

Minutes



Council

Date: 21 May 2024

Time: 5.00 pm

Present: Councillors C Reeks, S Cocks, E Stowell-Corten, J Harris, A Screen, L James, T Harvey, M Howells, P Bright, J Peterson, A Pimm, D Batrouni, D Jenkins, P Drewett, B Davies, S Adan, M Pimm, J Reynolds, R Howells, A Sterry, J Jones, G Horton, P Cockeram, D Davies, M Al-Nuaimi, D Fouweather, D Harvey, M Kellaway, M Linton, D Mayer, R Mogford, J Mudd, M Spencer, K Thomas, C Townsend, T Watkins, K Whitehead, J Clarke, Y Forsey, P Hourahine, J Hughes, J Jordan, L Lacey, S Marshall, W Routley, A Morris and F Hussain

In Attendance:

Apologies: Councillors C Baker-Westhead, J Cleverly, M Evans and B Perkins

1. Preliminaries

1.i Apologies

Councillors Evans, Baker-Westhead, Cleverly and Perkins.

1.ii Declarations of Interest

Nominees declared their interests when their appointments were voted upon.

1.iii Presiding Member's Announcements

No announcements.

2. Appointment of Strategic Director for Social Services

The Leader advised Council that Tanya Evans was recommended by the Appointments Sub-Committee as the new Strategic Director for Social Services.

This was seconded by Councillor Routley

Resolved:

That Council appointed Tanya Evans as the Strategic Director for Social Services.

3. Appointment to the Presiding Member

The Presiding Member declared an interest and left the meeting at this juncture.

The Monitoring Officer invited nominations for the Presiding Member.

The Leader nominated Councillor Paul Cockeram to continue the role of Presiding Member, with no further nominations.

This was seconded by Councillor Drewett.

Resolved:

That Council appointed Councillor Cockeram as the Presiding Member.

4. Appointment to the Deputy Presiding Member

The Presiding Member nominated Councillor Screen to be the Deputy Presiding Member with no further nominations.

This was seconded by Councillor Drewett.

Resolved:

That Council appointed Councillor Screen as the Deputy Presiding Member.

5. Appointment to the Leader of the Council

The Presiding Officer invited a member from the majority party to move the appointment of Leader of the Council.

Councillor Mudd nominated Councillor Dimitri Batrouni.

This was seconded by Councillor Reeks.

Resolved:

That Councillor Dimitri Batrouni be appointed as Leader of the Council.

The Leader, as elected announced his appointment of Cabinet Members, portfolios attached as Appendix 1:

Cabinet Member	Appointed
Leader	Councillor Dimitri Batrouni
Deputy Leader / Education and Early Years	Councillor Deb Davies
Social Services	Councillor Laura Lacey
Regeneration and Democratic Services	Councillor James Clarke
Housing and Planning	Councillor Saeed Adan
Communications and Culture	Councillor Emma Stowell-Corten
Climate Change	Councillor Yvonne Forsey
Assets and Infrastructure	Councillor Rhian Howells
Communities and Poverty Reduction	Councillor Pat Drewett

Council Business Manager – Councillor Drewett
Group Chief Whip – Councillor Beverly Perkins

Councillor Reeks, as Deputy Leader of the Opposition group then announced the Shadow appointments.

Opposition Spokespersons – Conservative Group:

Opposition Cabinet Member	Appointed
Leader	Councillor Matthew Evans
Deputy Leader / Education and Early Years	Councillor David Fouweather

Social Services	Councillor Martyn Kellaway
Regeneration and Democratic Services	Councillor Matthew Evans
Housing and Planning	Councillor William Routley
Communications and Culture	Councillor Chris Reeks
Climate Change	Councillor John Jones
Assets and Infrastructure	Councillor Ray Mogford
Communities and Poverty Reduction	Councillor Chris Reeks

6. Appointments to Chairs of Committees

Following nominations by the Leaders of their respective parties, and the nominations having been duly seconded, it was **Resolved** that the following Committee Chair appointments be agreed by Council:

Chair of Committee	Appointed
Presiding Member	Councillor Paul Cockeram
Planning Committee	Councillor Mark Spencer
Licensing Committee	Councillor Kate Thomas
Democratic Services Committee	Councillor William Routley
Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee	Councillor Phil Hourahine
Performance Scrutiny Committee – Partnerships	Councillor John Reynolds
Performance Scrutiny Committee – People	Councillor David Fouweather
Performance Scrutiny Committee – Place and Corporate	Councillor Mark Howells

(The nominated persons listed above declared an interest in this item and did not vote on their specific appointments).

