South East Wales Corporate Joint Committee

Cyd-bwyllgor corfforaethol De-Dwyrain Cymru

Report for:	ACTION
Contains Confidential or Exempt Information	NO

For Consideration By	South East Wales Corporate Joint Committee
Report Title	Appointment of Members of the South East Wales Corporate Joint Committee, Nomination of Substitute Members, and Allocation of Portfolios
Report of	Jayne La Grua, Monitoring Officer
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Date to be Considered	3 June 2024
Implementation Date	With immediate effect
Affected Council Areas	All
Keywords / Index	Appointments, Members, Substitute Members, Portfolios

Report Summary

1. This report confirms the Membership of the South East Wales Corporate Joint Committee (CJC) for the 2024/45 municipal year, together with each Authority's nominated Substitute Member. It also seeks approval of each Council Member's portfolio of responsibility.

Recommendations

2. The Corporate Joint Committee is asked to:

   (1) Note the Committee's Membership for the 2024/25 municipal year;

   (2) Note each Authority's nominated Substitute Member;

   (3) Approve the Member Portfolios for the municipal year; and

   (4) Approve the allocation of portfolio responsibility.

Reasons for Recommendations

Members and Substitute Members

3. The Committee's Membership is prescribed by Part 3 of the South East Wales Corporate Joint Committee Regulations 2021. The Members of the CJC are:

   (a) the 10 council members;

   (b) the Brecon Beacons member; and

   (c) any co-opted member.

4. In the case of each constituent council, the Leader of that Council is the Council Member of the CJC.

5. Where a Council Member is unable to act for any period, the constituent council of which they are a member may appoint a member of its executive as a Substitute Member of the CJC for that period.

6. In the case of the Brecon Beacons National Park Authority, the Authority must appoint one of the following officeholders as a Member of the CJC:

   (a) the chairman of the Authority,

   (b) the deputy chairman of the Authority, or

   (c) the chairperson of a committee with responsibility for planning matters as may be established by the Authority.

7. Where the Brecon Beacons Member is unable to act for any period, the Authority may appoint another of the officeholders mentioned in paragraph 6 above as a Substitute Member of the CJC for that period.

8. The following persons are the Members and Substitute Members of the CJC for the 2024/25 municipal year:

Council / Authority	Member	Substitute Member
Blaenau Gwent CBC	Cllr Stephen Thomas	Cllr John C Morgan
Bridgend CBC	Cllr John Spanswick	Cllr Jane Gebbie
Caerphilly CBC	Cllr Sean Morgan	Cllr James Pritchard
Cardiff Council	Cllr Huw Thomas	Cllr Sarah Merry
Merthyr Tydfil CBC	Cllr Geraint Thomas	Cllr Andrew Barry
Monmouthshire CC	Cllr Mary Ann Brocklesby	Cllr Paul Griffiths
Newport CC	Cllr Dimitri Batrouni	Cllr Deb Davies
Rhondda Cynon Taf CBC	Cllr Andrew Morgan	Cllr Maureen Webber
Torfaen CBC	Cllr Anthony Hunt	Cllr Joanne Gauden

Vale of Glamorgan	Cllr Lis Burnett	Cllr Bronwen Brooks
Brecon Beacons NPA	Mr Julian Stedman	

Portfolios

9. Part 3A of the CJC's Constitution makes provision for the allocation of portfolios (lead responsibilities) for particular functions. The following portfolios are proposed for the 2024/25 municipal year:

- Governance, Resources & Assurance
- Research, Innovation & Investment
- Industrial Policy, Internationalisation & Core Cities
- Infrastructure and Major Projects Delivery
- Climate Response
- Spatial and Transport Policy
- Northern Valleys x 2
- Building Capability – Data and Skills
- Economic Inclusion

Chairs and Deputy Chairs – Sub-Committees

10. The CJC's Constitution provides that the Chair and Deputy Chair (non-voting) of both the Regional Transport Sub-Committee and of the Strategic Development Sub-Committee will be members of the CJC nominated annually.

Comments of the s.151 Officer

11. There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

Comments of the Monitoring Officer

12. The recommendations of this report have regard to the statutory requirements as to membership of the South East Wales Corporate Joint Committee and to the CJC's Constitution.

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

13. The Equality Act 2010 (Public Authorities subject to the Public Sector Equality Duty) (Wales) Order 2021 amended Part 2 of Schedule 19 to the Equality Act 2010 to provide that Corporate Joint Committees are subject to the Public Sector Equality duty set out in Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010.

14. The Equality Act 2010 (Authorities subject to a duty regarding Socio-economic Inequalities) (No. 2) (Wales) Regulations 2021 amended section 1 of the Equality Act 2010 in order to add Corporate Joint Committees to the list of relevant authorities subject to the Socio Economic Duty.

15. The Committee must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to: (1) eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited under the Act; (2) advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not; and (3) foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not.

16. The characteristics protected under the Act are:

- age;
- disability;
- gender reassignment;
- marriage and civil partnership;
- pregnancy and maternity;
- race;
- religion or belief;
- sex; and
- sexual orientation.

17. Having due regard to the need to advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it involves having due regard, in particular, to the need to:

(a) remove or minimise disadvantages suffered by persons who share a relevant protected characteristic that are connected to that characteristic;
(b) take steps to meet the needs of persons who share a relevant protected characteristic that are different from the needs of persons who do not share it;
(c) encourage persons who share a relevant protected characteristic to participate in public life or in any other activity in which participation by such persons is disproportionately low.

