising, where appropriate, on a way forward to resolve any remaining difficulties. If the Chair of the LA Governor Appointments Committee decides that there may be grounds for removal, he/she will write to the governor concerned setting out the reasons why the matter has been referred for decision by the Committee and invite the governor to make written representation.

10. Reasons for the removal from office include, but may not be limited to, any of the following:

- Conduct that is inconsistent with the ethos or religious character and has or is likely to bring the school, the governing body or their office as a governor, or the LA into disrepute.
- Serious failure to co-operate with the LA, governors or the governing body as a whole.
- Irretrievable breakdown in relationship between the governor and the governing body and/or local authority.

11. The LA Governor Appointments Committee will meet and make a decision on the matter following receipt of the written representations from both parties. If necessary, both parties may be called to a meeting to give an account of their representation.

12. If a decision to remove is made, the Chair of the LA Governor Appointments Committee will write to the governor dismissing him or her from the Governing Body of the School, setting out the reasons for the decision. A copy of the letter will be copied to the clerk to the Governing

Body. If the proposal is not agreed, the Chair of the LA Governor Appointments Committee will write to the proposer and governor concerned, setting out the reasons for the decision and advising, where appropriate, on a way forward to resolve any remaining difficulties. Any governor who is removed from office may not be appointed to a governing body as a LA governor for a period of twelve months from removal. Should the governor concerned hold office on another governing body, that position would not necessarily be affected by his/her removal from the governing body the removal relates to; however, consideration would be given to this at the same time.

(f)STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (SACRE)

1. Function

- (a) To advise the Local Education Authority (LEA) upon matters connected with religious worship in county schools and religious education (RE) to be given in accordance with an agreed syllabus for the Authority.
- (b) It can require the LEA to review the RE agreed syllabus and establish an agreed syllabus at a formal meeting called an Agreed Syllabus Conference.
- (c) To consider any application made by a head teacher for their school to be released from the requirement that collective worship be wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character for some or all of the pupils in that school (determination).

The main role, therefore, is to support effective provision of collective worship, and religious education in accordance with the Agreed Syllabus.

Each LEA should work with its SACRE to review the existing provision for RE and consider with the SACRE whether any changes need to be made in the Agreed Syllabus or in the support offered to schools.

Similarly it should work with its SACRE to monitor the provision of daily collective worship and to consider with it any action which might be taken to improve provision.

It is for the LEA to decide what matters it wishes to refer to its SACRE, but these should include methods of teaching, the choice of teaching material and the provision of teacher training.

A SACRE is not confined to advising on matters referred to it by its LEA; it may offer advice on any matters related to its functions as it sees fit.

The advice offered by a SACRE carries no statutory force. However, the LEA or school should always give careful consideration to advice offered.

LEAs are encouraged to keep their SACRE fully informed on all matters relating to RE and collective worship in their schools. This should include, where appropriate, information on individual schools following inspection by Estyn.

2. Annual Reports

SACRE must publish an annual report on its work. This should:

1. specify any matters on which it has advised the LEA
2. broadly describe the nature on that advice; and
3. Set out its reasons for offering advice on any matters which were not referred to it in the first place by the LEA.

A copy of the annual report must be sent to DCELLS (by 30th December). LEAs are encouraged to send copies of the annual report to schools and local teacher training institutions.

3. Composition

SACRE shall consist of representation from:

- Christian denominations and other religions and religious denominations, to broadly reflect the proportionate strength of the denomination in the area. It is recognised that there will be occasions when the interests of efficiency override the requirement for directly proportionate representation;
- Such associations representing teachers as, in the opinion of the authority, ought to be represented; and
- The local education authority.

It may also appoint co-opted members if required although these members have no voting rights.

It is for the LEA to appoint the members of the three groups.

Each group has a single vote on any matter to be decided by SACRE.

4. Chair

Legislation does not prescribe how the chair should be appointed. It is open to the authority to appoint the chairperson, or to allow a SACRE to appoint its own chair from its members.

5. Meetings & Business

Monmouthshire SACRE normally meets each term (3 meetings per annum) but meetings can be arranged as required.

A member from each group must be present for SACRE to be quorate.

The LEAs duty to convene a SACRE implies a duty to fund this body satisfactorily. The LEA should provide a clerk and sufficient funds for it to perform its functions.

SACRE is required to provide an annual report of its work which must be submitted to DCELLS (by 30th December).

A review of the Agreed Syllabus must be carried within every five year period.

6. Attendance *

Apologies should be made in advance if a member cannot attend a meeting. Any member who has not attended three consecutive meetings without Apology will lose the right to his/her place. Supply cover will be paid for teachers' attendance at meetings. Religious representatives may claim expenses from their respective Organisations.

7. Membership of WASACRE

Monmouthshire SACRE is a member body of the Welsh Association of SACREs. Four SACRE representatives are nominated for attendance at WASACRE but these may be substituted as required.

The RE Adviser to SACRE shall act for the LEA at WASACRE meetings.* Supply cover and travel expenses will be paid to teacher representatives attending meetings. Religious representatives may claim expenses from their respective organisations.

(g) COLLABORATION AGREEMENT WITH COMMUNITY AND TOWN COUNCILS

To review and update the Collaboration Agreement

(h) APPOINTMENT COMMITTEE

Appointed originally to take all decisions relevant to the recruitment of posts created as part of the management restructure 2010 this committee will appoint non-statutory chief officers and deputy chief officers.

(i) REVIEW OF AREA COMMITTEES

To develop terms of reference, size of areas, numbers of committees including forums and support staff, and to report back to the County Council.

(j) COORDINATING BOARD

- To manage the political business processes and the relationship between the constituent parts of the Council's political machinery.
- To review Council, Cabinet and Committee work programmes with a view to improving co-ordination and avoiding duplication.
- To enable Chairs to keep the Board informed of progress eg on Select Committee and other reviews.
- To share best practice across Committees and identify training and development needs
- To enable the Chief Executive to brief Chairs about forthcoming issues

(k) REMUNERATION COMMITTEE (CHIEF EXECUTIVE)

To make recommendations to the Council on pay and remuneration issues relating to the Chief Executive.