7. Appointments to Committees

The Council gave effect to appointments to Committees by the political groups.

Each Group Leader agreed to pass the appointments of members to the Committee to the Proper Officer for recording in the Minutes.

The following allocation of Committee seats was confirmed:

Planning Committee	
Labour (Chair)	Councillor Mark Spencer
Labour (Deputy Chair)	Councillor Malcolm Linton
Labour	Councillor Bev Perkins
Labour	Councillor Gavin Horton
Labour	Councillor Trevor Watkins
Labour	Councillor John Reynolds
Labour	Councillor Tim Harvey
Conservative	Councillor John Jones
Conservative	Councillor William Routley
Newport Independent Party	Councillor Jason Jordan
Lliswerry Independent Group	Councillor Mark Howells

Licensing Committee

Labour (Chair)	Councillor Kate Thomas
Labour	Councillor Matthew Pimm
Labour	Councillor Allan Screen
Labour	Councillor Alex Pimm
Labour	Councillor Farzina Hussain
Labour	Councillor Debbie Harvey
Labour	Councillor John Harris
Conservative	Councillor David Fouweather
Conservative	Councillor Martyn Kellaway
Newport Independent Party	Councillor Janet Cleverly
Lliswerry Independent Group	Councillor Allan Morris

Governance Audit Committee	
Labour	Councillor Gavin Horton
Labour	Councillor Bev Perkins
Labour	Councillor John Reynolds
Conservative	Councillor David Fouweather
Newport Independent Party	Councillor Jason Jordan
Lliswerry Independent Group	Councillor Mark Howells
Lay Members*	Gareth Chapman Don Reed Dr Norma Barry

* Chair to appointed by the Committee

Democratic Services Committee	
Conservative (Chair)	Councillor William Routley
Labour	Councillor Trevor Watkins
Labour	Councillor Stephen Cocks
Labour	Councillor Jane Mudd
Labour	Councillor Phil Hourahine
Labour	Councillor Kate Thomas
Labour	Councillor Tim Harvey
Labour	Councillor Beverly Perkins
Lliswerry Independent Group	Councillor Andrew Sterry
Independent Members	**Declined

Scrutiny Committees:

Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee	
Labour (Chair)	Councillor Phil Hourahine
Labour	Councillor Claire Baker-Westhead
Labour	Councillor Debbie Jenkins
Labour	Councillor Malcolm Linton
Labour	Councillor John Harris
Labour	Councillor Stephen Cocks
Labour	Councillor David Mayer
Conservative	Councillor Matthew Evans
Lliswerry Independent Group	**Declined
Green Party	Lauren James

Performance Scrutiny Committee - Partnerships	
Labour (Chair)	Councillor John Reynolds
Labour	Councillor Farzina Hussain
Labour	Councillor Paul Bright
Labour	Councillor Stephen Marshall
Labour	Councillor Allan Screen
Labour	Councillor Jason Hughes
Labour	Councillor Bev Davies
Conservative	Councillor John Jones
Newport Independent Party	Declined

Performance Scrutiny Committee – People	
Conservative (Chair)	Councillor David Fouweather
Labour	Councillor Matthew Pimm
Labour	Councillor Bev Davies
Labour	Councillor Stephen Marshall
Labour	Councillor Debbie Jenkins
Labour	Councillor Trevor Watkins
Labour	Councillor David Mayer
Labour	Councillor Debbie Harvey
Newport Independent Party	Councillor Janet Cleverly
Welsh Liberal Democrats	Councillor Carmel Townsend

Performance Scrutiny Committee – Place and Corporate	
Lliswerry Independent Group (Chair)	Councillor Mark Howells
Labour	Councillor Malcolm Linton
Labour	Councillor Alex Pimm
Labour	Councillor Paul Bright
Labour	Councillor Matthew Pimm
Labour	Councillor Gavin Horton
Labour	Councillor Allan Screen
Labour	Councillor Kate Thomas
Conservative	Councillor Chris Reeks
Newport Independent Party	Councillor Janet Cleverly

Standards Committee	
Labour	Councillor Paul Cockeram
Labour	Councillor Jane Mudd
Conservative	Councillor William Routley
Co-opted Members	Andrew Mitchell (Chair) Kerry Watkins (Vice Chair) John Davies (CC Rep)

	Richard Morgan Gill Nurton Dr Paul Worthington
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SACRE: The Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education

Chair	Councillor Deb Davies
Labour appointment	Councillor Farzina Hussain
Labour appointment	Councillor Saeed Adan
Labour appointment	Councillor Pat Drewett
Conservative appointment	Councillor David Fouweather

