

CABINET

Minutes of a meeting held on 31 October, 2016.

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

Also Present: Councillor E. Williams.

Apologies for Absence: Councillor L. Burnett.

C3335 MINUTES –

RESOLVED – T H A T the minutes of the meeting held on 17 October, 2016 be approved as a correct record.

C3336 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST –

The following declarations of interest were received:

Councillor B. Brooks	<p>Agenda Item 11 – Reshaping Services Programme - Grants to Community and Voluntary Organisations</p> <p>Reason for Declaration – Member of Barry Town Council, however, she had dispensation from the Standards Committee to speak and vote on this matter.</p>
Councillor P. King	<p>Agenda Item 11 – Reshaping Services Programme - Grants to Community and Voluntary Organisations</p> <p>Reason for Declaration – Member of Llandough Community Council, however, he had dispensation from the Standards Committee to speak and vote on this matter.</p>
Councillor G. John	<p>Agenda Item 11 – Reshaping Services Programme - Grants to Community and Voluntary Organisations</p>

	Reason for Declaration – Member of Llantwit Major Town Council, however, he had dispensation from the Standards Committee to speak and vote on this matter.
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C3337 GLAMORGAN HERITAGE COAST ADVISORY GROUP –

The minutes of the Glamorgan Heritage Coast Advisory Group meeting held on 16 September, 2016 were submitted.

Present: Councillor Mrs. A.J. Preston (Chairman); Councillor R.P. Thomas (Vice-Chairman), Councillors Mrs. V.M. Hartrey and C.J. Williams (Vale of Glamorgan Council); Mr. J. Golunski (Dunraven Estates), Mr. B. Acott and Mrs. H. March (Friends of the Glamorgan Heritage Coast), Mrs. M. Miyata-Lee (Natural Resources Wales) and Ms. P. George (Vale Tourist Association).

(a) Apologies for Absence –

These were received from Councillors L. Burnett and J. Drysdale, (Vale of Glamorgan Council).

(b) Minutes –

AGREED – T H A T the minutes of the meeting held on 15th April, 2016 be agreed as a correct record.

(c) Presentation by the Site Ranger, Mrs. Helen Mills – Achievements and Issues Since the Last Meeting –

Mrs. Mills introduced herself and explained that she was standing in for Mr. P. Lock, who was unable to attend. She advised that she had a ten year association with the Glamorgan Heritage Coast. Mrs. Mills then outlined the following points:

- In terms of visitors, the past 6 months had been very busy, with some days being at full capacity. This could be attributed to the favourable tides that had made the beaches very accessible.
- A few people had been rescued as a result of visitors having spread out but thankfully the Heritage Coast had not experienced some of the issues seen in other coastal areas of the UK.

- The Heritage Coast's work programme had been progressing well with all targets having been met. Progress made also meant that the Rangers had been able to think more long term and had been able to carry out more wildlife conservation work.
- Future work would include more butterfly conservation work as a result of grant funding alongside work to improve access to the car park at Dunraven Bay.
- With regard to Rights of Way, Mrs. Mills advised that a lot of work had been carried out again this year and it had been good for the Rangers to go out around the coast and to look at ways to improve and enhance access for visitors.
- In terms of educational activities, this was regarded as a positive way of encouraging people to experience and enjoy the coastal path, the Group was advised that there had been slightly fewer visits made by schools. Some schools had also decided to pay for two half day sessions as opposed to paying for one full day.
- Craft and pop up events had begun, which had been successful.

In outlining the important contribution made by volunteers, Mrs. Mills advised that staff from Lloyds Bank had been encouraged to give up one day in order to assist with the maintenance of the area at Dunraven Bay. It was also important to recognise that the staff from Lloyds Bank also provided some very welcoming funds which had helped to pay for new seating areas.

Mr. Acott from Friends of the Glamorgan Heritage Coast, queried the fee that would be charged to schools. In reply, Mrs. Mills advised that this was about £2.50 per head. The Group also heard that the reduction in interest from schools may have been as a result of a change in the curriculum.

The Group discussed the need to maintain wooden stiles, as it was felt that these would usually last three or four years and which would require a great deal of maintenance. In reply, Mrs. Mills advised that most had now been replaced with kissing gates which were made of galvanised metal.

The Chairman, in concluding, thanked Mrs. Mills for the information presentation.

AGREED – T H A T the progress to date and the work being undertaken on the coastal path be noted.

(d) Update on the Coastal Communities Project, Ms. Nicola Sumner-Smith –

Ms. Sumner-Smith, Senior Rural Regeneration Officer, provided a brief overview of the main activities being undertaken over the past few months.