The Committee will meet at least annually

(l) INVESTIGATION COMMITTEE

Appointed pursuant to the Council's Officer Employment Procedure Rules relating to the Head of Paid Service, Chief Finance Officer and Monitoring Officer

(m) DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE

Appointed pursuant to the Council's Officer Employment Procedure Rules relating to the Head of Paid Service, Chief Finance Officer and Monitoring Office

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Monmouthshire County Council – Select Committee Terms of Reference

No. of Committees:	5
Frequency of meetings:	Six-weekly (or as required)

Committees and Terms of Reference:

To undertake overview and scrutiny in line with statutory responsibilities on the following:

- Budget Scrutiny: quarterly budget monitoring and scrutiny of draft budget proposals
- Performance scrutiny: 6 monthly Outcome Based Accountability performance monitoring, scrutiny of complaints, scrutiny of the Improvement Plan, scrutiny of Outcome Agreements together with other non-statutory performance-related scrutiny
- Risk Monitoring: 6 monthly scrutiny of the Whole Authority Risk Log

To review, constructively challenge and hold the Council and other relevant public bodies and partner organisations to account in addressing key priorities through the planning and delivery of services to ensure the following:

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Children & Young People's Select Committee	Adults Select Committee	Economy and Development Select Committee	Strong Communities Select Committee	Public Service Board Select Committee
<p>Ensure that services are relevant and responsive to the needs of young people and protect and promote their health and well-being, including amongst others the following relevant areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safeguarding Children, including social care and health, services for vulnerable children and families, Child Protection, Children in 	<p>Ensure that services are relevant and responsive to the needs of Adults and protect and promote health and well-being, including amongst others the following relevant areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safeguarding Adults, including Mental Health services and Disability services. • Adult Social Care, including Domiciliary 	<p>Ensure they are responsive to the needs of businesses, residents and visitors and promote economic activity, including amongst others the following relevant areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scrutiny of the Management of Regeneration and Culture Directorate. • Strategic economic development, place 	<p>Ensure they are responsive to the needs of residents and promote their safety and well-being.</p> <p>Key roles for this committee are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To ensure the Council supports the development of new and sustainable communities and supports the resilience of existing communities through Local area co-ordination. 	<p>To review, constructively challenge and hold the Public Service Board to account in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improving the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of its area in accordance with the sustainable development principle: "long

<p>Public Care, Home Finding, Family Centres and Aids & Adaptations for disabled children.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Youth Justice and youth offending service. • Youth clubs and leisure facilities for young people. • Special Support Services, Pupil Support Services. • Education, including School Performance Management, EAS, Resource Management, Governor Support, Health & Safety, Financial and ICT Services, School Planning, Transport, Admissions, Student Grants and School Meals. • Management of Individual Schools Budgets, Schools Delegated Budgets, the Authority's Schools 	<p>Care, Residential Care, Nursing Home Care, Community Care, Occupational Therapy, Re-ablement, Assistive Technology, Community Meals Service, Sensory Impairment Services.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support to Families and Carers, including Respite and Short Breaks. • Adult Education, including Learning Disability Services. • Integrated Adults Services with Health Partners. • Joint Strategic Needs Assessment. • Protecting and supporting vulnerable Adults. • "Transition agenda" from young people to Adults. • Protecting vulnerable Adults (POVA) and Supporting People. • Homelessness prevention. • Domestic Violence Service, Drug and 	<p>shaping and enterprise.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promoting and sustaining economic growth. • Job creation and ensuring opportunities for skills and vocational training. • Public Health, Environmental Health and Trading Standards. • Public realm – Culture, libraries, museums and theatre. • The Planning Function – Building Control, Development Control, Local Development Plans, Economic Development and Housing. • Scrutiny of collaborative initiatives such as the Shared Resource Service (SRS) and CMC2 and any others as appropriate. • Estates and Sustainability. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To review and improve the Council's links with the Voluntary Sector. • To scrutinise the delivery of the Single Integrated Plan, allocating specific scrutiny areas to other select committees where appropriate. • To scrutinise key services provided in partnership to local communities to ensure effective multi-agency action is delivered, including amongst others: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Infrastructure and networks. • Highways (including SWTRA), Transport and Traffic Management. • Street Lighting. • Waste Management. • Community Safety. • Procurement. • Facilities and Accommodation Management. • Citizen Engagement. • Community Safety. • Chief Executive Function. • Revenues, Council Tax, Non-Domestic Rates and 	<p>term, integration, collaboration, involvement and prevention"</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning for and delivery of the well-being goals: "a prosperous Wales, a resilient Wales, a healthier Wales, a more equal Wales, a Wales of cohesive communities, a Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language, a globally responsible Wales" <p>Through the scrutiny of (but not limited to):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The PSB's performance in collecting data, analysing evidence, engaging the community and ensuring partnerships deliver the well-being goals;
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<p>Individually Managed Budgets.</p>	<p>Alcohol Services.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public health and wellbeing promotion through Single Integrated Plan. • Leisure services in terms of health outcomes. • Welfare Rights. • Community Legal Service. 		<p>Finance.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Corporate Costs / Levies. • Appropriations (including external debt costs from earmarked reserves, costs resulting from fixed asset disposal). • Financing (including core funding from WG, council tax income). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decisions and actions taken by the PSB; the strategic and corporate planning framework; the systems, projects and programmes in place to deliver the well-being goals; and the governance, finance, procurement and workforce planning arrangements to support them. • Recommendations made by the Commissioner, Minister, Auditor General for Wales.
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Appendix F

EXTRACT FROM THE COUNCIL'S CONSTITUTION

11 THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE

11.1 Composition

11.1.1 Membership.

The Standards Committee will be composed of 9 members. Its membership will include:

- (a) 5 independent members, who are not either a councillor or an officer or the spouse of a councillor or an officer of this council or any other relevant authority as defined by the Act, appointed in accordance with the procedure set out in the Standards Committees (Wales) Regulations 2001 (as amended);
- (b) 3 county councillors other than the Leader and not more than one member of the executive;
- (c) one member of a town or community council wholly or mainly in the Council's area (a 'community committee member').