Greater Gwent Cremation Joint Committee

Labour appointment	Councillor Yvonne Forsey
Labour appointment	Councillor Rhian Howells

Appointments Committee – Strategic Director

Labour	Councillor Dimitri Batrouni
Labour	Councillor Deb Davies
Labour	Councillor James Clarke
Labour	Councillor Pat Drewett
Conservative	Councillor Matthew Evans
Newport Independents	Councillor Janet Cleverly
Lliswerry Independent Group	Councillor Mark Howells

Corporate Parenting Forum

Labour	Councillor Laura Lacey (Chair)
Labour	Councillor John Reynolds
Labour	Councillor Tim Harvey
Labour	Councillor Allan Screen
Labour	Councillor Paul Bright
Labour	Councillor Jason Hughes
Labour	Councillor Bev Davies
Conservative	Councillor Chris Reeks
Newport Independent Party	Councillor Janet Cleverly
Lliswerry Independent Group	Councillor Allan Morris

** For those committee memberships declined by the Lliswerry Independent group, these have been offered to the Welsh Liberal Democrats and the Green Party.

HR Appeals

Members to be appointed to be used in rotation:

Councillor Deb Davies
Councillor David Mayer
Councillor Kate Thomas
Councillor Bev Davies
Councillor Gavin Horton
Councillor Bev Perkins
Councillor Alex Pimm
Councillor David Fouweather
Councillor William Routley

Employee Partnership Forum

Councillor James Clarke

All other Members by invitation of Chair on an ad hoc basis.

Champions:

1. **Older Persons Champion:** Councillor Trevor Watkins
2. **Disabled and Vulnerable Persons Champion:** Councillor Debbie Jenkins
3. **Carers Champion:** Councillor Paul Cockeram
4. **Anti-Poverty Champion:** Councillor Phil Hourahine
5. **Armed Forces Champion:** Councillor Mark Spencer
6. **Biodiversity Champion:** Councillor Emma Corten
7. **Minority Ethnic Champion:** Councillor Farzina Hussain
8. **LGBTQ+ Champion:** Councillor John Reynolds
9. **Welsh Language Champion:** Councillor John Harris
10. **Active Travel Champion:** Councillor David Mayer

8. **Appointments to External Bodies**

The Council gave effect to appointments of members to external bodies.

Each Group Leaders agreed to pass the appointments to Outside Bodies and members with Special Responsibilities to the Proper Officer for recording in the Minutes, as outlined in the Appendix 2 below.

9. **Appointments**

Councillor Reeks requested approval for special dispensation grant in line with Section 85 of the Local Government Act 1972 for Councillor Matthew Evans' continued absence beyond six months due to ill-health.

Resolved:

Council agreed to Special Dispensation for Councillor Evans.

10. **Adjournment**

Councillors took a short break whilst the Council Chambers were prepared for the Inauguration of the Mayor.

11. **Inauguration and Robing Ceremony of the Mayor for the year 2024 to 2025**

Council resumed and the Mayor Elect, Councillor Raymond Mogford was sworn in as the new Mayor of Newport for the year 2024/25.

Councillor Chris Reeks was sworn in as the Deputy Mayor of Newport for the year 2024/25.

12. **Appendix 1 - Cabinet Member Portfolios**

Leader Councillor Dimitri Batrouni	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• All financial matters• Performance• Corporate Planning• Public Relations and contact with the press for city wide issues• Mayoral and corporate events• Cabinet Member development
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economic Development (Strategic) • Major projects (oversight) • Key cities • Transformation • Digital • Intelligence Hub • South East Wales Corporate Joint Committee • Constitutional issues • Council tax benefits • The Council's face-to-face centre and the Contact Centre
<p>Deputy Leader / Education and Early Years Councillor Deb Davies</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education services including EAS • Schools • Early years, including prevention and inclusion • School catering • Music services • Education inclusion • Looked After Children in school settings • Parental rights • Strategies for reducing the number of young people not in employment, education or training (NEETs) • To develop strategies to develop prospects and training to help young people into jobs or to start and develop a business • Member development • Flying Start • Families First • Any corporate HR policies including Health and Safety • Organisational Development
<p>Social Services Councillor Laura Lacey</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children and Family Services including Looked After Children • Safeguarding • Domestic Abuse • Child protection • Youth offending • Integrated family support • Crisis support • Fostering • Services for disabled children • Care in the community for older people • Third sector strategic issues • Substance misuse • Occupational therapy • Frailty strategies • Mental health • Learning disability • Residential services to older people • Homecare • Disabled Facilities Grants • Supported living • Supporting People

