The Mayor formally opened the meeting.

The Mayor reminded everyone present that the meeting was being broadcast live over the internet, welcomed everyone and outlined the usual procedural arrangements, such as the need to use microphones and sit when speaking, muting noisy devices, the emergency evacuation procedures and the need for motions or amendments in writing.

**ATTENDANCE**

**Councillors:**

Councillor Jessica Powell (Mayor)

Stuart Ashley
Ron Burnett
Glyn Caron
Richard Clark (Deputy Leader)
Leonard Constance
Veronica Crick JP
Fiona Cross
David Daniels
Kathy Evans
Steven Evans
Stuart Evans
Matt Ford
Joanne Gauden

Elizabeth Haynes
Jon Horlor
Anthony Hunt (Leader)
Gaynor James
Gwyn Jenkins
Mike Jeremiah
Alan Jones
Fay Jones
Janet Jones
Nicholas Jones
Peter Jones
Robert Kemp
Raymond Mills
Jason O’Connell

Richard Overton
Norma Parish
Kelly Preston
Rose Seabourne
Louise Shepphard
Alan Slade
Colette Thomas
Dave Thomas
Neil Waite
Raymond Williams
David Yeowell
Officers on the dias

Nigel Aurelius, Assistant Chief Executive (Resources)
Delyth Harries, Interim Monitoring Officer
Dominique Redman, Senior Business Support Officer (Democratic Services)
Alison Ward, Chief Executive

Other Officers attending or observing from the gallery for parts of the meeting

Dave Congreve, Assistant Chief Executive Communities
Richard Edmunds, Head of Strategic and Democratic Services
Caroline Genever-Jones, Elections and Business Manager
Neil Howell, Head of Housing and Business Support
Tim James, Interim Chief Legal Officer
Stephen Jarrett, Head of Highways, Transportation & Property
Neil Jones, Head of Communications
Richard Lewis, Head of Development Management, Planning & Public Protection
Dermot McChrystal, Head of Education
Lyndon Puddy, Head of Public Services Support Unit
Adrian Wilcock, Principal Planner
Steve Thomas, Senior Planner
Lynne Williams, Head of Business Support & Intelligence

Other people attending

Alan Brunt, Chief Executive of Bron Afon
Kayleigh Houlihan, Bron Afon

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – COUNCILLORS:

Giles Davies, Amanda Owen, Sue Malson and Chris Tew

ABSENT – COUNCILLORS:

Huw Bevan

3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

3.1 The Interim Monitoring Officer (IMO) advised Members of the following interests:

- In relation to Agenda Item 9, Request for Bron Afon Rule change the following members had personal interests as council appointed representatives on the Bron Afon Board
- Councillor Richard Clark
- Councillor Jessica Powell
- Councillor Veronica Crick

The members listed above confirmed their interests.

- In relation to Agenda Item 10, Torfaen Community Infrastructure Levy, both Cwmbran and Pontypool Community Councils were mentioned in the report as responding to the consultation, therefore, the following members had personal interests:

**As members of Cwmbran Community Council:**
- Councillor Robert Kemp
- Councillor Fay Jones

**As members of Pontypool Community Council:**
- Councillor Matt Ford,
- Councillor Gaynor James,
- Councillor Raymond Mills,
- Councillor Richard Overton,
- Councillor Norma Parish,
- Councillor Nicholas Jones,

The members listed above confirmed their interests.

3.2 The following members also declared personal interests in relation to Agenda Item 10, Torfaen Community Infrastructure Levy:

- Councillor Stuart Ashley, as a member of Cwmbran Community Council, a member of the Canal Restoration Group and a member of the Mon and Brecon Canal Trust.

- Councillor Colette Thomas, as a member of the Mon and Brecon Canal Group; and

- Councillor Jon Horlor as a member of the Mon and Brecon Canal Group.

3.3 During Item 13, Motions on Notice, the following Councillors declared personal interests as member of Unisons Unite.

- Councillor Anthony Hunt
- Councillor Peter Jones

4 **CONFIRMATION OF COUNCIL MINUTES - 18.7.2017**

4.1 **COUNCIL CONFIRMED** the minutes of the Council meeting held on 18 July 2017 as a correct record of the meeting.
5 UPDATES ON ACTIONS  
5.1 COUNCIL NOTED the updates listed in the agenda.

6 RECEIPT OF PETITIONS  
6.1 No petitions had been submitted for this meeting.

7 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME  
7.1 There were no public questions.

8 ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE LEADER OR CHIEF EXECUTIVE  
8.1 The Leader:

- Paid respect to the late former Councillor Doug Davies whose funeral he had attended on behalf of the council. He paid tribute to Doug Davies and he sent best wishes to his family including Councillor Giles Davies. He was appreciative of the fact that the council meeting had been moved to 2:00pm in order for members to attend the funeral;

- Thanked council officers and developers for the work they had undertaken around the naming of James Prosser Way in Llantarnam. He explained that the street had been named in memory of Private James Prosser who had lost his life in Afghanistan 8 years ago. He paid tribute to Private James Prosser and he recognised the work of his mother who had campaigned for James and others who had lost their lives;

- Congratulated those involved in the organisation of the Mic Morris 10k run and the 1000 plus runners that had taken part, including the local MP Nick Thomas-Symonds and a Torfaen Councillor;

- Congratulated Pontypool RFC on their winning start to this season. He recognised the work of volunteers involved with both junior and senior sports teams across the valley and he encouraged support, particularly for Pontypool RFC in their next game against Narbeth;

- Congratulated the seven members of staff from SRS that had recently participated in a bike ride in aid of the charities Velindre and Headway that had helped members of staff at the SRS. He stated that he had also taken part in the bike ride which visited the five public bodies around Gwent that SRS provided a service to;
• Referred to the All Wales Public Accountability Measures and recognised that, despite tough financial times, Torfaen had improved performance or at least stayed constant in two thirds of the measures which positioned Torfaen ninth in Wales, well inside the top half of councils in Wales. He thanked members and officers that had contributed towards the improvement in performance; and

• Wished the Assistant Chief Executive (Resources) (ACX(R)) well for his forthcoming operation. He paid tribute to the ACX(R) and wished him a speedy recovery.

9 REQUEST FOR BRON AFON RULE CHANGE

9.1 The Assistant Chief Executive (Communities) highlighted the key areas of the report seeking approval to make amendments to the Rules of Bron Afon Community Housing Limited in relation to membership of their Board, following a request made by Bron Afon. He referred to paragraph 12.1.2 of the report and asked members to note that reference to rule 34 in this paragraph should be removed as it wasn’t relevant in the context.

9.2 Council AGREED (unanimously) that the rules of Bron Afon can be changed so that:

1) the composition of the Board is altered so that the tenant representation is reduced from 4 to 2 members, that the councillor representation is reduced from 4 to 2 members and the independent representation is increased from 4 to 8 members, as set out in rules 51, 52, 53, 54, 66, 67 and 68 and referred to in the Appendix; and

2) amendment can be made to the quorum required for a meeting to a minimum of 50% of Board members as set out in rule 72 and referred to in the Appendix.

