

CABINET

Minutes of a meeting held on 20 June, 2016.

Present: Councillor N. Moore (Chairman), Councillor L. Burnett (Vice – Chairman);
Councillors: B.E. Brooks, P. King, and G. John.

At the start of the meeting, the Leader held a minute silence in memory of the Member of Parliament, Jo Cox, who had recently lost her life in the tragic events of Thursday 16 June, 2016.

C3211 MINUTES –

RESOLVED – T H A T the minutes of the meeting held on 6 June, 2016 be approved as a correct record.

C3212 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST –

No declarations were received.

C3213 SUMMARY OF SCHOOL INSPECTION REPORTS FOR SPRING TERM 2016 (REF) -

The Learning and Culture Scrutiny Committee on 23 May, 2016 considered the above report of the Director of Learning and Skills.

Committee was provided with an update on the outcomes of school inspections for the Spring term 2016 and an update on the outcomes of recent Estyn monitoring visits.

Ysgol Dewi Sant and St. Andrews Major Primary Schools had been inspected during the Spring term 2016 and a summary of the inspection findings for each of the named schools / playgroup was appended to the report at Appendix 2.

The overall judgements for the schools were reported as follows:

Ysgol Dewi Sant – current performance adequate, prospects for improvement adequate

St. Andrews Major Primary School – current performance good, prospects for improvement good.

As a result of these inspections follow-up activity had been identified at Ysgol Dewi Sant – Estyn monitoring and St. Andrews Major Primary – Local Authority monitoring.

While the responsibility for producing the action plan rested with the school, the Authority also had a number of key responsibilities. These included:

- Ensuring that any issues identified by Estyn relating to the Local Authority were addressed;
- Ensuring that delivery of the action plan was monitored through Challenge Advisor visits to schools;
- Supporting schools to raise standards through identification and sharing of good practice.

During Spring term 2016 Estyn had monitored Bryn Hafren Comprehensive. and had judged the extent of the progress made by the school in addressing the recommendations of the inspection report. The review activity considered the Local Authority report and scrutiny of the school's post inspection action plan and self-evaluation report. It was noted that progress was judged as follows:

Limited - Does not meet the recommendation

Satisfactory - Addresses the recommendation in many respects

Strong - Addresses the recommendation in most respects

Very good - Addresses the recommendation in all respects.

Having reviewed the progress made by the school in addressing each of the recommendations, Estyn could:

Remove the school from all follow up activity

Leave the school in Estyn monitoring

Place the school in a category; requiring significant improvement or special measures.

As a result of the visit Estyn had judged the school as below:

School name	Overall judgement	Outcome
Bryn Hafren Comprehensive	Satisfactory Progress against 3	Placed in Significant Improvement

recommendations and
limited progress against 2

The detail of the progress the school had made against each of the recommendations was provided at Appendix 3 to the report. Committee was further reminded that the Vale now had two schools judged by Estyn to need significant improvement, being Barry Comprehensive and Bryn Hafren Comprehensive Schools. The Vale also had two schools settings in Estyn monitoring, namely Ysgol Dewi Sant and Wenvoe Playgroup. In Local Authority monitoring there were three schools, which were reported as Albert Primary, St. Andrews Major Primary and Y Bont Faen Primary. It being noted that Romilly Primary School had been removed from Local Authority monitoring.

In considering the report the Director, with regard to security at St. Andrews School, could confirm that Recommendation (4) "Address the site security issue raised in the report" was now being addressed, meaning funding arrangements to improve the security had been agreed.

A Member considered that, in their view, it had been premature for Ysgol Dewi Sant to have been inspected by Estyn as it was a brand new school with a new Headteacher taking over on two separate sites and that the inspection had been undertaken within a year of that situation. The Director advised that, in her view, she felt that Estyn was trying to balance the need to be confident that all schools were of the appropriate quality with the reality that new schools require time to become established. In the Director's personal view, unannounced Estyn visits were less stressful than timetabled visits with long notice periods.

Having considered the reports in detail, the Scrutiny Committee subsequently

RECOMMENDED –

- (1) T H A T the inspection judgements about the schools inspected during the Spring term be noted.
- (2) T H A T the judgements made by Estyn in its monitoring visit regarding the progress of one school in addressing inspection recommendations be noted.
- (3) T H A T the judgements made by Estyn with regard to schools in Local Authority monitoring be noted.
- (4) T H A T the reports be referred to Cabinet for its consideration.

Reasons for recommendations

- (1-3) In order that Members are aware of Estyn judgements about local schools.
- (4) For Cabinet's consideration.

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At the meeting, the Director of Learning and Skills commented that there had been a recent monitoring visit to Bryn Hafren Comprehensive and as a result a Post Inspection Action Plan had been implemented for the School and the Local Authority was working with the School to provide significant support where needed.

Cabinet, having considered the recommendations of the Learning and Culture Scrutiny Committee

RESOLVED – T H A T the contents of the report be noted.

Reason for decision

To note the contents of the report.

