Cabinet Prifddinas Ranbarth Caerdydd | Cardiff Capital Region Cabinet

Minutes of the Cardiff Capital Region Regional Cabinet Public Meeting

9.30am–11.30am on Monday 18th March 2024 in Caerphilly Council Chamber, Tredomen Park, Caerphilly and on Microsoft Teams

Name	Position	Organisation
Members		
Cllr Anthony Hunt (Chair)	Leader	Torfaen CBC
Cllr Geraint Thomas	Leader	Merthyr Tydfil CBC
Cllr Lis Burnett	Leader	Vale of Glamorgan CBC
Cllr Jane Mudd	Leader	Newport City Council
Cllr Sean Morgan	Leader	Caerphilly CBC
Cllr Huw Thomas	Leader	Cardiff Council
Cllr Maureen Webber	Deputy Leader	Rhondda Cynon Taf CBC
Cllr Mary Ann Brocklesby	Leader	Monmouthshire CC
Joint Overview and Scrutiny Chair		
Cllr Andrew Whitcombe	Chair of JOSC	Caerphilly CBC
CCR Officers		
Kellie Beirne	Director	Office of the CCR
Rhys Thomas	Chief Operating Officer	Office of the CCR
Colan Mehaffey	Head of Innovation and Cluster Development	Office of the CCR
Hrjinder Singh	Head of Finance, Risk & Assurance	Office of the CCR
Jayne La Grua	Monitoring Officer	Office of the CCR
Clare Cameron	Transport and Energy Manager	Office of the CCR
Jack Latkovic	Democratic Services Manager	Office of the CCR

Apologies

Name	Position	Organisation
Cllr Huw David OBE	Leader	Cardiff CC
Cllr Andrew Morgan OBE (Cllr Webber representing)	Leader	Rhondda Cynon Taf CBC

1. Welcome and Apologies

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.and apologies were noted.

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Minutes of the Meeting held on 4 December 2023

The Minutes of the previous meeting were approved as a true and accurate record..

Exclusion of Press and Public

To resolve that the public and press be asked to leave the meeting during discussion of agenda items 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 of business because exempt information as defined in paragraph 14 of Part 4 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 is likely to be made known.

It was resolved that the public and press be asked to leave the meeting.

EXEMPT ITEMS

The reports and all appendices below are exempt from publication because they contain information of the kind described in paragraphs 14 (information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person) and 21 (public interest test) of parts 4 and 5 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 and in all the circumstances of the case the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

4. CCR Energy Audited Accounts

The Chair asked Members to consider recommendations of the exempt report.

It was RESOLVED that Regional Cabinet accepted the recommendations of the exempt report as moved by Cllr H Thomas and seconded by Cllr L Burnett

Votes were submitted as follows:

Monmouthshire, Blaenau Gwent, Rhondda Cynon Taf, Caerphilly, Cardiff, Merthyr, Newport, Vale of Glamorgan and Torfaen. Carried by 9 votes.

5. CSC Foundry Annual Accounts

The Chair asked Members to consider recommendations of the exempt report.

It was RESOLVED that Regional Cabinet accepted the recommendations of the exempt report as moved by Cllr S Morgan and seconded by Cllr L Burnett.

Votes were submitted as follows:

Monmouthshire, Blaenau Gwent, Rhondda Cynon Taf, Caerphilly, Cardiff, Merthyr, Newport, Vale of Glamorgan, Torfaen

Carried by 9 votes.

6.CS Foundry Ltd - Lease Amendments

The Chair asked Members to consider recommendations of the exempt report.

It was RESOLVED that Regional Cabinet accepted the recommendations of the exempt report as moved by Cllr J Mudd and seconded by Cllr S Morgan.

Votes were submitted as follows: Monmouthshire, Blaenau Gwent, Rhondda Cynon Taf, Vale of Glamorgan, Newport, Merthyr, Cardiff, Caerphilly Torfaen.

Carried by 9 votes.

7. ULEV Report

The Chair asked Members to consider recommendations of the exempt report.