10 TORFAEN COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY

10.1 The Principal Planner (PP) highlighted the key areas of the report seeking approval to progress a Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) for Torfaen through consultation on a “Draft Charging Schedule” which sets the amount of CIL sought from specific land uses; after formally considering all representations received during the previous public consultation on the “Preliminary Draft Charging Schedule” (PDCS) during October-December 2016 which was attached at Appendix 2 to the report.

10.2 Members asked questions around charges for residential buildings in
the north and south of the borough; what would be gained by introducing a CIL for Torfaen; and whether the charges in more affluent areas would exacerbate a divide between the north and south of borough. The PP provided information around the charging ranges which started at £50 per square meter for residential buildings. He explained that these charges were only viable in more affluent areas of the borough such as Cwmbran and New Inn where house prices had risen by 10% over the past four years but had barely risen in Blaenavon. He further explained that there was still some uncertainty with regards to sites and charges, however, an income of up to £6M had been estimated and discussions would be held with regards to investment and the redistribution process whereby it was possible for CIL collected in Cwmbran to be spent in the north of the Borough.

10.3 There was further discussion around the UK Governments move to allow Councils in England to keep business rates and the Leader felt that this was more beneficial to affluent areas with high land prices as opposed to areas like Torfaen with lower land prices. The PP referred to the amount of affordable housing in London for example and he highlighted the amount of weight given to existing land value and tax. He explained that Torfaen were ‘mid-range’ in Wales and had a higher ability to charge towards the top end.

10.2 Council AGREED (unanimously) to:

1. Note the content of the report and approve:-
   a. the officer recommendations contained within the ‘Report of Consultation on the Torfaen CIL Preliminary Draft Charging Schedule’ (at Appendix 2),
   b. the proposed CIL ‘Draft Charging Schedule’ (at paragraph 5.10);
   c. the ‘Draft Regulation 123 Infrastructure List’ (at paragraph 5.18);
   d. the ‘Draft CIL Instalment Policy’ (at paragraph 5.22); and
   e. not to offer ‘CIL Exceptional Circumstances Relief’;

2. Authorise the Chief Officer (or Interim Chief Officer) Neighbourhoods, Planning & Public Protection to undertake a 6 weeks public consultation on the above ‘Draft Charging Schedule’, the ‘Draft Regulation 123 Infrastructure List’, the ‘Draft CIL Instalment Policy’ and any associated background documents, reporting back to Council in due course; and

3. Note the ‘CIL Preparation Timetable’ (at paragraph 9.1b) and that an officer ‘CIL Implementation Working Group’ will be formed to set up the necessary administrative processes to implement a CIL charge, including liaison with Members on the process for CIL funds to be allocated to infrastructure projects; reporting back to Council in due course.
11 APPointments process

11.1 The Interim Monitoring Officer highlighted the key areas of the report which sought approval to make minor amendments in relation to the Appointments Committee and update the appointment process for employees.

11.2 Council AGREED (unanimously) that:

1. Where more than one Executive Member holds the portfolio relevant to the appointment being made the Leader shall decide which Executive member will sit on the Appointments committee.

2. The appointments process for employees is amended as set out in paragraph 4.4; and

3. The Interim Monitoring Officer in consultation with the Members Constitution Working Party amends the constitution to reflect the above changes.

12 Further term of appointment for independent members of the Ethics & Standards Committee

12.1 The IMO highlighted the key areas of the report seeking approval to appoint Mrs Kathryn Pegington and Mr John Irvin as independent members of the Ethics & Standards Committee for a further term of 4 years.

12.2 Council AGREED (unanimously) to approve the appointment of Mrs Kathryn Pegington and Mr John Irvine as independent members of the Ethics and Standards Committee for a further term of four years commencing on 1 February 2018.

13 Motions on notice

13.1 The Leader proposed the following motion, which was subsequently agreed unanimously:

This council (Torfaen County Borough Council) notes that:

- NJC basic pay has fallen by 21% since 2010 in real terms
- NJC workers had a three-year pay freeze from 2010-2012
- Local terms and conditions of many NJC employees have also been cut, impacting on their overall earnings
- NJC pay is the lowest in the public sector
- Job evaluated pay structures are being squeezed and distorted by bottom-loaded NJC pay settlements needed to reflect the increased National Living Wage and the Foundation Living Wage
- There are growing equal and fair pay risks resulting from this situation
This council therefore supports the NJC pay claim for 2018, submitted by UNISON, GMB and Unite on behalf of council and school workers and calls for the immediate end of public sector pay restraint. NJC pay cannot be allowed to fall further behind other parts of the public sector. This council also welcomes the joint review of the NJC pay spine to remedy the turbulence caused by bottom-loaded pay settlements. This council also notes the drastic ongoing cuts to local government funding and calls on the Government to provide additional funding to fund a decent pay rise for NJC employees and the pay spine review. This council therefore resolves to:

- Call immediately on the LGA to make urgent representations to Government to fund the NJC claim and the pay spine review and notify us of their action in this regard
- Write to the Prime Minister and Chancellor supporting the NJC pay claim and seeking additional funding to fund a decent pay rise and the pay spine review
- Meet with local NJC union representatives to convey support for the pay claim and the pay spine review

13.2 The motion was seconded.

13.3 The Leader commented around the increasing workloads of employees delivering vital local services who had experienced consecutive years of pay cuts whilst the cost of living was increasing. He called on the UK Government to recognise this work and he spoke of how a pay rise would boost the local economy. He stressed that this was for council employees and not Councillors where pay was settled separately.

13.4 In response to questions asked around the costs implications of a pay rise to the council, the Leader explained that pay was currently being negotiated between unions who were asking the UK Government to cover the cost.

13.5 With regards to pay for third sector workers sub contracted by the Council, the Leader assured members that employment law around minimum wage was complied with.

13.6 Members spoke in support of the motion proposed by the Leader.

13.7 COUNCIL AGREED (unanimously), these arrangements.

14 MEMBER QUESTION TIME

14.1 Questions were asked by members and the replies to these questions are set out in Appendix B to these minutes.

15 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING
15.1 **COUNCIL NOTED** that its next meeting was scheduled for Tuesday 17 October 2017 at 10:00am in the Council Chamber at the Civic Centre, Pontypool, NP4 6YB.

16 **CABINET DECISIONS - 5.9.2017**

16.1 **COUNCIL NOTED** the Cabinet decisions.

Signed as a correct record by the Mayor………………………………………………

Minutes produced by Dominique Redman, Senior Business Support Officer - Democratic Services, 25.9.2017
COFNODION CYFARFOD CYNGOR
BWRDEISTREF SIROL TORFAEN
A gynhaliwyd ar ddydd Mawrth, 19 Medi 2017 am 2:00pm
Yn y Ganolfan Ddinesig, Heol Hanbury, Pont-y-pŵl NP4 6YB

NODER i’r Cyfarfod yma gael ei ddarledu’n fyw ar y rhyngrwyd.
Gellir gweld y cyfarfod ac eitemau’r agenda trwy’r ddolen
ganlynol: https://torfaen.public-i.tv/core/portal/webcast_interactive/307095

Mae’r agenda ar gyfer y cyfarfod a’r adroddiadau a gyflwynwyd
iddo hefyd ar gael i waeladr yn:
http://www.torfaen.gov.uk/cy/CouncillorsAndCommittees/Committees/
CommitteeDirectory.aspx

Agorodd y Maer yn cyfarfod yn ffurfiol.

