

No.

LEARNING AND CULTURE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Minutes of a meeting held on 16th October, 2018.

Present: Councillor L. Burnett (Chairman); Councillor N.P. Hodges (Vice-Chairman);
Councillors: Ms. R.M. Birch, S.J. Griffiths, M. Lloyd, Mrs. J.M. Norman,
Mrs. R. Nugent-Finn and Mrs. S.D. Perkes.

Co-Opted Members: Dr. C. Brown (Parent Governor – Secondary Sector) and
Mrs. J. Lynch-Wilson (Parent Governor – Primary Sector).

Non-Voting Observer: Mr. D. Griffith (Welsh Medium Education).

424 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE –

These were received from Councillors B.T. Gray and M.J.G. Morgan. The Committee was informed that Mr. P. Burke (Roman Catholic Church) had resigned from his seat as a co-opted member of the Learning and Culture Scrutiny Committee and the Archdiocese would be contacted for a replacement for the vacancy in due course.

425 MINUTES –

RECOMMENDED – T H A T the minutes of the meeting held on 18th September, 2018 and the Special meeting held on 1st October, 2018, be approved as a correct record.

426 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST –

No declarations were received.

427 PRESENTATION – ADDITIONAL LEARNING NEEDS REGIONAL IMPLEMENTATION PLAN –

The Leader informed the Committee that the Additional Learning Needs Transformation Lead for the Central South Consortium could not attend the October meeting of the Scrutiny Committee, so would therefore be presenting at the next meeting in November.

428 REVENUE AND CAPITAL MONITORING FOR THE PERIOD 1ST APRIL TO 31ST AUGUST 2018 (DLS) –

At the request of the Chairman, and with the permission of the Committee, this item was brought forward in the agenda.

No.

The Principal Accountant presented the Council's position in respect of revenue and capital expenditure for the period 1st April to 31st August, 2018 regarding the revenue and capital budgets which formed the Learning and Culture Scrutiny Committee's remit.

The forecast was showing an overspend of £200k after an anticipated use of reserves however the Directorate had been requested to look at ways of mitigating this position to deliver an outturn within budget at year end.

Learning & Culture	Amended Revenue Budget	Probable Outturn	Variance (+) Favourable (-) Adverse
	£000	£000	£000
Schools	84,458	84,458	0
Strategy, Culture, Community Learning & Resources	11,530	11,488	+42
Directors Office	232	205	+27
Achievement for All	4,650	5,071	(421)
School Improvement	1,058	1,013	+45
Unplanned use of reserve to fund overspend	0	(107)	+107
Additional savings to be found	0	(200)	+200
TOTAL	101,928	101,928	0

The Committee was informed that the Strategy, Culture, Community Learning and Resources budget was anticipated to outturn with a favourable variance of £42k. There were favourable variances of £73k on staffing, £43k on Libraries, £10k on independent nursery placement costs, £20k relating to school repairs and £29k on the reversing of a commitment from a historic grant. Against this, there was an anticipated overspend of £133k on mainstream transport. This was mainly due to the increased price in certain contracts since a contractor's licence was revoked. These routes had to be retendered and there had been a general increase in prices. There would be a planned transfer from reserves of £552k. £312k would be required from the Schools Rationalisation reserve to fund one off costs in relation to the transformation of secondary schools in Barry, £187k of the Catering reserve would be used to invest in catering equipment and update the service's ICT infrastructure, £28k would be transferred from the School Deferred Pension reserve to fund in year pension strain costs of early retirement and £25k would be transferred from the Schools Invest to Save reserve to fund redundancy costs in schools.

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It was anticipated that the Directors Office budget would outturn with a favourable variance of £27k due to a post being held vacant to partly mitigate the overspend elsewhere in the Directorate.

Members noted that it was anticipated that the Achievement for All service would overspend by £421k at year end before a transfer of £107k from reserves to fund overspends. The complex needs Out of County placements, independent placements and Looked After Children residential placements budget would overspend in total by £315k. There was an overspend of £99k relating to the resource bases and outreach teams. There was an overspend of £82k on the provision for pupils not educated at schools (EOTAS) and £25k in the Youth Service due to one off restructuring costs, with both these overspends totalling £107k being funded from the Youth Service reserve. This adverse position would be offset by a favourable variance of £100k relating to recoupment income.