11.1.2 Term of office:

- (a) independent members are appointed for a period of not less than 4 nor more than 6 years and may be reappointed for one further consecutive term not exceeding 4 years;
- (b) members of the local authority who are members of the Standards Committee will have a term of office of no more than 5 years or the period until the next ordinary local government election following their appointment, whichever is the shorter. They may be reappointed for one further term;
- (c) a community committee member will have a term of office of no more than 5 years or the period until the next ordinary local government election following their appointment, whichever is the shorter. They may be reappointed for one further term.

11.1.3 Quorum.

A meeting of the standards committee shall only be quorate when:

- (a) at least 3 members, including the Chairman, are present, and
- (b) at least half the members present (including the Chairman) are independent members.

11.1.4 Voting.

Independent members and community committee members will be entitled to vote at meetings.

11.1.5 Community committee members.

A community committee member shall not take part in the proceedings of the standards committee when any matter relating to their town or community council is being considered.

11.1.6 Chairing the Committee:

- (a) only an independent member of the standards committee may be the Chairman;

- (b) the Chairman will be elected by the members of the standards committee for a period not exceeding one year. The Chairman is eligible for re-election;
- (c) the election of a Chairman will be the first item of business for the standards committee at the commencement of each municipal year.

11.2 Role and Function

11.2.1 The Standards Committee will have the following roles and functions:

- (a) promoting and maintaining high standards of conduct by councillors, co-opted members and church and parent governor representatives;
- (b) assisting the councillors, co-opted members and church and parent governor representatives to observe the Members' Code of Conduct;
- (c) advising the Council on the adoption or revision of the Members' Code of Conduct;
- (d) monitoring and from time to time reviewing the operation of the Members' Code of Conduct and protocols which apply to members of the Council, employees, contractors and other parties or organisations associated with Council activity;
- (e) advising, training or arranging to train councillors, co-opted members and church and parent governor representatives on matters relating to the Members' Code of Conduct;
- (f) granting dispensations to councillors, co-opted members and church and parent governor representatives from requirements relating to interests set out in the Members' Code of Conduct;
- (g) dealing with any reports from a case tribunal or interim case tribunal, and any report from the Monitoring Officer on any matter referred to that officer by the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales;
- (h) mentoring and supporting the Council's Monitoring Officer in the discharge of their role;
- (i) receiving and investigating (where statute permits) reports and complaints relating to the Members' Code of Conduct and protocols approved by the Council from time to time;
- (j) the exercise of (a) to (i) above in relation to the town and community councils wholly or mainly in its area and the members of those town and community councils.

Appendix 1

Proposed Terms of Reference – Investment Committee

Purpose	To hold strategic oversight and responsibility for the implementation of the Asset Investment Strategy.
Membership:	The Committee shall be made up of the Leader, Deputy Leader, Cabinet Member for Resources and the Leaders of the two largest Opposition Parties. This reflects the political balance of the current administration and will be subject to review following a local government election within the Monmouthshire Constituency to ensure that the political balance remains.
Chairman:	The Leader of the Council
In attendance:	Leader of the Liberal Democrats Chief Executive Chief Officer, Resources Head of Legal Services Head of Commercial and Integrated Landlord Services Head of Finance Monmouthshire County Council Officers as required Specialist advisors as required
Voting Rights:	Will be limited to the members of the Investment Committee
Quorum:	Three members of the committee.
Frequency:	The meetings will be convened as investment opportunities arise on an ad hoc basis and will meet a minimum of 2 times a year to review the performance of the investment portfolio.

Terms of Reference

1. The Committee will take decisions on the acquisition of investment land and property and development opportunities
2. Scrutinise business cases and ensure that they are in accordance with the approved Asset Investment Policy.
3. Keep under review the performance of the asset investment portfolio, ensuring that it meets the agreed financial benchmarks within the Asset Investment Policy and that identified risks are actively managed.
4. Agree mitigation and exit strategies for poorly performing assets.
5. Provide an annual position statement for Audit Committee to review on the asset investment portfolio.
6. To execute the powers of authority delegated by Council.
7. Members will act in the best interest of the corporate entity.

MONMOUTHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL REPORT

SUBJECT:	APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE BODIES
MEETING:	County Council
DATE:	13th May 2021
DIVISION/WARDS AFFECTED:	All

1. PURPOSE:

- 1.1 To appoint representatives to serve on outside bodies.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That the Council make appointments to the outside bodies set out in the attached schedule, with the exception of joint committees listed in Category B, which are Cabinet appointments.

3. REASONS:

- 3.1 A schedule of appointments to outside bodies is attached. With some exceptions, appointments are normally made for the term of the Council.

4. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

- 4.1 In most cases members will be able to claim travel allowances from the County Council. In some cases these expenses are payable by the appropriate outside body.

