

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL

CABINET: 11TH APRIL, 2016

REFERENCE FROM SCRUTINY COMMITTEE (HOUSING AND PUBLIC PROTECTION): 9TH MARCH, 2016

“924 SUPPORTING PEOPLE LOCAL COMMISSIONING PLAN 2016 - 2019 (REF) -

Approval was sought from Cabinet on 22nd February, 2016 to adopt the draft Supporting People Local Commissioning Plan 2016 - 2019 and submit the Plan to the Regional Collaborative Committee for the Vale of Glamorgan and Cardiff. Cabinet was also updated on the Council's indicative allocation of Supporting People Programme Grant for 2016/17 from Welsh Government.

The Supporting People (SP) Programme was the policy and funding framework for delivering housing related support to vulnerable people in different types of accommodation and across all tenures.

In accordance with the Welsh Government Guidance for Supporting People, all local authorities were required to develop a three year Local Commissioning Plan, which had to be submitted to the Regional Collaborative Committee for the Vale of Glamorgan and Cardiff. The development and coordination of the Local Commissioning Plan was undertaken by the Supporting People Local Planning Group (SPLPG) as required by Welsh Government. Membership of the SPLPG was made up of Officers from the Housing Division, Social Services Department, the Wales Probation Service, Cardiff and Vale University Health Board and the Voluntary Sector (the Vale Housing and Homelessness Forum).

The Local Commissioning Plan 2016 – 2019 was attached at Appendix 1 to the report. The Plan outlined the evidence collected on the support needs of vulnerable people in 2014/15 and the existing services being delivered, in order to evidence their continuation and the decisions on new service priorities for development. Whilst these were outlined in the report, it was difficult to assess if the Council would be able to commission new services as savings may be needed for future cuts so it remained unlikely that any new services would be developed next year.

After this item was presented, the Leader amended page 59 of the Local Commissioning Plan 2016 – 2019 attached at Appendix 1 to the report, that read “Visible Services and Housing” and should instead read “Environment and Housing Services”.

This was a matter for Executive decision

Cabinet, having considered the report and all the issues and implications contained therein

RESOLVED –

- (1) T H A T the Supporting People Local Commissioning Plan 2016 – 2019 attached at Appendix 1 to the report be approved and its submission to the Regional Collaborative Committee for the Vale of Glamorgan and Cardiff be agreed.
- (2) T H A T the report be referred to Scrutiny Committee (Housing and Public Protection) for information.

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Members were encouraged to see that the budget was protected, but further noted that there was clearly a mismatch in terms of available resources which Housing Services continued to attempt to address with parties and Welsh Government and that savings may have to be made in the future.

In referring to Recommendation (4) as contained on page 23 of the Plan, a Member felt that this was something that should have been considered by Scrutiny Committee.

A Member expressed the view that ‘prevention’ should form a major part of the Corporate Plan with a view to reducing the cost pressure on budgets.

Having considered the decision of Cabinet, it was

RECOMMENDED -

- (1) T H A T the decision of Cabinet be noted.
- (2) T H A T Cabinet be informed that Scrutiny Committee regretted the possibility that cuts in the Supporting Services budget may be necessary.
- (3) T H A T Cabinet be requested to recognise the value of preventative work in reducing the cost of budgets for statutory services.

Reasons for recommendations

- (1) Having regard to the decision of Cabinet.
- (2&3) To inform Cabinet of the view of Scrutiny Committee.”