Ms. Sumner-Smith advised the Group that the artist and sculptor, Howard Bowcott, had been appointed to create four Welcome Gateway Features along the Heritage Coast for Llantwit Major, St. Brides, Ogmore and Gileston / St. Athan. These sculptures would be made from limestone and all would feature bands of writing with the exception of the St. Brides sculpture which featured a poem, written by a local poet with the assistance from the School Council at St. Brides School. The Welcome Gateway Features were likely to be installed this Autumn and the sculpture artist had been commissioned to create a fifth sculpture in the form of a bench which would be placed to the right of the entrance of the historic walled gardens at Dunraven Bay.

The Group was also advised that three beach wheelchairs have been purchased with the Coastal Community Fund and some disability access consultants were commissioned to assess the beaches along the Heritage Coast for suitability of the chairs. Using their recommendations, it was agreed that the chairs would be placed along the coast appropriately. All chairs could be used as both a beach wheelchair and also as a regular wheelchair.

Ms. Sumner-Smith also advised that five storage units had been built at the Heritage Coast Centre, and would now be marketed and let out to beach activity providers or to coastal activity businesses. So far there had already been some expression of interest raised from coastal businesses.

Following the completion of a feasibility study carried out in February that looked into commercial opportunities for the Glamorgan Heritage Coast, pop up events were regarded as a key pilot suggestion from this study. The Group was advised that after asking for expressions of interest from event organisers, a panel had chosen four event pop up ideas to be trialled at Dunraven Bay during September / October 2016 that would include an open air cinema, a craft festival and food and drink events. Ms. Sumner-Smith advised that a recent craft event had been attended by about 600 people and feedback had been gathered which was generally very positive, although some people did comment that they would've liked to have had light refreshments available.

In querying the affordability of the fifth Welcome Gateway Feature, Ms. Sumner-Smith advised that the original brief included 4 gateways and a sculpture trail. After considering the trails proposals it was decided that the funds available were not

sufficient to achieve the original aims. It was therefore decided not to progress the sculpture trail and concentrate on gateways and to pool the money into one pot.

With regard to the funding for the pop up events, Ms. Sumner-Smith stated that some were self-financing whilst some had received support from the Glamorgan Heritage Coast. A review would be undertaken around the affordability and how viable each event was. The Group was advised that the Heritage Coast would usually help with aspects such as the electrics and lighting and also with promotion. A toolkit would be produced for event organisers in order to assist them with the hosting of events. Ms. Sumner-Smith added, that this was the first year for such events and so for future years there maybe chance to scale some elements back.

(e) Verbal Update on Works to the Welsh Coastal Path – Mr. Gwyn Teague, Public Rights of Way Officer –

Mr. Teague provided the Group with an update on a number of matters relating to the Heritage Coast and the major projects planned for the year ahead.

Mr. Teague began by advising that main funding was from the Welsh Government, with £900,000 allocated to Natural Resources Wales and in total amounted to £4.5million over 5 years. The project works would be delivered by the Local Authority which covered two main areas, these being the development of new coastal path and also the maintenance of existing pathways.

In outlining improvement works in the Vale of Glamorgan, Mr. Teague advised that there were three infrastructure projects ongoing, these being

1. Dimhole in Llantwit Major
2. Cwm Colhuw
3. Sully Playing Fields.

With regard to works at Dimhole in Llantwit Major, this related to path improvements as it had been identified that the walkway was very slippery and was very close to the cliff side edge. This therefore presented a major health and safety risk, particularly in relation to contractors accessing the site.

In terms of the work to Cwm Colhuw, the Group was advised that this had originally begun last year but had been delayed due to bad weather. The plan was to level the path and provide a surface of compacted stone.

For the Sully Playing Field, the work related to the creation of a surfaced path on a route that was very well used and was likely to be contained by fencing from an adjoining landowner in the coming months.

The Group was also apprised of projects in which legal action was being undertaken. These related to paths at Ogmere Down, Monkash and Gileston. With regard to Ogmere Down, the Group noted that this related to a change in the direction of the path and that consultation had been undertaken with Legal Services. For Monkash, action had been taken in order to recategorise a length of pathway as a public footpath. Similarly, for Gileston there was a need to move the path closer to the coastal area and so an Order had been made to create a new route around the old coastal defences.

Mr Teague, also advised the Group of maintenance projects that would be undertaken. These related to a day to day programme that included activities such as clearing vegetation and improving safety features. With regard to clearance, Mr Teague advised that the annual contract covered 19 kilometres of the coastal path with a separate contract for clearing inland sections. In total, there were two clearances carried out each year which in total amounted to 33 kilometres. The first around April or May with the second during September.

Mrs March stated that parts of the path were very overgrown and so could do with an earlier cut. She also stated that with regard to Dim Hole, there was a very dangerous part towards the back of the bay, and she asked if something could be done.