Atgoffodd y Maer bawb bod y Cyfarfod yn cael ei ddarledu’n fyw ar y rhyngrwyd,
croesawodd bawb ac amlinellodd y gweithdrefnau arferol, fel yr angen i ddefnyddio
meicroffonau ac i eistedd wrth siarad, tawelu dyfeisiau swnllyd, y trefniadau ar gyfer
gadael mewn argyfwng a’r angen i gynigion neu welliannau i fod yn ysgrifenedig

YN BRESTENNOL

Cynghorwyr:

Y Cynghorydd Jessica Powell (Maer)

Stuart Ashley
Ron Burnett
Glyn Caron
Richard Clark (Dirprwy Arweinydd)
Leonard Constance
Veronica Crick YH
Fiona Cross
David Daniels
Kathy Evans
Steven Evans
Stuart Evans
Matt Ford
Joanne Gauden

Elizabeth Haynes
Jon Horlor
Anthony Hunt (Arweinydd)
Gwyn Jenkins
Mike Jeremiah
Alan Jones
Fay Jones
Janet Jones
Nicholas Jones
Peter Jones
Robert Kemp
Raymond Mills
Jason O’Connell

Richard Overton
Norma Overton
Kelly Preston
Rose Seabourne
Louise Shephard
Alan Slade
Colette Thomas
Dave Thomas
Neil Waite
Raymond Williams
David Yeowell
Swyddogion ar y llwyfan
Nigel Aurelius, Prif Weithredwr Cynorthwyol (Adnoddau)
Delyth Harries, Swyddog Monitro Dros Dro
Dominique Redman, Uwch Swyddog Cefnogi Busnes (Gwasanaethau Democrataidd)
Alison Ward, Prif Weithredwr

Swyddogion eraill yn bresennol neu’n gwylio o’r galeri am rannau o’r cyfarfod

Dave Congreve, Prif Weithredwr Cynorthwyol (Cymunedau)
Richard Edmunds, Pennaeth Gwasanaethau Strategol a Democrataidd
Caroline Genever-Jones, Rheolwr Etholiadau a Busnes
Neil Howell, Pennaeth Tai a Chefnogi Busnes
Tim James, Prif Swyddog Cyfreithiol Dros Dro
Stephen Jarrett, Pennaeth Priffyrdd, Trafnidiaeth ac Eiddo
Neil Jones, Pennaeth Cyfathrebu
Richard Lewis, Pennaeth Rheoli Datblygu, Cynllunio a Diogelu’r Cyhoedd
Dermot McChrystal, Pennaeth Addysg
Lyndon Puddy, Pennaeth Uned Cefnogi Gwasanaethau Cyhoeddus
Adrian Wilcock, Prif Gynllunydd
Steve Thomas, Uwch Gynllunydd
Lynne Williams, Pennaeth Cefnogaeth Busnes a Gwybodaeth

Pobl eraill yn bresennol

Alan Brunt, Prif Weithredwr Bron Afon
Kayleigh Houlihan, Bron Afon

YMDDIHEURIADAU AM ABSENOLDEB – CYNGHORWYR:

Giles Davies, Amanda Owen, Sue Malson a Chris Tew

ABSENNOL – CYNGHORWYR:

Huw Bevan

3 DATGANIADAU O FUDD

3.1 Dywedodd y Swyddog Monitro Dros Dro wrth aelodau am y buddion canlynol:
Mewn perthynas ag Eitem 9 ar yr Agenda, Cais am newid i reolau Bron Afon roedd gan yr aelodau canlynol fudd personol fel cynrychiolwyr a benodwyd gan y Cyngor i fwrdd Bron Afon
- Y Cynghorydd Richard Clark
- Y Cynghorydd Jessica Powell
- Y Cynghorydd Veronica Crick

Cadarnhaodd yr aelodau uchod eu buddion.

Mewn perthynas ag Eitem 10 ar yr Agenda, Ardoll Seilwaith Cymunedol Torfaen, cyfeiriwyd at Gynghorau Cymuned Cwmbrân a Phont-y-pŵl yn yr adroddiad fel rhai a ymatebodd i’r ymgyngoriad, felly roedd gan yr aelodau canlynol fuddion personol:

Fel aelodau o Gyngor Cymuned Cwmbrân:
- Y Cynghorydd Robert Kemp
- Y Cynghorydd Fay Jones

Fel aelodau o Gyngor Cymuned Pont-y-pŵl:
- Y Cynghorydd Matt Ford,
- Y Cynghorydd Gaynor James,
- Y Cynghorydd Raymond Mills,
- Y Cynghorydd Richard Overton,
- Y Cynghorydd Norma Parish,
- Y Cynghorydd Nicholas Jones,

Cadarnhaodd yr aelodau uchod eu buddion.

3.2 Rhoddodd yr aelodau canlynol hefyd ddatganiad o fudd personol mewn perthynas ag Eitem 10 ar yr Agenda, Ardoll Seilwaith Cymunedol Torfaen:

- Y Cynghorydd Stuart Ashley, fel aelod o Gyngor Cymuned Cwmbrân, aelod o Gŵp Adfer y Gamlas ac aelod Ymddiriedolaeth Camlas Sir Fynwy ac Aberhondu.

- Y Cynghorydd Colette Thomas, fel aelod o Gŵp Camlas Sir Fynwy ac Aberhondu; a

- Y Cynghorydd Jon Horlor fel aelod o Gŵp Camlas Sir Fynwy ac Aberhondu.

3.3 Yn ystod Eitem 13, Cynigion â Rhybudd, rhoddodd y Cynghorwyr canlynol ddatganiad o fuddion personol fel aelodau o Unisons Unite.

- Y Cynghorydd Anthony Hunt
- Y Cynghorydd Peter Jones
CADARNHAU COFNODION Y CYNGOR - 18.7.2017

4.1 CADARNHAODD Y CYNGOR fod cofnодion cyfarfod y Cyngor a gynhaliwyd ar 18 Gorffennaf 2017 yn rhai cywir.

5 DIWEDDARIAD AR WEITHREDOEDD

5.1 NODODD Y CYNGOR y diweddariadau a restrwyd ar yr agenda.

6 DERBYN DEISEBAU

6.1 Nid oedd deisebau wedi eu cyflwyno i'r cyfarfod hwn.

7 AMSER HOLI'R CYHOEDD

7.1 Doedd dim cwestiynau gan y cyhoedd.

8 CYHOEDDIADAU GAN YR ARWEINYDD NEU'R PRIF WEITHREDWR

8.1 Yng nghyhoeddiadau'r Arweinydd:

- Talodd deyrnged i'r diweddar gyn-gynghorydd Doug Davies yr oedd wedi mynychu ei angladd ar ran y Cyngor. Talodd deyrnged i Doug Davies a danfonodd ddymuniadau gorau i'w deulu gan gynnwys y Cynghorydd Giles Davies. Roedd yn gwerthfawrog i'r ffaith fod cyfarfod y Cyngor wedi ei symud i 2:00pm er mwyn i aelodau fynychu'r angladd;