5. CONSULTATION:

Cabinet, Senior Leadership Team, Monitoring Officer

6. BACKGROUND PAPERS:

List of Appointments to Outside Bodies

7. AUTHOR:

CONTACT DETAILS:

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MONMOUTHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

REPRESENTATION ON OUTSIDE BODIES (May 2021)

Appendix A

Category A - Regional/National

No.	Body	Term of Office	Source of Members Allowances / Expenses	No. of Reps	Name of Councillor Appointed	Appointed at Council on
1	Brecon Beacons National Park Authority	Term of Council	National Park	1	Cllr. A.E. Webb	18 th May 2017
2	Appointments Panel for East Wales Valuation Tribunal	Term of Council	Council	3	Cllr. R.J. Higginson Cllr. M. Feakins Cllr. R.P. Jordan	18 th May 2017 18 th May 2017 18 th May 2017
3	Oldbury Power Station Stakeholder Group	Term of Council	Council	1		18 th May 2017
4	Gwent Police and Crime Panel	Term of Council	Police & Crime Commissioner	2	Cllr P.R. Clarke Cllr A. Easson	18 th May 2017 18 th May 2017
5	Joint Council For Wales (Previously Provincial Council for Wales)	1 Year	Council	2 plus 1 Sub.	Cllr. P. Murphy Cllr. R.J.Higginson (Substitute: none appointed)	18 th May 2017 18 th May 2017
6	Natural Resources Wales / Caldicot and Wentlooge advisory group / Lower Wye advisory group.	Term of Council	Drainage Board	9	Cllr. A.E. Easson Cllr. J. Watkins (substitute) Advisory Group: Cllr. M. Feakins Cllr. A.E. Webb Cllr. L. Jones Cllr. R. Edwards Cllr. J. Watkins	18 th May 2017 18 th May 2017 18 th May 2017 18 th May 2017 18 th May 2017 18 th May 2017 18 th May 2017
7	Cardiff Capital Region Joint Cabinet Committee	1 Year		2	Leader Deputy Leader	18 th May 2017 18 th May 2017

No.	Body	Term of Office	Source of Members Allowances / Expenses	No. of Reps	Name of Councillor Appointed	Appointed at Council on
8	City Deal Joint Scrutiny Committee	Term of Council		1	Chair of E&D Select (vice-chair in absence)	10 th May 2018
9	Regional Transport Authority	1 year		1	Responsible Cabinet Member: Cllr. J. Pratt	16 th May 2019
10	Local Government Association	1 Year	L.G.A.	2	Leader Deputy Leader	18 th May 2017 18 th May 2017
11	South Wales Fire Authority	Term of Council	Council	2	Cllr. V. Smith Cllr. L. Brown	10 th May 2018 18 th May 2017
12	Wye Valley Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Joint Committee	Term of Council	Council	4	Cllr. D. Dovey Cllr. M. Lane Cllr. A. Webb Cllr. L. Jones	18 th May 2017 18 th May 2017 18 th May 2017 18 th May 2017
13	Welsh Local Government Association	Term of Council	W.L.G.A.	2	Leader Deputy Leader	18 th May 2017 18 th May 2017
14	W.L.G.A. Executive Board	Term of Council	Council	1	Leader	18 th May 2017
15	Flood Risk Mangt Committee Wales				See Category G-WLGA Appointments	
16	Welsh Centre for International Affairs	Term of Council	Council	1	Chairman of Council	18 th May 2017
17	Institute of Welsh Affairs	Term of Council	Council	1	Chairman of Council	18 th May 2017
18	Reserve Forces and Cadets Association for Wales	Term of Council	The Association	1	Cllr. L. Jones	10 th May 2018
19	S.E. Wales Strategic Planning Group	Term of Council	Council	2	Cllr R. Greenland Chairman of Planning	10 th May 2018 18 th May 2017
20	Welsh Books Council	Term of	Council	1	Cllr. P. Jordan	18 th May 2017

No.	Body	Term of Office	Source of Members Allowances / Expenses	No. of Reps	Name of Councillor Appointed	Appointed at Council on
		Council				
21	Monmouthshire Adoption Panel	Term of Council	Council	1	Cllr. P. Jones	18 th May 2017
22	Monmouthshire Fostering Panel	Term of Council	Council	1	Cllr. R.G. Harris	18 th May 2017

Category 'B' – Joint Committees - Appointments made by the Cabinet

No.	Body	Term of Office	Source of Members Allowances	No. of Reps	Name of Councillor Appointed	Appointed at Cabinet
1	Gwent Joint Records Committee	Term of Council	Council	2	Councillor S. Woodhouse Councillor R.J.Higginson	10 th May 2018 10 th May 2018
2	Gwent Joint Cremation Committee	Term of Council	Council	2	Councillor J. Pratt Councillor K.G.Williams <i>Note: at least one Cabinet member necessary</i>	6 th April 2020 5 th June 2013
3	Prosiect Gwyrdd Joint Committee	Term of Council	Council	2	Councillor J. Pratt Councillor P.Murphy	6 th June 2017

Category ‘C’ – Joint Committees and Local Authority Companies – Appointments Made By The Council

No.	Body	Term of Office	Source of Members Allowances	No. of Reps	Name of Councillor Appointed	Date Appointed at Council
1	Pension Fund Management Group (Joint Committee with Torfaen)	Term of Council	Council	3	Cllr. P. Jordan Cllr. P. Clarke Cllr. J. Watkins	18 th May 2017 18 th May 2017 18 th May 2017
2	Aneurin Bevan Community Health Council	Term of Council	Council	3	Cllr. A. Davies Cllr. D. Blakebrough Cllr. D Evans	18 th May 2017 16 th May 2019 18 th May 2017
3	Aneurin Bevan Local Health Board-Stakeholder Reference Group	Term of Council	Council	1	Cllr. P. Pavia	18 th May 2017
4	Board of Monmouthshire Housing Association	Term of Council		2	Cllr. D. Batrouni	18 th May 2017 18 th May 2017
5	Education Achievement Service	Term of Council	Council	2	Cllr R. John - Cabinet Member for Schools and Learning-as representative member of JEG. Cllr P. Murphy -to Board of Directors	18 th May 2017 10 th Sept 2020
6	SRS Business Solutions Ltd	Term of Council	Council	2	County Councillor P. Murphy (Cabinet Member with portfolio responsibility for finance) appointed as the representative member to the company and County Councillor R.J.W. Greenland to the Company’s Board of Directors.	18 th May 2017
7	SRS Public	Term of Council	Council	1	County Councillor P Murphy (Cabinet Member with portfolio for Resources).	18 th May 2017
8	Y Prentis	Term of Council	Council	1 member 1 officer	County Councillor R.J.W. Greenland to the Company’s Board of Directors.	18 th May 2017

