



**RHONDDA CYNON TAF**

**RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNCIL**

Minutes of the virtual meeting of the Council held on Wednesday, 26 May 2021 at 3.00 pm.

**County Borough Councillors - Council Members in attendance:-**

Councillor S Powderhill (Chair)

Councillor G Hughes	Councillor M Powell
Councillor H Boggis	Councillor J Bonetto
Councillor S Bradwick	Councillor R Bevan
Councillor A Calvert	Councillor T Williams
Councillor A Crimmings	Councillor D Williams
Councillor G Davies	Councillor S Pickering
Councillor L De Vet	Councillor S Rees
Councillor J Elliott	Councillor S Evans
Councillor S Evans	Councillor S. Rees-Owen
Councillor M Forey	Councillor A Fox
Councillor M Norris	Councillor E Webster
Councillor M Webber	Councillor M Griffiths
Councillor A Roberts	Councillor M Weaver
Councillor G Holmes	Councillor L Walker
Councillor G Hopkins	Councillor P Howe
Councillor K Morgan	Councillor R Yeo
Councillor P Jarman	Councillor G Thomas
Councillor A Morgan	Councillor M Adams
Councillor J Rosser	Councillor G Stacey
Councillor R Lewis	Councillor C Leyshon
Councillor J Brencher	Councillor S Powell
Councillor D Owen-Jones	Councillor W Owen
Councillor S Morgans	Councillor S Belzak
Councillor E Stephens	Councillor W Lewis
Councillor G Jones	Councillor W Treeby
Councillor W Jones	Councillor L Jones
Councillor L Hooper	Councillor J Harries
Councillor D Grehan	Councillor E George
Councillor J Davies	Councillor J Cullwick
Councillor A Cox	Councillor A Chapman
Councillor E Griffiths	Councillor G Caple
Councillor J Edwards	Councillor S Trask
Councillor R Williams	

**Officers in attendance**

Mr C Bradshaw, Chief Executive  
Mr C Hanagan, Service Director of Democratic Services & Communication  
Mr B Davies, Director of Finance & Digital Services  
Mr P Mee, Group Director Community & Children's Services  
Mr A Wilkins, Director of Legal Services  
Mr R Evans, Director of Human Resources  
Ms L Davies, Director, Public Health, Protection and Community Services

## **1 Declaration of Interest**

In accordance with the Council's Code of Conduct, there were no declarations made pertaining to the agenda.

## **2 Apologies**

An apology of absence was received from County Borough Councillors A Davies-Jones, M Fidler Jones, H Fychan, J James, K L Jones, M Tegg, R K Turner, J Williams and C Willis.

## **3 Council Procedure Rule 15.1**

The Deputy Leader moved the suspension of Council Procedure Rule 15.1 which states that a matter would be decided by a simple majority of those Members voting and present in the room at the time the question was put in order to facilitate the smooth running of the virtual meeting.

Following consideration of the matter it was **RESOLVED** to suspend Council Procedure Rule 15.1

The Service Director Democratic Services & Communications confirmed the political party numbers present at the meeting as:-

Labour Group – 34

Plaid Cymru Group – 12

RCT Independent Group – 4

Conservative Group – 2

## **4 ELECTIONS & APPOINTMENTS**

### **2a. To elect a Presiding Officer of the Council**

**RESOLVED** – that County Borough Councillor S Powderhill be elected as Presiding Officer for the 2021/22 Municipal Year.

County Borough Councillor S Powderhill resumed the Chair following his appointment.

### **2b. To elect a Deputy Presiding Officer of the Council**

**RESOLVED** – that County Borough Councillor G Hughes be elected as Deputy Presiding Officer for the 2021/22 Municipal Year.

(**Note:** The Conservative Group abstained from voting on the matter)

### **2c. To receive an address from the Mayor of the Council 2020-2021.**

The retiring Mayor took the opportunity to reflect on her term of office as Mayor

of Rhondda Cynon Taf for the 2020/21 Municipal Year. Councillor Morgans thanked Council for affording her the great honour of serving as Mayor of Rhondda Cynon Taf, albeit in a very different capacity to previous Mayors. The outgoing Mayor highlighted some of the important events, whilst socially distancing, which had been undertaken during her term such as attending a Remembrance Service last November at Ferndale War Memorial and laid a Wreath honouring our Service men and women, past and present.

With the relaxation of restrictions, the outgoing Mayor was able to make a visit to Ty Nant Care Home to receive a generous donation given to the Mayor's Charities, by their residents and the Home in lieu of sending Christmas Cards.