It was RESOLVED that Regional Cabinet accepted the recommendations, including the additional recommendation made at the meeting,of the exempt report as moved by Cllr S Thomas and seconded by Cllr G Morgan.

Votes were submitted as follows: Monmouthshire, Blaenau Gwent, Vale of Glamorgan (subject to caveat above), Rhondda Cynon Taf, Caerphilly, Cardiff (subject to caveat), Merthyr, Newport (subject to caveat), Torfaen

8. Investment and Intervention Framework Report

The Chair asked Members to consider recommendations of the exempt report.

It was RESOLVED that Regional Cabinet accepted the recommendations of the exempt report as moved by Cllr S Morgan and Seconded by Cllr H Thomas.

Votes were submitted as follows: Monmouthshire, Blaenau Gwent, Rhondda Cynon Taf (although disappointment was expressed with the 2 housing schemes mentioned), Caerphilly, Cardiff, Merthyr, Newport, Vale of Glamorgan, Torfaen

Carried by 9 votes.

End of Exempt Items

Public session was resumed.

9. 2023/24 Month 09 Joint Committee Revenue Budget Monitoring Position

Hrjinder Singh presented the report.

The Chair asked Members to consider the recommendations at Paragraph 31 of the report.

Recommendations were accepted as moved by Cllr J Mudd and Seconded by Cllr G Thomas.

- **It was RESOLVED that Regional Cabinet:**

  (1) noted the actual expenditure, income, and projected full year out-turn position as at the 31 December 2024 (Month 09), against its approved 2023/24 Revenue Budget.

Votes were submitted as follows: Monmouthshire, Blaenau Gwent, Rhondda Cynon Taf, Caerphilly, Cardiff, Merthyr, Newport, Vale of Glamorgan, Torfaen.

Carried by 9 votes.

10. 2023-24 Annual Business Plan - Quarter 3 Performance Report

Objectives for 23/24 in relation to competitiveness connection and resilience were set out in Paragraph 6. A summary of progress was outlined in paragraph 8 and 9.

The Chair asked Members to consider the recommendations at Paragraph 34 of the report to allow to submit to UK and Welsh Government.

Recommendations were accepted as moved by Cllr G Thomas and seconded by Cllr L Burnett.

- **It was RESOLVED that Regional Cabinet:**

  (1) Considered and approved (Appendix 1) Quarter 3 performance report and authorises the Cardiff Capital Region City Deal Regional Programme Director to formally submit the report, including supporting information, to both UK and Welsh Governments, and other stakeholders as required, on behalf of the Regional Cabinet.

  (2) Approved the proposed changes to WIF approved Capital and Revenue Budgets, as set out in paragraphs 12 and 13 and summarised in Table 1;

  (3) Noted the updates against the AGS Action Plan and the Internal Audit Action Plan as set out in this report and in Appendix 4 and Appendix 5 respectively. In addition, notes the progress on CJC activity set out in this report – and separately comprehensively reported to the CJC Board.

Votes were submitted as follows: Monmouthshire, Blaenau Gwent, Rhondda Cynon Taf, Caerphilly, Cardiff, Merthyr, Newport, Vale of Glamorgan, Torfaen. Carried by 9 votes.

11. Gateway review midterm update

Colan Mehaffey presented the report which was to be submitted to the UK Department of Levelling Up and comprised an 18-month analysis of the current position of CCR City Deal. This report was independently produced and submitted to an academic panel for feedback. Key findings were included at paragraph 13.

Findings confirmed that good investment decisions had been made and that CCR had excelled in terms of partnership working, creating a good balance between commercial viability and drive. Positive engagement had been observed from external assessors. Risk appetite may need to be adjusted and there may be a need to draw on international comparators. Positive performance around growth had been noted.

The Chair asked Members to consider the recommendations at Paragraph 34 of the report:

Recommendations were accepted as moved by Cllr S Thomas and seconded by Cllr J Mudd.

- **It was RESOLVED that Regional Cabinet:**

  (1) Noted the positive progress against the CCRCD Gateway Review process, the Mid-Term Report and the subsequent Academic Panel feedback.