- Diolchodd i Swyddogion y Cyngor a datblygwyr am eu gwaith o gwmpas enwi Ffordd James Prosser yn Llantarnam. Esboniodd i'r stryd gael ei enwi er cof am y Preifat James Prosser a golllod ei fywedd yn Affganistan 8 mlynedd yn ôl. Talodd deyrnged i'r Preifat James Prosser a chydnabyddodd gwaith ei fam a oedd wedi ymgyrchu dros James ac eraill a golllod eu bywydau;

- Llongyfarchodd y rheiny oedd ynhwlm wrth drefnu ras 10cilmeter Mic Morris a'r mwy na 1000 o redwyr a gynredau ran, gan gynnwys yr AS lleol Nick Thomas-Symonds a chynyghorydd o Dorfaen;

- Llongyfarchodd Glwb Rygbi Pont-y-pŵl ar ddechrau buddugoliaethus i'r tymor yma. Cydnabyddodd waith gwirfoddolwyr gyda themau ieuunctid a phrif dimau chwaraeon ar draws y cwm ac anogodd gefnogaeth, yn arbennig i Glwb Rygbi Pont-y-pŵl yn eu gêm nesaf yn erbyn yr Arberth;

- Llongyfarchodd saith aelod o staff yr SRS a oedd wedi cymryd rhan mewn tait feiciau er budd elusennau Velindre a Headway
a oedd wedi helpu aelodau staff yn yr SRS. Dywedodd ei fod hefyd wedi cymryd rhan yn y daith feiciau a oedd wedi ymweld â’r pump corff allanol o gwmpas Gwent yr oedd yr SRS yn gwasanaethu;

- Cyfeiriodd at Fesurau Atebolwydd Cyhoeddus Cymru Gyfan a chynghorodd, er gwaethaf amserau ariannol anodd, bod Torfaen wedi gwella neu o leiaf wedi aros yn gyson yn nau dreian y mesurau ac roedd hyn yn gosod Torfaen yn nawfed yn Nghymru, yn hanner ucha cynghorau Cymru. Diolchodd i’r aelodau a’r Swyddogion a gyfrannodd at y gwelliant mewn perthyniad; a

- Dymunodd yn dda i’r Prif Weithredwr Cynorthwylod (Adnoddau) ar gyfer llawdriniaeth sydd ar ddod. Talodd deyrnged i’r Prif Weithredwr Cynorthwylod (Adnoddau) a dymunodd adferiad buan iddo.

9 CAIS AM NEWID I REOLAU BRON AFON

9.1 Pwysleisiodd y Prif Weithredwr Cynorthwylod (Cymunedau) adrannau allweddol yr adroddiad a oedd yn gofyn am gysgodwyd i newid Rheolau Bron Afon Community Housing Limited mewn perthynas ag aelodaeth y Bwrdd, yn dilyn cais gan Bron Afon. Cyfeiriodd at baragraff 12.1.2 yr adroddiad a gofynnodd i aelodau nodi y dylid dileu’r cyfeiriad at reol 34 yn y paragraff gan nad oed yn berthnasol yn y cyd-destun.

9.2 CYTUNODD y Cyngor (yn unfrydol) bod modd newid rheolau Bron Afon fel:

3) Bod cyfansodiad y Bwrdd yr newid fel bod cynrychiolaeth tenantiaid yn gostwng o 4 i 2 aelod, bod cynrychiolaeth y cynghorwyr yn gostwng o 4 i 2 aelod a’r gynrychiolaeth annibynnol yn cynyddu o 4 i 8 aelod, fel yn rheolau 51, 52, 53, 54, 66, 67 a 68 a fel y cyfeiriwyd yn yr Atodiad; a

4) Bod modd newid y cworwm ar gyfer cyfarfod i leiafswm o 50% o aelodau’r Bwrdd fel yn rheolau 72 a fel y cyfeiriwyd yn yr Atodiad.

10 ARDOLL SEILWAITH CYMUNEDOL TORFAEN

10.1 Pwysleisiodd y Prif Gynllunydd adrannau allweddol yr adroddiad a oedd yn gofyn am gymeradwyd i fwrw ymlaen ag Ardoll Seilwaith Cymunedol (ASC) ar gyfer Torfaen trwy ymgyngorhad ar “Atodlen Drafft Codi Tâl” sy’n gosod lefel yr ASC yr oedd gofyn am gan ddefnydd penodol o dir; ar ôl ystyried y ffurfio bob cynrychiolaeth a dderbyniwyd yn ystod yr ymgyngorhad cyhoeddus blaenorol ar yr “Atodlen Codi Tâl Drafft” (PDCS) yn ystod Hydref-Rhai-fyr 2016 a oedd
10.2 Gofynnodd yr Aelodau gwestiynau ynglŷn â thâl ar gyfer adeiladu preswyl a de’r fwreistref; beth fyddai’r buddion o gyflwyno ASC i Dorfaen; ac a fyddai’r tâl mewn ardaloedd mwy llewyrchus yn dwysâu rhaniad rhwng gogledd a de’r fwreistref. Rhoddodd yr Prif Gynllunydd wybodaeth am yr ystod ar gyfer taliadau a oedd yn dechrau ar £50 y metr sgwâr ar gyfer adeiladau preswyl. Esboniodd bod y taliadau yma ond yn bosibl yn ardaloedd mwy llewyrchus y fwreistref fel Cwmbrân a Dafarn Newydd ble roedd prisiau wedi codi 10% dros y bedair blynedd diwethaf ond wedi codi braidd dim yn Mlaenafon. Esboniodd hefyd bod peth ansiawredd o hyd mewn perthynas â safleoedd a thaliadau, ond roedd amcangyfrif o incwm o hyd at £6miliwn a byddai trafodaethau am fuddsoddi a'r broses ail-ddosbarthu ble roedd modd i ASC a gasglwyd yng Nghwmbrân i gael ei wario yng gogledd y Fwrdeistref.

10.3 Roedd trafodaeth bellach ar gamau Llywodraeth y DU i ganiatáu i gynghorau yn Lloegr gadw trethi busnes ac roedd yr Arweinydd yn teimlo bod hyn yn fwy buddiol i ardaloedd mwy llewyrchus gyda phrisoedd uchel ar dir yn hytrach nag ardaloedd fel Torfaen gyda phrisoedd is. Cyfeiriodd y Prif Gynllunydd at nifer y fforddiad yn Llundain er enghraifft a phwysleisiodd y pwysau a roddwyd ar werth cyfredol tir a threth. Esboniodd bod Torfaen ‘yn y canol’ yng Nghymru ac roedd gallu mwy i codi tâl ar lefel uwch.