It was anticipated that the School Improvement budget would outturn with a favourable variance of £45k due to a senior post being held vacant to partly mitigate the overspend elsewhere in the Directorate.

As part of the Final Revenue Budget Proposals for 2018/19, a savings target of £6.298m was set for the Authority. Attached at Appendix 1 to the report was a statement detailing all savings targets related to the Committee. It was anticipated that the saving target would be met this year.

The Principal Accountant stated that Appendix 2 to the report detailed financial progress on the Capital Programme as at 31st August, 2018. The Committee was informed that the Dinas Powys Primary external Learning Area / Internal Alterations had been included in the Capital Programme under delegated authority, and the Cowbridge Comprehensive Boiler Replacement and St. Richard Gwyn Curtain Walling Replacement had been actioned under Emergency Powers. The officer detailed the works underway at Llansannor, Victorian Schools, St. Richard Gwyn R/C High Boiler Upgrade and Unallocated Education Asset Renewal as laid out in paragraphs 15 to 18 of the report.

The Committee noted that the report provided a position statement of the Council's revenue and capital expenditure budgets which were halfway through the financial year. A Co-opted Member queried why there was an overspend in the transport budget, and asked if this could have been determined in advance through the tender process. In response, the Principal Accountant advised this was mainly due to an increased price in bespoke Additional Learning Needs transportation contracts since a particular contractor's licence had been revoked. She indicated that she would find further information for the Co-opted Member on this matter.

Having considered the report, it was subsequently

RECOMMENDED – T H A T the position with regard to the 2018/19 revenue and capital monitoring be noted.

Reason for recommendation

To note the 2018/19 revenue and capital monitoring position relevant to the Scrutiny Committee.

429 RESHAPING SERVICES – CATERING PROJECT UPDATE (REF) –

The report had been referred to the Committee by Cabinet on 3rd September, 2018 for its consideration of the update on the Reshaping Services Catering Project and the intended creation of the Council's first Local Authority Trading Company (LATC).

The Catering Service was identified as a Tranche 1 project as part of the Council's Reshaping Services programme with total required savings of £347k. The Head of Strategy, Community Learning and Resources informed the Committee that all savings were achieved in October 2015 through cost saving measures, with the latest figure of the amount saved being £452k, and the principle aim of the Project had now changed to focus on the sustainability of services for future, in light of reduced budgets. The Committee was informed that the Council had a statutory duty to provide food to pupils in schools and it was well known that pupil attainment was affected by the quality of the catering provision, and through becoming an LATC, the service could provide additional funding for schools.

During June 2018, an external gateway review of the Catering Project was undertaken by a company called CCo. The key findings of the review were that the Project was still deliverable but would require an updated Project Plan highlighting clear priorities and accountability for the delivery of actions, the clear commitment of the wider organisation to the Project's priority status, the designation and freeing up of appropriate resources to support the delivery of the Project and the recognition and remediation of the Council's commercial knowledge and skills gaps. The recommendations from the CCo review were a focus for the Project Team going forward and had been incorporated into the implementation plan to ensure they remained a priority. As such, the Head of Strategy, Community Learning and Resources stated that the Catering Project was making good progress, and needed to maintain momentum. The Committee noted that the Project required a fundamental change in service delivery, which would require a full Council approach to succeed.

The Head of Strategy, Community Learning and Resources informed the Committee that the Catering Service was now mindful of the gap from the innovation stage of the Project to the income stage. He noted that it was easy to plan, but hard to implement as this business model is a brand new initiative to the council, He stated that the department was halfway through a journey, however all staff felt this was something worth doing. The officer stated that there were certain preconceptions regarding the school meal service, which had to be overcome. Instead, a new modern conception of a school catering service needed to be created to drive success in the public sector and get money into schools. The Head of Strategy, Community Learning and Resources informed the Committee that one preconception was that all food served at schools in the Vale of Glamorgan was

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precooked, whereas in actuality all meals were cooked from scratch, mainly at location.

