

CABINET

Minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet held in the Assembly Rooms, Town Hall, Ruthin on Tuesday, 17 July, 2001 at 11.45 a.m.

PRESENT

Councillors E.C. Edwards (Leader), I.M. German, D.M. Holder, R.W. Hughes, G.M. Kensler, D.M. Morris, E.A. Owens, A.E. Roberts, W.R. Webb, K.E. Wells and E.W. Williams.

Observers - Councillors M.L.I Davies, P. Douglas, S. Drew, R.J.R. Jones and W. Roberts.

ALSO PRESENT

County Clerk, Corporate Director of Resources and the Head of Economic Regeneration.

The Leader welcomed Councillor Wayne Roberts, newly elected as Councillor for Rhyl East to his first Cabinet meeting.

343. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

***RESOLVED** under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the Press and Public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 1, 8, 9 and 10 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.*

344. FOOT AND MOUTH FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

The County Clerk advised Members as to the possible approaches to the decisions that needed to be made. Members could either approve the methodology proposed without receiving details of individual applications and delegate to the Corporate Director of Resources the power to approve or refuse applications having regard to the criteria. Alternatively, should Members wish formally to deliberate on the lists of applications proposed for approval and refusal it would be necessary for them to identify as to which applications they might have a "declarable interest" in. Members concluded that in the first instance they should restrict their debate to the methodology and accordingly the officers addressed these issues.

The Corporate Director of Resources outlined the basis on which the funding had been made available to Welsh Authorities, the consultation that had taken place throughout Wales and the general approach adopted. In particular, he outlined the distinction between support offered by way of NNDR Relief and direct cash support. In addition, he summarised for Members EU rules on the limits of the amount of state aid that could be given to undertakings. In general the amounts to be distributed under the Denbighshire scheme fell well within the EU de minimis rules.

Having considered the methodology and the decision making framework Members were content to approve the methodology and delegate decision as to the individual applications to the Corporate Director of Resources.

RESOLVED that:-

- (a) *the methodology outlined in the Corporate Director of Resources' report be approved;*
- (b) *there be delegated to the Corporate Director of Resources the power to approve applications and to refuse applications;*
- (c) *that the draft letters of approval and refusal be endorsed, and*

(ch) *that Members congratulated the Corporate Director of Resources, the Head of Economic Regeneration, the Business Connect Manager and staff for the quality of help given to the applicants and for the thoroughness of their work on the scheme.*

The meeting concluded at 12.45 p.m.