Votes were given as follows: Monmouthshire, Blaenau Gwent, Rhondda Cynon Taf, Caerphilly, Cardiff, Merthyr, Newport, Vale of Glamorgan, Torfaen.

Carried by 9 votes.

12. Transfer of Cardiff Capital Region City Deal to the South East Wales Corporate Joint Committee

The advantage of the lift and shift model were outlined. It was discussed that this comprised the most advantageous way to create one system of integrated regional development.

Transfer was to go ahead in 2022 but due to VAT status and amendment, it was necessary to wait for primary legislation to be enacted by UK Government. This was resolved last year and CCR have been working towards a date of 1 April to full transition.

Regional Cabinet had agreed to novate funding and portfolio. Other novations were outlined. There have been regular meetings of the Cabinet working group every Monday.

A final reconciliation would be carried out to ensure all portfolio and agreements had been novated. Agreements were discussed, it is proposed that CJC become sole shareholder of Level 3 agreements. Draft deeds of novation were attached in appendix 7.

Operational contracts were set out in Appendix 4. Rhondda Cynon Taf would hold new Service Level Agreements. Rhondda Cynon Taf will also host the JOSC.

The dissolution of CCR Regional Cabinet would transfer all decision making to CJC.

Kellie Beirne gave a brief update on MIPIM. She felt assured that CCR have a great deal to publicise on an international stage.

Kellie thanked all teams, and support from external partners, including J. Frank Holmes, Kevin Gardiner and Dr. Carol Bell

Jayne La Grua outlined an addendum to the Constitution. Members of Bannau Brecheiniog National Park Authority had expressed an interest in being able to nominate to JOSC the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee, the Governance and Audit Sub-Committee; the Regional Transport Sub-Committee; and the Regional Chief Executive's Group.

If CJC members were content to consent, a recommendation would be made to adopt the amended version of the constitution.

Cllr A Whitcombe, Chair of the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee (JOSC) welcomed the Constitution (as amended) and expressed full support from JOSC Members. Cllr J Mudd echoed Kellie's comments and expressed delighted that the chair of JOSC had been able to join the meeting. Cllr Mudd reflected on the journey so far and felt that it would be remiss not to acknowledge the essential contribution of the colleagues who started the Cardiff Capital Region as well as everyone who has worked to develop relationships based on trust and a firm bedrock.

The Chair thanked all officers and commented that the lift and shift request had been the right decision.

The contribution of the Regional Economic Growth Panel was described as a very positive relationship with advice from business sector and academia. The Chair highlighted the importance of having an integrated system with more partnerships, and echoed comments of Cllr Mudd that the foundations of effective partnership are trust and the positive and collaborative relationships which CCR have built up between councils.

The Chair asked Members to consider the recommendations at Paragraph 75 of the report:

Recommendations were accepted as moved by Cllr J Mudd and seconded by Cllr L Burnett

- **It was RESOLVED that Regional Cabinet:**

(1) Noted the content of the CJC's Draft Constitution as set out in Appendix 1, and as amended in Addendum;

(2) Noted the comments made by the CCRCD Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee on the CJC's Draft Constitution as set out in Appendix 2;

(3) Approved the draft amendments to the CCR City Deal Wider Investment Fund Assurance Framework as set out in Appendix 3;

(4) Delegated authority to the Cardiff Capital Region Director, in consultation with the Interim Monitoring Officer, to agree the final form of the legal agreements and any other documents necessary to implement the transfer of each of the funding agreements and fund management arrangements listed under 'Level 1' and 'Level 2' of Appendix 4;

(5) Delegated authority to the Cardiff Capital Region Director, in consultation with the Interim Monitoring Officer, to agree the final form of all documents necessary to implement the legal transfer of the portfolio of CCR funded projects listed under 'Level 3' of Appendix 4;

(7) Approved the draft CCR Energy Ltd Governance Policy set out in Appendix 5;

(8) Approved the transfer of the operational contracts listed under 'Level 4' of Appendix 4;

(9) Noted the list of Service Level Agreements the CJC proposes to enter into with RCTCBC as set out in Appendix 4;

(10) Delegated general authority:

(a) To the Cardiff Capital Region Director, in consultation with the Chair of the CJC, and, where appropriate, the S.151 Officer and/or Interim Monitoring, to take any further operational decisions necessary to affect the transfer of CCR to the CJC; and

(b) To the CJC all future decisions related to the CCR City Deal and other funding arrangements subject of this report.

and

(11) Agreed to the Addendum to the Constitution as outlined to adopt amended version of the Constitution on approval of CJC Members.

