

CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL

**County Council
30th April 2014**

REPORT AUTHOR: County Councillor Barry Thomas, Leader

SUBJECT: Question from County Councillor David Jones

Will the Leader furnish the Council with details of any consultants engaged, what for and at what cost since he became Leader?

Professional expertise and skill has been brought in to progress the Housing Redesign and Structure that was part way through when the Head of Service went off sick. This has been for an initial 5 day period and then additional days have been utilised due to the continued absence of the Head of Service, at a cost of £500 per day to progress this vital piece of work in conjunction with our staff and the trade union . This is under continual review by the Strategic Director for People.

A consultant has been engaged by Change and Governance to assist with the implementation of the organisational development plan. External support was needed as it took longer than expected to transfer in the members of the Organisational Development & Partnership Support team as part of last year's restructuring and to reduce spend associated with the higher cost of Hay support. The cost is £12,650.

In accordance with the decision of the previous Cabinet to consider the rationalisation of leisure and sports centres, a small piece of work has been commissioned with KPMG to support the Cabinet in this task at a cost of £9,950.

Finance have engaged an external auditor to review readiness to close the accounts. Finance have also commissioned a review of the Council's capitalisation procedures to check whether best practice is being followed and so release pressure on the revenue budget. This will cost approximately £20,000 in total.