

**Cardiff Capital Region
Regional Cabinet Meeting**

9.30am–11.30am on Monday 9 October 2023
Microsoft Teams

Minutes

Leaders

Cllr Anthony Hunt, Chair	Leader	Torfaen CBC
Cllr Mary Ann Brocklesby, Vice Chair	Leader	Monmouthshire CC
Cllr Jane Mudd, Vice Chair	Leader	Newport CC
Cllr Helen Cunningham	Deputy Leader	Blaenau Gwent CBC
Cllr Sean Morgan	Leader	Caerphilly CBC
Cllr Geraint Thomas	Leader	Merthyr Tydfil CBC
Cllr Maureen Webber	Deputy Leader	Rhondda Cynon Taf CBC
Cllr Lis Burnett	Leader	Vale of Glamorgan Council

Officers in Attendance

Please note attendance of Chief Executives, core CCR Officers, Accountable Body and Observers only will be recorded

Damien McCann	Interim Chief Executive	Blaenau Gwent CBC
Christina Harry	Chief Executive	Caerphilly CBC
Paul Matthews	Chief Executive	Monmouthshire CC
Beverly Owen	Chief Executive	Newport CC
Paul Mee	Chief Executive	Rhondda Cynon Taf CBC
Stephen Vickers	Chief Executive	Torfaen CBC
Rob Thomas	Chief Executive	Vale of Glamorgan Council

Christopher Lee	(CL) Acting Chief Executive / Section 151 Officer	Cardiff Council / Accountable Body
Gareth Gates	Accountant	Accountable Body
Siân Humphries	Monitoring Officer Representative	Accountable Body
Kellie Beirne	(KB) Director	Office of the CCR
Hrjinder Singh	Head of Finance, Risk & Assurance	Office of the CCR
Colan Mehaffey	(CM) Head of Digital & Data Innovation	Office of the CCR
Liz Fitzgerald (minutes)	Business Development & Partnership Officer	Office of the CCR

Observers

Gareth Ashman	Head of Infrastructure	UK Government
Sarah Manfredi	Solicitor (Interim Monitoring Officer Support)	Pinsent Masons

Apologies

Cllr Stephen Thomas	Leader	Blaenau Gwent CBC
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**EXTERNAL MINUTES INCLUDING
EXTERNAL DISCUSSIONS**

Cllr Huw David OBE	Leader	Bridgend CBC
Cllr Huw Thomas, Vice Chair	Leader	Cardiff Council
Cllr Andrew Morgan OBE	Leader	Rhondda Cynon Taf CBC
Mark Shephard	Chief Executive	Bridgend CBC
Paul Orders	Chief Executive	Cardiff Council
Ellis Cooper	Chief Executive	Merthyr Tydfil CBC
James Williams	Monitoring Officer	Accountable Body
Ian Allwood	Acting s151 Officer / Head of Finance	Accountable Body / Cardiff Council
Gill Brown	Group Accountant	Accountable Body
Rhys Thomas	Chief Operating Officer	Office of the CCR
Rob O'Dwyer	Head of Infrastructure	Office of the CCR

Recording of the meeting was started at 09:34

1. Welcome and Apologies

Cllr Hunt opened the meeting and apologies were noted.

2. Declarations of Interest - Elected Members' Protocols

The Declarations of Interest process is provided in the procedural note.

No declarations of interest were received.

3. Minutes of the meeting held on 31 July 2023

The minutes of the meeting held on 31 July were agreed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

4. Draft Statement of Accounts 2022/23 and Draft Annual Governance Statement – Controls, Ratings and Actions

- (1) CL introduced the item.
- (2) Leaders agreed to accept the recommendations of the report as moved by Cllr Sean Morgan and seconded by Cllr Lis Burnett.
- (3) Cllr Hunt obtained individual votes of acceptance from Leaders in the following order:

Caerphilly, Vale of Glamorgan, Rhondda Cynon Taf, Merthyr Tydfil, Newport, Blaenau Gwent, Monmouthshire and Torfaen.

Cllr Huw Thomas and Cllr David were not present to vote for Cardiff and Bridgend respectively.