C3214 INDIVIDUAL SCHOOL PERFORMANCE PROGRESS PANEL MEETING (REF) -

The Learning and Culture Scrutiny Committee on 23 May, 2016 considered the above report of the Managing Director.

The Scrutiny Committee received an overview of the School Progress Panel meeting that had been held at St. Richard Gwyn R/C High School on 1st March, 2016.

The Chairman, in presenting the report to the Committee, took the opportunity to thank both the Panel Members, the Vice-Chairman of the Scrutiny Committee and Dr. Brown, Co-Opted member, for their support and work as Panel Members.

In September 2015, the Director of Learning and Skills had forwarded a letter to the Chair of Governors of the school which placed on record the Department's concern about the capacity for rapid and sustainable improvement with regard to outcomes. The letter also highlighted that during 2015 and compared to 2014, pupil attainment

at Key Stage 4 had decreased for most of the key indicators. For example, the proportion of pupils attaining 5 GCSE A* to C grades including English and Maths had reduced to 56%, which was a 2% drop on the performance achieved in 2014. Furthermore, the proportion of pupils attaining A* to C grades in Science fell from 82% to 71%, in Maths fell from 64% to 62% and in English fell from 76% to 70%. The Panel had therefore been convened in order to provide an opportunity for the school to demonstrate through the democratic process their ambition and commitment to rapid and sustained progress and to ensure that any barriers that had been identified that the school may be facing which could be resolved by the actions of the Council.

The Chairman stated that in undertaking the Performance Progress Panel meeting a considerable amount of straightforward talking had been exchanged as had considerable transparency and openness. Having considered all of the evidence, the Panel had determined that it had a reasonable level of confidence that the school would achieve its targets for improved performance as members considered that the school had effective plans to improve results at Key Stage 4, but felt that the school should closely monitor its targets at Key Stage 3, particularly for Level 6 and Level 7 pupils. Full details of the work of the school had been presented to the Panel at their meeting with the Chairman outlining a number of those areas for the Committee's information.

The school had set itself ambitious targets in order that it could be classed within the top 25% of similar schools in Wales and reported that it was on track for all pupils to achieve the Level 1 indicator (5 GCSEs at Grade A*-G), and it was confident that it would meet its target of 90% of pupils achieving the Level 2 indicator (5 GCSEs at Grade A*-C).

In terms of the Level 2+ indicator, for 2016, the school had set a target of 70% of pupils achieving 5 A*-C GCSE grades including English (or Welsh as a first language) and Maths. During January 2016, the school had reported that 57% of pupils had achieved the minimum pass rate and the data at the time for February indicated that this had risen to 64%. The Headteacher had explained that the school would be concentrating on those borderline pupils and that this would result in a revised timetable and an increase in curriculum time.

For GCSE English, the school's performance target for 2016 was for 80% of pupils achieving at least a C grade. As at January 2016, 68% of pupils had achieved this minimum, which during February had increased to 76%. With regard to Maths, the Headteacher had advised that the school was currently in a very strong position and that performance was well above where the school had been in the previous

year. At the time of the Panel meeting, 65% of pupils had achieved the minimum C grade, which had been set against a target of 75%. Although Maths had been identified as an issue, the situation had been improved through staff changes and an amended timetable and also through the input of the Deputy Head who gave support to targeted lessons. The Panel were further informed that a modular Maths paper had been used for marginal pupils which had provided them with an extra opportunity to sit the examination as well as providing them with more focus and a higher degree of confidence.

For Science, the school was tracking 85% of pupils achieving the minimum C grade with it being reported that it was on track to hit its target of 89%. With regard to the Core Subject Indicator (the percentage of pupils achieving at least a GCSE grade A*-C in each of English or Welsh first language, Mathematics and Science), again the school reported that it was confident that it would hit its target (70% pass rate) with 62% of pupils having reached the required minimum standards as at February 2016.

In relation to Key Stage 3, the Headteacher advised that the school was also evidencing a level of improvement in standards and that performance targets for 2016 were above attainment levels achieved in 2015. He stated that there was a relentless focus on standards in teaching and that there was a commitment to improve leadership at all levels. Following queries regarding more detail around what the school was doing in respect of Level 6 and Level 7 pupils at Key Stage 3. The Headteacher had responded by advising that for the school an important development had been the rearrangement of classes and had mentioned that all classes had pupils of mixed abilities and that the more able and talented pupils were interspersed into all classes because it was considered that this created healthy competition. He also added that pupil data was now at a fine level and based on upper, middle and lower categories. In addition, internal moderation by the Central South Consortium had taken place which provided the school with a reference point and a description of the attributes that Level 6 pupils would possess.

The Panel had questioned whether the more able and talented pupils were being challenged enough with the Headteacher agreeing that more could be done by the school and that a pupil's ability should be recognised sooner and at the start of the academic year. He stated that some teachers had been reluctant to categorise pupils to the higher levels and some were unsure of the process. Further to this point, the Deputy Headteacher added that there was now a different mind-set of the pupils, particularly in relation to knowing what they needed to do in order to achieve better results. The Panel had questioned whether there was an issue with the

school identifying the more able and talented pupils or whether there was an issue around the provision for taking this forward. The reply being that it was both and that this was more developed in some departments than others, and was something that the school was working on.