<p>Regeneration and Democratic Services Councillor James Clarke</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic Planning • Regeneration • Economic Development (Operational) • Major projects (Operational) • Democratic Services • Electoral Services • Legal and registration services • Procurement • Work and Skills
<p>Housing and Planning Councillor Saeed Adan</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning and development services • Local development plan, other than reserved for Council • Housing • Licensing, other than those reserved to Council or the licensing committee • Public protection • Trading standards • Taxis • HMOs and Enforcement
<p>Communications and Culture (and Biodiversity Champion) Councillor Emma Stowell-Corten</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tourism • Culture and heritage • Publicity and PR relations • Internal comms • Sports • Residual matters with the sports and leisure trust, Newport LIVE, including the Riverfront Theatre and Arts centre • Strategies for Public Engagement
<p>Climate Change Councillor Yvonne Forsey</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carbon Reduction Strategy • Sustainable Travel Plan • Waste disposal • Refuse • Recycling and sustainability • Green services • Cemeteries & Crematorium • Parks • Environmental Health • Street cleaning
<p>Assets and Infrastructure Councillor Rhian Howells</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Highways • Drainage • Traffic matters • Regional transport • Transport and access to the city, not including Newport Transport Bus Company or any other providers • Integrated transport • Road safety • Civil contingencies

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assets • Any policy issues relating to property or the Council's relationship with NORSE as it relates to any property matters • Any land and property acquisitions and disposals not delegated to the Head of People, Policy & Transformation
Communities and Poverty Reduction (and Business Manager) Councillor Pat Drewett	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communities First • The anti-poverty agenda • Socio-economic duty • Welsh Church Fund • Housing Benefits • Future Generations • Adult education • Library services • Youth services • Play development • All matters relating to Community Centres • Community Safety (strategic) • Voluntary Organisations • Any policies relating to Equalities not reserved to Cabinet or Council

13. Appendix 2 - Outside Bodies

Board / Representative	Party	
Aneurin Bevan University Health Board		
Mark Spencer	Welsh Labour	
Kate Thomas	Welsh Labour	
Arts Council for Wales: SE Wales Region		
Emma Stowell Corten	Welsh Labour	
Books Council for Wales		
Pat Drewett	Welsh Labour	
IDD (Internal Drainage District) for Caldicot, Wentlooge and the Lower Wye		
Phil Hourahine		
Ray Mogford (Reserve)		
Trevor Watkins (Reserve)		
Yvonne Forsey		
Stephen Cocks		
South East Wales Corporate Joint Committee Formerly Cardiff Capital Region City Deal Joint Committee		
Dimitri Batrouni	Welsh Labour	
Deb Davies (Deputy)	Welsh Labour	
South East Wales Corporate Joint Committee Regional Transport Board		
Rhian Howells	Welsh Labour	
South East Wales Corporate Joint Committee Strategic Development Plan		
James Clarke	Welsh Labour	

South East Wales Corporate Joint Committee Governance and Audit Board			
	Phil Hourahine	Welsh Labour	
South East Wales Corporate Joint Committee Scrutiny			
	Yvonne Forsey	Welsh Labour	
	Allan Screen		
Compound Semi Conductor (CSC) Foundry (CCRC)			
	Deb Davies	Welsh Labour	
Charitable Trusts Panel			
	Pat Drewett	Welsh Labour	
	Kate Thomas	Welsh Labour	
	Mark Spencer	Welsh Labour	
	Paul Cockeram	Welsh Labour	
	William Routley	Welsh Conservative	
Citizens Advice Bureau			
	Paul Cockeram	Welsh Labour	
Community Chest Local Panel			
	Deb Davies	Welsh Labour	
	Pat Drewett	Welsh Labour	
	Mark Spencer	Welsh Labour	
Llais (formerly Community Health Council, Newport Committee)			
	Deb Davies	Welsh Labour	
	Pat Drewett	Welsh Labour	
	Mark Spencer	Welsh Labour	
Consortium of Local Authorities in Wales			
	Dimitri Batrouni	Welsh Labour	
Credit Union			
	Pat Drewett	Welsh Labour	
EAS – Company Board			
	Debbie Jenkins	Welsh Labour	
	Laura Lacey	Welsh Labour	
EAS – Audit and Risk Assurance Committee			
	Claire Baker- Westhead	Welsh Labour	
	Phil Hourahine	Welsh Labour	
EAS Commissioning Group			
	Paul Bright	Welsh Labour	
	Pat Drewett	Welsh Labour	
East Newport Social Care Centre			
	Laura Lacey	Welsh Labour	
Fairness Commission			
	Stephen Cocks	Welsh Labour	
	David Fouweather	Conservative	
Food Waste Treatment Partnership			
	Laura Lacey	Welsh Labour	
	Yvonne Forsey	Welsh Labour	
Foster Panel			
	Laura Lacey	Welsh Labour	
Frailty Project Joint Committee			
	Laura Lacey	Welsh Labour	
Friends of Newport Transporter Bridge			
	Emma Stowell-	Welsh Labour	