10.2 CYTUNODD y Cyngor (yn unfrydol) i:

4. Nodi cynnwys yr adroddiad a chymeradwyo:-
   a. Argymhellion y Swyddog yn yr ‘Adroddiad ar Ymgynghoriad ar Ddrafft Rhagarweiniol Codi Tâl ASC Torfaen’ (yn Atodiad 2),
   b. y ‘Drafft Atodlen Codi Tâl’ ASC arfaethedig (ym mharagraff 5.10);
   c. y ‘Rhestr Seilwaith Rheoliad 123 Drafft’ (ym mharagraff 5.18);
   d. y ‘Polisi Rhandaliadau ASC Drafft’ (ym mharagraff 5.22);
   e. pheidio â chynnig ‘Rhyddhad Amgylchiadau Eithriadol ASC’;

5. Awdurdo di’r Prif Swyddog (neu’r Prif Swyddog Dros Dro), Cymdogaethau, Cynllunio a Diogelu’r Cyhoedd i ymgymryd ag ymgynghoriad cyhoeddus am 6 wythnos ar yr ‘Atodlen Codi Tâl Drafft’ uchod, y ‘Rhestr Seilwaith Rheoliad 123 Drafft’, y ‘Polisi Rhandaliadau ASC Drafft’ ac unrhyw ddogfennau cefndir cysylltiol, ac adrodd yn ôl i’r Cyngor yn y man; a

6. Nodi’r ‘Amserlen Paratoi ar gyfer ASC’ (ym mharagraff 9.1b) a bydd ‘Gweithgor Gweithredu ASC’ Swyddogion yn cael ei ffurfio
er mwyn sefydlu’r gweithdrefnau gweinyddol angenrheidiol er mwyn gweithredu tâl ASC, gan gynnwys cysylltiad gydag aelodau ar y broses ar gyfer dyrrannu arian ASC at gynlluniau seilwaith; gan adrodd yn ôl i’r Cyngor yn y man.

11 Y BROSES PENODI

11.1 Pwysleisiodd y Swyddog Monitro Dros Dro adrannau allweddol yr adroddiad a oedd yn cofnodi am gymeradwyo etha i wneud mân ddiwygiadau mewn perthnas â’r Pwyllgor Penodiadau a diweddaru’r broses benodiadau ar gyfer gyflogai gyfer yr arian gweithwyr.

11.2 CYTUNODD y Cyngor (yn unfrydol):

- Pan fod mwy nag un Aelod Gweithredol yn dal y portffolio sy’n berthnasol i’r penodiad sy’n cael ei wneud bydd yr Arweinydd yn penderfynu pa aelod gweithredol fydd yn eistedd ar y pwyllog penodi.

- I ddiwygio’r broses benodi ar gyfer gyflogai yn unol â pharagraff 4.4;

- I’r Swyddog Monitro Dros Dro trwy ymgynghoriad gyda Gweithgor yr Aelodau ar y Cyfansoddiad ddiwygio’r cyfansoddiad i adlewyrchu’r newidiadau uchod.

12 CYFNOD PELLACH O BENODIAD AR GYFER AEOLODAU ANNIBYNNOL Y PWYLLGOR MOSEG A SAFONAU

12.1 Pwysleisiodd y Swyddog Monitro Dros Dro ddarnau allweddol yr adroddiad a oedd yn cofnodi am gymeradwyo etha i benodi Mrs Kathryn Pegington a Mr John Irvin fel Aelodau annibynnol y Pwyllgor Moeseg a Safonau am gyfnod pellach o 4 mlynedd.

12.2 CYTUNODD y Cyngor (yn unfrydol) i gymeradwyo penodiad Mrs Kathryn Pegington a Mr John Irvin fel Aelodau annibynnol y Pwyllgor Moeseg a Safonau am gyfnod pellach o 4 mlynedd gan ddechrau ar 1 Chwefror 2018.

13 CYNIGION À RHYBUDD

13.1 Cynigiodd yr Arweinydd cynnig canlynol, a gytwunwyd yn unfrydol wedyn:

Mae’r Cyngor hwn (Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Torfaen) yn nodi bod:

- Mae tâl sylfaenol y Cyd-gyngor Cenedlaethol wedi cwympo 21% mewn termau real ers 2010
- Cafodd tâl gweithwyr y CGC ei rewi o 2010-2012
- Mae telerau ac amodau lleol nifer o weithwyr CGC hefyd wedi
cael eu torri, gan efeithio’u henillion yn gyffredinol

- Tâl CGC yw’r isaf yn y sector gyhoeddus
- Mae strwythurau tâl wedi eu gwerthuso gan setliadau tâl ar waelod y raddfa sy’n angenrheidiol i adlewyrchu’r cynnydd yn y Cyflog Byw Cenedlaethol a Chyflog Byw’r Sefydliad
- Mae yna beryglon cynyddol i dâl cyfartal a theg o ganlyniad i’r sefyllfa yma.

Mae’r Cyngor yma felly’n cefnogi hawliad tâl y CGC ar gyfer 2018, a gyflwynwyd gan UNISON, GMB ac Unite ar ran y Cyngor a gweithwyr mewn ysgolion ac yn galw am ddiweddig yn syth i’r ffrwyn ar dâl yn y sector gyhoeddus. Ni ellir caniatâu i dâl CGC cwmpasu ymhellach y tu ôl i annau eraill o’r sector gyhoeddus. Mae’r Cyngor yma hefyd yn cryfod siôr ar adolygiad y cyflogai CGC ar gyfer hawliad tâl yr isafswm cyflog a’i cymorth o gyfrwng ar gyfer dâl cyfartal

Mae’r Cyngor yma hefyd yn nodi’r toriadau difrifol sy’n mynd ymlaen i ariannu Llywodraeth leol ac y galw ar i’r Llywodraeth i roi arian ychwanegol i ariannu codiad cyflog teilwng ar gyfer cyflogai CGC a’r adolygiad i’r gefnen dâl

Mae’r Cyngor yma felly’n cytuno i:

- Alw’n syth ar y Gymdeithas Llywodraeth Leol i gyflwyno achos ar frys i’r Llywodraeth iddyn nhw ariannu hawliad CGC a’r adolygiad i’r gefnen dâl ac i’n hysbysu ni am eu gweithredoedd yn hyn o beth.
- Ysgrifennu at y Prif Weinidog a’r Canghellor i gefnogi hawliad tâl CGC a gofyn am arian ychwanegol i ariannu codiad cyflog teilwng ar adolygiad i’r gefnen dâl
- Cwrdd â chynrychiolwyr CGC yr undebau i gyfleu cefnogaeth am yr hawliad tâl a’r adolygiad i’r gefnen dâl

13.2 Eiliwyd y cynnig.

13.3 Gwnaeth yr Arweinydd sylw ar y pwysau gwraith cymyddol ar weithwyr sy’n cyflogi gwasanaethau lleol hanfodol a oedd wedi profi blwydodd o dorriadau cyflog tra bod costau byw’n cymyddu. Galwodd ar Llywodraeth y DU i gydnabod y gwraith yma a dywedodd sut y byddai codiad cyflog yn hybu’r econome leol. Pwysleisiodd mai ar gyfer gweithwyr y Cyngor oedd hyn ac nid Cynghorwyr ble roedd graddau tâl yn cael eu penderfynu mewn ffodd arall.

13.4 Wrth ateb y cwestiynau o gylch goblygiadau cost i’r Cyngor o godiad tâl, esboniodd yr Arweinydd bod tâl ar hyn o bryd yn cael ei drafod rhwng yr undebau a oedd yn gofyn i Llywodraeth y DU i dala.  