Other contextual data for the school highlighted that the current rate of exclusions had dropped to 30.5 days when compared to the same time period last year which was 57.5 days. In addition, overall pupil attendance for this academic year was currently at 94.5% (target being 94.6%) and teacher absence due to sickness was low at around 3% of the staff team. In advising the Panel, the Headteacher had also outlined that he had been appointed in April 2015 and it had been recognised that the school had been very traditional in the way it had been run and that one of his main priorities had been to do with gaining the trust of the staff to ensure that they were fully on board with the school's plans for improvement. As a result, a School Improvement Plan had been devised which had been based on four key strategic objectives:

- Learning: to improve and share effective teaching and learning practices across the curriculum
- Ethos: to further promote opportunities to develop wellbeing and the Catholic / Welsh identity
- Achievement: to raise attainment of all learners particularly at Key Stage 4
- Development: to improve the development of leadership at all levels.

The Plan would be reviewed through line management approximately midway through the year and more formally on an annual basis in conjunction with the school's self-evaluation process and document. The teaching staff in the school had also identified seven features that they considered would make up an "excellent lesson", which was referred to as the St. Richard Gwyn Seven.

Following consideration of the school's management performance, a revision of the school's policy had been made which was now closely aligned to teaching objectives and outcomes. In explaining how these improvements would be implemented, the Panel was advised that the school had recognised the requirement to develop leadership roles at all levels which could lead to many teachers working towards achieving a recognised qualification. The school would also share ideas and best practice with other schools and a formal review of staff training would be undertaken. The senior leadership team had also made a commitment that there would be a greater presence of senior leaders out within the school, although capacity to provide this was an issue. At least one lesson would be observed each day, being divided out between members of the senior leadership team. This allowed the school to

record and report on good lessons, around which a learning and teaching folder had been created so that the school could share what a good lesson should look like.

The Panel had queried how the school supported staff that may not be on board with the school plans for improvement with the Headteacher responding that this related to a very small percentage of staff and there were a number of approaches that the school had used to ensure that staff bought into the school's vision.

The effectiveness of pupil tracking was also questioned with an example of good tracking being highlighted in relation to the projection of pupil attainment for the January set of examinations.

The Challenge Advisor at the Panel meeting had stated that there was now a greater focus on outcomes and standards within the school and that she too was confident that the school was making progress. The Chairman of Governors, who had also been present at the Panel meeting, advised that the membership of the Governing Body was being refreshed, which would provide a better understanding around the school's future direction. A skills audit of all Governors was being undertaken and the Chair of Governors made positive comments around the training package that was provided by the Governor Support Unit which was focused on performance, the use of data and outcomes. The Governing Body was also keeping a close eye on staffing issues and had affected staff changes, particularly in relation to those individuals who were not fully on board with the school's plans for improvement. The Governing Body was however, mindful that as some departments were very small, any changes could have a profound impact.

The Chairman stated that overall the Panel recognised that the work of the Governing Body was improving but encouraged members of the Governing Body to undertake occasional learning walks and Subject Link visits. The Panel felt that although the school had developed a training strategy, it suggested that the school should look to establish links and dialogue with other schools and outside peers to broaden opportunities for learning and development. Following a query for her views in relation to learning walks the Director advised that learning walks helped Governors to familiarise themselves with the school and widen their perspective of the role.

The Director of Learning and Skills took the opportunity to advise Members that since the Panel's visit, information had been received from the school that the expected GCSE results were likely to increase from those discussed at the meeting by a further 2%.

In considering the report, Committee Members commented that they were pleased to note that there appeared to be no alarming issues that required immediate attention and that although it could be said that previously the eye had been taken off the ball it was now encouraging to note the improvements that were being made.

In conclusion, the Chairman stated that supporting the school was one of the main aims of Governors and that learning walks assisted in familiarising oneself with the school and in understanding the issues at hand.

Having considered the report, it was subsequently

RECOMMENDED –

- (1) T H A T the Scrutiny Progress Panel findings as detailed in paragraphs 34 to 37 of the report be accepted.
- (2) T H A T an update report be presented to the Scrutiny Committee in the Autumn following the GCSE results in August 2016.
- (3) T H A T the report be referred to Cabinet for consideration and / or approval.

Reasons for recommendations

- (1) To apprise Committee of the findings of the Progress Panel.
- (2) To monitor progress.
- (3) For Cabinet's consideration.

After presenting this item, the Leader stated that this approach demonstrated a good model of collaborative working between Cabinet, the Learning and Culture Scrutiny Committee and the Learning and Directorate.

Cabinet, having considered the recommendations of the Learning and Culture Scrutiny Committee

RESOLVED –

- (1) T H A T the contents of the report be noted.

- (2) T H A T pending the outcome of the GCSE results from St Richard Gwyn Roman Catholic High School in August 2016, Cabinet will decide if a further visit to the school is necessary and will advise the Learning and Culture Scrutiny Committee accordingly.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) To note the contents of the report.
- (2) To monitor the outcome of the GCSE results from St Richard Gwyn RC High School in August 2016 and decide if any further visits would be required.