(12) Dissolved Regional Cabinet.

Votes were given as follows: Monmouthshire, Blaenau Gwent, Rhondda Cynon Taf, Caerphilly, Cardiff, Merthyr, Newport, Vale of Glamorgan, Torfaen.

Carried by 9 votes.

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Minutes of the South East Wales Corporate Joint Committee (SEWCJC) Public Meeting

11.30-12.30pm on Monday 18th March 2024 in Caerphilly Council Chamber, Tredomen Park, Caerphilly and on Microsoft Teams

Name	Position	Organisation
Members		
Cllr Anthony Hunt (Chair)	Leader	Torfaen CBC
Cllr Geraint Thomas	Leader	Merthyr Tydfil CBC
Cllr Lis Burnett	Leader	Vale of Glamorgan CBC
Cllr Jane Mudd	Leader	Newport City Council
Cllr Sean Morgan	Leader	Caerphilly CBC
Cllr Huw Thomas	Leader	Cardiff Council
Cllr Maureen Webber	Deputy Leader	Rhondda Cynon Taf (RCT) CBC
Cllr Mary Ann Brocklesby	Leader	Monmouthshire CC
Mr Julian Steadman	Leader	Bannau Brecheiniog National Park Authority
CCR Officers		
Kellie Beirne	Director	Office of the CCR
Rhys Thomas	Chief Operating Officer	Office of the CCR
Colan Mehaffey	Head of Innovation and Cluster Development	Office of the CCR
Hrjinder Singh	Head of Finance, Risk & Assurance	Office of the CCR
Jayne La Grua	Monitoring Officer	Office of the CCR
Clare Cameron	Transport and Energy Manager	Office of the CCR
Jack Latkovic	Democratic Services Manager	Office of the CCR

Apologies

Name	Position	Organisation
Cllr Huw David OBE	Leader	Cardiff CC
Cllr Andrew Morgan OBE (Cllr Webber representing)	Leader	Rhondda Cynon Taf CBC

The Chair opened the meeting and apologies were noted.

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Minutes of the Meeting held on 4 December 2023

The Minutes of the previous meeting were approved as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

4. Constitution Review and Transfer of Cardiff Capital Region City Deal

Kellie Beirne introduced the report, recommendations are to be approved today with an anticipated date of 1st April 2024 for completion.

Jayne La Grua outlined an addendum to the Constitution. Members of Bannau Brecheiniog National Park Authority had expressed an interest in being able to nominate to JOSC the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee, the Governance and Audit Sub-Committee; the Regional Transport Sub-Committee; and the Regional Chief Executive's Group.

If SEWCJC members were content to consent, a recommendation would be made to adopt the amended version of the constitution.

The Chair asked Members to consider the recommendations at Paragraph 75 of the report:

Recommendations were accepted as moved by Cllr L Burnett and seconded by Cllr S Morgan.

- **It was RESOLVED that the South East Wales Corporate Joint Committee:**

(1) Approved the CJC's Draft Constitution.
(2) Delegated authority to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Interim Monitoring Officer, to agree the final form of the legal agreements and any other documents necessary to implement the transfer of each of the incoming funding agreements and fund management arrangements.
(3) Delegated authority to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Interim Monitoring Officer, to agree the final form of all documents necessary to implement the legal transfer of the portfolio of CCR funded projects.
(4) Approved the transfer of the operational contracts listed; and
(5) Authorised the Chief Executive to enter into certain Service Level Agreements.
(6) Agreed to the Addendum to the Constitution as outlined to adopt amended version of the Constitution.