- (4) It was resolved that Regional Cabinet:

- (1) noted that the Draft Statement of Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2023 (attached as Appendix 1) has been:

- i. signed by the Section 151 Officer;

- ii. provided to Audit Wales to allow them to commence their audit of the statements;
- iii. will be made available for public inspection for a period of four weeks.

(2) noted that the Draft Annual Governance Statement document attached as Appendix 2 has also been provided to Audit Wales as part of the audit.

5. 2022/23 Month 04 Joint Committee Revenue Budget Monitoring Position

- (1) CL introduced the item.
- (2) Leaders agreed to accept the recommendations of the report as moved by Cllr Burnett and Cllr Geraint Thomas.
- (3) Cllr Hunt obtained individual votes of acceptance from Leaders in the following order:

Vale of Glamorgan, Merthyr Tydfil, Rhondda Cynon Taf, Caerphilly, Newport, Blaenau Gwent, Monmouthshire and Torfaen.

Cllr Huw Thomas and Cllr David were not present to vote for Cardiff and Bridgend respectively.

- (4) It was resolved that Regional Cabinet:
 - (1) noted the actual expenditure, income, and projected full year out-turn position as at the 31 July 2023 (Month 04), against its approved 2023/24 Revenue Budget.

6. 2023/24 Annual Business Plan - Quarter 1 Performance Report

- (1) KB introduced the item and went through the key points of the report.
- (2) Leaders discussed the item:
 - Leaders welcomed the UK Competitiveness Index results; KB noted that in terms of proxy measures it was a longitudinal study over 20 years which indicated quality of life and standards of living in Wales at this time;
 - It was noted that the Q1 performance report indicated that social media engagement had dropped; KB said this was due in part to current focus on establishing the CJC, coupled with some internal resource issues, but is under review.
- (3) Leaders agreed to accept the recommendations of the report as moved by Cllr Sean Morgan and seconded by Cllr Burnett.
- (4) Cllr Hunt obtained individual votes of acceptance from Leaders in the following order:

Caerphilly, Vale of Glamorgan, Monmouthshire, Blaenau Gwent, Newport, Merthyr Tydfil, Rhondda Cynon Taf and Torfaen.

Cllr Huw Thomas and Cllr David were not present to vote for Cardiff and Bridgend respectively.

- (5) It was resolved that Regional Cabinet:
- (1) approved (Appendix 1) Quarter 1 performance report and authorised the Acting Director of the Cardiff Capital Region City Deal 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 13 and 14 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.

7. Proposal for Cardiff Capital Region's Engagement at MIPIM 2024

- (1) KB introduced the item. Leaders welcomed the continuing involvement with the event.
- (2) Leaders agreed to accept the recommendations of the report as moved by Cllr Geraint Thomas and seconded by Cllr Mudd.
- (3) Cllr Hunt obtained individual votes of acceptance from Leaders in the following order:

Merthyr Tydfil, Newport, Monmouthshire, Blaenau Gwent, Caerphilly, Rhondda Cynon Taf, Vale of Glamorgan and Torfaen.

Cllr Huw Thomas and Cllr David were not present to vote for Cardiff and Bridgend respectively.

- (4) It was resolved that Regional Cabinet:
- (1) approved the Cardiff Capital Region's participation at MIPIM and the principles and objectives underpinning the Cardiff Capital Region's participation at the MIPIM 2024 property investment show outlined within the report;
 - (2) authorised the Director of the Cardiff Capital Region to conclude a Service Level Agreement with Cardiff Council to deliver the 2024 MIPIM programme as set out in the report;

- (3) delegated authority to the Director of the Cardiff Capital Region to allocate funding from the Cardiff Capital Region's allocation of the Shared Prosperity Fund to support additional activity for the MIPIM programme, in line with its agreed funding profile and in accordance with the agreed use of the Shared Prosperity Fund within the Regional Investment Plan.