C3215 PRESENTATION BY DR SUZANNE WOOD (PUBLIC HEALTH WALES) ON CHILD OBESITY (REF) –

The Healthy Living and Social Care Scrutiny Committee on 16 May, 2016 considered the above presentation.

For this item the Committee welcomed Dr. Suzanne Wood, the Consultant in Public Health Medicine, Ms. Christine Farr, Vale of Glamorgan Network of Healthy Schools Co-ordinator and also from the Cardiff and Vale University Health Board, Ms. Helen Nicholls, Community Dietetic Service Manager.

Dr. Wood commenced the presentation by advising Members of the current situation. She stated that for the child measurement programme - Reception Year children (aged 4 and 5) had been surveyed annually for the last three years, which had shown a year on year decrease in the Vale of Glamorgan. The Vale of Glamorgan had the lowest levels of overweight and obesity in Wales for girls at 19.1% and also for boys at 22.7%. However, she stated that there was no room for complacency.

Members were advised that obesity was associated with levels of deprivation with more deprived groups being significantly more likely to be obese. In the Vale of Glamorgan, this created much variation with more deprived areas such as Barry having around double the levels of obesity as compared to other areas.

With regard to older children within secondary schools, current information from the national survey carried out every four years around the health behaviour of school age children between 11 and 16, showed that obesity levels in the Cardiff and Vale University Health Board area were the lowest in Wales at 15%. Again, this masked a variation which was once again associated with deprivation.

In terms of problems associated with high obesity rates, Members noted that if a person was obese as a young child they would be far more likely to become an obese older child and adult. The obesity trajectory showed that over 4 in 5 Welsh children that were obese at Reception year (aged 4 to 5) would remain obese at Year 4 (aged 8 and 9). Members were advised that the converse was also true and if a person had a healthy weight at Reception year then they were likely to have a healthy weight in Year 4 (78.4%). However, the obesity trajectory continued and child obesity was associated with a higher chance of obesity, premature death and disability in adulthood. In addition to increased future risks, obese children experienced breathing difficulties, increased risk of fractures, high blood pressure, potential cardio-vascular disease, insulin resistance and psychological problems. Therefore, there needed to be action now in order to prevent an obesity crisis for future generations.

In detailing actions to combat childhood obesity in the Vale, Dr. Wood advised that the ten steps to a healthy weight programme had been launched nationally by Public Health Wales. This was an evidenced based account of what could be done, in steps, to prevent children becoming obese in their early years (under 5). At a strategic level, there was an overarching healthy weight framework which was accompanied by The Eating Well and Physical Activity Action Plan. The former would be re-launched shortly. These plans reflected the priority actions from the Health Improvement Review, conducted nationally, around those actions which worked well. In addition, much was going on in terms of the implementation, although at times this had been problematical due to limited resources.

Furthermore, midwives and health visitors had an important role as obesity had been linked to an increased risk of complications during pregnancy and birth and they would actively encourage breastfeeding and would monitor growth. Currently, 66% of mothers in Cardiff and the Vale breastfed at birth which was higher than the Wales average of 57.9%.

Other actions included the following:

- Healthy and sustainable pre-school scheme – Currently only 22 settings where engaged out of a potential of over 300.
- Healthy schools - 100% of schools were involved in the Vale. The healthy eating in schools regulations (2013) were a legal requirement in all primary and secondary schools. All schools appeared to be compliant, but monitoring was unsatisfactory. As such, external caterers may not always be compliant in secondary schools. In terms of physical activity, many schools had devised extra-curricular activities such as Llantwit Major Secondary School providing

Zumba, Pilates and yoga for their children. Active Travel Plans were promoted across schools. National quality awards were encouraged but currently in the Vale only 4 primary and 1 secondary schools had been able to achieve these.

- Barry Communities First area was supported by dietetics supervision, however, there was no overarching approach across all agencies in the Vale. Whereas in Cardiff this existing through Families First and Flying Start.

In summarising the key challenges, Dr. Wood emphasised the following:

- The need to address the maternal obesity dietetic service gap.
- The need for more pre-school settings to be engaged in the healthy and sustainable pre-school scheme.
- The need for a whole nutrition approach across Flying Start/Families First/Communities First.
- The need for senior leadership teams to support the national quality awards in schools.
- The need for a children's obesity service (Level 2 and 3).

In ending the presentation, Dr. Wood asked the Committee to consider the following recommendations:

1. To note the progress to date.
2. To support a 10 steps to a healthy weight roll out.
3. To further support the healthy and sustainable pre-school scheme e.g. through time in kind.
4. To support the national quality award in schools.
5. To support a whole nutrition approach in the Vale.
6. To support the development and a Level 2 and Level 3 obesity service for children.

