

# Decision Schedule



## Cabinet

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**TO ALL MEMBERS OF NEWPORT CITY COUNCIL**

**Decision Schedule published on 16 November 2022**

The Chair of Cabinet Member took the following decision on 16 November 2022. The decision will become effective at Noon on 24 November 2022, with the exception of any particular decision, which is the subject of a valid "call-in".

The deadline for submission of a 'Call-in' request form is 4.00 pm on 23 November 2022.

Reports relating to staffing issues/Confidential reports are not circulated to all members of the Council as part of the consultation/call-in processes.

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**Leader 59/22**

**NCC External Pressures – Cost of Living**

**Options Considered/Reasons for Decision**

Since the last Cabinet report in September, the cost of living crisis continued to impact households and businesses across Wales and Newport. With inflation expected to rise to over 10% by the end of the calendar year. Additionally, interest rates were also expected to increase to over 6% to mitigate the inflationary pressures and stabilise the UK financial markets. These pressures were also having an impact on the Council and the services it delivered, similar to other Councils in Wales.

In response, Newport Council established a task and finish group to examine how the Council could utilise its resources and work with our key partners to support the city's most vulnerable and disadvantaged households and businesses. To date the Council had helped households, businesses and organisations such as Community Food Organisations. The Council was also hosting several events to provide support, advice and guidance to residents.

**Decision**

Cabinet considered the contents of the report on the Council's activity to respond to the external factors on Newport's communities, businesses and council services.

**Consultation**

Monitoring Officer, Head of Finance, Head of People, Policy and Transformation

**Implemented by: Head of People, Policy and Transformation**  
**Implementation Timetable: Immediate**

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## **Leader 60/22**

### **Annual Compliments, Comments and Complaints**

#### **Options Considered/Reasons for Decision**

In May 2021 the Council's Cabinet agreed the new Compliments, Comments and Complaints policy for the Council. The report provided an overview of how the Council manages compliments, comments and complaints and the Council's performance in 2021/22. Complaints about schools were reported separately as they were subject to a distinct statutory framework, however, complaints about Education services such as administrative processes were included.

The report provided an overview for the year 2021/2022, broken down by service area and complaint types. The report highlighted key trends and themes drawn from the data for consideration. In 2021/22 the Council received 208 compliments, 4267 comments and 321 complaints. 96% of complaints were resolved through the council's complaints process. The Public Service Ombudsman for Wales (PSOW) intervened with 4%. The PSOW expressed that the focus was not on keeping complaints to a minimum but giving customers various platforms in which to raise their concerns.

The report also reflected on lessons learned for the council to improve and actions to deliver these improvements. These included more engagement with service areas to develop an understanding of the work of the Ombudsman and also the importance of more structured training which would be beneficial at both employee induction and on-going annual refresher training.

#### **Decision**

Cabinet considered and agreed the contents of the report regarding the process and performance of the Council's corporate compliments, comments and complaints annual report 2021/22.

#### **Consultation**

Monitoring Officer, Head of Finance, Head of People, Policy and Transformation

**Implemented by: Head of People, Policy and Transformation**

**Implementation Timetable: Immediate**

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## **Leader 61/22**

### **Annual Safeguarding Report (Interim) of the Head of Corporate Safeguarding**

#### **Options Considered/Reasons for Decision**

The report was the Head of Corporate Safeguarding's evaluation of 2020/21 performance for the Local Authority. This Corporate Safeguarding Policy provided a framework for every Service within the Council setting out responsibilities in relation to safeguarding and protecting children and adults at risk. It laid out the methods by which the Council would be assured that it was fulfilling its duties and that effective practices were in place to support individuals to live their life free from harm, abuse and neglect.

#### **Decision**

Cabinet received the Annual Safeguarding Report (interim) by the Head of Corporate Safeguarding.

#### **Consultation**

Monitoring Officer, Head of Finance, Head of People, Policy and Transformation

**Implemented by: Strategic Director, Social Services**  
**Implementation Timetable: Immediate**

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**Leader 62/22**

### **Corporate Plan Well-being Self-Assessment Annual Report 2021/22**

#### **Options Considered/Reasons for Decision**

This was the fifth annual Corporate Well-being Self-Assessment Report for 2021/22. This report reflected back on the achievements Newport City Council made against the delivery of its four Well-being Objectives contributing towards Wales's seven Well-being Goals. As part of the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021, this report also incorporated a Self-Assessment against its governance and performance arrangements to deliver the Corporate Plan and statutory services at Newport Council. The report concluded on where the arrangements are effective, efficient and self-reflect on the challenges and lessons learned. Where improvements needed to be made, we have an action plan which would be monitored through the Council's performance process.

