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	Programme of CJC Meetings 2024-25
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Date to be Considered	3 June 2024
Implementation Date	With immediate effect
Affected Council Areas	All
Keywords / Index	meetings; calendar; committees

Report Summary

1. This report asks the South East Wales Corporate Joint Committee to approve the programme of ordinary meetings for the 2024/25 municipal year.

Recommendations

2. The Corporate Joint Committee is asked to:

   (1) approve the programme of ordinary meetings of the CJC for the 2024-25 municipal year set out in paragraph 4; and

   (2) approve the provisional programme of ordinary meetings of sub-committees for the 2024-25 municipal year set out in paragraph 5.

Reasons for Recommendations and Options Considered

3. The CJC's Constitution (Part 4A: CJC Procedure Rules) provides that, at its Annual Meeting, the CJC will approve (i) the programme of ordinary meetings of the CJC for the year and (ii) the provisional programme of ordinary meetings of sub-committees for the year.

Programme of Ordinary Meetings of the CJC for 2024/25

4. The following programme of ordinary meetings of the Corporate Joint Committee is proposed for the 2024/25 municipal year:

Corporate Joint Committee		
Date	**Time**	**Venue**
22 July 2024	10am – 11.30am	Multi-locational
21 October 2024	10am – 11.30am	Multi-locational
9 December 2024	10am – 11.30am	Multi-locational
27 January 2025 (budget)	10am – 11.30am	Multi-locational
10 March 2025	10am – 11.30am	Multi-locational

Provisional Programme of Ordinary Meetings of Sub-Committees for 2024/25

5. The following provisional programme of ordinary meetings of sub-committees of the CJC is proposed for the 2024/25 municipal year:

Governance & Audit Sub-Committee		
Date	**Time**	**Venue**
12 July 2024	10am – 11.30am	Multi-locational
27 September 2024	10am – 11.30am	Multi-locational
13 December 2024	10am – 11.30am	Multi-locational
7 February 2025	10am – 11.30am	Multi-locational

Regional Transport Sub-Committee		
Date	**Time**	**Venue**
20 June 2024	10am – 11.30am	Multi-locational
19 September 2024	10am – 11.30am	Multi-locational
14 November 2024	10am – 11.30am	Multi-locational
13 February 2025	10am – 11.30am	Multi-locational

Strategic Development Sub-Committee		
Date	**Time**	**Venue**
25 July 2024*	10am – 11.30am	Multi-locational
3 October 2024*	10am – 11.30am	Multi-locational
19 December 2024	10am – 11.30am	Multi-locational
20 February 2025	10am – 11.30am	Multi-locational

*Note: It is proposed that the Strategic Development Sub-Committee sit as a working group for its first two meetings in July and October 2024.

6. The provisional dates, times and duration of ordinary sub-committee meetings may be subject to change, having regard to their work programme.

External Arrangements

7. The Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee is hosted by Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council and is responsible for its own programme of meetings. However, the following dates have been suggested:

- 27 June 2024, 10am
- 26 September 2024, 10am
- 23 January 2025, 10am
- 20 March 2025, 10am

8. The Standards Sub-Committee is hosted by Cardiff Council and, again, is responsible for its own programme of meetings. Its first meeting has been scheduled for 16 July 2024 at 5pm.

Comments of the s.151 Officer

9. The regulations require that the CJC must agree its budget requirement at a meeting before the 31 January immediately preceding the beginning of a funding period. The proposed recommendations set out in this report meet this requirement.

Comments of the Monitoring Officer

10. There is a statutory requirement for the Corporate Joint Committee to hold an annual general meeting in each financial year (paragraph 3 of the Schedule to the South East Wales Corporate Joint Committee Regulations 2021) and for the Governance and Audit Sub-Committee to meet at least once in every

calendar year (Regulation 13 of the Corporate Joint Committees (General) (No.2) (Wales) Regulations 2022). The CJC and its sub-committees may hold such other meetings as the CJC determines.

11. The recommendations of this report have regard to the Statutory and non-statutory guidance on democracy within principal councils: members' support, training and development, made under Section 6 of the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011.

Staffing Implications

12. There are no specific staffing implications associated with this report.

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 dates, timing and duration of meetings will be reviewed following the appointment of members with a view to ensuring that any specific equalities implications are addressed.

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.

26. No negative impacts were identified which would prevent approval being sought to implement the recommendations of this report.

Background Papers

None.

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Meeting Date: 3 June 2024