No.	Body	Term of Office	Source of Members Allowances	No. of Reps	Name of Councillor Appointed	Date Appointed at Council
9	CS Foundry Board		Council	1	Deputy Leader Cllr Sara Jones	13 th May 2021

Category 'D' - Voluntary Organisations

No.	Body	Term of Office	Source of Members Allowances	No. of Reps	Name of Councillor Appointed	Date Appointed at Council
1	Monmouthshire and Brecon Canal Working Party	Term of Council	Council	1	Cllr. R. Roden	18 th May 2017
2	Wales Council for the Blind	Term of Council	Council	2	Cllr. J. Treharne Cllr. R.P. Jordan	18 th May 2017 18 th May 2017
3	Disability Wales (previously known as Wales Council for the Disabled)	Term of Council	Council	2	Cllr. S. Jones Mr. A. James	18 th May 2017 18 th May 2017
4	Severn Estuary Partnership	Term of Council	Council	2	Note: should have the same two members as ASERA(see above)	

Category 'E' Local Interest

No.	Body	Term of Office	Source of Members Allowances	No. of Reps	Name of Councillor Appointed	Date Appointed at Council
5	Monmouthshire County Citizens Advice Bureau	Term of Council	Council	2	Cllr P. Murphy Cllr B. Strong Two observers at trustee board meetings	18 th May 2017
6	The Palmer Centre	Term of Council	Council	3	3 Vacancies	18 th May 2017
8	Llanellen Village Hall Committee	Term of Council	Council	1	Cllr. G. Howard	18 th May 2017
9	Llanfoist Villagers Association	Term of Council	Council	1	Cllr. G. Howard	18 th May 2017
10	Raglan Community Centre Committee	Term of Council	Council	1	Cllr. P. Jones	18 th May 2017
11	Monmouth School and Haberdashers' Monmouth School for Girls	Term of Council	Council	1	Cllr. R. Roden	18 th May 2017
12	Abergavenny Educational Foundation of King Henry VIII- Governors	Term of Council	Council	5	Mr. C.D. Woodhouse Cllr. S. Woodhouse Cllr. M. Lane Cllr.R.P. Jordan Cllr. M. Powell	18 th May 2017 18 th May 2017 18 th May 2017 18 th May 2017 18 th May 2017
13	Wye Navigation Advisory Committee	Term of Council	Council	1		18 th May 2017
15	Pratts Charity, Mathern	4 years from appointment	Council	2	Cllr L. Brown (local member) Vacancy	10 th Sept 2020
16	Monmouthshire Local Access Forum	Term of Council	Council	1	Cllr. A. Webb	18 th May 2017
17	Clydach Ebenezer Chapel Fund Committee	Term of Council	Council	1	Cllr J. Pratt	18 th May 2017

Category 'F' - Other

No.	Body	Term of Office	Source of Members Allowances	No. of Reps	Name of Councillor Appointed	Date Appointed at Council
1	Best Kept Village Competition	Term of Council	Council	6	Cllr. P.R. Clarke Cllr. D. Evans Cllr. B. Strong Cllr. L. Dymock Cllr. L. Jones Cllr. R. John	18 th May 2017 18 th May 2017 18 th May 2017 18 th May 2017 18 th May 2017 18 th May 2017
2	Gwent Association of Voluntary Organisations	Term of Council	Council	1	Cllr. T. Easson	10 th May 2018
3	Local Government Flood Forum	Term of Council	Council	1	Cllr. P.R. Clarke	18 th May 2017
4	Armed Forces Champion	Term of Council	Council	1	Cllr. L. Jones	18 th May 2017

Category 'G' - Appointments Determined by W.L.G.A

No.	Body	Term of Office	Source of Members Allowances	No. of Reps	Name of Councillor Appointed	Nominated at Council
1	Flood Risk Management Committee Wales (in rotation with Powys and Torfaen)	Term of Council	WLGA	1	Councillor J. Pratt	18 th May 2017

SUBJECT: Freedom of the Borough – Royal British Legion (RBL)

MEETING: Council

DATE: 13th May 2021

DIVISION/WARDS AFFECTED: All

1. PURPOSE:

This report is to seek a decision on whether the Council admit as Honorary Freeman of the County the Royal British Legion in recognition of their 100th Year Anniversary on 15th May 2021 and to honour the charitable work of the organisation supporting ex-service men and women and their families. This will give public recognition to the recipient as an expression of high esteem in which they are held by Monmouthshire County Council and the people of the County on the occasion of the 100th Anniversary of the Royal British Legion.

Under Section 249(5) of the Local Government Act 1972 a Council can grant the Freedom of the Borough to "persons of distinction and persons who have, in the opinion of the authority, rendered eminent services to place place or area". In order to grant the Freedom of the Borough, a resolution must be passed by not less than two thirds of the members voting at a meeting of the Council specially convened for the purpose.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

Council are asked to recommend the following: In pursuance of Section 249 (as amended) of the Local Government Act 1972 the Council confers upon the Royal British Legion in 2021, the Freedom of the County of Monmouthshire.

3. KEY ISSUES:

The tradition of Boroughs conferring the Freedom goes back to ancient times when the Royal Charter Boroughs were almost, if not entirely, self governing. Originally, such conferment conveyed special privileges of various kinds upon the recipient that could involve the right to vote, property and local taxation benefits.

Over the years, and especially since the passing of the Reform Act 1983 and the Municipal Corporations Act 1835, successive Acts of Parliament have sought amongst other things severely to curtail the extent of the privileges so that, today, the conferment is purely honorary. Today's Freemen have no special rights.

However, the tradition is maintained as a means whereby public recognition may be given to the recipients as an expression of the high esteem in which, they are held by the Council and people of the Borough.