13.5 O ran tâl ar gyfer gweithwyr yn y trydydd sector sy’n cael eu hisgoboi contractio gan yr Arweinydd aelodau bod cyfraith cyflogaeth o gyflwr yr isafswm cyflog yn cael ei gweithredu.
13.6 Siaradodd aelodau o blaid y cynnig gan yr Arweinydd.

13.7 **CYTUNODD Y CYNGOR** (yn unfrydol), i’r trefniadau yma.

14 **CWESTIYNAU GAN YR AELODAU**

14.1 Gofynnwyd cwestiynau gan yr aelodau ac mae’r atebion i’r cwestiynau yma yn Atodiad B y cofnodion yma.

15 **DYDDIAD AC AMSER Y CYFARFOD NESAF**

15.1 **NODODD Y CYNGOR** bod y cyfarfod nesaf ar Ddydd Mawrth 17 Hydref 2017 am 10:00am yn Siambr y Cyngor yn y Ganolfan Ddinesig, Pont-y-pŵl, NP4 6YB.

16 **PENDERFYNIADAU’R CABINET - 5.9.2017**

16.1 **NODODD Y CYNGOR** benderfyniadau’r Cabinet.

Arwyddwyd yn gofnod cywir gan y Maer………………………………………………

Cofnodion gan Dominique Redman, Uwch Swyddog Cefnogi Busnes - Gwasanaethau Democrataidd, 25.9.2017
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Reply</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>1.</strong> From Councillor Kelly Preston:</td>
<td><strong>Councillor David Daniels, Executive Member Communities, Housing &amp; Anti-Poverty:</strong></td>
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</table>
| How many people across Torfaen are affected by Universal Credit and is it possible to have an update on the impacts the Universal Credit roll out is having across the Borough? | Before trying to answer your first question, I think it’s probably worth reminding members of the significant change that occurred this July when Torfaen was selected by the DWP to move from “live service” Universal Credit to Full Service Universal Credit. Full service replaces six legacy benefits (including Housing Benefit, Tax Credits and Income Support). The Department for Work and Pensions is responsible for administering Universal Credit including the customer’s housing costs. There are some significant differences between the two regimes, but for now perhaps the best way of thinking about it is that:  

- Live Service Universal Credit has been limited to *new* claims, within a *limited claimant group* (and generally these are simple claims- in Torfaen, such as those who are single, without children or a health condition), and this compares with

- Full Service Universal Credit –which was rolled out by DWP in July of this year in Torfaen , and applies to *all new claimants from that date*: so, in Torfaen now this also includes those with health problems, those who are in work, and those with children. |
There are some other differences too, but in terms of the numbers affected by Universal Credit, there has been an acceleration since July of this year.

The DWP have updated us yesterday on the figures, however I would like to seek clarification (on some of the technical definitions included in their figures) and will circulate a full response over the next few weeks.

That being said, at this stage, we understand that –across the two “types” of UC- the impact has been on around 400 people affected by Live Service, and around a further 190 affected by Full Service to date, giving a total Universal Credit impact of around 600 claims.

In thanking the DWP for this provisional information, I will also ensure that we circulate a note with fuller information over the next few weeks.

In terms of measuring the impacts locally – for the reasons I’ve just given, it’s difficult to give the full picture of the impact here in Torfaen at this stage. We’re only the second Borough in Wales where Universal Credit has been rolled out, and the full effects have yet to be felt.

That being said, there are some trends we are expecting to see based on evidence from Flintshire – where UC was first rolled out in Wales – research from Citizens Advice Bureau, and from a recent study by the DWP.

The UK Government’s own evaluation of Universal Credit found that the lengthy benefit waiting times are causing claimants to run up hundreds of pounds in debt and rent arrears.

It found that a quarter of new Universal Credit claimants have waited for more than 42 days for their first payment – leaving some claimants without any income to pay for food, gas, electric and rent, and leaving them exposed to doorstep lenders.
and racking up higher debt just to get by. This exposure to racking up debt is reflected in the CAB’s research which found that 3 in 5 claimants are having to borrow money whilst waiting for their first payment.

To carry on the DWP’s own findings: Nearly a half of families said that moving on to Universal Credit had led to them falling behind with rent for the first time, with 4 in 5 saying they’d never been in arrears before.

4 in 10 households were in rent arrears 8 weeks after they first claimed UC, with nearly 1 in 3 still in arrears four months later.

These findings are consistent with early reports from Flintshire – where UC was first rolled out in Wales. More people are in debt, leaving them at greater risk of eviction and homelessness and more people are resorting to debt to cover their rent and other costs whilst waiting for their first payment. More people are also resorting to food banks and crisis intervention services.

These are just some of the trends we’re expecting to see in Torfaen and these are the trends we are prepared to take action on and face head on.

1a. Supplementary:

From speaking to professional colleagues and residents on the doorstep of Fairwater and across Torfaen, I know people are worried about Universal Credit. What are Torfaen County Borough Council doing to mitigate the negative impacts upon residents

Councillor David Daniels:

Over the past term and before this, we’ve been proactive in prioritising welfare reform. We’ve made a lot of changes and interventions that have benefited welfare reform mitigation as a whole but also specifically Universal Credit. A list of some of the mitigations we’ve put in place are:

- March 2016 – We put in an outreach advice service, provided by Citizens Advice advisors, in all food banks.
- We funded the accommodation costs of Eastern Valley Food Bank
- We provided Citizen’s Advice with an additional capacity to help clients to undergo a medical re-assessment
process such as a change for DLA to PIP – this is an appalling benefit change that has devastated some people’s lives where I will provide more detail at a future seminar

- We’ve invested in the Welsh Church Fund which has been vital, which was previously used to fund a range of things, which the Constitution allows us to use for anything, but we’ve chosen to prioritise it for hardships – for people who, for example, can’t pay for heating or electricity, repairs to their boilers, washing machine or fridges – covering all basic costs from day to day that we take for granted. There are also a number of wrap around services that step in to help these people.

- The Financial Inclusion Team, we’ve had the change in Communities First over the past year and that has had a significant impact. I can’t say I’ve been supportive of Welsh Governments change but we’ve had to deal with it. We’ve chosen to prioritise financial inclusion locally because it has the biggest impact and this helps connect with the benefit service they’re entitled to and helps them manage their finances by putting them on a more resilient path.

- We’ve partially funded a social prescriber in the north and south of the borough who are situated in GP Surgeries and residents with a range of problems will see the Social Prescriber, rather than see the GP. This is more often than not people with mental health issues. The Social Prescriber will then connect them appropriately with the right help.

- Prioritised third sector grant funding. Charities within the borough provide what we can’t for a cost that is a fraction of what it would incur to us. It’s vital that we support and fund third sector organisations.

- I chair the Welfare Reform Project Group and we all meet together on a periodic basis where we talk about issues on the horizon, such as Universal Credit most recently and we talk about what can be done going forward.
- The news reported recently that Torfaen Council provided the best service in Wales for discretionary housing payment. Credit goes to the Revenue and Benefits Team who understand and have supported people in crisis.