A Committee Member asked what could be done to encourage families to eat healthier. In reply, Dr. Wood advised that education and encouragement was vital. There was also a need to encourage families to partake in more physical activities, for example, by promoting walking and cycling over driving by the development of more 20 mph zones and increasing green spaces. Members noted that a lot of advice and guidance on this was available on-line and there was also a lot in place in terms of signposting people for help and support. The Vale of Glamorgan network of healthy schools co-ordinator then emphasised the Healthy School Initiatives, this was a whole school setting approach and which was linked to the Vale's Active Travel Plan. An important part of this was around providing training to parents to

encourage their children to undertake more physical activities and to raise awareness around healthy diets.

At this point, the Head of Children and Young People Services was asked for her thoughts. Given the now wider remit of the Scrutiny Committee, the Head of Children and Young People Services shared contributions received from the Director of Learning and Skills and the Operational Manager for Leisure Services. She advised that the Director of Learning and Skills had indicated that they would appreciate more clarity regarding how the Council and schools could contribute to the recommendations being made. Dr Wood indicated that it would be helpful to have senior leadership support to achieve a greater number of schools involved with the National Quality Award. The Operational Manager for Leisure provided information to inform the Committee that the Vale of Glamorgan was ranked third in Wales when it came to the percentage of people undertaking the recommended amount of daily physical activity. This information was received positively.

With regards to the discussion about the contribution of the four poverty strands, the Head of Children and Young People Services welcomed the opportunity to take these discussions forward via the Poverty Alignment Group, which included Flying Start, Communities First, Families First and Supporting People. She suggested the focus should be on achieving a joint approach that streamlines current activity and maximises the contribution of all.

A Committee Member stated that during his role as Cabinet Member, which included school and catering services, he had noted that all schools in the Vale apart from one had facilities to prepare meals onsite. Therefore, there was an increase in the number of healthy meals being provided. One particular observation that he had made was that more work needed to be done with parents who prepared lunchboxes for their children, which were not always particularly healthy. This was a particular issue within the more rural parts of the Vale. Furthermore, there were issues around what children were eating during school holidays, when many children were not eating a nutritional meal. Finally, he alluded to the need for food co-operatives to stock healthier foods such as fruit, which they could sell on at wholesale prices.

In response to these comments, the Community Dietetic Service Manager stated that Public Health Dietetic work was also part of a national programme. Through this, a lot of resources and training was provided to partner agencies such as Communities First. In addition, the School Holiday Enrichment Programme had been rolled out which would look at the types of meals provided by catering services. She went on to allude to the work undertaken in Cardiff which should also be as successful in the Vale. Members also noted that there was a need to provide

training for parents, such as cooking skills and budgeting for healthier diets. There was a lot of work that could be done with parents but it was important for such work to be undertaken on a partnership basis in order to avoid duplication and to benefit from economies of scale.

RECOMMENDED -

- (1) T H A T the Committee receives an update in a year's time.
- (2) T H A T the presentation be referred to Cabinet for its consideration and action as necessary.

Reasons for recommendations

- (1) In order for the Committee to receive an update on the developments around child obesity in the Vale of Glamorgan.
- (2) In order to allow Cabinet to consider how best to tackle issues associated with child obesity.

At the meeting, the Cabinet Member for Housing and Social Care & Health commented that the Supporting People programme that the Council had in place was starting to pay dividends in producing good results.

In agreement with his colleague, the Cabinet Member for Visible, Leisure and Regulatory Services noted that the Vale of Glamorgan was ranked 3rd in Wales when it came to the percentage of people undertaking the recommended amount of daily physical activity. He also praised the work of the Council's 5x60 Officers who were encouraging sport in schools throughout the Vale of Glamorgan and that a great deal of work was being undertaken by the Leisure Department to ensure increased participation in sport. As the local Ward Member, he was particularly pleased to note the extra-curricular activities of Llantwit Major Secondary School which were discussed on the second page of the report. Finally, he concluded that he was looking forward to the follow-up report on this matter due to come before Cabinet in a year's time.

The Cabinet Member for Building Services, Highways and Transportation commented that this was a good example of the joined up delivery of services to

tackle the issue of child obesity and he was pleased the active travel scheme was contributing to this success.

The Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Education commented that the Council was also working well with voluntary organisations such as the Barry Island Parkrun, and highlighted the Council's work in upgrading Parks and Play areas which all helped to encourage people to enjoy and use their outdoor environments. Finally, she paid tribute to Communities First which ran a large number of programmes for all ages that helped promote healthy lifestyles.

In concluding discussions on this item, the Director of Social Services commented that this issue was being tackled through a cross departmental approach in line with the Council's Corporate Plan Well-being objectives.

Cabinet, having considered the recommendations of the Healthy Living and Social Care Scrutiny Committee

RESOLVED –

- (1) T H A T the contents of the report be noted.
- (2) T H A T thanks be given to all Officers who contributed to tackling the issue of Child Obesity.
- (3) T H A T Cabinet look forward to receiving a future update report on this matter in a year's time, if not sooner.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) To note the contents of the report.
- (2) To thank Officers for their hard work.
- (3) To inform Members of the progress made tackling this issue.

