

**MEETING OF THE SAFER COMMUNITIES OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE  
OF TORFAEN COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL  
Held on Wednesday, 20 June 2018 at 3.00pm  
In the Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Hanbury Road, Pontypool, NP4 6YB**

**MINUTES**

**Attendance: Members of the Committee**

Ron Burnett	Jessica Powell
Steven Evans	Chris Tew
Elizabeth Haynes (Chair)	Dave Thomas
Raymond Mills	

**Officers:**

Tim James, Chief Legal Officer (CLO)  
Tom Roberts, Senior Corporate Improvement & Scrutiny Officer (SCI&SO1)  
Liann Skellett, Senior Corporate Improvement & Scrutiny Officer (SCI&SO2)  
Chris Slade, Senior Business Support Officer – Democratic Services (SBSO)

**Invitees:**

David Thompson, Head of Public Protection (HoPP)  
Neil Howell, Head of Housing, Commissioning and Service Transformation (HoH,C&ST)  
Lyndon Puddy, Head of Public Services Support Unit (HoPSSU)  
Rachel Jowitt, Chief Officer Neighbourhood Services (CONS)

**Action**

**1 Welcome & Apologies**

- 1.1 The Chair welcomed Members and Officers to the meeting.
- 1.2 Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Stuart Ashley, Fay Jones and Neil Waite.

**2 Declarations of Interest**

- 2.1 The Chair reminded Members that any interests should be verbally declared and recorded on the Declarations of Interest register.
- 2.2 No interests were declared.

**3 Minutes - 25/4/18**

- 3.1 The minutes of the previous meeting were confirmed as an accurate record.

## **4 Action Sheet**

- 4.1 The SCI&SO2 updated that the recommendations of the previous Committee had been sent to the relevant Executive Member as agreed and the response was yet to be received.
- 4.2 Councillor Raymond Mills stated that Members were yet to receive the monthly update reports in relation to tickets issues by enforcement officers. The HoPP apologised and responded that he was working with the Communications Team in order to put together a newsletter for the information to be in a format which was more useful for Members. He stated that the information received by the enforcement company was in a table format and was handwritten. He explained that he had data from April onwards and would send the newsletter to Members as soon as possible, hopefully before the end of June. The committee agreed that this be put on the action sheet.

## **5 Update Report - Progress Against Adopted Action Plans**

- 5.1 The Chair introduced the report and gave a brief overview of the suggested scrutiny activity;
- that the Committee review the progress against adopted action plans referred to and considered by the committee; and
  - identify and outline concerns regarding progress made and make relevant recommendations or comments for consideration by the Audit Committee through an annual progress report.
- 5.2 The SCI&SO1 gave a brief overview of the background as to why the committee were required to consider the item on their agenda.
- 5.3 The Chair invited the relevant officer to give a brief update on progress made and respond to Members' questions and comments. They updated and responded as follows:-
- 5.4 Delivering with Less – The Impact on Environmental Health Services and Citizens
- The HoPP updated that the research was undertaken in 2013 and so the data was out of date. A national review had taken place in relation to environmental health based on austerity that local authorities were facing at the time, but there was a more localised version of the report. He reported that services had changed since the report, for example there was no longer a pest control service in existence. He explained that a lot of the actions were related to the service before he was appointed as HoPP and suggested that they were perhaps at a point where the committee could agree to close the report off as issues had moved on.

The committee agreed to remove this item for further updates.

## 5.5 How Local Government Manages Demand – Homelessness

- The HoH,C&ST explained that the report was new and that Members only had an update in April. Good progress was being made and he suggested to Members that the Homelessness Strategy be considered for their work programme going forward.
- Councillor Steven Evans stated that in other local authorities homelessness was more prevalent than Torfaen and asked whether there was a reason for it. The HoH,C&ST responded that although the count for rough sleepers was zero last year, he was aware that there was a small number within Torfaen. He explained that cities were more of an attraction for rough sleepers as there were more support networks in place, access to hostels and work opportunities. In Torfaen, rough sleepers were offered support and guidance but were often refused, and only really taken as a last resort. He believed that as austerity increases the number of homelessness would increase too.

The committee agreed to retain this item for further updates.

## 5.6 Community Safety in Wales

- The HoPSSU updated that the Safer Gwent arrangements had been working well. He stated that there were still some significant issues that had to be overcome due to the Home Office. A discussion paper to discharge powers to Safer Gwent had been sent to the Homeoffice, but we are awaiting feedback in order to progress things. There is a regional delivery strategy in place but a more local mechanism is required in order to make effective progress. He suggested that they are on schedule but recommended that Community Safety be put forward for the committee's work programme for the coming year.
- Councillor Steven Evans asked when the response would be received from the Home Office. The HoPSSU replied that he was not anticipating a swift response.
- Councillor Ronald Burnett congratulated the HoPSSU and said that it was good to see that Gwent was holding its own on the agenda.

The committee agreed to retain this item for further updates.