The Annual Report was presented to the Council's Overview Scrutiny Management Committee and Governance and Audit Committee in October. The recommendations and comments from these committees were not included in the report.

Following the endorsement of the Annual Report by Cabinet, the report would be published in Welsh and English online; submitted to Welsh Government and the three regulatory bodies (Audit Wales, Care Inspectorate Wales, and Estyn).

#### **Decision**

Cabinet was asked to endorse the Annual Report 2021/22 for publication and to be submitted to Welsh Government and the three regulatory bodies.

#### **Consultation**

Monitoring Officer, Head of Finance, Head of People, Policy and Transformation

**Implemented by: Head of People, Policy and Transformation**  
**Implementation Timetable: Immediate**

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**Leader 63/22**

### **Corporate Plan Final Report 2022/27**

#### **Options Considered/Reasons for Decision**

The Well-being of Future Generations Act required all public bodies to carry out sustainable development to improve Wales' economic, social, environment and cultural well-being. To meet this statutory requirement, Newport City Council must set and publish its Well-being Objectives to maximise its contribution to each of Wales' Well-being Goals through its Corporate Plan. The Plan would also build upon the achievements of the last Corporate Plan and the Council's response to the challenges faced by Newport as we moved forward from the Covid pandemic, respond to the cost-of-living crisis, and creating new opportunities for communities across Newport.

Over the next five years the Council's mission would be working to deliver *an Ambitious, Fairer, Greener Newport for everyone*.

To achieve this goal, the delivery the Council's Corporate Plan, would focus on four Well-being Objectives supported by strategic priorities:

1. Newport is a thriving and growing city that offers excellent education and aspires to provide opportunities for all.
2. A city that seeks to protect and enhance our environment whilst reducing our carbon footprint and preparing for a sustainable and digital future.
3. Newport is a supportive city where communities and care are at the heart of what we do.
4. Newport City Council is an inclusive organisation that places social value, fairness, and sustainability at its core.

The delivery of the Corporate Plan would be supported by a Transformation Plan of key programmes and projects as well as service area plans. The Council would have rigorous monitoring and reporting of progress against the Plan throughout the next five years. Once the Corporate Plan was agreed by Cabinet it would be recommended to be formally approved and adopted by Full Council in November.

### **Decision**

Cabinet agreed the Corporate Plan and recommended it to go to Full Council for adoption.

### **Consultation**

Monitoring Officer, Head of Finance, Head of People, Policy and Transformation

**Implemented by: Head of People, Policy and Transformation**  
**Implementation Timetable: Immediate**

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### **Leader 64/22**

### **Cost Sharing Agreement with Coleg Gwent**

### **Options Considered/Reasons for Decision**

As part of the development of a new Leisure and Well-being centre on the opposite side of Usk Way, Cabinet had previously agreed in principle to release the Newport Centre site to Coleg Gwent in order for them to develop a new City Centre Campus. Negotiations were progressing and planning permission was granted for the new leisure facility and the demolition and use of the Newport Centre site for educational purposes. The next step was to undertake demolition of the existing Newport Centre building and finalise the transfer of the site to Coleg Gwent. Coleg Gwent agreed to share the costs associated with the demolition of the building and Cabinet approval was required to enter into this agreement.

### **Decision**

That Cabinet:

- 1) Agreed to the proposed costs sharing arrangement in relation to all demolition costs, commit the capital funding provision required and authorise the relevant officers to enter into an agreement for lease with Coleg Gwent and proceed with the necessary demolition work on this basis.

- 2) Authorised officers to include such additional land within the disposal to Coleg Gwent as may be considered necessary or expedient for the purposes of the development and the surrounding public realm, and to make any such necessary stopping up orders as may be required to facilitate this.

**Consultation**

Monitoring Officer, Head of Finance, Head of People, Policy and Transformation

**Implemented by: Head of Regeneration and Economic Development**

**Implementation Timetable: Immediate**

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**Leader 65/22**

**Cabinet Work Programme**

**Options Considered/Reasons for Decision**

The Leader presented the Cabinet Work Programme.

**Decision**

Cabinet agreed the Cabinet Work Programme.

**Consultation**

Senior Officers, Monitoring Officer, Head of Finance, Head of People and Business Change.

**Implemented by: Governance Team Leader**

**Implementation Timetable: Immediate**

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LEADER OF THE COUNCIL, COUNCILLOR J MUDD

16 November 2022

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*This document is available in welsh / Mae's ffurflen hon ar gael yn Gymraeg*

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