	Corten		
Greater Gwent Archives Joint Committee			
	David Mayer	Welsh Labour	
	Claire Baker-Westhead	Welsh Labour	
Greater Gwent Cremation Joint Committee			
	Rhian Howells	Welsh Labour	
	Yvonne Forsey	Welsh Labour	
Growing Space			
	Trevor Watkins	Welsh Labour	
Gwent Association of Voluntary Organisations Local Committee			
	Pat Drewett	Welsh Labour	
Gwent Level Wetlands Reserve			
	Yvonne Forsey	Welsh Labour	
Gwent Police and Crime Panel			
	Farzina Hussain	Welsh Labour	
	Gavin Horton	Welsh Labour	
	Deb Jenkins	Welsh Labour	
Gwent Public Services Board Scrutiny Committee			
	Emma Stowell Corten	Welsh Labour	
	Farzina Hussain	Welsh Labour	
Indoor Bowling Association			
	Trevor Watkins	Welsh Labour	
Jerome Gatehouse Collection Trust			
	Mark Spencer	Welsh Labour	
Joint Council for Wales			
	Dimitri Batrouni	Welsh Labour	
	Deb Davies	Welsh Labour	
Living Levels Board			
	Rhian Howells	Welsh Labour	
	Yvonne Forsey	Welsh Labour	
Monmouthshire and Brecon Canal Joint Steering Group			
	David Mayer	Welsh Labour	
	Pat Drewett	Welsh Labour	
	Phil Hourahine	Welsh Labour	
Newport Harbour Commission			
	Trevor Watkins	Welsh Labour	
Newport Live Board			
	Yvonne Forsey	Welsh Labour	
	Pat Drewett	Welsh Labour	
Newport Now BID			
	Dimitri Batrouni	Welsh Labour	
Newport Transport Board			
	Allan Screen	Welsh Labour	
	James Clarke	Welsh Labour	
	Bev Davies	Welsh Labour	
	Mark Spencer (Chair)	Welsh Labour	
	Janet Cleverly	Newport Independent Party	
Newport Women's Aid			
	Debbie Jenkins	Welsh Labour	
Norse Joint Partnership Board			

	Deb Davies	Welsh Labour	
PATROL (Parking and Traffic Regulations Outside London)			
	Rhian Howells	Welsh Labour	
Pill Mill Centre Trust			
	Saeed Adan	Welsh Labour	
Prosiect Gwyrdd Joint Committee			
	Yvonne Forsey	Welsh Labour	
	Rhian Howells	Welsh Labour	
Public Services Board			
	Dimitri Batrouni	Welsh Labour	
	Beverly Owen		
Raven House Trust			
	Bev Perkins	Welsh Labour	
Reserve Forces and Cadet Association			
	Matthew Evans	Welsh Conservative	
Roger Williams and Queen Victoria Alms Houses			
	Pat Drewett	Welsh Labour	
Shared Resource Service Strategic Board			
	Dimitri Batrouni	Welsh Labour	
South East Wales Racial Equality Council			
	Kate Thomas	Welsh Labour	
South Wales Fire and Rescue Authority			
	Trevor Watkins	Welsh Labour	
	Malcolm Linton	Welsh Labour	
Wastesavers Limited			
	Alex Pimm	Welsh Labour	
	Saeed Adan	Welsh Labour	
	Malcolm Linton	Welsh Labour	
	Deb Davies	Welsh Labour	
Welsh Books Council			
	Emma Stowell- Corten	Welsh Labour	
Welsh Local Government Association			
	Dimitri Batrouni	Welsh Labour	
	Mark Spencer	Welsh Labour	
	Deb Davies	Welsh Labour	
	Pat Drewett	Welsh Labour	
Welsh Purchasing Consortium Joint Arrangements			
	Phil Hourahine	Welsh Labour	
Williams Trust			
	Claire Baker- Westhead	Welsh Labour	
	Steven Cocks	Welsh Labour	
	Jason Hughes	Welsh Labour	
WLGA Co-ordinating Committee			
	Dimitri Batrouni	Welsh Labour	

The meeting terminated at Time Not Specified