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**MINUTES - REGIONAL CABINET MEETING: 12 FEBRUARY 2018**

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Regional Cabinet Members Present:

Cllr Garth Collier	-	Blaenau Gwent Council
Michelle Morris, Managing Director	-	Blaenau Gwent Council
Cllr Huw David, Leader	-	Bridgend Council
Darren Mepham, Chief Exec	-	Bridgend Council
Cllr David Poole, Leader	-	Caerphilly Council
Christina Harray, Interim Chief Exec	-	Caerphilly Council
Cllr Huw Thomas, Leader	-	Cardiff Council
Paul Orders, Chief Exec	-	Cardiff Council
Cllr Kevin O'Neill, Leader	-	Merthyr Tydfil Council
Gareth Chapman, Chief Exec	-	Merthyr Tydfil Council
Cllr Peter Fox, Leader	-	Monmouthshire Council
Paul Matthews, Chief Exec	-	Monmouthshire Council
Cllr Debbie Wilcox, Leader	-	Newport Council
Will Godfrey, Chief Exec	-	Newport Council
Cllr Andrew Morgan, Leader (Chair)	-	Rhondda Cynon Taf Council
Chris Bradshaw, Chief Exec	-	Rhondda Cynon Taf Council
Cllr Anthony Hunt, Leader	-	Torfaen Council
Nigel Aurelius	-	Torfaen Council
Cllr John Thomas, Leader	-	Vale of Glamorgan Council
Rob Thomas, Chief Exec	-	Vale of Glamorgan Council

Officers:

Christine Salter	-	Accountable Body
David Marr	-	Accountable Body
Liz Weale	-	Accountable Body
Hrjinder Singh	-	Accountable Body
Jane Cook	-	Rhondda Cynon Taf Council
Alistair Milburn	-	Effective Communications
Matt Lewis	-	SRS Shared Resource Service
Sheila Davies, Director	-	City Deal PMO
Karen Higgins	-	City Deal PMO
Matthew Swindell	-	City Deal PMO

Apologies:

Cllr Nigel Daniels, Leader	-	Blaenau Gwent Council
Alison Ward, Chief Exec	-	Torfaen Council

## 1. Welcome and Apologies for Absence

Cllr Morgan welcomed colleagues to the meeting and apologies for absence were noted.

## 2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest made on items on the meeting agenda.

## 3. Draft Minutes of Regional Cabinet held on 15<sup>th</sup> January 2018

The draft minutes of the meeting held on the 15<sup>th</sup> January 2018 were agreed as a correct record after 2 requested amendments as noted below:-

- i) Item 7 – Report on the Use of 2017/148 HMT Grant – Revenue Capital (Minute No.21)
  - a) Considered and deemed appropriate to approve the use of part of its Local Authority £120 million capital funding (referred to in the Joint Working Agreement as the Councils' Contribution) to meet **the capital element** of the CSC project funding requirements as set-out in this report, thereby preserving part of the HMT revenue grant funding to support projects which come forward that have revenue funding requirements;
- ii) Item 8 - Report on the Metro Central Project (Minute No.22)

Cllr Morgan, in agreement with Regional Cabinet colleagues, **asked to action two matters:-**

## 4. Report on the Quarter Three Performance Reporting to Welsh & UK Government (Minute No.23)

The Regional Cabinet considered a report on behalf of the City Deal Programme Director:

1. To inform Regional Cabinet of the Quarter 3 reporting position, against the CCRCDC Implementation Plan 2016-2020 (formally adopted on the 1<sup>st</sup> March 2017) and CCRCDC Transition Plan (formally adopted on the 17<sup>th</sup> March 2017).
2. To discharge the reporting requirements within the Cardiff Capital Region City Deal (CCRCDC) Assurance Framework (JWA Schedule 8, point 2.2.9).
3. To recommend that Regional Cabinet approve the Quarter 3 report in Appendix 1, to be circulated to both Welsh and UK Government.

**RESOLVED:** it was agreed that Cardiff Capital Region Joint Cabinet:

- a) Considered and deemed acceptable to approve the Quarter 3 performance report.

- b) Authorised the Programme Director of the Cardiff Capital Region City Deal to formally submit the Quarter 3 performance report, including supporting information to both UK and Welsh Governments, and other stakeholders as required, on behalf of the Regional Cabinet.

**5. Report on the Wider Investment Fund 2017/18 Annual Business Plan – Month 09 Monitoring Update (Minute No.24)**

The Regional Cabinet considered a report on behalf of the City Deal Programme Director:-

- 1. To provide Cardiff Capital Region Joint Cabinet (Regional Cabinet) with an update of actual expenditure, commitments and projected full year out-turn as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2017 (Month 09), against the Annual Business Plan for the financial year 2017/18.
- 2. To provide Regional Cabinet with a general update on the position against the Wider Investment Fund for the five year period to 2020/21, when the first gateway review is scheduled to take place.