The retiring Mayor paid tribute to all those who have lost their lives during the pandemic and paid a personal tribute to the key workers, frontline services and medical professionals and those working with the Vaccination Programme within Rhondda Cynon Taf. She acknowledged the dedication and professionalism of so many people, whose resilience and strength, during this time, has been commendable

The retiring Mayor took the opportunity to wish her successor all the very best and concluded with the words of the late Captain Sir Tom, "tomorrow will be a better day".

In response Members paid tribute to the retiring Mayor who was commended for her efforts and hard work during what had been an unprecedented year.

**2d. To elect a Mayor of Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council for the Municipal Year 2021-2022.**

**RESOLVED** – to elect County Borough Councillor J Bonetto as Mayor of Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council for the Municipal Year 2021-2022

**RESOLVED** – to elect County Borough Councillor J Bonetto as Mayor of Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council for the Municipal Year 2021-2022

The Mayor of Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council for the Municipal Year 2021-2022 thanked the retiring Mayor and for the opportunity afforded to her as incoming Mayor. She announced that her consorts will be her husband, Lawrence and daughter, Nicola Charlesworth, and her chosen charities as 'Help for Heroes', 'To Wish Upon A Star' and 'AP Cymru'.

Members wished the incoming Mayor well for her forthcoming year.

**2e. To appoint a Deputy Mayor of Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council for the Municipal Year 2021 – 2022.**

**RESOLVED** – to elect County Borough Councillor W Treeby as Deputy Mayor of Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council for the Municipal Year 2021-2022.

The Deputy Mayor congratulated the new incoming Madam Mayor and for affording her the honour of being elected as Deputy Mayor for 2021-22. She announced her Consort as Mr Paul Hammett and looked forward to supporting the Mayor during her term of office.

**2f. To appoint a Leader of the Council.**

**RESOLVED** – that County Borough Councillor A Morgan be appointed Leader of the Council for the 2021/2022 Municipal Year.

County Borough Councillor A Morgan extended his thanks to Members for their support during the last year and to all the staff for their hard work and commitment over the last 12 months particularly the senior officers who had afforded the Leader the opportunity to engage with Welsh Government and represent the communities of RCT. He gave a firm commitment to Members and to the public that the next 12 months would focus on the recovery, jobs and improving our communities and taking RCT forward in a positive way.

The Group Leaders acknowledged the Leader's appointment and offered their continued support during the recovery period.

**2g To confirm the appointment of the Leader of the largest opposition party, as the Leader of the Opposition.**

**RESOLVED** to confirm the appointment of County Borough Councillor P Jarman as Leader of the Opposition.

## **5 EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONS**

### **Executive Functions- Leader's Scheme of Delegation**

The Leader of the Council, County Borough Councillor A Morgan, announced that the Leader's scheme of delegation would be published and circulated to all members during the meeting and to the Council website.

**RESOLVED** to note the Cabinet and their individual designations, as follows:-

- County Borough Councillor M. Webber, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Council Business
- County Borough Councillor R. Bevan, Cabinet Member for Enterprise Development & Housing
- County Borough Councillor A. Crimmings, Cabinet Member for Environment, Leisure & Heritage Services
- County Borough Councillor G. Hopkins, Cabinet Member for Adult Community Services & Welsh Language
- County Borough Councillor M. A. Norris, Cabinet Member for Corporate Services
- County Borough Councillor J. Rosser, Cabinet Member for Education & Inclusion Services
- County Borough Councillor R. Lewis, Cabinet Member for Stronger Communities, Well-Being & Cultural Services
- County Borough Councillor C. Leyshon, Cabinet Member for Children's

## 6 THE POLITICAL BALANCE OF THE COUNCIL

Through his joint report with the Director of Legal Services, the Service Director, Democratic Services & Communication advised Members of the outcome of the review of the Political Balance of the Authority which is reported to the Council's AGM. Members were advised that the Council's Political Balance reflected the outcome of the two recent By-Elections.

The Service Director highlighted Section 4 of the report which sets out the outcomes of the review undertaken and the available seats which require appointment by the respective political groups and in particular to paragraph 4.2 which sets out the amendments to the current political balance with the Conservative Group gaining representation on the Governance & Audit Committee, the Pension Fund Committee and the Council's Scrutiny Committees, seats previously held by the RCT Independent Group.

He advised that Section 5 seeks Council's determination of the allocation of the notices of motion for the new municipal year and authority would also be sought for the appointments to the Committees once the nominations are received from the political groups.