8. Investment Zones and Building Regional Capacity for Innovation Investment

- (1) CM introduced the item and shared a presentation.
- (2) Leaders discussed the item:
 - Cllr Mudd and Cllr Brocklesby share this portfolio brief; both FE and HE institutions should be included within the stakeholder group;
 - innovation launch pads and accelerators would also be important;
 - it was important to connect research expertise and strengths in Cardiff and Newport with the Valleys to get the best economic growth;
 - it was recommended that Cllr Burnett be included in further discussions given her focus on innovation.

- (3) Leaders agreed to accept the recommendations of the report as moved by Cllr Sean Morgan and seconded by Cllr Brocklesby.

- (4) Cllr Hunt obtained individual votes of acceptance from Leaders in the following order:

Caerphilly, Monmouthshire, Blaenau Gwent, Newport, Merthyr Tydfil, Rhondda Cynon Taf, Vale of Glamorgan and Torfaen.

Cllr Huw Thomas and Cllr David were not present to vote for Cardiff and Bridgend respectively.

- (5) It was resolved that Regional Cabinet:
 - (1) noted and endorsed the key principles outlined above in respect of building a strong sense of readiness for delivering a regional approach to Investment Zones, including the convening of a small group to scope potential for the Innovation Board – as set out in the Regional Economic and Industrial Plan.

9. Appointment of Interim Deputy Monitoring Officer

- (1) KB introduced the item. KB thanked James Williams for his service and support as Accountable Body Monitoring Officer.
- (2) Leaders agreed to accept the recommendations of the report as moved by Cllr Burnett and seconded by Cllr Brocklesby.
- (3) Cllr Hunt obtained individual votes of acceptance from Leaders in the

following order:

Vale of Glamorgan, Monmouthshire, Rhondda Cynon Taf, Merthyr Tydfil, Caerphilly, Newport, Blaenau Gwent and Torfaen.

Cllr Huw Thomas and Cllr David were not present to vote for Cardiff and Bridgend respectively.

- (4) It was resolved that Regional Cabinet:
- (1) noted and agreed the proposed arrangements set out in the body of the report to enable Cardiff Council, as Accountable Body, to continue to discharge the Monitoring Officer role for the City Deal Joint Committee, in accordance with the Joint Working Agreement;
 - (2) specifically, noted that Jayne La Grua is to be appointed by Cardiff Council to act as Interim Deputy Monitoring Officer of the City Deal Joint Committee from 11th October 2023 and, subject to approval by Cardiff Council on 26th October 2023, is to be designated as Interim Monitoring Officer for the City Deal Joint Committee with effect from 1 November 2023; and
 - (3) authorised the Cardiff Capital Region Director to make any necessary arrangements on behalf of the Regional Cabinet in relation to the Interim Monitoring Officer appointments, including entering into or amending any agreements including any service level agreements with Cardiff Council.

It was agreed to close the public part of the meeting and for Members to discuss items that were exempt from public discussion. Webcasting of the meeting was stopped at 10:17

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

10. Investment and Intervention Framework Report: Recommendation Logs, Project Updates and Wider Projects Update

- (1) KB introduced the item and the requests within the report, taking Leaders through the key points of each.
- (2) Leaders agreed to accept the recommendations of the report as moved by Cllr Burnett and seconded by Cllr Sean Morgan.
- (3) Cllr Hunt obtained individual votes of acceptance from Leaders by a show of hands. There were no exceptions or abstentions.

Cllr Huw Thomas and Cllr David were not present to vote for Cardiff and Bridgend respectively.

- (4) It was resolved that Regional Cabinet accepted the recommendations of the exempt report.

11. CCR Energy Business Plan (2023-25)

- (1) KB introduced the item and provided an update.
- (2) Leaders agreed to accept the recommendations of the report as moved by Cllr Burnett and seconded by Cllr Brocklesby.
- (3) Cllr Hunt obtained individual votes of acceptance from Leaders by a show of hands. There were no exceptions or abstentions.

Cllr Huw Thomas and Cllr David were not present to vote for Cardiff and Bridgend respectively.

- (4) It was resolved that Regional Cabinet accepted the recommendations of the exempt report.

The meeting ended at 11:06

Date of Next Meeting: 9.30am on Monday 4 December 2023