Finally, the Head of Strategy, Community Learning and Resources stated that there was an associated risk with the LATC Catering Project due to the potential of losses alongside profit. The Catering Department had done engagement with schools, staff and pupils and stated that as an LATC the Catering Project could access additional traded income up to £800k under this model. In the past, the service had been subsidised by the Council, however the LATC could move away from this method of funding, providing a savings for the council and instead generate income to be sustainable and to invest profits into schools. He stated that the Catering Project had a two year "runway", and the Department was halfway through these timescales.

The Catering Manager informed the Committee that the Catering Project had a system of work packages in place to set the next phases of the Project and to get to a viable end point. These were detailed in paragraph 47 of the Cabinet report, and the Catering Manager provided the Scrutiny Committee with an overview of the work being undertaken on the TUPE implications, the transfer of data, and a review of the rent and assets of the Council owned school kitchens, which were worth almost £2m as Council schools had modern high tech kitchens due to school renewal and updating. The Catering Manager stated that the opportunities to expand the service were exciting, and being developed earlier than anticipated in the Project Plan. A 3% increase in the core business was the development target, however the Department had recorded a 7.2% increase. The Catering Manager noted that there had been a dip in business during September, however this had been expected and the Catering Service was working to remedy this.

The Committee was informed that the Catering Department was looking at developing a cashless system, which would provide more flexibility in ordering and choosing food, including weekend and on-the-day ordering and work had started on branding and marketing, which had commenced at a local level to establish a brand identity, vision and values, alongside the Articles of Association for the LATC which were being drawn up. Finally, the Committee noted that an update report would be brought to Cabinet in March 2019 to provide information on the progress and readiness to trade as an LATC for the provision of Catering Services.

In response to a question from a Member, the Catering Manager stated that the Catering Service had kitchens in every school in the Vale of Glamorgan, with five out of the eight secondary schools having the full food preparation and cooking functions, with the only sites relying on transportation of meals being St. Helens Primary School and Ysgol St. Baruc which were provided from nearby Council kitchen facilities. The Committee was informed that the Catering Service had explored options to provide food from the school sites, however practical difficulties prevented this.

A Member of the Committee stated that the Catering Project was an excellent idea and asked how the Catering Service was monitoring end user satisfaction, and whether there were any set targets for this feedback and the quality of provision. In response, the Catering Manager stated that the Catering Service was running a pilot

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with certain schools to set up an e-system to collate feedback, and the Catering Department was working closely with the School Nutrition Action Groups in line with Welsh Government Regulations that the food provided had to be nutritionally balanced, and this would support children having ownership of the food they were eating. The officer stated that there was also a feedback form on the Catering Project website, as well as opportunities for people to comment on social media as the service wanted the Project and users to have the best value for money.

A Member of the Committee agreed with her colleague that monitoring end user satisfaction was important, and sought further information on how the Catering Service was addressing specific food needs, including allergies. The Catering Manager stated that she was a member of the Welsh Government Special Dietary Working Group, and the Catering Service delivered approximately 11 special diets for learners. She noted that diets including vegan foods were gaining popularity and the Catering Service was developing additional recipe ideas for this specific diet, and had already developed specific targeted menus for learners with particular allergies. The Committee was informed that school menus were always nut free and there were 14 known ingredients in menus that were tied to the School Information Management System, which would automatically prevent school meals being sold to children with specific allergies if they were at risk. The Catering Department also had allergy specific preparation areas, and their methods of working were held in high regard by others and considered as best practice.

The Committee then discussed the importance of gaining support and advice from external experts in social enterprise, with officers confirming that they had engaged with external experts for advice on the legal implications of the LATC, scoping exercises with the Council, and marketing, with the Chairman advising that a social business expert could have a seat on the not yet formed Governance Programme Board for the trading company to provide external expert advice.