## **6 Item for Next Meeting**

6.1 The next item was to be confirmed, following the committee's visioning session.

## **7 Date of Next Meeting**

7.1 The date of the next meeting was to be confirmed.

7.2 The meeting ended at 3.17pm.

**Signed** ..... **Chair** **Date**.....

Minutes produced by Chris Slade, Senior Business Support Officer - Democratic Services

**CYFARFOD PWYLLGOR TROSOLWG A CHRAFFU CYMUNEDAU MWY DIOGEL  
CYNGOR BWRDEISTREF SIROL TORFAEN**  
A gynhaliwyd ar ddydd Mercher, 20 Mehefin 2018 am 3.00pm  
Yn Siambr y Cyngor, Y Ganolfan Ddinesig, Hanbury Road, Pont-y-pŵl, NP4 6YB

**COFNODION**

**Yn Bresennol: Aelodau'r Pwyllgor**

Ron Burnett  
Steven Evans  
Elizabeth Haynes (Chair)  
Raymond Mills

Jessica Powell  
Chris Tew  
Dave Thomas

**Swyddogion:**

Tim James, Prif Swyddog Cyfreithiol  
Tom Roberts, Uwch Swyddog Gwelliant Corfforaethol a Chraffu(1)  
Liann Skellett, Uwch Swyddog Gwelliant Corfforaethol a Chraffu(2)  
Chris Slade, Uwch Swyddog Cefnogi Busnes – Gwasanaethau Democrataidd

**Gwahoddedigion:**

David Thompson, Pennaeth Diogelu'r Cyhoedd  
Neil Howell, Pennaeth Tai, Comisiynu a Thrawsnewid Gwasanaethau  
Lyndon Puddy, Pennaeth yr Uned Cefnogi Gwasanaethau Cyhoeddus  
Rachel Jowitt, Prif Swyddog, Gwasanaethau Cymdogaethau

**Action**

**1 Croeso ac Ymddiheuriadau**

- 1.1 Croesawodd y Cadeirydd Aelodau a Swyddogion i'r cyfarfod.
- 1.2 Derbyniwyd ymddiheuriadau am absenoldeb oddi wrth y Cynghorwyr Stuart Ashley, Fay Jones a Neil Waite.

**2 Datganiadau o Fuddiant**

- 2.1 Atgoffodd y Cadeirydd Aelodau y dylai unrhyw fuddion gael eu datgan ar lafar a'u cofnodi yn y gofrestr Datganiadau o Fudd.
- 2.2 Ni roddwyd unrhyw ddatganiadau o fudd.

**3 Cofnodion - 25/4/18**

- 3.1 Cadarnhawyd fod cofnodion y cyfarfod blaenorol yn rhai cywir.

## **4 Taflen Weithredu**

- 4.1 Rhoddodd yr Uwch Swyddog Gwelliant Corfforaethol a Chraffu(2) ddiweddariad i ddweud bod argymhellion y Pwyllgor blaenorol wedi eu danfon at yr Aelod Gweithredol perthnasol a doedd dim ateb eto.
- 4.2 Dywedodd y Cynghorydd Raymond Mills nad oedd Aelodau wedi derbyn yr adroddiadau diweddarau misol mewn perthynas â thocynnau a roddwyd gan swyddogion gorfodaeth eto. Ymddiheurodd y Pennaeth Diogelu a dywedodd ei fod yn gweithio gyda'r Tîm Cyfathrebu i lunio cylchlythyr er mwyn i'r wybodaeth fod mewn fformat a oedd yn fwy defnyddiol i'r Aelodau. Dywedodd fod y wybodaeth a dderbyniwyd gan y cwmni gorfodaeth ar ffurf tabl ac mewn llawysgrifen. Esboniodd fod ganddo ddata o Ebrill ymlaen a byddai'n danfon y cylchlythyr i Aelodau cyn gynted ag y bo modd a, gobeithir, cyn diwedd Mehefin. Cytunodd y pwyllgor i roi hyn ar y daflen waith.

## **5 Adroddiad ar y Diweddaraf - Cynnydd yn erbyn Cynlluniau Gweithredu a Fabwysiadwyd**

- 5.1 Cyflwynodd y Cadeirydd yr adroddiad a rhoddodd drosolwg o'r gweithgareddau craffu a awgrymwyd;
- bod y Pwyllgor yn adolygu'r cynnydd yn erbyn y cynlluniau gweithredu a fabwysiadwyd cyfeiriwyd atynt ac a ystyriwyd gan y pwyllgor; a
  - nodi ac amlinellu pryderon ynglŷn â'r cynnydd a wnaed a gwneud argymhellion neu sylwadau perthnasol i'w hystyried gan y Pwyllgor Archwilio trwy adroddiad cynnydd blynyddol.
- 5.2 Rhoddodd yr Uwch Swyddog Gwelliant Corfforaethol a Chraffu(1) drosolwg cryno ar gefndir pam roedd gofyn i'r pwyllgor ystyried yr eitem ar eu hagenda.
- 5.3 Gwahoddodd y Cadeirydd i'r swyddog perthnasol ddod i roi diweddariad cryno ar y cynnydd a wnaed ac ymateb i gwestiynau a sylwadau'r Aelodau. Cafwyd diweddariad ac ateb fel a ganlyn:-
- 5.4 Cyflawni â Llai – Yr Effaith ar Wasanaethau Iechyd yr Amgylchedd a Dinasyddion
- Dywedodd Pennaeth Diogelu'r Cyhoedd fod yr ymchwil wedi ei wneud yn 2013 ac felly nid oedd y data'n gyfredol. Roedd adolygiad cenedlaethol wedi bod mewn perthynas ag iechyd amgylcheddol yn seiliedig ar y llymder yr oedd awdurdodau lleol yn wynebu drwy'r amser, ond roedd fersiwn mwy lleol o'r adroddiad. Dywedodd fod gwasanaethau wedi newid ers yr adroddiad, er enghraifft doedd dim gwasanaeth difa pla yn bodoli. Esboniodd fod llawer o'r gweithredoedd yn ymwneud â'r gwasanaeth cyn iddo gael ei benodi'n Bennaeth ac awgrymodd efallai eu bod wedi cyrraedd pwynt ble roedd modd i'r pwyllgor gytuno i gau'r adroddiad gan fod materion wedi symud ymlaen.