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

The Well-being of Future Generations Act asks public bodies to work towards achieving a Wales of cohesive communities. Therefore, by recognising the charitable work of the Royal British Legion the Council can publicly thank the RBL and also the wide range of people in the county borough who raise funds every year to support the RBL.

5. OPTIONS APPRAISAL

Not applicable to this report

6. EVALUATION CRITERIA

Not applicable to this report.

7. REASONS:

By conferring the Freedom of the Borough, Monmouthshire County Council gives an opportunity to recognise the achievements and work of individuals and organisations within its community.

8. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

The Local Government Act 1972 provides that the Authority may spend such reasonable sum as they think fit for the purpose of presenting an address or a casket containing an address to any person admitted to be an honorary freeman.

9. CONSULTEES:

Royal British Legion
MCC Armed Forces Champion
Monmouthshire Armed Forces Forum (MAFF)
Regional Armed Forces Covenant Liaison Officer

10. BACKGROUND PAPERS:

Not applicable to this report

11. AUTHORS:

Joe Skidmore (Community & Partnership Development Lead)

12. CONTACT DETAILS:

Tel: 01633 644344

E-mail: JoeSkidmore@monmouthshire.gov.uk

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Public Document Pack Agenda Item 13

MONMOUTHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

**Minutes of the meeting of County Council held
at Council Chamber - Council Chamber on Thursday, 11th March, 2021 at 2.00 pm**

PRESENT: County Councillor S. Woodhouse (Chairman)

County Councillors: P. Clarke, D. Batrouni, J.Becker,
D. Blakebrough, L.Brown, A.Davies, L.Dymock, A. Easson,
R. Edwards, D. Evans, M.Feakins, P.A. Fox, R.J.W. Greenland,
M.Groucutt, L. Guppy, R. Harris, J. Higginson, G. Howard,
S. Howarth, R.John, D. Jones, L.Jones, P. Jones, S. Jones,
P. Jordan, M.Lane, P. Murphy, P.Pavia, M. Powell, J.Pratt, R.Roden,
B. Strong, F. Taylor, T.Thomas, J.Treharne, J.Watkins, A. Watts,
A. Webb and K. Williams

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Matt Phillips	Head of Law/ Monitoring Officer
Paul Matthews	Chief Executive
Peter Davies	Deputy Chief Executive and Chief Officer, Resources
Will McLean	Chief Officer for Children and Young People
Nicola Perry	Senior Democracy Officer
Frances O'Brien	Chief Officer, Enterprise
Julie Boothroyd	Chief Officer Social Care, Safeguarding and Health
Jonathan Davies	Acting Assistant Head of Finance
Scott James	Strategic Procurement Manager
Sally Thomas	HR Manager

APOLOGIES:

County Councillors S.B. Jones

1. Declarations of interest

None.

2. Public Questions

None.

3. Chairman's announcement and receipts of petitions

On opening the meeting, the Chairman conducted a period of silence as a mark of respect of the passing of County Councillor David Dovey.

Members paid tribute to Councillor Dovey. Council passed on their sincere condolences.

The Chairman acknowledged receipt of a petition from Councillor Alan Davies regarding flooding at Castle Lea.

The Chairman commended the work undertaken by staff and officers of the Council over the term of the pandemic.

MONMOUTHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

**Minutes of the meeting of County Council held
at Council Chamber - Council Chamber on Thursday, 11th March, 2021 at 2.00 pm**

4. Reports for Council:

5. COUNCIL TAX RESOLUTION and REVENUE AND CAPITAL BUDGETS FOR 2021/22

The Cabinet Member for Resources presented the Council Tax Resolution and Revenue and Capital Budgets for 2021/22.

The Council is bound by Statute to specific timescales for Council Tax setting and is also required to make certain defined resolutions. The recommendations that form a major part of this report are designed to comply with those Statutory Provisions.

The recommended resolutions also draw together the Council Tax implications of precepts proposed by the Office of Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent and Town and Community Councils, thereby enabling the County Council to establish its headline Council Tax levels at the various property bands within each Town or Community area.

Seconded by County Councillor R. Greenland.

The Leader of the Opposition expressed disappointment with the increase in Council Tax, and increase in fees and charges, which would have the greatest impact on households with lowest incomes, given the additional Welsh Government support.

Frustrations were expressed over the cost of employing agency workers.

Concerns were raised over the upkeep and maintenance of Caldicot Castle Park. It was a great concern that car parking chargers are to be introduced. The Cabinet member responded that car park charges would not be increased this year, and much of what had been spoken of was Covid related expenditure.

The Leader thanked the Cabinet Member and officers for their work in preparing the budget. He expressed that there had been no alternative budget suggestions submitted to Council. He highlighted the difference in funding per capita across neighbouring authorities, adding that if MCC was funded fairly, Council Tax could be reduced.

A question was raised regarding Council Tax collections, and it was anticipated that collection rate would remain the same. Council Tax write offs in 2019 amounted to £168,240, in the current year to date it amounts to £36,313

A suggestion was made that no increase to Council Tax should be made, given the current climate.

It was confirmed that no money had been lost over the investment at Newport Leisure Park, due to the WG Covid Hardship Fund.

A question around investment in affordable housing was raised.

Upon being put to a vote Council resolved to accept the recommendations as set out in the report.

6. 2021/22 TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

MONMOUTHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

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The Cabinet Member for Resources presented the report for approval of the Treasury Management Strategy including Minimum Revenue Provision policy for the 2021/22 financial year. The report summarises and highlights the key areas relating to the strategy, alongside those areas of key implications and risks resulting from it.

Seconded by County Councillor Maureen Powell.

The Chair of Audit Committee was in attendance and addressed Council to confirm the report had been discussed at Audit Committee on 25th February 2021.

In response to a concern regarding the borrow strategy, the Cabinet Member confirmed that officers will look at long term rates and fix when it is appropriate to do so. Officers are constantly assessing borrowing requirements.