Votes were given as follows: Bannau Brecheiniog National Park Authority, Newport, Monmouthshire, Blaenau Gwent, Rhondda Cynon Taf, Caerphilly, Merthyr Tydfil, Cardiff, Vale of Glamorgan, Torfaen.

Carried by 10 votes.

5. SEWCJC 2024/25 Treasury Management Strategy

Hrjinder Singh presented the report and explained that as a body corporate, the SEWCJC will operate its own treasury management under the Code of Practice. A model had been developed to facilitate determination of day-to-day requirements. This was set out in the attached report.

The Chair asked Members to consider the recommendations at Paragraph 39 of the report:

Recommendations were accepted as moved by Cllr S Thomas and seconded by Cllr H Thomas

- **It was RESOLVED that the South East Wales Corporate Joint Committee:**

(1) Approved that the CJC formally adopts CIPFA's Treasury Management in the Public Services: Code of Practice and Cross-Sectoral Guidance 2021, attached at Appendix 1;

(2) Approved the CJC's Treasury Management Strategy Statement, which incorporates its Capital Strategy, attached at Appendix 2;

(3) Approved the CJC's Treasury Management Policy Statement, attached at Appendix 3;

(4) Approved the CJC's Treasury Management Principles & Schedules document attached at Appendix 4;

(5) Approved the CJC's Minimum Revenue Provision Policy Statement, as attached at Appendix 5;

Votes were given as follows: Bannau Brecheiniog National Park Authority, Monmouthshire, Blaenau Gwent, Newport, Rhondda Cynon Taf, Caerphilly, Merthyr Tydfil, Cardiff, Vale of Glamorgan, Torfaen

Carried by 10 votes.

6. Pay Policy

Kellie Beirne presented the report and explained that all details of recruitment and pay should be published by the SEWCJC to ensure transparency and probity.

A full assessment on pay differentials and the gender pay gap (paragraphs 43 and 63) had not yet been possible as the SEWCJC had no employees as yet, but an assessment would be carried out once TUPE had been enacted and the new structure was in place.

The Chair asked Members to consider the recommendations at Paragraph 15 of the report:

Recommendations were accepted as moved by Cllr L Burnett and seconded by Cllr M A Brocklesby

- **It was RESOLVED that the South East Wales Corporate Joint Committee:**

(1) Approved the attached Pay Policy Statement (2024/25) Appendix 1.

Votes were given as follows: Bannau Brecheiniog National Park Authority, Blaenau Gwent, Newport, Rhondda Cynon Taf, Caerphilly, Cardiff, Merthyr Tydfil, Vale of Glamorgan, Torfaen.

Carried by 10 votes.

7. Statutory Policy

Kellie Beirne explained the corporate body requirements which required compliance and the opportunity these afforded to enhance the work of the SEWCJC.

Colan Mehaffey presented the report. The SEWCJC as a newly formed public body had made an ongoing commitment to a greener economy. This policy set out the first plan view for regional governance. A review would be taken by December 2024 as a first analysis and to ensure that objectives are fit for purpose.

The four regional objectives set out the vision for the residents of the Cardiff Capital Region and the internal objectives set out the vision for the organisation itself. These objectives would

be continually monitored. At an intervention level, the Biodiversity Compliance Plan aligned with the six objectives and was proportional to the scope and size of the organisation.

Cllr G Thomas welcomed the policy and noted that child poverty remained a challenge in some areas of the region. Cllr Thomas expressed interest in how the SEWCJC would take the lead in this vital area. Colan Mehaffey confirmed that CCR had already started to establish the mediums through which work with colleagues in Local Authorities would progress.

Cllr Hunt asked members to consider the recommendations at Paragraph 33 of the report:

Recommendations were accepted as moved by Cllr G Thomas and seconded by Cllr S Morgan.

- **It was RESOLVED that the South East Wales Corporate Joint Committee**

(2) Approved the Strategic Equality Plan 2024-2028;
(3) Approved the Biodiversity Compliance Plan; and,
(4) Approved the outline timeline and next steps in regard to the development of the Child Poverty Strategy.