In response to a question by a Member on where food was prepared, how it was transported, and possible future business locations, the Catering Manager stated that food could be prepared in secondary school kitchens which were generally large and well equipped, and there were specific regulations to transporting food, of which the Catering Service was well versed and as part of the Catering Project, these transport arrangements would be developed and extended. With regards to the location of future provision, officers stated that they were undertaking market research to find viable sites and also did not wish to compete with existing businesses in the private sector. On this point, a Member sought further information on the sustainability of marketing, as well as how the LATC intended to work with local traders. With regards to the issue of marketing, the Head of Strategy, Community Learning and Resources stated that the Catering Service had engaged the services of an external marketing company and wished to look at the point holistically, as this could be dealt with through a Council wide approach. He urged Members to look at the new Whitmore and Pencoedtre School websites as they had been developed by the same company. The officer stated that the Catering Department was also cognisant of the needs of local traders and stated that there were lots of local events that could be serviced, for example weddings. He also stated that it was a key tenant that the LATC distance itself from the Council to have

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its own unique identity, and this would also allow the Catering Service to engage with local food providers as a Trading Company could take the best advantage of its ability to provide local food as a key unique selling point.

Finally, the Committee discussed visiting a school and experiencing the service, which the Head of Strategy, Community Learning and Resources supported as it could provide useful market research and would be meaningful for the 169 catering staff who had pushed themselves as part of the Catering Project.

There being no further questions, it was subsequently

RECOMMENDED – T H A T the update on the Reshaping Services Catering Project be noted, and staff congratulated on their hard work so far, and the Committee receive an update report in six months' time.

Reason for decision

To note the update on the development proposals for the Catering Service and consider future progress and readiness to trade as a LATC for the provision of Catering Services.

430 PROVISION IN THE NON-MAINTAINED SECTOR: ACADEMIC YEAR 2017-2018 (DLS) –

Members were informed of the provision for early education through the non-maintained settings.

The Committee was informed that there were five playgroups registered for early education in the Vale of Glamorgan, one of which was a Welsh medium setting. The settings were situated in areas where there were not sufficient part time places in the state sector.

In 2017-2018 the Local Authority had funded places for 111 children in the non-maintained sector. The settings were as follows:

- Abracadabra Playgroup, Welsh St. Donats;
- Cylch Meithrin Y Bont Faen;
- St. Donats Playgroup (Atlantic College);
- Swallow Playgroup (RAF St. Athan);
- Wick and District Playgroup.

The Head of Achievement for All informed the Committee that the quality of provision in almost all settings was of a very good standard. All practitioners had used their knowledge of Foundation Phase to establish stimulating learning environments with a range of good quality, interesting resources. Nearly all children demonstrated high levels of interest, enjoyment and motivation towards their learning.

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All settings regularly planned a range of outdoor activities to encourage children to experiment with new experiences and to develop a range of skills. All settings planned effectively using the Foundation Phase Framework for Children's Learning and nearly all children made good progress. An effective system of assessment was in place in all settings and practitioners were able to plan for the needs of all children. This year all settings had adopted the 'Wellcomm' Speech and Language toolkit and were using it effectively to assess children's speech, language and communication on entry to the phase.

Termly forum meetings had taken place for playgroup leaders to discuss new information from Welsh Government and Estyn and to share good practice. Support from peers had been valuable and elements of the good practice had been adopted by all settings. All group leaders had attended training on the new Digital Competency Framework and were fully aware of their roles in supporting young children's ICT skills. Appropriate resources had been purchased to accompany the training for each setting. All group leaders had attended training on the Additional Learning Needs Act and had adopted use of the one page profile to support children with additional needs and the Head of Achievement for All noted that provision was therefore up to date.

Finally, the Committee noted that settings had been supported in the following activities:

- Embedding the 'Wellcomm' toolkit and monitoring results;
- Appropriate spending of Early Years Development Grant (EYDG) to improve outcomes for children;
- Developing outdoors to provide physical play opportunities;
- Refresher training for using the Foundation Phase profile;
- Using an annual audit of all aspects of playgroup life to inform the planning for improvement process;
- Updates for safeguarding policies.

All settings had acted positively upon the advice and guidance given to them in order to raise the standards of children's learning and wellbeing in their care.

Having considered the report, it was subsequently

RECOMMENDED – T H A T the provision for early education through non-maintained settings, and the relevance and variety of support given to non-maintained settings, be noted.

Reason for recommendation

To note the performance standards of non-maintained early years' settings as part of the Council's statutory function.

