MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CABINET HELD BY TEAMS ON FRIDAY, 26 NOVEMBER 2021

PRESENT

County Councillor M R Harris (Chair)

County Councillors MC Alexander, B Baynham, P Davies, A W Davies, H Hulme, I McIntosh and R Powell

In attendance: County Councillor D Selby

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from County Councillors Beverley Baynham and Heulwen Hulme who were in other meetings and would join the meeting later and from the Chief Executive, the Executive Director, People and Organisational Development and the Executive Director Economy and Environment.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

County Councillors Aled Davies and Phyl Davies and the Executive Director Economy and Environment and Head of Finance declared interests in the report on Heart of Wales Property Services as directors of HoWPS.

3. EDUCATION IMPROVEMENT

Cabinet was pleased to note the findings of the Estyn Monitoring Visit that had removed the Council's education services from the category of local authorities causing significant concern. The inspectors had judged that the service had made sufficient progress in relation to the recommendations following the most recent core inspection. Members of the Council had been briefed earlier in the day and a written report would be brought to a future Cabinet meeting.

The Leader and Portfolio Holder thanked Cabinet colleagues, the Director of Education, officers and headteachers who had worked to secure the improvements required by Estyn and turn the service around whilst coping with the demands of the pandemic. The Leader and Portfolio Holder for Education were thanked for the leadership they had shown to drive forward improvement and the schools transformation programme.

4. EXEMPT ITEMS

RESOLVED to exclude the public for the following item of business on the grounds that there would be disclosure to them of exempt information under category 3 of The Local

Authorities (Access to Information) (Variation) (Wales) Order 2007).

5. APPROVAL OF A PAYMENT TO HEART OF WALES PROPERTY SERVICES TO MEET THE COUNCIL'S OBLIGATIONS

County Councillors Aled Davies and Phyl Davies and the Head of Finance declared interests as directors of Heart of Wales Property Services and left the meeting.

County Councillors Beverley Baynham and Heulwen Hulme joined the meeting.

Cabinet considered the confidential report on the financial position of Heart of Wales Property Services. Cabinet also noted the six recommendations made by the Scrutiny Working Group and presented by the Chair of the Working Group, County Councillor David Selby. The Monitoring Officer advised that responses to the recommendations would be prepared for the Cabinet and Working Group.

RESOLVED to approve the recommendations set out in the confidential report to Cabinet.

County Councillor M R Harris (Chair)