It was **RESOLVED** –

- 2.1 That the scheme for the allocation of seats to the different political groups and bodies to which Section 15 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 applies, as detailed in the Appendix to this report, be adopted;
- 2.2 That the Service Director of Democratic Services & Communication be authorised to make appointments to politically balanced bodies upon receipt by him of notification of the wishes of the political groups subject to any subsequent requests for amendment of membership of Committees, being referred to Council;
- 2.3 To note that Members of the Cabinet are not eligible for appointment to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee or Scrutiny Committees;
- 2.4 To note that at least one Member of the Cabinet can sit on the Governance & Audit and Democratic Services Committees, but the Council Leader is excluded from these positions; and
- 2.5 That the allocation of Notices of Motion for the 2021-2022 Municipal Year is as follows: -

Labour - 10  
Plaid Cymru - 6  
RCT Independent Group - 2  
Conservatives - 1  
Unallocated Member (x1) - 1

## 7 THE COUNCIL'S CONSTITUTION - PROPOSED AMENDMENTS AND ANCILLARY MATTERS

The Service Director, Democratic Services & Communication set out the proposed amendments to the Council's Constitution together with ancillary matters as outlined in the joint report which also responded to the requirements of the Local Government & Elections Wales Act 2021. He added that the matters were subject to consideration, and supported by, the Constitution Committee.

The Service Director highlighted some of the key proposals which included moving to the default position of an electronic committee summons but added that it will not preclude any Member from requesting a hard copy in advance of a Committee. The introduction of an indicative agenda item time, which supports the virtual arrangements and supports all Members and political groups to plan their representations in advance of a meeting and the inclusion of a comfort break where appropriate, which he advised was particularly important for longer meetings and formalised the request to extend business where required.

The Service Director referred to the development of the Members Portal, which has been overseen by the Democratic Services Committee and the opportunities it provides for Members to undertake a number of democratic processes. The additional guidance in respect of supplementary questions which clarifies that where the 20-minute time duration has expired, a member will not be permitted to ask and have answered their supplementary question.

In conclusion, the Service Director referred to the change in the title of the of name of the Audit Committee to the Governance & Audit Committee and that of the Corporate Governance & Constitution Committee to the 'Constitution Committee'.

Following discussions, it was **RESOLVED** to agree the proposed amendments and ancillary matters relating to the Council's Constitution as set out in the report between 2.1 and 2.21 and as follows:

### **Amendments to the Council Procedure Rules**

#### Time and Place of Meetings

- 2.1 For the reasons outlined in paragraphs 4.1 – 4.3 of the report amends Council Procedure Rule 4 to include as follows:
  - 4.1 The time and place of meetings will be determined by the Proper Officer and notified to Members in the summons
  - 4.2 For all purposes of the Constitution the term "meeting" is not limited in meaning to a meeting of persons all of whom, or any of whom, are present in the same place. Any reference to "place" is to be interpreted as where a meeting is held, or to be held, includes reference to more than one place including electronic, digital or virtual locations such as internet locations, web addresses or conference call telephone numbers.

#### Committee Summons

- 2.2 For the reasons outlined in paragraphs 4.4 – 4.8 of the report amend Council Procedure Rule 5.1 as follows:

5.1 “The Proper Officer will give notice to the public of the time and place of any meeting, in accordance with the Access to Information Rules. At least three clear days before a meeting, the Proper Officer will send a summons signed by him or her by email to every Member of the Council. The summons will give the date, time and place of each meeting including reference to whether the meeting is to take place virtually or arrangements for a hybrid (physical and virtual) meeting are in place and specify the business to be transacted, and will be accompanied by such reports as are available at that time. The summons will also indicate whether the meeting is to be webcast. Any Member not wishing to receive the summons by email may request (in writing to the Proper Officer) such other reasonable method of delivery as they may wish, with such requests being reviewed periodically by the Proper Officer.

#### Quorum.

2.3 For the reasons outlined in paragraphs 4.9 – 4.12 of the report amend Council Procedure Rule 7 to include as follows:

Save for meetings of the Planning and Development Control Committee the quorum of a meeting will be one quarter of the whole number of Members.

A Member attending a meeting remotely will be counted for the purpose of establishing a quorum so long as that Member can, when they are speaking, be heard (and seen where possible) and they can hear (and see where possible) the other Members attending the meeting and the Proper Officer, or other officer appointed to act on his/her behalf.

During any meeting if the if the Presiding Officer/Chair counts the number of members present (both virtual attendance and actual attendee) and declares there is not a quorum present, then the meeting will adjourn immediately. If this is caused by technical difficulties experienced by a Members trying to access the meeting, or due to the hosting of a virtual meeting, then a period of 15 minutes shall be allowed to assess if the issue can be resolved. If the meeting remains inquorate, remaining business will be considered at a time and date fixed by the Presiding Officer / Chair. If he/she does not fix a date, the remaining business will be considered at the next ordinary meeting.

#### Duration of a meeting

2.4 For the reasons outlined in paragraphs 4.13 – 4.17 of the report amend Council Procedure Rule 8 to include as follows:

##### Duration & Business of Council Meetings

8.1 The Presiding Officer / Chair shall have the discretion to call an adjournment at an appropriate time in order to facilitate a 10-minute comfort break. The Presiding Member may repeat such a break as necessary.