**RESOLVED:** that Cardiff Capital Region Joint Cabinet:

- a) Noted the actual expenditure, commitments and projected full year out-turn as at the 31<sup>st</sup> December 2017 (Month 09) against the approved Annual Business Plan;
- b) Noted the position against the Wider Investment Fund over the 5 year period to the first gateway review due in 2020/21 and the intention to preserve HMT grant funding in the event that the Reserved Matter is discharged by the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2018;
- c) Delegated authority to the Joint Committee's Section 151 Officer in consultation with the Regional Cabinet Chair, Lead Chief Executive and Programme Director to establish and operate an "Earmarked Reserve" in respect of the Programme Development & Support budget, subject to the final out-turn position, compliance with the Accountable Body's financial policies and procedures and the use of the Earmarked Reserve being monitored and reported to Regional Cabinet in accordance with the provisions of the Joint Working Agreement.

**6. Report on the Regional Housing Investment Fund (Minute No.25)**

The Regional Cabinet considered a report from Councillors David Poole, Caerphilly County Borough Council, and John Thomas, Vale of Glamorgan Council, to agree in principle to:

- a. The creation of a Regional Housing Investment Fund. Across the Region we need more homes to be built, and finance can be a barrier, particularly for small and medium sized builders. Through a number of initiatives the fund could support house building, ranging from larger builders and developers on stalled housing sites on former industrial sites, through to small builders, community builders, custom builders and regeneration specialists, on smaller sites across the region;

- b. Stimulate the SME building sector across the Region through:
- i. Providing loan development finance, which will be at varying levels dependent on market conditions and State Aid implications which arise in the Convergence and Competitiveness areas.
  - ii. A Custom Build Scheme releasing smaller plots of public sector land with a full package of support for SME's to deliver new homes in our communities.

**RESOLVED:** that Cardiff Capital Region Joint Cabinet:

- i) Agreed in principle to the creation of a City Deal Housing Investment Fund ("The Fund") as outlined in this report (working in partnership with Welsh Government, the Development Bank of Wales and others to ensure the Fund is complementary to and supports other public investment funds currently available), subject to:
  - Discharge of the JWA Business Plan reserved matter.
  - Formal approval of the Full Business Case for the Fund by the City Deal Regional Cabinet in accordance with the City Deal Investment Fund Assurance Framework, with prior consideration by the appropriate advisory bodies and sub-committees of the CCRCD Regional Cabinet and which Business Case will have full regard amongst other matters, to the duties under the Future Generation (Wales) Act.
- ii) Agreed to the allocation of up to £100,000.00 in revenue funding for the project development to Full Business Case.

## **7. Report on the Skills for the Future (Minute No.26)**

The Regional Cabinet considered a report on behalf of Councillor Debbie Wilcox, Newport City Council, to secure the agreement of Joint Cabinet to the development of a business case to take forward the Cardiff Capital Region Skills for the Future Programme.

**RESOLVED:** that the Cardiff Capital Region Joint Cabinet agreed in principle to:

- 1) Commit officer time in order to develop a full business case to deliver a 10 year regional programme for the Skills for the Future Programme.
- 2) Subject to the discharge of the JWA Business Plan 'Reserved Matter':-
  - Receiving a further report in April setting out the delivery of the programme from September 2018.
  - Subsequently receive a full Business Case for consideration and formal approval by the City Deal Regional Cabinet in accordance with:
    - a. the City Deal Investment Fund Assurance Framework

- b. full consideration by the appropriate regional advisory bodies and sub-committees
- c. assessment against the Future Generations (Wales) Act.

## **8. Report on the Digital Strategy (Minute No.27)**

The Regional Cabinet considered a report on behalf Councillor Anthony Hunt, Torfaen County Borough Council, to secure the agreement of Joint Cabinet to the development of a business case to take forward a suite of inter connected activities designed to significantly enhance the digital capability and potential of the Cardiff Capital Region City Deal area.

**RESOLVED:** that Cardiff Capital Region Joint Cabinet:-

- 1) Agreed the proposals set out in this report as the overarching strategic direction for the digital strand of CCRCD, subject to all constituent Councils approving the Joint Working Agreement Business Plan.
- 2) Agreed to the allocation of £100,000 in 2018/19 for the scoping of a digital strategy and the development of a business case, which will reflect the overarching strategic direction referred to in recommendation 1).
- 3) Agreed to the allocation of £30,000 in 2018/19 to provide a resource to support the project work of the Open Data Working Group.
- 4) Wished to prioritise the development of the element of the business case dealing with the establishment of a connection to the transatlantic link in order to make an early investment decision.

Cllr Morgan thanked colleagues for attending and the meeting was concluded.