

SUBJECT: Bryn y Cwm Area Committee Name Change

MEETING: COUNTY COUNCIL

DATE: 19th April 2018

DIVISION/WARDS AFFECTED: Bryn y Cwm Area

1. PURPOSE:

1.1 To seek approval to change the name of Bryn y Cwm Area Committee.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

2.1 That Council approve a change of name from Bryn y Cwm Area Committee to North Monmouthshire Area Committee.

3. KEY ISSUES:

3.1 Area Committees are a way to support and ensure Monmouthshire's communities are resilient with a clarity for purpose when seen from a community perspective. The role of the committee is influence at the interface between strategic and local decision-making ensuring that resources are directed to local priorities while remaining citizen focused.

3.2 In March 2017, Council approved the piloting of a new model in Bryn y Cwm, with Area Committees being retained as the sole structure to support joint working in the locality.

3.3 Council subsequently agreed to extend voting rights to community and town councillors who sit on the committee for the duration of the pilot to ensure the committee is able to operate inclusively and provide a voice to its broader membership.

3.4 The Committee has now suggested that its name be changed to provide greater resonance with local people. The Bryn y Cwm name has never truly resonated with the local community. The Area Committee has no decision-making powers within the Constitution and The Monitoring Officer has advised that as this should be a decision of Council.

4. OPTIONS APPRAISAL

- 4.1 A number of possible names have been considered with the committee agreeing on North Monmouthshire as the preferred option.

5. EVALUATION CRITERIA

- 5.1 The proposed change will be evaluated as part of the evaluation of the pilot scheme as a whole following its conclusion in September 2018.
- 5.2 The evaluation will be made available to Strong Communities Select Committee for scrutiny in October or November 2018.

6. REASONS:

- 6.1 To ensure the Area Committee is clearly identified with the geography which it represents.

7. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

- 7.1 There are no resource implications

8. WELLBEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS IMPLICATIONS (INCORPORATING EQUALITIES, SUSTAINABILITY, SAFEGUARDING AND CORPORATE PARENTING):

- 8.1 No evaluation has been completed for this proposal.
- 8.2 The impact of this report's recommendations will be reviewed at the end of the pilot and the and criteria for monitoring and review are increased engagement and an increase in the number of recommendations going forward to council and cabinet meetings.

9. CONSULTEES:

Bryn y Cwm Area Committee
SLT
Cabinet

10. BACKGROUND PAPERS:

None

11. AUTHOR:

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12. CONTACT DETAILS:

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Evaluation Criteria – Cabinet, Individual Cabinet Member Decisions & Council

Title of Report:	Bryn y Cwm Area Committee – Change of Name
Date decision was made:	Scheduled for 19th April 2018
Report Author:	Matthew Gatehouse

What will happen as a result of this decision being approved by Cabinet or Council?

Increased inclusivity of decision making at Bryn y Cwm Area Committee.
Increase the likelihood of a successful piloting of the new approach to area committees.
Opening up and ensuring a more participatory democratic process

What benchmarks and/or criteria will you use to determine whether the decision has been successfully implemented?

There are no specific criteria aligned to this proposal. However the criteria for the evaluation of the whole pilot include:

- Increased town and community council engagement in area committees.
- An increase in the number of recommendations from the area committee to select committees, Cabinet and County Council.
- Increased perception amongst local people that they are able to influence decisions in their local area and participate in local democracy.
- Increased likelihood that community interests and priorities will be taken into account by the Authority in exercising its functions.

What is the estimate cost of implementing this decision or, if the decision is designed to save money, what is the proposed saving that the decision will achieve?

There are no financial or non-financial costs associated with implementing the decision

Any other comments