8.2 The agenda and timings for items of business for any Council Meeting shall be agreed in accordance with these Rules by the Presiding Officer (Or deputy Presiding Officer in his / her absence) in consultation with the Proper Officer at least 7 Working Days prior to the date of the Council meeting. Any time limits on agenda items may only be extended at the discretion of the Presiding Officer.

#### References in Constitution to Presiding Member

- 2.5 For the reason outlined in paragraph 4.18 it is proposed that all references in the Constitution to “Presiding Member” be replaced with reference to “Presiding Officer/ Llywydd”

#### Members’ Questions

- 2.6 For the reasons outlined in paragraph 4.19-4.20 of the report amend Procedure Rule 9.2 and 9.4(d) as follows:

9.2 A maximum of 20 minutes shall be allowed for Questions on Notice at Full Council. A member will not be permitted to ask and have answered their supplementary question if the 20 minute time duration has expired. Any questions that are not dealt with in this time limit shall fall. The order of questions to be asked at each meeting shall be determined by a ballot conducted by the Proper Officer. Any questions on notice not answered will need to be resubmitted to the Proper Officer for the next full Council meeting in accordance with these rules. This rule does not prevent a Member asking an urgent question to which the Presiding Officer has agreed can be put in accordance with Rule 9.4(b). Any such urgent questions shall be put prior to the commencement of the 20 minutes allocated for questions received on notice.

9.4(d) The question must be submitted to the Proper Officer by the Member wishing to ask that question or by the Group Leader on behalf of that Member at the relevant Council/Committee meeting

#### Motions on Notice

- 2.7 For the reasons outlined in paragraphs 4.21 – 4.22 of the report amend Council Procedure Rule 10.1(b), second bullet point as follows:

- in writing, by fax , e-mail or via the Member’s Portal (with the names of the Proposer and Seconder clearly stated) signed by the Proposer; and

- 2.8 For the reasons outlined in paragraphs 4.23 of the report amend Council Procedure Rule 10.1(e), as follow

When Motions are submitted under this Rule 10 and more than two members are listed the first two signatures listed shall be deemed to be those of the Proposer and Seconder. A Group Leader may submit a Notice of Motion on behalf of the proposer and seconder of the motion.

#### Voting



- 2.9 For the reasons outlined in paragraphs 4.24 – 4.26 of the report amend Council Procedure Rule 15.1 as follow

Unless this Constitution provides otherwise, any matter will be decided by a simple majority of those Members voting and present in the room or present at the meeting virtually at the time the question was put.

#### Photographs and Recording of Meetings

- 2.10 For the reasons outlined in paragraphs 4.27 – 4.29 of the report amend Council Procedure Rule 23 as follows:

Proceedings at meetings will be tweeted live via the Council's official twitter account and live streamed via webcasting through the Council's website. Elected Members and members of the public are also permitted to use social media during Council meetings provided it does not disrupt proceedings (*Members must keep their mobile phones (and other similar communication equipment) switched off, or set to silent, during the course of the meeting*). Save for these exemptions proceedings may not otherwise be photographed, videoed, sound recorded or transmitted in any way outside the meeting without prior permission of the Presiding Member. Failure to comply with this rule may invoke rule 19.4 (members to leave meeting) and 20.1 (removal of members of the public).

As part of the webcasting, participants images and sound will be captured for the duration of attendance within the meeting. If a participant has any concerns, about such recording they should contact the proper officer in advance of the meeting. If any concerns are received, a decision will be made by the Proper Officer on how best to continue the meeting, which could result in the meeting being rescheduled or postponed. Participants will not be penalised for raising concerns relating to the Video Recording.

#### Remote Attendance by Members (under the provisions of the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011

- 2.11 Notes that for the reasons outlined in paragraphs 4.30 – 4.32 of the report Council Procedure Rule 26.1 and 26.2 below were deleted from the Council Procedure Rules under the delegated powers afforded to the Monitoring Officer (and communicated in advance to the Group Leaders) and replaced with the following:

#### Multi-Location Meetings

- 26.1 Multi Location Meetings (Remote attendance) at meetings of the Council will only be permitted where the conditions of section 47(2)(b) of the Local Government & Elections Wales Act 2021 are met which means any Member attending a meeting remotely (the "remote attendee") must when they are speaking, be able to be seen and heard by the Members who are attending the meeting at the place where the meeting is held ("Members in actual attendance") and the remote attendee must, in turn, be able to see and hear those in actual attendance. In addition, a remote attendee must be able to be seen and heard by, and in turn see

and hear any members of the public entitled to attend the meeting and who exercise a right to speak at the meeting. If there is more than one remote location, all the Members attending remotely must be able to hear, but not necessarily see, the other remote attendees.