Upon being put to the vote Council resolve to accept the recommendations:

That Council approves the Treasury Management Strategy 2021/22 including the:

- 1. 2021/22 Treasury Management policy statement**
- 2. 2021/22 Minimum Revenue Provision Policy Statement**
- 3. 2021/22 Investment & Borrowing Strategies**

To approve the Prudential Indicators supplied in Appendix 5 and that will be used in the performance monitoring of the treasury function during 2021/22.

That Council agrees that Audit Committee should continue to review the Council's treasury activities on behalf of the Council by receiving & scrutinising the mid-year report and year end report and also scrutinising the Treasury Policy & Strategy before passing to Council for approval.

7. CAPITAL STRATEGY 2021/22 AND APPROVAL OF GRANT FUNDED ADDITIONS TO THE 2020/21 CAPITAL BUDGET

The Cabinet Member for Resources presented the report for Council to approve the 2021/22 Capital strategy for approval and for approval of the addition of grant funded budgets to the 2020/21 capital programme.

Seconded by County Councillor Giles Howard.

Upon being put to the vote Council resolved to accept the recommendations:

To review and approve the 2021/22 Capital Strategy (Appendix 1)

To approve the additions of the capital budgets financed entirely from external grants and contributions identified in Appendix 2 to the 2020/21 capital budget

8. APPOINTMENT TO WYE NAVIGATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Cabinet Member for Governance and Law presented the report to appoint a representative to serve on the Wye Navigation Advisory Committee.

In doing so he thanked Councillor Ann Webb for her time on the Committee.

Councillor Batrouni nominated Councillor Anthony Easson, seconded by Councillor Groucutt.

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Councillor Jordan nominated Councillor Jane Pratt, seconded by Councillor Powell.

Upon being put to the vote Councillor Jane Pratt was appointed.

9. CONSTITUTION

The Cabinet Member for Governance and Law presented the report for Council to consider the revised and updated MCC Constitution.

Seconded by County Councillor Jamie Treharne.

Councillor Howard thanked Officers for the removal of the proposal that planning applications referred to full Committee by ward members would first be considered by the delegated panel.

Councillor Brown thanked officers for amendments to the Constitution and retaining the right of County Councillors to refer matters to Planning Committee.

Upon being put to the vote Council resolved to approve the recommendation:

Full Council approve the reviewed and updated Constitution.

10. Notices of Motion:

11. Submitted by County Councillor D. Batrouni

This Council applauds the Welsh Labour Government for its support, particularly financially, to the Council, its residents, and our local businesses during the Covid-19 pandemic. In total, the Welsh Government has provided the Council and Monmouthshire businesses over £45m. It is also very pleasing that the Welsh Government have increased the Council's budget settlement by 3.9%, which is above the Welsh average. The council originally budgeted for a 0% increase, so this means the Council will roughly receive an extra £3.7m.

Seconded by Councillor Tudor Thomas. In doing so he highlighted that Welsh Government have provided rapid support financially and in terms of leadership and added that he would like to see MCC working more closely with Welsh Government. We heard that many Abergavenny businesses have welcomed and been grateful for the support provided by WG via MCC during this difficult period of trading.

Councillor D. Evans left the meeting at 14:50pm

The Leader stated that he would not be supporting the motion. He expressed frustration that the funding situation was allowed to continue which is putting excessive strain on authorities like MCC through a lack of action in altering a formula which could be reviewed to provide fairness going forward. He added that UK Government had made £6.6 billion available to WG, to administer on their behalf.

Councillor Armand Watts declared a non-prejudicial interest as a business owner in receipt of support.

Councillor Laura Jones MS concurred with comments around distribution of support and funds from WG. She added that it is well recognised within the Senedd how well MCC are doing and being used as an example of good practice.

Upon being put to the vote the notion was defeated.

MONMOUTHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

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12. Submitted by County Councillor J. Watkins

Council notes that:

- a) At just £67.25 a week, Carer's Allowance is the lowest benefit of its kind.*
- b) In response to the Covid-19 pandemic, the Government increased the Universal Credit standard allowance and the Working Tax Credit basic element by £20 a week above the planned uprating in April 2020, but it has not increased Carer's Allowance.*
- c) Many unpaid carers are facing extreme financial hardship. A recent survey by Carers UK found that more than a third of those on Carer's Allowance are struggling to make ends meet. Many have been struggling for months, often relying on foodbanks to feed themselves and the people they care for. The Carers UK survey found that "43% of carers felt that a rise in Carer's Allowance would help them, given the financial pressures they are facing."*

Council resolves that:

- a) We must stand up for carers, do more to support them, and build a more caring society as we emerge from the Covid-19 pandemic.*

Council directs the Leader of the Council to:

- a) Write to the Chancellor of the Exchequer and the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, urging them to raise Carer's Allowance by £20 a week immediately, in line with the increase in Universal Credit.*
- b) Council resolves to put out a general communication to unpaid carers, third sector organisations and community councils to encourage carers to claim Carers Allowance*

Seconded by Councillor Anthony Easson.

Councillor Armand Watts proposed an amendment to the motion, to include Part C as below:

Council directs the Leader of the Council to:

- a) Write to the Chancellor of the Exchequer and the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, urging them to raise Carer's Allowance by £20 a week immediately, in line with the increase in Universal Credit.*
- b) Council resolves to put out a general communication to unpaid carers, third sector organisations and community councils to encourage carers to claim Carers Allowance*
- c) That the £128 earnings threshold is removed.***

The amended was seconded by Councillor Frances Taylor.

Suggestion was made that a reasonable figure for the earnings threshold should be set out in the amended motion.

Councillor Kevin Williams declared a personal non-prejudicial interest

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Upon being put to the vote the amended motion was carried and became the substantive motion.

Cabinet Member for Social Care, Safeguarding and Health proposed that part b of the motion was unnecessary and should be removed: *b) Council resolves to put out a general communication to unpaid carers, third sector organisations and community councils to encourage carers to claim Carers Allowance.*

She explained that forms of communication currently include a Monmouthshire Carers newsletter with updated information on everything beneficial to carers and their families, Social Media, video calls, virtual coffee mornings and meetings, Gwent carers hub and local support groups.