18. The socio-economic duty requires public bodies to, when making decisions of a strategic nature about how to exercise its functions, have due regard to the desirability of exercising them in a way that is designed to reduce the inequalities of outcome which result from socio-economic disadvantage.

19. The Public Sector Equality and Socio-Economic Duties have been considered and no negative implications have been identified which would prevent approval being sought to implement the recommendations of this report.

Well-being of Future Generations

20. The Corporate Joint Committees (Amendment of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015) Regulations 2021 bring CJCs within the scope of Parts 2 and 3 of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.

21. The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 places a duty on public bodies to carry out sustainable development, meaning the process of improving the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales by taking action aimed at achieving the well-being goals of:

- 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

and by acting in a way which seeks to ensure that the needs of the present are met without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

22. In order to act in accordance with the sustainable development principle, when exercising its functions, the Committee must take account of the following things:

- the importance of balancing short term needs with the need to safeguard the ability to meet long term needs;
- the need to take an integrated approach to achieving the well-being goals;
- the importance of involving others with an interest in achieving the well-being goals and of ensuring those persons reflect the diversity of the population of the region;
- how acting in collaboration with others could assist to meet the region's well-being objectives;
- how deploying resources to prevent problems occurring or getting worse may contribute to meeting the region's well-being objectives.

23. In developing the Recommendations of this report, regard has been had to the well-being duty arising under the Well-Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 ('the Act').

Welsh Language Implications

24. The Welsh Language Standards (No.1) Regulations 2015 (Amendment) Regulations 2021 bring Corporate Joint Committees within the scope of the standards specified by the No.1 Regulations.

25. In accordance with the Welsh Language Standards (No.1) Regulations 2015, consideration has been given to the impact the recommendations made in this report may have on opportunities for people to use and promote the Welsh Language, whether the proposals treat the Welsh Language more or less favourably than the English Language, and opportunities for increasing the positive effects, or decreasing the negative effects, of the proposals on the Welsh Language. No negative impacts were identified which would prevent approval being sought to implement the recommendations of this report.

Background Papers

26. None.

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Meeting Date: 3 June 2024

Appendices: Appendix 1 – Porfolios

Appendix 1 – Portfolios 2024/25

Portfolio	Portfolio Lead(s)	Designations	Lead Officer(s)
Governance, Resources & Assurance • Corporate Plans • Resources and Funding • Statutory Policy Compliance • Assurance and Risk • CCR Group Oversight • Performance and Reporting • Organisational Communications • Organisational Development			Chief Executive Directors of Legal & Governance Director of Resources Director of Policy, Impact & Performance
Research, Innovation & Investment • Research & innovation • Higher & Further Education coalition • Global research challenges • Clusters and major funding programmes (such as, Strength in Places) • Inclusive Innovation • UK Research & Innovation (UKRI) and funding council engagement • Innovation Investment Capital • Challenge Fund/InFuSe • Investment opportunities		Lead for HE/FE Civic agreements Single Member decisions – Challenge Fund Investment Zone governance	Deputy Chief Executive Director of Legal & Governance

Portfolio	Portfolio Lead(s)	Designations	Lead Officer(s)
Industrial Policy, Internationalisation & Core Cities • Regional Economic Policy (including Economic and Industrial Plan) • CORE Cities representation • Regional promotion, (including international events and summits) • National and international commissions (such as, UK2070) • Investment Zone • Investment Framework • Business engagement • FDI		CORE Cities representative Investment Zone governance	Chief Executive Deputy Chief Executive Director of Policy, Impact & Partnerships
Infrastructure and Major Projects Delivery • Housing Viability Gap Fund • Cardiff Central Station • TfW liaison • Strategic Premises Fund • Transport Delivery • Regional Road User Charging		Single Member decisions – Strategic Premises Fund	Chief Executive Deputy Chief Executive Director of Resources
Climate Response • Energy Strategy & Implementation Plan • CCR Energy		Observer status at CCR Energy Ltd	Deputy Chief Executive

Portfolio	Portfolio Lead(s)	Designations	Lead Officer(s)
• Regional and Local Area Energy Plans • Green Deal • Race 4 Zero • ECO and ECO-Flex • Energy Investment Funds • Water management •			Director of Resources
Spatial and Transport Policy • Strategic Development Plan • Regional Transport Plan • Alignment of transport, planning and economic wellbeing • Statutory and stakeholder engagement • Rural affairs			Director of Policy, Impact & Partnerships Director of Legal & Governance
Northern Valleys • Northern Valleys Initiative • Valleys Regional Park • Tech Valleys • Partnerships and engagement • NV Competitiveness Deep Dive Delivery • Town Centres • NV infrastructure and access to services	Co-Portfolio Leads:	NVI Governance via Investment Board Individual member decisions on above	Deputy Chief Executive
Building Capability – Data and Skills • Regional Skills Partnership • Venture		Regional Skills Partnership	Chief Executive

Portfolio	Portfolio Lead(s)	Designations	Lead Officer(s)
• Assured Academies • School's liaison • Regional Data Ambition & Intelligence • Relationships with UKCI and Productivity Institute			Director of Policy, Impact & Partnerships
Economic Inclusion • Shared Prosperity Fund and levelling-up • Public Value and Corporate Social Responsibility • Corporate policies: child poverty, wellbeing statement, public sector equality duty & biodiversity • Welsh Language • Responsible Investing Policy • Tourism			Director of Legal & Governance Director of Policy, Impact & Partnerships