- 26.2 The failure of any technological provision whether that leads to a partial or complete loss of contact between the remote attendees and those Members in actual attendance during the meeting shall not invalidate any part of the deliberations or any vote taken. The Presiding Officer / Chair may postpone the meeting if they deem that appropriate or may adjourn the meeting if they deem that appropriate whilst any technological issues are resolved.
- 26.3 If there is urgent or time-limited business that must be conducted at a meeting, it should be made clear to Members that the meeting would continue and a vote would be taken without their attendance in the event of a communications/technological failure.
- 26.4 It will be incumbent on participants attending meetings remotely to ensure the suitability of their location for the meeting and to ensure any confidential items considered at the meeting, as defined in Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 are not disclosed to the public.
- 26.5 Where the Presiding Officer / Chair determines the conditions stipulated in 26.4 above are not being adhered to by a Member they have the discretion to direct that the Member move to a location which would meet the conditions to satisfy 26.4 above.

#### Signing of Documents

- 2.12 For the reasons outlined in paragraphs 4.33 of the report amend Council Procedure Rules where the mention of 'signage' is advised upon, such as 16.1 (signage of minutes); 17 (record of attendance)

Where Members are present virtually, the Proper Officer will ensure that these details are captured accordingly.

#### **Access to information procedure Rules**

- 2.13 For the reasons outlined in paragraphs 4.34 – 4.36 of the report amend Council Procedure Rules 12.2 to include the following.

...The Cabinet Forward Work Programme will need to ensure it is robust, open and transparent of forthcoming decisions to ensure Overview and Scrutiny are provided with sufficient information to allow them to conduct their role effectively. The work programme will be published at least 14 days before the start of the period covered. The Proper Officer will publish the Forward Work Programme on the Council's website.

#### **Proposed amendments to Executive Procedure rules**

##### Delegation by the Leader

- 2.14 For the reasons outlined in paragraphs 4.37 of the report amend Executive Procedure Rules 1.2 as follow

At the annual meeting of the Council, the Leader will present to the Council an electronic record of delegations made by him/her for inclusion in the Council's scheme of delegation at Part 3 to this Constitution. The document presented by the Leader will contain the following information about executive functions in relation to the coming year:

- (i) the names, of the people appointed to the Cabinet by the Leader;...

Cabinet Meetings – When and Where?

- 2.15 For the reasons outlined in paragraphs 4.38 of the report amends Executive Procedure Rules 1.6 as follow

The Cabinet will meet at least 12 times in each municipal year, at times to be agreed by the Leader. The Cabinet shall meet at the Council's main offices, through multi locations (hybrid) or at another location to be agreed by the Leader.

**Proposed amendments to Overview & Scrutiny Procedure rules**

Meetings of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, and thematic Scrutiny Committees

- 2.16 For the reasons outlined in paragraphs 4.39 – 4.40 of the report amend Overview & Scrutiny Rules 5 as follows:

There shall be at least six ordinary meetings of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and at least eight ordinary meetings of each of the thematic Scrutiny Committees in each year, subject to business needs. In addition, extraordinary meetings may be called from time to time as and when appropriate. A meeting may be called by the Chair or by the Proper Officer if he/she considers it necessary or appropriate

Call In

- 2.17 For the reasons outlined in paragraphs 4.41 of the report amend Overview & Scrutiny Rules 17.1 as follow

(I) A request for call in, made in accordance with these Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules, can be submitted either by hand to a Democratic Services officer using the designated call-in form (a copy of which is available on request from Democratic Services) or via electronic mail (email), or via completion of the relevant form through the Member's Portal. Any request submitted electronically must be sent by one of the three signatories to the call-in and in respect of emailed submission emailed to the following email address – [scrutiny@rctcbc.gov.uk](mailto:scrutiny@rctcbc.gov.uk). For the purposes of checking compliance with these rules the electronic submissions will have been deemed to be received at the time it is received into the Scrutiny mailbox / received via the Members Portal. In order to be a valid call in request any request submitted electronically must include all of the same information and details as is required to be completed in the designated hardcopy call-in form. Attaching a copy of

the call-in form to the email or Member's Portal is acceptable. The three signatories to the call-in request should keep an audit trail of their agreement to collectively submit the call-in request. This will only be requested by the Proper Officer in the event of there being any dispute that a member (or members) did not consent to being a signatory to the call-in request.