No.

431 YOUTH ENGAGEMENT AND PROGRESSION (DLS) –

The Lead Officer for Social Inclusion and Wellbeing informed the Committee of the annual review of the Youth Engagement and Progression Framework (YEPF) and the levels of young people Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET).

The YEPF implementation plan set targets to reduce the numbers of young people aged 16-18 who were NEET in Wales to 9% by 2017 and to further reduce the proportion of young people aged 19 to 24 who were NEET in Wales relative to the UK as a whole by 2017, and the officer informed the Committee that this was one of the Council's corporate responsibilities.

The officer stated that this was an encouraging report as the Welsh Government official statistical data on NEETs for 2017 was released in April 2018. The annual survey of school leavers undertaken by Careers Wales in October of each year on behalf of the Welsh Government provided a snapshot of pupil destinations. It included pupils in Year 11 who had reached statutory school leaving age and pupils leaving school in Years 12 and 13. The data indicated that NEET levels for all three year groups fell in 2017 which was very positive. The Committee was informed that numbers had fluctuated, however the Council was seeing a year on year reduction.

The Lead Officer for Social Inclusion and Wellbeing informed the Committee that in Year 11 the number of young people who were NEET had reduced considerably over the last year from 1.61% to 0.95%. This was significantly below the Welsh average of 1.60% and was now the third lowest Local Authority figure in Wales compared to seventh position in 2016. When the officer started at the Council, this figure was at 9%, so to get the percentage to 0.95% was a great achievement and highlighted the success of the targeted prevention model.

In Year 12 the NEET figure had also reduced significantly from 1.03% in 2016 to 0.65% in 2017. This again was well below the Welsh average of 1.0% and placed the Vale in joint fifth position in Wales compared to 15th position in 2016. Year 13 NEETs figure reduced from 3.07% in 2016 to 2.85% in 2017. The Vale ranking, however, fell from 11th place in 2016 to 13th in 2017 when compared to other Local Authorities in Wales. The officer stated he was looking to reduce this figure.

The Committee was then informed of the additional support programmes in place which were detailed in the report, and the officer stated that the Youth Engagement and Progression Board oversaw the Lead Worker Network and monitored the Welsh Government Youth Engagement and Progression Framework annual grant work plans. The Board ensured the reduction of NEET in the Vale and relative to Wales as a whole, by monitoring performance, NEET data and ensured tracking of vulnerable groups. He stated that this was a good report, highlighting the reducing levels of young people not in education, employment or training and he hoped these would be further reduced next year.

A Member of the Committee queried if the lack of vocational courses available was leading to children disinterested in education and becoming NEET. In response, the Lead Officer for Social Inclusion and Wellbeing stated that this was true for a number

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of young children. There was however an increasing number of practical and skill based programmes available, which also had to contain elements of literacy and numeracy improvement, stating that it was important to encourage a range of provision for young people. Following a question from a Member on the availability of apprenticeships, the officer stated that junior apprenticeships were available through Cardiff and Vale College, which would allow learners to progress to full apprenticeships at the age of 16 which were brokered with local employers. Modern apprenticeship schemes were also available including traineeships. The Head of Achievement for All noted that there was still work to be done to ensure clear pathways for learners undertaking apprenticeships as they could be difficult for young people to navigate and he informed the Committee that over the years the curriculum had narrowed in scope, and hoped in future it would become more diverse to the benefit of young children.

On the topic of junior apprenticeship schemes, a Member of the Committee stated that she had received anecdotal evidence that it was difficult to measure the success rates of these schemes, and queried if staff and the wider sector were prepared for the impact of dealing with these challenging classroom conditions.

In response, the Lead Officer for Social Inclusion and Wellbeing provided more information on the junior apprenticeship schemes offered in the Vale, commenting that learners first undertook an interview process and were subject to stringent behaviour checks. In the last year, 11 learners undertook junior apprenticeship schemes, and of those 7 had sat GCSEs and went through to full apprenticeships. He agreed there was a risk in putting children on junior apprenticeship schemes, and the Vale of Glamorgan had made efforts to avoid issues found elsewhere, for example, holding monthly meetings and end of term reviews with Headteachers. If students were not engaging with the junior apprenticeship scheme, they would return to their mainstream school education provider, and the Committee was informed that last year three students had returned, whereas this year there was only one so far.