Cytunodd y pwyllgor i ddileu'r eitem yma ar gyfer diweddariadau pellach.

#### 5.5 Sut mae Llywodraeth Leol yn Rheoli Galw - Digartrefedd

- Esboniodd y Pennaeth Tai, Comisiynu a Thrawsnewid Gwasanaethau fod yr adroddiad yn newydd a dim ond yn Ebrill cafodd yr Aelodau ddiweddariad. Roedd cynnydd yn dda ac awgrymodd i'r Aelodau y gallai'r Strategaeth Ddigartrefedd gael ei hystyried ar gyfer eu rhaglen waith yn y dyfodol.
- Dywedodd y Cynghorydd Steven Evans fod digartrefedd yn fwy amlwg mewn awdurdodau lleol eraill na Thorfaen a gofynnodd a oedd yna reswm am hyn. Atebodd y Pennaeth Tai, Comisiynu a Thrawsnewid Gwasanaethau trwy ddweud er bod y cyfrif o'r rhai a oedd yn cysgu allan llynedd wedi cyfrif dim pobl, roedd yn ymwybodol fod yna nifer fechan yn Nhorfaen. Esboniodd fod dinasoedd yn denu'r rhai sy'n cysgu allan yn fwy gan fod yna fwy o rwydweithiau cefnogaeth yn bodoli, cyfleoedd i fynd i hostelau a chyfleoedd gwaith. Yn Nhorfaen, roedd y rheiny sy'n cysgu allan yn cael cynnig cefnogaeth a chyingor ond roedd y rhain yn aml yn cael eu gwrthod, ac ond yn cael eu derbyn pan fyddai popeth arall yn methu. Roedd yn credu y byddai nifer y digartref yn cynyddu wrth i lymder gynyddu.

Cytunodd y pwyllgor i gadw'r eitem yma ar gyfer diweddariadau pellach.

#### 5.6 Diogelwch Cymunedol yng Nghymru

- Rhoddodd Pennaeth yr Uned Cefnogi Gwasanaethau Cyhoeddus ddiweddariad i ddweud fod trefniadau Gwent Mwy Diogel wedi bod yn gweithio'n dda. Dywedodd fod yna broblemau sylweddol i'w goresgyn eto oherwydd y Swyddfa Gartref. Roedd papur trafod i roi pwerau i Went Mwy Diogel wedi ei ddanfon at y Swyddfa Gartref, ond rydym yn disgwyl am adborth er mwyn symud ymlaen. Mae yna strategaeth cyflenwi ranbarthol mewn grym ond mae angen peirianwaith mwy lleol er mwyn sicrhau cynnydd mwy effeithiol. Awgrymodd eu bod yn cadw at yr amserlen ond roedd yn argymhell bod Diogelwch Cymunedol yn cael ei gyflwyno fel pwnc ar gyfer rhaglen waith y pwyllgor ar gyfer y flwyddyn i ddod.
- Gofynnodd y Cynghorydd Steven Evans pa bryd fyddai'r ateb yn cael ei dderbyn oddi wrth y Swyddfa Gartref. Atebodd Pennaeth yr Uned Cefnogi Gwasanaethau Cyhoeddus nad oedd yn disgwyl ateb cyflym.
- Llongyfarchodd y Cynghorydd Ronald Burnett Bennaeth yr Uned Cefnogi Gwasanaethau Cyhoeddus a dywedodd ei fod yn dda gweld fod Gwent yn dal ei thir ar yr agenda.

Cytunodd y pwyllgor i gadw'r eitem yma ar gyfer diweddariadau pellach.

## **6 Eitem ar gyfer y Cyfarfod Nesaf**

6.1 Byddai'r eitem nesaf yn cael ei chadarnhau ar ôl sesiwn weledigaeth y pwyllgor.

**7 Dyddiad y Cyfarfod Nesaf**

7.1 Byddai dyddiad y cyfarfod nesaf yn cael ei gadarnhau.

7.2 Gorffennodd y cyfarfod am 3.17pm.

..... **Cadeirydd**

Chris Slade, Uwch Swyddog Cefnogi Busnes (Gwasanaethau Democrataidd)