### **Proposed amendments to Part 5 Codes & Protocols - Planning and Development Committee -**

#### The Procedures of a meeting.

2.18 For the reasons outlined in paragraphs 4.42 – 4.44 of the report include and amend 'Public Speaking at meeting 'The Procedures' as follows:

- To allow remote tools (drones) in facilitating site visits although this does not replace the option for physical site visits.
- Details of the Meetings of the Planning and Development Committee are available on the Council website, with meetings occurring every other Thursday (unless the website advises differently.) General enquiries in respect of meetings should be made to the Council's Business Unit [CouncilBusinessUnit@rctcbc.gov.uk](mailto:CouncilBusinessUnit@rctcbc.gov.uk)
- If members of the public want to know when, or if, a particular planning application is due to be considered by the Planning and Development Committee, they should contact the Planning Section at Sardis House, Pontypridd: [planningservices@rctcbc.gov.uk](mailto:planningservices@rctcbc.gov.uk)

#### **Changes to Audit Committee Terms of Reference**

2.19 For the reasons outlined in paragraphs 4.45 – 4.47 of the report to amend Financial Procedure Rule 4.3 and 4.1 of the Council Constitution (and consequently all references in the Constitution to the same) the change of name of the Audit Committee to the:

- Governance & Audit Committee

2.20 For the reasons outlined in the Audit Committee Report which was presented to Committee on the 26<sup>th</sup> April, 2021 as detailed in paragraphs 4.41 – 4.43 of this report, to recommend to Council the addition of the following two bullet points in the Committee's terms of reference:

“

#### Council Performance Arrangements

(W)

(i) To consider the Council's draft Annual Performance Self - Assessment report and if deemed necessary may make recommendations for changes to the Council.

(ii) To receive the Council's finalised Annual Self-Assessment report in respect of a financial year as soon as reasonably practicable after the end of that financial year.

(iii) At least once during the period between two consecutive ordinary

elections of councillors to the Council, consider the independent Panel Performance Assessment report into which the Council is meeting its performance requirements.

(iv) To receive and review the Council's draft response to the report of the independent Panel Performance Assessment and if deemed necessary may make recommendations for changes to the statements made in the draft response to the Council.

#### Complaints Handling

(X)

(i) To review and assess the Council's ability to deal with complaints effectively.

(ii) To make reports and recommendations in relation to the Council's ability to deal with complaints effectively. "

### **Corporate Governance & Constitution Committee**

2.21 For the reasons outlined in paragraph 4.48 of the report to amend the name of the Corporate Governance & Constitution Committee to the 'Constitution Committee'.

(Note: County Borough Councillor S Belzak wished to have it recorded that he voted against the recommendations set out at 2.1-2.21)

## **8 MEMBERS' SALARIES & ALLOWANCES - THE INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL FOR WALES ANNUAL REPORT**

The joint report of the Director of Legal Services, the Director of Finance & Digital Services and the Service Director, Democratic Services & Communication sought Council's decisions on the posts to be remunerated in line with the determinations of the Thirteenth Annual Report of the Independent Remuneration Panel ('IRP') for Wales.

The Service Director advised that, as directed by the IRP, it is important that council avoids the impression that it is determining the levels of remuneration of Members, however, determination is sought in respect of the areas where local discretion is afforded, that being up to a maximum of 19 senior salary posts for this local authority for the 2021-2022 Municipal Year.

It was **RESOLVED**:

1. To note the determinations of the IRP as set out in its annual report;
2. That the following qualifying post holders be paid a Senior Salary, and as set out at Appendix 2 to the report for the 2021 – 2022 Municipal Year:

<b>Leader</b>	£55,027
<b>Deputy Leader</b>	£38,858
<b>Executive (Cabinet Member) (x7)</b>	£33,805

<b>Presiding Officer</b>	£23,161
<b>Planning &amp; Development Committee Chair</b>	£23,161
<b>Licensing Committee Chair</b>	£23,161
<b>Overview and Scrutiny Committee Chair</b>	£23,161
<b>Scrutiny Committee Chairs (x4)</b>	£23,161
<b>Democratic Services Committee Chair</b>	£23,161
<b>Leader of Opposition*</b> *must be paid subject to relevant criteria being met	£23,161

3. To confirm the continuation of associated arrangements in respect of salaries and allowances for the 2021 - 22 Municipal year.

