# WRITTEN STATEMENT

# BY

# THE WELSH GOVERNMENT

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **TITLE** | **Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council** |
| **DATE** | **06 January 2021** |
| **BY** | **Julie James, MS, Minister for Housing and Local Government** |

On Monday 4 January, the Adjudication Panel for Wales published the outcome of the Leader of Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council’s tribunal hearing, which has resulted in his seven month suspension.

While this is a matter for the council, I wanted to inform members that my officials have sought assurance that appropriate interim leadership arrangements are being put in place to maintain stability over this period. This includes assurance that progress on their improvement journey will be maintained with delivery against their Recovery, Transformation and Improvement Plan continuing.  Officials will remain in regular contact with the council throughout this period.

The statutory support package I provided under section 28 of the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009 will continue in order to help the council address the challenges it faces.

I am making this statement during recess to ensure all members are kept informed.