**C3216 VALE OF GLAMORGAN GYPSY AND TRAVELLER
ACCOMMODATION ASSESSMENT MAY 2016 (REF) -**

The Environment and Education Scrutiny Committee on 14 June, 2016 considered the above report.

At the meeting, the Leader tabled the recommendations of the above Scrutiny Committee that had:

“RECOMMENDED -

- (1) T H A T the Resolutions of Cabinet be endorsed.
- (2) T H A T officers be thanked for the work that had been done to date, for their thoroughness in the report presented and for the answers to the robust scrutiny at the meeting which had instilled great confidence in the Committee in relation to the work of the Directorate.

Reasons for recommendations

- (1) Having considered the evidence presented, the representations made and following robust scrutiny.
- (2) In recognition of the work that had been undertaken to date and the responses to questions at the meeting.”

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Cabinet, having considered the recommendations of the Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee

RESOLVED – T H A T the recommendations of the Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee be noted and considered alongside the Vale of Glamorgan Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment May 2016 reference which appeared next on the Agenda.

Reason for decision

Given that the two reports relate to the same subject matter.

**C3217 VALE OF GLAMORGAN GYPSY AND TRAVELLER
ACCOMMODATION ASSESSMENT MAY 2016 (REF) -**

The Homes and Safe Communities Scrutiny Committee on 15 June, 2016 considered the above report.

At the meeting, the Leader tabled the recommendations of the above Scrutiny Committee that had:

“RECOMMENDED –

(1) That the Homes and Safe Communities Scrutiny Committee endorses the Cabinet resolution for the Head of Regeneration and Planning to issue a letter to the travellers currently occupying the unauthorised site at Hayes Road, Sully to provide them with the assurance that no planning enforcement action will be pursued against their residential use of the site within the subsequent five year period from the date of the letter.

(2) That the Homes and Safe Communities Scrutiny Committee endorses the Council adopting the Vale of Glamorgan’s Gypsy & Traveller Accommodation Assessment, May 2016

Reasons for recommendations

(1) To endorse Cabinet’s resolution to provide a short-term solution to the Gypsy & Traveller need in order to progress the Local Development Plan to adoption whilst allowing the Council to continue to work with the Travellers currently occupying the unauthorised site at Hayes Road, Sully in order to meet their long term accommodation needs in a sustainable way.

(2) To endorse Cabinet’s resolution to ensure that the Council complies with its statutory requirements under the Housing (Wales) Act 2014 and adopts the Gypsy & Traveller Accommodation Assessment, May 2016 for submission to Welsh Government and the LDP Inspector.”

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At the meeting, the Managing Director commented that at the Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee held on 14 June, 2016 there had been a thorough consideration of the issues and implications of the Vale of Glamorgan’s Gypsy & Traveller Accommodation Assessment, May 2016 report. He further noted that the

comments from the Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee had been provided to the Homes and Safe Communities Scrutiny Committee held on the 15 June, 2016 and he concluded by commenting that the resolutions of Cabinet made on 6 June, 2016 (Minute number C3206 refers) were endorsed by both Scrutiny Committees.

Cabinet, having considered the recommendations of both the Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee on held 14 June, 2016 and the Homes and Safe Communities Scrutiny Committee held of 15 June, 2016

RESOLVED –

- (1) T H A T the original resolutions of Cabinet made on 6 June, 2016 (Minute number C3206 refers) be endorsed.
- (2) T H A T it be noted the Managing Director will use his Emergency Powers to ensure the Vale of Glamorgan's Gypsy & Traveller Accommodation Assessment, May 2016 is submitted to Welsh Government and the Independent Planning Inspector before the end of June deadline, as part of the LDP examination in public requirements.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) To endorse the original resolutions of Cabinet made on 6 June, 2016.
- (2) To ensure the Vale of Glamorgan's Gypsy & Traveller Accommodation Assessment, May 2016 is submitted before the deadline set by the Independent Planning Inspector.

C3218 CORPORATE SAFEGUARDING UPDATE (L) (SCRUTINY COMMITTEES – ALL) -

Cabinet was updated on the work that had been undertaken to improve corporate arrangements for safeguarding and protecting children and adults who required specific Council services to ensure that the arrangements were effective.

In 2011, CSSIW and Estyn published a joint report following their investigation into the way Pembrokeshire County Council was managing allegations of professional abuse and its arrangements for safeguarding and protecting children in education services. Significant concerns were expressed in the report about the quality of corporate working to safeguard and protect children by the Local Authority.

Following that report, a Corporate Safeguarding Group chaired by the Director of Social Services was established in the Vale of Glamorgan to ensure that robust arrangements for protecting children, young people and adults were in place.

The group worked to an action plan that addressed findings from experience, inspection and audit. Cabinet received regular reports from the group, agreed by the Corporate Management Team, so that it could exercise effective oversight of safeguarding activity across the Council. The reports were referred to the relevant Scrutiny Committees.

As part of its action plan, the group had implemented a Safer Recruitment Policy for the Council and Schools. The policy had now been adopted and robustly applied by all Vale schools and throughout all Council departments.