Votes were given as follows: Bannau Brecheiniog National Park Authority, Monmouthshire, Blaenau Gwent, Newport, Rhondda Cynon Taf, Caerphilly, Merthyr Tydfil, Cardiff, Vale of Glamorgan, Torfaen.

Carried by 10 votes.

Date of Next Meeting: 3 June 2024 at 9.30

Cabinet Prifddinas Ranbarth Caerdydd | Cardiff Capital Region Cabinet

South East Wales Corporate Joint Committee

09.30am – 09.45am on 7 May 2024 through Microsoft Teams

Minutes

Leaders		
Name	**Position**	**Organisation**
Councillor Mary Ann Brocklesby	Leader	Monmouthshire CC
Councillor Lis Burnett	Leader	Vale of Glamorgan Council
Councillor Huw David OBE	Leader	Bridgend CBC
Councillor Anthony Hunt (Chair)	Leader	Torfaen CBC
Councillor Sean Morgan	Leader	Caerphilly CBC
Councillor Jane Mudd (Vice Chair)	Leader	Newport CC
Councillor Geraint Thomas	Leader	Merthyr Tydfil CBC
Councillor Huw Thomas	Leader	Cardiff Council
Cllr Maureen Webber (substitute for Councillor Andrew Morgan OBE)	Deputy Leader	Rhondda Cynon Taf CBC
Officers		
Kellie Beirne	Chief Executive	Office of the Cardiff Capital Region (CCR)
Clare Allen	Head of HR and Organisational Development	Office of the CCR
Hrjinder Singh	Head of Finance, Risk & Assurance	Office of the CCR
Jayne La Grua	Monitoring Officer	Office of the CCR
Jack Latkovic	Democratic Services Manager	Office of the CCR

Apologies		
Julian Steadman	Chair of Planning Committee	Bannau Brycheiniog NPA
Councillor Stephen Thomas	Leader	Blaenau Gwent CBC
Councillor Andrew Morgan OBE	Leader	Rhondda Cynon Taf CBC

1. Welcome and Apologies

Councillor Anthony Hunt (Chair) opened the meeting and apologies were noted as above.

2. Declarations of Interest - Elected Members' Protocols

No declarations of interest were received.

3. Ratification of Appointment of Senior Executive Posts

Kellie Beirne presented a report seeking ratification for the appointments of the Deputy Chief Executive/Strategic Director of Regional Growth and Strategic Director of Resources roles, following recommendations from the Appointments Panel on 12 April 2024.

The recommended candidates were:

- **Rhys Thomas for the role of Deputy Chief Executive/Strategic Director of Regional Growth**
- **Liam Hull for the role of Strategic Director of Resources**

Kellie Beirne outlined the thorough recruitment process that was overseen by the Appointments Panel consisting of Councillors Mary-Ann Brocklesby, Huw Thomas, Anthony Hunt, and Huw David. Independent support was provided by Rhondda Cynon Taf HR and from psychometric testing advisors. Stakeholder representation included the Regional Economic Growth Partnership, Investment Board, Regional Chief Executives, and Regional Business Council.

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Councillors Sean Morgan, Huw Thomas, and Anthony Hunt welcomed the appointments, citing the additional capacity the new officers would bring to the team.

Kellie Beirne requested that Rhys Thomas commence the Deputy Chief Executive role immediately, given the unique duties and urgencies associated with this new statutory role.

On a motion from Councillor Huw David, seconded by Councillor Sean Morgan, it was **RESOLVED** that the Corporate Joint Committee unanimously agreed to:

1) **Endorse the recommendation of the Appointments Panel, to appoint Rhys Thomas to the position of Deputy Chief Executive/Strategic Director of Regional Growth (with immediate commencement) and Liam Hull, to that of Strategic Director, Resources;**

2) **Appoint Liam Hull as the South East Wales Corporate Joint Committee's Chief Finance Officer pursuant to Section 151 of the Local Government Act 1972, with effect from the date upon which he takes up the appointment as Director of Resources; and**

3) **Delete the post of Chief Operating Officer from the Corporate Joint Committee's existing establishment.**

Meeting end: 09.45am

Date of Next Meeting: 3 June 2024