There are more mitigations we have put in place to assist with welfare reform and I will email members with this information.

Some of the future mitigations we will be putting in place are:

- To log and record the issues in relation to Universal Credit in real times that can be fed to the right part of the system to resolve as well as provide an evidence base for our parliamentary representation;
- Looking at how we can secure the Financial Inclusion Team previously funded by Communities First. I have given a personal assurance that this is our highest priority;
- We are working with partners to look at specific proposals that help mitigate universal impact, for example last week the Welfare Reform Project Group held a meeting to review a number of ideas, I'll be sharing the outcome with Cabinet colleagues in terms of recommending a relatively small amount of our early intervention prevention fund which we've set aside (£500,000) which I am eternally grateful for as this will go some way towards mitigating some of the worst impacts of universal credit.
- Our revenue and benefits department have been working with DWP by providing dedicated support to assist customers to claim and manage their financial affairs. I will therefore be discussing with the Leader the timing of our next Welfare Reform Project Group Members Seminar where we can share all of this information in more detail than I've given you today.
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<tr>
<th>Cwestiwn</th>
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<tr>
<td>1. Gan y Cynghorydd Kelly Preston:</td>
<td>Y Cynghorydd David Daniels, Yr Aelod Gweithredol dros Gymunedau, Tai a Gwrthdlodi:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Faint o bobl ar draws Torfaen sy’n cael eu heffeithio gan Gredyd Cynhwysol ac a yw’n bosibl cael diweddiad ar efeithiau cyflwyno Credyd Cynhwysol ar draws y Fwrdeistref?</td>
<td>Cyn ceisio ateb eich cwestiwn cyntaf, rwy’n credu ei fod yn werth atgoffa aelodau am y newid sylweddol a ddigwyddodd yng Ngorffennaf pan ddewiswyd Torfaen gan yr Adran Waith a Phensiynau i symud o Gredyd Cynhwysol “gwasanaeth byw” i Gredyd Cynhwysol Gwasanaeth Llawn. Mae gwasanaeth llawn yn cymryd lle chwe budd-dal hanesyddol (gan gynnwys Budd-dal Tai, Credydau Treth a Chymphorthdal Incwm). Mae’r Adran Waith a Phensiynau’n gyfrifol am weinyddu Credyd Cynhwysol gan gynnwys costau cartref y cwsmer. Mae yna rhai gwahaniaethau arwyddocaol rwng y ddwy gyfundrefn, ond am y tro efallai mai’r ffordd orau i feddwl am bethau yw:</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Mae Credyd Cynhwysol Gwasanaeth Byw wedi ei gyfyngu i hawliau newydd, o fewn grŵp hawlyddion cyfyngedig (ac fel arfer mae’r rhain yn hawliau syml - yn Nhorfaen, fel y rheiny sy’n sengl, heb blant neu gyflwr iechyd), ac mae hyn yn cymharu â</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Chredyd Cynhwysol Gwasanaeth Llawn – a gyflwynwyd gan yr Adran Waith a Phensiynau yng Ngorffennaf eleni yn Nhorfaen, ac mae’n berthnasol i bob hawlydd newydd o’r dyddiad hwnnw ymlaen: felly yn Nhorfaen nawr mae hyn hefyd yn cynnwys y rheiny sydd â phroblemau iechyd, y rheiny sy’n gweithio a’r rheiny sydd â phlant.</td>
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Mae yna rhai gwasanaethau eraill hefyd, ond o ran y niferoedd sy’n cael eu heffeithio gan Gredyd Cynhwysol, mae cynnydd wedi bod ers Gorffennaf eleni.

Mae’r Adran Waith a Phensiynau wedi rhoi diweddariad i ni ddoe ar y ffigurau, ond hoffwn ofyn am eglurder (ar rai o’r diffiniadau technegol sy’n cael eu cynnwys yn y ffigurau) a byddaf yn cychreded ateb llawn dros yr wythnosau nesaf.

Wedi dweud hynny, ar hyn o bryd, rydym yn deall – ar draws y ddau “fath” o Gredyd Cynhwysol - bod tua 400 o bobl wedi cael eu heffeithio gan Wasanaeth Byw a rhyw 190 yn ychwanegol gan Wasanaeth Llawn hyd yn hyn gan wneud cyfanswm o tua 600 o hawliadau Credyd Cynhwysol.

Wrt ddiolch i'r Adran Waith a Phensiynau am y wybodaeth dros dro yma, byddaf hefyd yn sicrhau y byddwn yn cychreded nodyn gyda gwybodaeth llawnach dros dros yr wythnosau nesaf.

O ran mesur yr effeithiau’n lleol - am y rhesymau yr wyf newydd gyfeirio atynt, mae’n anodd rhoi darlun llawn o’r effaith yma yn Nhôrfaen ar yr adeg yma. Dim ond yr ail Fwrdeistref yng Nghymru ydym ni ple mae Credyd Cynhwysol wedi ei gyflwyno, ac nid yw'r effeithiau llawn wedi eu teimlo eto.

Ar ôl dweud hynny mae yna rhai tueddidiadau yr ydym yn disgwyl g weld ar sail y dystiolaeth o Sir y Fflint - ble cyflwynwyd CC gyntaf yng Nghymru - ymchwil gan Gyngor ar Bopeth, ac o astudiaeth ddiweddar gan yr Ar Adran Waith a Phensiynau.

Canfu gwerthusiad Llywodraeth y DU o Gredyd Cynhwysol bod yr amserau aros hir am fudd-dal yn achosi i hawlyddion i fynd i gannoedd o ddyled a rhent dyledus.

Canfuwyd bod chwarter hawlyddion newydd Credyd Cynhwysol wedi aros dros 42 diwrnod am eu taliad cyntaf - gan adael rhai hawlyddion heb unrhyw incwm i dalu am fwyd, nwy, trydan a rhent, a’u gadael nhw ar drugaredd benthycwyr stepen drws ac
yn mynd i ddyled mwy er mwyn byw. Mae bod yn agored fel hyn i fynd i ddyled yn cael ei adlewyrchu yn ymchwil CAB a ganfu bod rhaid i 3 allan o bob 5 hawlydd fenthyg arian tra eu bod yn aros am eu taliad cyntaf.

Er mwyn cario ymlaen gyda chanfyddiadau’r Adran Waith a Phensiynau: Dywedodd bron i hanner y teulu oedd bod symud at Gredyd Cynhwysol wedi eu harwain at fynd i ddyled o ran eu rhent am y tro cyntaf, gyda 4 o 5 yn dweud na fuon nhw mewn ôl-ddyled o’r blaen.

Roedd 4 o bob 10 teulu ag ôl-ddyled rhent 8 wythnos o ar ôl hawlio CC am y tro cyntaf, gyda bron 1 o bob 3 yn dal mewn dyled pedwar mis yn ddiweddarach.