## 9 APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES 2021-2022

The Service Director Democratic Services & Communication presented his report which sought the appointment of the Council's Committees for the 2021-2022 Municipal Year for the following Committees:

- Planning and Development Committee (x11 Members)
- Licensing Committee (x11 Members)
- Appointments Committee (x5 Members)  
Appeals/Employee Appeals/Chief Officer Appeals Committee (x5 Members)
- Overview and Scrutiny Committee (x14 Members)
- Finance and Performance Scrutiny Committee (x14 Members)
- Public Service Delivery, Communities and Prosperity Scrutiny Committee (x14 Members)
- Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee (x14 Members) plus Statutory Co-optees
- Health and Well-Being Scrutiny Committee (x14 Members)
- Governance & Audit Committee (x14 Members) plus 1 Lay Member
- Democratic Services Committee (x14 Members)
- Constitution Committee (x8 Members)
- Pension Fund Committee (x5 Members)
- Cwm Taf Public Services Board Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee (x5 Members)
- Cardiff Capital Region City Deal Joint Scrutiny Committee (x2 Members)

**RESOLVED** to appoint the under-mentioned Committees for the 2021-2022

Municipal Year:

- a) Planning and Development Committee (x11 Members)
- b) Licensing Committee (x11 Members)
- c) Appointments Committee (x5 Members)
- d) Appeals/Employee Appeals/Chief Officer Appeals Committee (x5 Members)
- e) Overview and Scrutiny Committee (x14 Members)
- f) Finance and Performance Scrutiny Committee (x14 Members)
- g) Public Service Delivery, Communities and Prosperity Scrutiny Committee (x14 Members)
- h) Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee (x14 Members) plus Statutory Co-optees
- i) Health and Well-Being Scrutiny Committee (x14 Members)
- j) Governance & Audit Committee (x14 Members) plus 1 Lay Member
- k) Democratic Services Committee (x14 Members)
- l) Constitution Committee (x8 Members)
- m) Pension Fund Committee (x5 Members)
- n) Cwm Taf Public Services Board Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee (x5 Members)
- o) Cardiff Capital Region City Deal Joint Scrutiny Committee (x2 Members)

## 10 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRS & VICE CHAIRS 2021-2022

In his report the Service Director, Democratic Services & Communication sought consideration to the appointment of Chairs and Vice-Chairs to the Council's Committees for the Municipal Year 2021-2022, and it was **RESOLVED**:

1. To appoint the following Members to the posts of Chairs and Vice-Chairs:

<b>Committee</b>	<b>Chair</b>	<b>Vice-Chair</b>
Planning & Development	S Rees	G Caple
Licensing	A S Fox	D H Williams
Appointments	D Owen-Jones	M Webber
Appeals/Employee Appeals/Chief Officer Appeals	J Bonetto	S Pickering
Pension Fund	M A Norris	M Griffiths

2. To appoint County Borough Councillor L Hooper as Chair and County Borough Councillor M Webber as Vice Chair of the Democratic Services Committee in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011 (the 'Measure');
3. To note that under the requirements of the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011, the Chair of the Governance & Audit Committee is to be appointed by the Governance & Audit Committee;
4. To agree that the responsibility for the appointment of the Vice-Chair of the Governance & Audit Committee be delegated to the Governance & Audit Committee;

5. That the appointment of Chairs of the Finance and Performance Scrutiny Committee be allocated to the RCT Independent Group and the Chair of the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee be allocated to the Plaid Cymru Group;
6. In accordance with the nominations received from the appropriate Political Groups, that the following Members be appointed as Chairs to the under-mentioned Scrutiny Committees together with the appointment of Vice-Chairs: --

<b>Committee</b>	<b>Chair</b>	<b>Vice-Chair</b>
Overview & Scrutiny	L M Adams	W. Lewis
Finance & Performance	M Powell	G Thomas
Public Service Delivery, Communities & Prosperity	S Bradwick	T Williams
Children & Young People	S Rees-Owen	J Edwards
Health & Well-Being	R Yeo	S Evans

7. To note the appointment of the Presiding Officer and Deputy Presiding Officer as the Chair and Vice-Chair to the Constitution Committee; and
8. To note that for Municipal Year 2021-2022 the Chair of the Cwm Taf Public Services Board Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee ('JOSC') is to be appointed by Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council.  
(**Note:** The RCT Independent Group abstained from voting on the appointment of Chair of the Democratic Services Committee and the Plaid Cymru Group abstained from voting on the appointment of as the Chair of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee)

## **11 QUASI JUDICIAL BODIES/AD HOC COMMITTEES 2021-2022**

The Service Director Democratic Services presented his report in respect of appointing Members to the Quasi-Judicial Bodies/Ad Hoc Committees for the 2021-2022 Municipal Year subject to the political balance of the Council as set out below:

**RESOLVED** to appoint the following:

1. The Local Education Authority Governors (Appointments) Committee (5 Members). (3 Labour, 1 Plaid Cymru and 1 RCT Independent Group):  
County Borough Councillors J Rosser, J Brencher, D Owen-Jones; Shelley Rees-Owen and M J Powell;
2. Voluntary Early Retirement/Redundancy Panel (5 Members) (3 Labour, 1 Plaid Cymru and 1 RCT Independent Group):  
County Borough Councillors W Treeby, J Bonetto, M Webber, M Weaver and L Walker;
3. Joint Consultative Committee (4 Members):  
County Borough Councillors A Crimmings, R Lewis, M Webber and A Morgan