Upon being put to the vote the amendment to the substantive motion was carried.

The new substantive motion:

Council directs the Leader of the Council to:

a) Write to the Chancellor of the Exchequer and the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, urging them to raise Carer's Allowance by £20 a week immediately, in line with the increase in Universal Credit.

b) That the £128 earnings threshold is removed.

Upon being put to the vote the substantive motion was carried.

13. Submitted by County Councillor F. Taylor

That in fulfilling its role to support sustainable communities, this council safeguards all public amenity space in the interests of future generations and in support of mitigating and addressing the declared climate emergency.

Seconded by Councillor Simon Howarth.

The Cabinet Member for Resources stated that Council is fully committed to ensuring it takes decisions in accordance with the principles of the Well-Being and Future Generations Act and undertake actions that seek to make a positive contribution to the decarbonisation agenda. He added that the proposed motion fails to take account of the safeguards that are already in place and could lead to unintended consequences that would serve to undermine the actions that the motion seeks to prevent.

There were concerns that the reference to public community space did not have enough clarity in terms of the motion.

It was hoped that should Council not accept the motion ways could be sought to work to safeguard community spaces and to stop them being sold and developed upon.

Upon being put to the vote the motion was defeated.

MONMOUTHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

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14. Submitted by County Councillor R. John, Cabinet Member for Children and Young People and MonLife

This council:

- a) Notes the significant improvement in the Covid-19 incidence rates both in Monmouthshire and across Wales since Alert Level Four restrictions began on 20th December.*
- b) Welcomes the success and speed of the vaccination programme across the UK*
- c) Calls on the Welsh Government to publish a detailed roadmap to ending Covid-19 restrictions in Wales*

Seconded by Councillor Bob Greenland.

Councillor Roger Harris proposed an amendment to the motion:

This council:

- a) Notes the significant improvement in the Covid-19 incidence rates both in Monmouthshire and across Wales since Alert Level Four restrictions began on 20th December.*
- b) Welcomes the success and speed of the vaccination programme across the UK, **particularly in Wales***
- c) **Congratulates the Welsh Government on publishing** a detailed roadmap to ending Covid-19 restrictions in Wales*

Seconded by Councillor Dimitri Batrouni

The Cabinet Member for Community and Social Justice did not support the motion and explained how she considered the roadmap to be no longer applicable.

In support of the motion the Leader of the Opposition stated that Wales was the leading UK nation in the roll out of the vaccination programme, particularly distribution of second vaccines. He added that the roadmap produced in February 2021 was adaptable to the changes of the virus.

Councillor John welcomed the part b of the amendment but did not support part c of the amendment.

Upon being put to the vote the amended motion was defeated.

Debate returned to the original motion

The Cabinet Member for Social Justice focussed her comments on wellbeing, in particular children and young people. She stressed the importance of opening organised activities, and pleaded that Welsh Government look to prioritise the removal of outdoor sporting facilities from their list of closed premises. Also, that WG look to allow organised group activities for under 18s and allow individuals to travel by car to exercise.

Upon being put the vote the motion was carried.

MONMOUTHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

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15. **Members Questions:**

16. **From County Councillor T. Thomas to County Councillor R. John, Cabinet Member for Children and Young People and MonLife**

Could the Cabinet Member inform council how confident he is that all pupils in Monmouthshire schools have laptops or iPads to ensure good access to 'blended learning' including free school meal pupils and pupils coming from homes that have lower incomes?

Councillor John thanked Councillor Thomas for the question and responded:

We have been working with WG on an initiative to refresh schools digital network infrastructure and invest in replacement devices to enhance digital learning. This multi-million project was brought forward during the pandemic in an effort to ensure that remote learning facilities were enabled for all schools.

Our digital programme officers worked extensively with the SRS, and with schools, to ensure that digitally excluded learners received all the help and support they required during the pandemic. They gathered information from households on their ability to connect to the internet and provided mobile broadband units where they were needed. They provided laptops to learners who needed an internet enabled device to access Hwb. We have provided several thousand new devices across our schools to support blended learning requirements to ensure children, particularly those eligible for free school meals, are included. We have also worked with teaching staff to ensure they have access to technical support where needed.

We are confident that all households and learners who have engaged with their schools have received the tools they need for blended learning. Our schools have also worked hard with their families to identify gaps in provision and ensure every child and young person has the opportunity to engage in distance learning.

17. **Reports for Council:**

18. **STRATEGIC LEADERSHIP TEAM ADJUSTMENTS**

The Chief Executive presented the report to propose some minor changes to the structure and portfolio balance of the Strategic Leadership Team recognising key external contextual changes that will shape the next stage of the Council's development.

Seconded by Councillor P. Jordan.

Upon being put to the vote Council resolved to accept the recommendations:

To re-designate the current Chief Officer Resources as Chief Officer Resources / Deputy Chief Executive and the current Head of Law / Monitoring Officer as Chief Officer People and Governance. In accordance with Art 4.02(g) of the December 2017 Constitution this requires Council's endorsement.

MONMOUTHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

**Minutes of the meeting of County Council held
at Council Chamber - Council Chamber on Thursday, 11th March, 2021 at 2.00 pm**

**19. PUBLICATION OF PAY POLICY STATEMENT AS REQUIRED BY THE LOCALISM
ACT**

The Cabinet Member for Resources presented the report for council to approve the publication of Monmouthshire County Council's Pay Policy, in compliance with the Localism Act.

Seconded by County Councillor M. Feakins

Upon being put to the vote Council resolved to accept the recommendation:

That Council approves the Pay Policy for the year 1st April 2021 to 31st March 2022.

20. To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 14th January 2021

The minutes of the meeting held on 14th January 2021 were approved as an accurate record.

The meeting ended at 7.10 pm

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