The Committee then discussed the importance of engaging with children through a variety of educational means, which could make a huge behavioural difference and was different from mainstream to practical education. The Cabinet Member for Learning and Culture noted that there were award ceremonies for high performing learners in mainstream education, however there was nothing similar for pupils undertaking vocational courses and he wished to investigate creating a future event for service providers and employees to recognise and develop career opportunities for learners undertaking vocational courses. Members of the Committee were supportive of the idea of a careers fair for learners studying these courses, and wished for an opportunity for young learners to speak to vocational alumni and role models.

There being no further discussions, it was subsequently

No.

RECOMMENDED –

(1) T H A T the progress detailed in the annual review of the implementation of the Youth Engagement and Progression Framework to reduce the number of young people Not in Education, Employment or Training in the Vale of Glamorgan be noted.

(2) T H A T a further progress update report be received in 12 months.

Reasons for recommendations

(1) The Council has a strategic responsibility for implementing the Youth Engagement and Progression Framework to reduce the number of young people Not in Education Employment or Training.

(2) That the Learning and Culture Scrutiny Committee has continued oversight of the Youth Engagement and Progression Framework.

432 QUARTER 1 (2018-19) PERFORMANCE REPORT: AN ASPIRATIONAL AND CULTURALLY VIBRANT VALE (DLS) –

The Committee was informed of the performance results for Quarter 1, 1st April to 30th June, 2018 for the Corporate Plan Well-being Outcome 3, “An Aspirational and Culturally Vibrant Vale”.

As part of the review of its Performance Management Framework, the Council had adopted a Corporate Plan (2016-20) which reflected the requirements of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and identified four Well-being Outcomes and eight Well-being Objectives for the Council.

An overall Green RAG status had been attributed to Well-being Outcome 3, “An Aspirational and Culturally Vibrant Vale”, to reflect the good progress made towards achieving improved outcomes for residents and customers during the quarter. At Quarter 1, all (100%) of the 66 Corporate Plan actions attributed to this Well-being Outcome were on track to be delivered giving an overall Green performance status for actions.

Of the 42 performance measures aligned to this Well-being Outcome, 40 were annual measures (school academic data) consequently these would be reported at the end of the year. In relation to the two measures where a RAG status was applicable, both missed target by more than 10% (red status).

In relation to the Objective “raising overall standards of achievement”, 100% (19) of actions were on track for delivery giving an overall Green performance status. 100% (47) of actions were attributed a Green performance status in relation to the Objective “valuing culture and diversity” reflecting the excellent progress made at Quarter 1.

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A RAG status was not applicable to any of the 30 measures aligned to the Objective “raising overall standards of achievement” as they all related to school academic data which would be reported at the end of the year. Two Performance Indicators related to the Objective “valuing culture and diversity” and both were attributed a Red performance status. These related to the speed of response on the Welsh language line (CPM/072), which increased significantly to 172 seconds compared to 51 seconds last year in the same Quarter. It was anticipated that the recent recruitment of seven new CSRs would impact positively on next quarter’s performance. The number of visitors to libraries continued to fall with a reported performance of 1,024 visits per 1,000 population which was below that reported for the same time period last year and the Council’s target of 1,242 for the quarter (CPM/051).

A detailed report outlining the progress this Quarter towards achieving Well-being Outcome 3 was provided at Appendix A to the report.

An overview of overall progress against the Corporate Plan Well-being Objectives and how this contributed to the national Well-being Goals was provided in the Corporate Plan Summary Report.

With regards to Performance Indicator CPM/051, which related to the number of visitors to libraries per 1,000 population, which had been given a Red performance status, a Member queried if the introduction of community libraries had contributed to this drop in visitor numbers. In response, the Head of Strategy, Community Learning and Resources stated that this would be investigated as part of the Welsh Public Library Standards Performance 2017/18 report going to the Committee in the future, adding that he believed the figures had been affected by more accurate data reporting and the library closures due to bad weather, and did not take account of after-hours visits. The Cabinet Member for Learning and Culture also added that the footfall in Sully Library had trebled since it had been run by the community, however did note that some community libraries were more active than others. It was early days, however he felt that the end result for community libraries would be positive and see improvements recorded.

