



## **CWM TAF MORGANNWG PUBLIC SERVICES BOARD JOINT OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

**24<sup>th</sup> November 2023**

### **REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR DEMOCRATIC SERVICES AND COMMUNICATIONS, RCTCBC**

#### **DRAFT FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME: 2023- 2024 MUNICIPAL YEAR**

#### **1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

1.1 The purpose of the report is to provide Members of the Cwm Taf Morgannwg Public Services Board Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee (JOSC) with the opportunity to consider matters in respect of its Work Programme for the 2023 -24 Municipal Year.

#### **2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that Members:

2.1 Agree on issues for inclusion on the Cwm Taf Morgannwg Public Services Board JOSC Work Programme for the 2023-24 Municipal Year (as set out in **Appendix 1**) (with appropriate amendment as necessary) following the update received from the PSB under agenda items 4 and 5.

#### **3. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

3.1 An effective Work Programme will identify the issues that the JOSC wishes to focus on and scrutinise throughout the year and provide a clear rationale as to why particular issues have been selected, as well as the approach that will be adopted. Members' input are sought on suggested topics for consideration as determining its own work programme and deciding on what evidence to seek to

fulfil its scrutiny role; asking relevant and timely questions at meetings are all key to good scrutiny

3.2 The Work Programme will remain flexible and will be revisited at each JOSC meeting with input from Members and officers on suggested topics for consideration.

#### **4. DEVELOPMENT OF THE WORK PROGRAMME**

4.1 The JOSC plays a crucial role in holding the Public Services Board accountable and ensuring transparency and effectiveness in governance. The newly merged Public Services Board is in the process of developing its Work Programme and in the meantime it is essential for JOSC Members to be aware of the Board's priorities and planned policies, legislation, and projects for the forthcoming year, as set out in agenda items 4 and 5, thereby allowing the Scrutiny Committee to identify and prioritise matters that are of significant public interest or have potential implications for the communities that form part of the Cwm Taf Morgannwg region. Where possible and with agreement of inclusion on the Work Programme, site visits will also be undertaken.

4.2 Members of the JOSC will be able to ensure the PSB is taking all reasonable steps to meet its objectives, monitor progress to date and consider the extent to which differences are being made to the communities of Cwm Taf Morgannwg in improving the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of the area.

4.3 Upon engagement with PSB Officers, Scrutiny Officers understand that the PSB delivery plan against the two well-being objectives is still very much in the planning and development phase. Scrutiny Officers have been informed that in the interim a PSB Interim Forward Work Programme with standing items, and current and emerging priorities will be forthcoming. This would also include a timeline for the production of delivery plans against the objectives to assist Scrutiny Members in scrutinising 'how' the Board is delivering against the Well-Being Plan. Therefore, at this time, developing an effective and informative Work Programme with the inclusion of pre-scrutiny items has not been possible.

#### **5 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 There are no Equality and Diversity implications arising from this report and no Equality Impact Assessment is deemed necessary for the purposes of this report.

#### **6 CONSULTATION**

6.1 The considerations and comments of all members of the JOSC are sought in respect of the draft JOSC Work Programme and it is for Members of the JOSC to propose and agree items for consideration at this Committee.

#### **7 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

7.1 There are no financial implications as a result of the recommendations set out in the report.

## **8 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS OR LEGISLATION CONSIDERED**

8.1 There are no legal implications as a result of the recommendations set out in the report.

## **9. LINKS TO PSB'S WELL-BEING OBJECTIVES**

9.1 The recommended approach set out supports the Public Services Board Wellbeing objectives by ensuring progress of the PSB is robustly scrutinised by the Committee, the public and others with a vested interest.

9.2 The proposed approach will also support the requirements set out in the 'Statutory guidance on the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015' which states:

- A public body must take account of the importance of involving other persons with an interest in achieving the well-being goals and ensure those persons reflect the diversity of the population;
- Effective involvement of people and communities in decisions that affect them is at the heart of improving well-being currently and in the future; and,
- It is vital to factor people's needs; ensuring engagement is meaningful and effective.

## **10. CONCLUSION**

10.1 Members of the Cwm Taf Morgannwg Public Services Board Joint Overview & Scrutiny Committee are asked to identify any items they would like to review in greater detail for the 2023 - 24 Municipal Year.

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**

**AS AMENDED BY**

**THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985**

**RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

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**REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR, DEMOCRATIC SERVICES &**

**COMMUNICATION, RCTCBC**

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