Attached at Appendix 1 to the report was a Corporate Safeguarding Update for June 2016 that brought together safeguarding activity undertaken by the Resources, Learning and Skills and Social Services Directorates. This provided a comprehensive account of safeguarding activity across the Council, as requested by Cabinet.



At the meeting, the Director of Social Services commented that this was an exceptionally important piece of work for the Authority and Appendix 1 attached to the report covered all departments and would put the Vale of Glamorgan Council at the vanguard of organisations concerning this matter. He also highlighted that a considerable amount of work was being undertaken on this issue, particularly by the Learning and Skills Directorate.

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 work that has been undertaken to improve corporate arrangements for safeguarding and protecting children and adults be noted.

- (2) T H A T Cabinet continue to receive six-monthly reports on work carried out to improve corporate safeguarding arrangements and the effectiveness of relevant policies.
- (3) T H A T the report be referred to the following Scrutiny Committees for consideration: Corporate Performance & Resources, Homes & Safe Communities, Learning & Culture, and Healthy Living & Social Care.
- (4) T H A T thanks be given to Officers for their work on this important issue.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) To note recent developments in corporate arrangements for safeguarding.
- (2) To allow Cabinet to exercise effective oversight of this key area of corporate working.
- (3) To respond to requests that each Scrutiny Committee was provided with update reports.
- (4) To thank staff for their hard work.

C3219 LOCAL AVERAGE INTEREST RATE (L) (SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – CORPORATE RESOURCES) -

Approval was sought to recommend the rate of interest to be charged on Council mortgages. The rate of interest currently charged on Council mortgages was 5.13%. The local average interest rate had been calculated at 5.09%. The Standard National Rate of interest was 3.13%.

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This was a matter for Executive decision

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

RESOLVED – T H A T the Authority declare a local average rate of interest on all new loans of 5.09% from 1 June, 2016 and that the rate of interest on all existing variable housing loans including the sale of Council dwellings be reduced from 5.13% to 5.09% with effect from 1 July, 2016.

Reason for decision

For the interest rate to be recalculated in accordance with statutory requirements.

C3220 EXTERNAL FUNDING: WOOD TO WHEEL – THE STORY OF A MILL, HERITAGE LOTTERY FUND (L) (SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – CORPORATE PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES) -

Cabinet approval was sought for the work being undertaken and acceptance of the grant and associated conditions.

The Cwmcidi Saw Mill (Nant Talwg Mill) and twin leats were constructed in 1835 to serve the Porthkerry Estate. Historically the Mill was used as a saw mill for cart and wheel construction, and as a blacksmiths. In the early 1990s the Mill walls were excavated by a local history group AXIS, and artefacts and the walls consolidated to prevent further degradation

Since the 1990s the Mill site had slowly deteriorated, with constant blocking up of the upstream culvert with logs and silt and subsequent erosion of the Mill base. Erosion was also undermining the walls of the Mill and causing further erosion of the mortar on the fabric of the Mill.

In 2009 Glamorgan Gwent Archaeological Trust undertook a survey of the Mill and made a number of recommendations, the most serious issue for them being the erosion caused by the stream of the barrel-vaulted stonework of the culvert. In the last two years the stream had eroded the bank of the downstream culvert and this meant that the erosion of the culvert along its length had increased rapidly. It would not take much further erosion before the whole culvert would collapse.

The purpose of the grant bid attached at Appendix A to the report was to stabilise, enhance and interpret the old saw mill for the benefit of visitors, schools and the local community; involving schools, historical groups, volunteers and the local college.

The grant would enable woodland management on 25 hectares of surrounding woodland, demonstrating traditional and modern methods of wood management, using contractors, demonstrations, staff and volunteers. It was also hoped that a number of school visits, 10 in total, would increase the children's awareness of the need to manage woodlands sustainably and also the history of the site. School visits

would be coupled with two community event days that would increase community awareness of the need to manage woodlands sustainably.

The total funding sought for the Wood to Wheel grant was £77,000 with an additional £6,000 being made available in match funding, giving a total project cost of £83,000.

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After this item had been presented, the Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Education commented that she was pleased that the bid had been drawn-up by the team based at Porthkerry Park as it would benefit those who used the park and also the wider community. As such, she was in total support of the project and she thanked Officers for their proactive bid to develop the site.

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 'Wood to Wheel - The Story of a Mill' funding and the grant terms and conditions from the Heritage Lottery Fund be accepted.
- (2) T H A T subject to Heritage Lottery Fund approval, Cabinet authorise the inclusion of the capital element of the grant, being £67,000 into the Capital Programme.
- (3) T H A T subject to Heritage Lottery Fund approval, Cabinet authorise the virement of £3,000 from the Barry Regeneration Partnership Project Fund to this scheme to be used as matchfunding.
- (4) T H A T thanks be given to staff for their hard work in drawing-up the funding bid.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) To allow grant funding to be accepted in order to deliver the 'Wood to Wheel - The Story of a Mill' programme.
- (2) To include the grant funded project within the Capital Programme.

- (3) To approve the virement between capital schemes.
- (4) To thank staff for their hard work.