Mae’r canfyddiadau yn gyson gydag adroddiadau cynnar o Sir y Fflint - ble cyfwynwyd CC am y tro cyntaf yng Nghymru. Mae mwy o bobl mewn dyled, gan eu gadael mewn perygl o gael eu troi allan a bod yn ddigartref ac mae mwy o bobl yn dibynnau ar ddyled er mwyn talu eu rhent a chostau eraill tra eu bod yn aros am eu taliad cyntaf. Mae mwy o bobl hefyd yn dibynnau ar fanciau bwyd a gwasanaethau argyfwng.

Dyma rhai o’r tueddiau rydym yn disgwyl gweld yn Nhorfaen a’r tueddiau rydym yn fodlon gweithredu arnynt ac wynebu’n syth.

1a. Atodol:

Ar ôl siarad gyda chyfeillion profesiynol a thrigolion ar stepen y drws yn Fairwater ac ar draws Torfaen, rwy’n gwybod bod pobl yn poeni am Gredyd Cynhwysol. Beth mae Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Torfaen yn gwneud i leddfu’r effeithiau negyddol ar drigolion

Y Cy nghorydd David Daniels:

Dros y tymor diwethaf a chyn hyn, rydym wedi bod yn rhagweithiol wrth flaenoriaethu diwygio lles. Rydym wedi gwneud llawer o newidiadau ac ymyriadau sydd wedi bod o fudd wrth leddfu diwygio lles ar y cyfan ond yn benodol Credyd Cynhwysol. Dyma restr o rai o’r lleddfiadau yr ydym wedi gosod mewn grym:

- Mawrth 2016 – Fe wnaethom ni sefydlu gwasanaeth cyngor yn y maes, wedi ei ddarparu gan Cyngor ar
Bopeth, ym mhob banc bwyd.
- Fe wnaethom ni ariannu costau llety Bank Bwyd Cwm y Dwyrain
- Fe wnaethom ni ddarparu capsiti ychwanegol i Gyngor ar Bopeth er mwyn helpu cleientiaid i fynd trwy ailasesiad meddygol fel newid o Lwfans Byw i’r Anabl at Daliad Annibyniaeth Personol - dyma newid gwarthus i fudd-daliadau sydd wedi distrywio bywydau rhai pobl a byddaf yn rhoi mwy o fanylion mewn seminar yn y dyfodol.
- Rydym wedi buddsoddi yn y Gronfa Eglwysi Cymreig sydd wedi bod yn anhegpor ac a ddefnyddiwyd o’r blaen i ariannu nifer o bethau, y mae’r Cyfansoddiad yn caniatáu i ni ei ddefnyddio ar gyfer unrhyw beth, ond rydym wedi blaenoriaethu ar gyfer caled – ar gyfer pobl sydd, er enghraifft, ddim yn gallu talu a mwrres neu drydan, agywiriau i fwyleri, peiriannau golchi neu oergelloedd – gan ddelio â’r costau sylfaenol dydd i ddydd yr ydym i gyd yn helpu’r bobl yma.
- Y Tim Cynhwysiant Ariannol, rydym wedi cael y newidiadau yng Nghymunedau’n Gyntaf dros y flwyddyn ddiwethaf ac ma’i hynny wedi cael efallai arwyddocoal. Allaf i ddim dweud fy mod i ni wedi cefnogi newid Llywodraeth Cymru ond rydym ni wedi gorfod delio ag e. Rydym wedi dewis rholi blaenoriaeth i cynhwysiant ariannol yn lleol oherwydd dyma sy’n cael yr efallai mwyaf ac ma’i ddefnyddio ar gyfer rholi cysylltu gyda’r gwasanaeth budd-daliadau y mae ganddyn nhw hawl iddo ac yn eu helpu i reoli eu harian gan eu rhoi ar hyd mwy sefydlog.
- Rydym wedi ariannu’r rhannol rhagnodwr cymdeithasol yng ngogledd a de’r fwrdeistref sydd wedi eu lleoli mewn meddygfeyydd a bydd trigolion gydag amrywiaeth o problemau yn gweld y rhagnodwr cymdeithasol yn hytrach na’r meddyg. Yn fwy aml na phedio pobl â phroblemau iechyd meddwl yw’r rhain. Bydd y rhagnodwr cymdeithasol yn eu cysylltu gyda’r cymorth
• Blaenoriaeth i ariannu grantiau i'r trydydd sector. Mae elusennau yn y fwrdeistref yn darparu’r hyn na allwn ni ddarparu am gyfran bach o’r pris y byddai’n costio ni. Mae’n hanfodol ein bod ni’n cefnogi ac yn ariannu sefydliadau yn y trydydd sector.
• Rwy’n cadeirio’r Grŵp Cynllun Diwygio Lles ac rydym yn cyfarfod yn achlysurol ac yn trafoth pethau sydd ar y gwein, fel Credyd Cynhwysol yn twyaf diweddar ac rydym yn trafoth sy’n gallu cael ei wneud wrth fynd ymlaen.
• Dywedodd y newyddion yn ddiweddar bod Cyngor Torfaen yn darparu’r gwasanaeth gorau ar gyfer Taliau Tai yn ôl Disgresiwn. Mae clod yn ddyledus i’r Tîm Refeniw a Budd-daliadau sy’n deall ac syd wedi cefnogi pobl mewn argyfwng.

Mae yna fwy o leddfiadau yr ydym wedi gosod mewn grym er mwyn cynorthwyo gyda diwygio Lles a byddaf yn danfon e-bost at aelodau gyda’r wybodaeth yma.

Ymhliith y lleddfiadu y byddwn yn gosod mewn grym yn y dyfodol mae:

- Cofnodi problemau mewn perthynas â Chredyd Cynhwysol mewn amser real y ma e modd eu bwydo wedyn i ran gywir y system i ddatrys yn ogystal à darparu sylfaen o dysiolaeth ar gyfer ein cynrhychiolaeth seneddol;
- Edrych ar sut y gallwn sicrhau’r Tîm Cynhwysiant Ariannol a arianwyd gynt gan Gymunedau’n Gyntaf. Rydw i wedi rhoi ymrwymiad personol mai dyma’n prif flaenoriaeth.
- Rydym yn gweithio gyda phartneriaid i edrych ar argymhellion penodol i helpu lleddfu effaith cyfan gwbl, er enghraifft yr wythnos diwethaf cafodd y Grŵp Cynllun Diwygio Lles gyfarfod i adolygu nifer o symiadau, byddaf yn rhannu’r canlyniau gyda’r Cabinet o ran cynnig
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<td>[cyfran cymharol fach o’n cronfa atal ymyraeth gynnar yr ydym wedi gosod i un ochr (£500,000) yr wyf yn ddiolchgar amdano gan y bydd hyn yn mynd rhywfaint o’r ffordd tuag at leddfu rhai o effeithiau gwaethaf Credyd Cynhwysol. - Mae ein hadran refeniw a budd-daliadau wedi bod yn gweithio gyda’r Adran Waith a Phensiynau gan roi cefnogaeth i helpu cwsmeriaid i hawlio a rheoli eu harian. Byddaf yn trafo fel gyda’r Arweinydd amseru Seminar nesaf y Grŵp Cynllun Diwygio Lles i Aelodau ble byddwn yn gallu rhannu’r wybodaeth yma i gyd gyda mwy o fanylder nag yr wyf wedi gallu gwneud heddiw.</td>
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