(**Note:** The Plaid Cymru Group abstained from voting on the above-mentioned matter)



## 12 OUTSIDE BODIES & OTHER COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Following consideration of the report of the Service Director, Democratic Services & Communication it was **RESOLVED** – that the under-mentioned Members be appointed to the following non-executive Joint Committees and Outside bodies for the 2021-2022 Municipal Year:-

- a) Welsh Joint Education Committee (1 representative: Councillor G Hopkins)
- b) Board of Governors Coleg y Cymoedd (1 representative and 1 Officer: Councillor J Rosser/Mrs G Davies)
- c) Joint Council for Wales (1 representative: Councillor M Webber)
- d) Welsh Local Government Association (5 representatives: Councillors R Bevan, C Leyshon, R Lewis, M Webber and A Morgan)
- e) Welsh Local Government Association Executive Board (1 representative / 1 sub: Councillor A Morgan and Councillor M Webber respectively)
- f) Wales Co-op Centre Board (1 representative: Councillor R Lewis)
- g) Edward Thomas Charity (4 representatives: Councillors A Fox, E George, R Lewis and S Pickering)
- h) The Alliance (3 representatives: Councillors J Brencher, G Jones and G Thomas)
- i) Tower Site Liaison Committee (3 representatives: Councillors H Boggis, G Thomas and K Morgan)
- j) Reserve Forces & Cadets Association (1 representative: Councillor J Harries)
- k) South Wales Economic Forum (1 representative: Councillor R Bevan)
- l) Judges Hall Trust (3 representatives: Councillors G Hughes, W Lewis and J Rosser)
- m) Welsh Centre for International Affairs (1 representative: Councillor R Lewis)
- n) Allotments Society (1 representative: Councillor S Bradwick)
- o) Valuation Tribunal Wales – Appointments Panel (1 representative: Councillor M Webber)
- p) Age Concern Cymru (1 representative: Councillor G Hopkins)
- q) Cynon Valley Indoor Bowls Committee (1 representative: Councillor A Morgan)
- r) Trivallis (Officer appointment: Ms C Hutcheon)

### **Non-Executive Joint Committees**

- s) South Wales Fire & Rescue Authority (x4: Councillors S Bradwick, S Morgans, A Roberts, and G Holmes)
- t) Brecon Beacons National Park Authority (x1: Councillor G Thomas)
- u) South Wales Police Crime Panel (x2: Councillors R Lewis and G Thomas)
- v) Cwm Taf Community Health Council (x3: Councillors G Caple, G Jones and J Williams)

**(Note:** The Conservative Group abstained from voting on item q Cynon Valleys Indoor Bowls Committee)

## 13 CALENDAR OF MEETINGS 2021-2022

Through his report, the Service Director, Democratic Services & Communication sought the approval of the attached Calendar of Meetings for 2021 – 2022 Municipal Year. In accordance with Section 6(2) of the Local Government (Wales), Measure, 2011, the survey of Members was recently undertaken to assess Members' preferences regarding the future timing of meetings and a number of other important, non-statutory matters were also included in the survey to which Members have contributed their views.

The Service Director referred to the element of flexibility within the calendar of meetings to allow Chairs to respond to up and coming matters during the course of the municipal year such as training and development, with specific reference to the Scrutiny Committees. He advised that the approaches to future hybrid meetings are set out, and for Members to note, in section 8 of the report.

Following discussion, it was **RESOLVED**:

1. To note the contents of the report; and in doing so note the responses to the Elected Members' Survey in respect of the Timing of Meetings, as outlined in paragraph 4;
2. That with the exception of the Planning and Development Committee, meetings will not be convened during School holidays, subject to urgent business needs;
3. To agree the proposed Calendar of Meetings for the Municipal Year 2021 - 2022, as attached at Appendix 1 to the report.
4. Note that this draft calendar is subject to change, based upon the demands of business over the coming municipal year. Any changes or additions will be undertaken in consultation with the appropriate committee chairs.

## **14 OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 2020-2021**

Members received County Borough Councillor M Adams (Chair of Overview & Scrutiny Committee) who presented the Overview & Scrutiny Annual report for the 2020/2021 Municipal Year.

Following discussion, and thanks extended from the Chair of the Children & Young People Scrutiny Committee and the Public Service Delivery, Communities and Prosperity Scrutiny Committee to Officers and Members of their committee including the Education Co-opted Members, it was **RESOLVED** to note the contents of the report.

**This meeting closed at 4.45 pm**

**Cllr S Powderhill  
Chairman.**