C3221 REVISION OF PLANNING POLICY WALES CHAPTER 6: THE HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT (RE) (SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – ENVIRONMENT AND REGENERATION) -

Cabinet was advised of the Welsh Government's consultation and proposed revision of Planning Policy Wales (PPW) in relation to the historic environment, and a response to the consultation recommended.

The Welsh Government's priority was for a well-protected and accessible historic environment that would contribute to the quality of life and place and enhance people's life chances.

The Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2016 received Royal Assent on 21 March, 2016. The Act formed part of a suite of legislation, policy, advice and guidance that aimed to improve the protection and sustainable management of the Welsh historic environment.

The planning system played a significant role in the protection and conservation of the historic environment while helping it accommodate and remain responsive to present-day needs. Chapter 6 of PPW set out the Welsh Government's national planning policy in relation to this role and the purpose of this consultation is specifically to consider the revisions to this Chapter.

PPW had been updated to reflect and take account of the Historic Environment (Wales) Act with the revised Chapter 6 setting out the Welsh Government's planning policy in respect of the historic environment.

Many of the policies contained in the current Chapter 6 of PPW were considered to be sound and remain relevant. These were preserved in the draft replacement Chapter 6 and this was welcomed.

As was now standard practice with Welsh Government consultation exercises, a series of consultation questions had been posed in relation to the revised Chapter 6. In this regard, while the Council had made a number of comments in response to the consultation questions which it hoped would assist the Welsh Government to formalise its policy position, it was not considered that the revisions to PPW would

give rise to significant changes within the Vale of Glamorgan at this time. The Council's proposed response to the consultation questions was at Annex 2 to Appendix 1 as attached to the report.

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 report and the completed consultation response form attached at Annex 2 to Appendix 1 attached to the report be endorsed as the Council's formal response to the Welsh Government consultation on Planning Policy Wales Chapter 6: The Historic Environment attached at Appendix 2 to the report.
- (2) T H A T a copy of the report be circulated to all Members of Planning Committee for information.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) To endorse the response submitted to the Welsh Government consultation on Planning Policy Wales Chapter 6: The Historic Environment.
- (2) To advise Planning Committee Members of the public consultation.

C3222 MANAGEMENT REVIEW OF THE LEARNING AND SKILLS DIRECTORATE (RE) (SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - LEARNING AND CULTURE) -

Approval was sought for a revised management structure for the Learning and Skills Directorate.

The existing organisational structure of the Learning and Skills Directorate as indicated in Appendix A attached to the report had developed over a number of years. Over time, aspects of the structure had been reviewed, however, a more fundamental review had not been carried out. The role of the directorate was changing and resources were reducing. There was a need to ensure that the directorate was well placed for the next phase of its development to reflect these changing roles and to protect the quality of front line services.

Learning and Skills was required to find a saving of £40k in 2016/17 and a further £40k in 2017/18 as a result of a management review. It was considered preferable to have a strategy that planned to deliver the full £80k rather than to need to revisit the structure within a year.

The proposed new structure was attached at Appendix B to the report. The proposed structure took the role of the Central South Consortium into account and incorporated a joint post to better manage the interface and to avoid duplication. Previous changes to (Special Educational Needs) SEN/inclusion including increased delegation to schools, the re-shaping proposals for these services and the impact of the proposed new (Additional Learning Needs) ALN legislation were also considered.

The proposed structure increased the sizes of several teams: the minimum team size would be three with most teams significantly bigger. There would be a subsequent need to review some teams following this management review. The proposed structure increased the span of control of most managers to at least three members of staff. The report noted that some managers including those that commissioned activity had few staff management responsibilities albeit that they had very significant responsibilities for service development and for managing budgets.

The report detailed information on new posts, posts with changed responsibilities/reporting arrangements, posts with more minor changes or which were unaffected by the proposals, and deleted posts.

Employees in the Learning and Skills directorate were employed on a number of different sets of terms and conditions. The opportunity was being taken to review the position in relation to some of these posts to increase the number of posts which were on local government terms and conditions, rather than soulbury, teachers or youth worker arrangements. These changes would be made in consultation with individual employees paying particular regard to the pension entitlements that had been accrued.

The proposals had been shaped by extensive consultation. Initially the need for a review and the key assumptions to underpin the new structure were discussed with the Directorate Management Team and with the wider Management Forum. The proposals for the new structure had been discussed with; the trade unions, with managers potentially affected by the proposals on an individual basis, with the Headteacher steering group and with staff in the Directorate more widely. A number of changes were made to the proposals, including changes to draft job descriptions, as a result of consultation.

This was a matter for Executive decision

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

RESOLVED – T H A T the proposed revised management structure of the Learning and Skills Directorate as indicated in Appendix B as attached to the report be approved, and authority be granted to the Director of Learning and Skills, in consultation with the Head of Human Resources, to implement this new structure.

Reason for decision

To enable a management structure to be put in place, following the Council's HR policies and procedures, that ensured the Directorate was well placed for the next stage of its development and delivered increased outcomes alongside agreed savings targets.