The Chairman also added that she contested the statement made in the performance report attached at Appendix A to the report which stated that the Vale was the lowest funded Authority per pupil in Wales. The Chairman indicated that she would seek further information from Welsh Government on this point and circulate it to Members of the Scrutiny Committee.

Having considered the report, it was subsequently

RECOMMENDED – T H A T the performance results and progress towards achieving key outcomes in line with the Corporate Plan Well-being Outcome 3 and remedial actions taken to address areas of underperformance and to tackle the key challenges identified, be noted.

Reason for recommendation

To note the progress being made towards achieving the Council's Corporate Plan Well-being Outcomes in line with the requirements to secure continuous improvement outlined in the Local Government Measure (Wales) 2009 Act and reflect the requirement of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 that maximised the Council's contribution to achieving the well-being goals for Wales.

433 2ND QUARTER SCRUTINY DECISION TRACKING OF
RECOMMENDATIONS AND UPDATED WORK PROGRAMME SCHEDULE
2081/19 (MD) –

Members were advised of the progress in relation to the Scrutiny Committee recommendations and were asked to confirm the work programme schedule for the Scrutiny Committee for 2018/19. Appendices A and B attached to the report set out recommendations of the Scrutiny Committee and the Assistant Democratic Services Officer requested Members review progress against each recommendation, to assess whether further action was required, ensure the required action was underway and confirm which recommendations would be agreed as completed. The officer also requested Members confirm approval of the updated Scrutiny Committee work programme schedule attached at Appendix C, it being noted that the schedule was a proposed list of items for consideration and may be subject to change depending on prevailing circumstances. He also informed the Committee that the Learning and Skills Directorate had been notified by Welsh Government that they would not receive the finalised library information until late November, and subsequently the Welsh Public Library Standards Performance 2017/18 report would be presented to the Committee in January. The Assistant Democratic Services Officer also added that at previous meetings Members had discussed investigating mental health and attainment, and also sought an update on the new curriculum.

The Chairman requested that the Committee meeting when the Welsh Public Library Standards Performance 2017/18 report would be presented to the Committee could be delivered in Barry Library, and also noted that the Committee had previously requested a site visit to Ysgol y Deri and asked that this be progressed. The Chairman stated that the Committee was starting to get a better understanding of performance monitoring reports, and felt that these could be noted with advance planning, leaving the Committee more time to discuss items in detail and deliver meaningful recommendations for the best impact.

Having considered the report, it was subsequently

RECOMMENDED –

(1) T H A T the following recommendations be deemed as completed:

17 July 2018	
<p>Min. No. 183 – Revenue and Capital Monitoring for the Period 1st April to 31st May 2018 (DLS) – Recommended (2) That following the meeting of officers to consider the renewal of the roof covering at Peterston-Super-Ely Primary School, the Cabinet Member for Learning and Culture circulate an update on this matter via e-mail to Members of the Learning and Culture Scrutiny Committee.</p>	<p>An update was e-mailed to Members on 8th August. Completed</p>
<p>Min. No. 185 – 1st Quarter Scrutiny Decision Tracking of Recommendations and Updated Work Programme Schedule 2018/19 (MD) – Recommended (2) That the updated work programme attached at Appendix B to the report be approved, including the addition of references from Cabinet on the Pupil Referral Unit and the Reshaping Services – Catering Project, an update on the changing curriculum in Wales and a presentation by the Pupil Deprivation Grant Looked After Children Regional Lead of the Central South Consortium, and be uploaded to the Council’s website.</p>	<p>Updated work programme schedule uploaded to the Council’s website. Completed</p>

(2) T H A T the work programme attached at Appendix C to the report be amended to indicate that the Welsh Public Library Standards Performance 2017/18 report would be presented to the January meeting and thereafter uploaded to the Council’s website.

Reasons for recommendations

- (1) To maintain effective tracking of the Committee’s recommendations.
- (2) For information.