AGREED – T H A T the update report be noted.

(f) Matters Raised by Bridgend County Borough Council –

None.

(g) Matters Raised by Natural Resources Wales-

None.

(h) Matters raised by the Friends of the Glamorgan Heritage Coast –

Mr. Acott stated that a long term question was the potential impact as a result of the decommissioning of the Aberthaw Power Station. Concern was raised in relation to the area of scientific interest and the need to maintain this for tourist purposes. Mr.

Bob Guy stated that this could be given thought, but it may be that responsibility for this area would lie with the Wildlife Trust.

Mrs. March raised a query regarding consideration of the Seawatch Centre and commented that access issues made disposal difficult. Ms. Sumner-Smith stated that the promotion of this was something that staff from Creative Rural Communities could assist with.

(i) Date of Next Meeting –

To be confirmed.

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RESOLVED – T H A T minutes of the Glamorgan Heritage Coast Advisory Group be noted.

Reason for decision

To note the minutes.

C3338 PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH NEW MIXED-SEX SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN BARRY (REF) -

The Scrutiny Committee Learning and Culture on 3 October, 2016 considered the above report.

Cabinet had, on 4th July, 2016, referred the report to the Scrutiny Committee for consideration. The Chairman had subsequently agreed that an Extraordinary meeting of the Scrutiny Committee be held to consider the report during the consultation period in order to afford opportunities for members of the public, key stakeholders including Trade Union representatives, Governors from the schools involved and Governors of feeder schools to be invited to attend to make representations if they wished to do so. Committee was also advised that extensive publicity for the meeting had been undertaken including a press release in local papers, publication on the Council's website and social media. It was noted that no requests to speak had been received to date.

The report provided the background to the proposals, outlining that following consideration of responses to a previous consultation, the Cabinet had decided at its meeting on 5th October, 2015 to establish an Advisory Board to review options, with

particular regard to the option of establishing two mixed sex English medium secondary schools as well as addressing the need to expand Welsh medium secondary school places.

Having considered feedback from engagement activity carried out with the public, pupils, staff and Governors of Barry and Bryn Hafren Comprehensive Schools and Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg, the Board had considered options for the future of the three schools and had agreed the preferred options as detailed below:

- (i) Expand Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg on its current site with the provision of new entrance from Port Road;
- (ii) Build a new 11-18 mixed sex school on the site of Barry Comprehensive School;
- (iii) Create a modern 11-18 mixed sex school by refurbishing and modernising the Bryn Hafren site with the provision of some new facilities.

The Interim Director in presenting the report informed the Committee that there were a number of drivers for transforming the current single sex English medium secondary school provision in Barry which were detailed within the report and covered the topics of surplus places, condition of school buildings and school standards. The Council had also engaged with local children, students, parents, staff and Governors on a number of occasions through formal consultation and through recent engagement activity to inform the work of the Advisory Board. The report had also considered the future learning environment, Post 16 provision, support for learners with Additional Learning Needs, community facilities, leadership, transition and the statutory process that must be followed if the proposal was to be approved by Cabinet.

A copy of the consultation document on the proposals had been sent to a number of groups including all Elected Members of the Vale Council following the decision on 4th July 2016 to consult on the proposal to transform English medium secondary education in Barry by establishing two new mixed sex schools. Further copies were available at the meeting if required.

The timetable for the statutory process outlined that following the consultation which had commenced on 5th September to 17th October, 2016 a further report would be prepared for submission to Cabinet by 12th December, 2016. The statutory notice period, subject to the decision of Cabinet, would be 3rd January, 2017 to 31st January, 2017, with any objection report being submitted to Cabinet by 6th March, 2017 and the decision notification the 9th March, 2017.

During the discussion Members questions centred around the proposed catchment areas, the establishment of two separate Governing Bodies, the transition period, the impact of building work, potential gains for pupils, the establishment of a centre of excellence and financial resources.

Some Members referred to recent discussions with constituents in relation to the new catchment areas and the potential for an imbalance relating to the number of pupils entitled to free school meals in each school. The Interim Director for Learning and Skills advised that a significant amount of work had been undertaken to date with the Department seeking to ensure that there were the right numbers of pupils in the catchment area for the schools. Pupil data had been analysed in some depth with the proposals based on current pupils. On this basis the difference in the percentage of pupils entitled to free school meals between the two proposed schools was 7%. However, it was important to point out that the Department could not be sure which school pupils would attend in the future.

However, of note was the fact that it was possible that many children would choose to apply for admission to the schools they were currently attending.

In response to a query regarding the arrangements for Governing Bodies, the Interim Director confirmed that the two “new” schools would require the establishment of two new Governing Bodies. Should the Council’s Cabinet approve the proposals one of the first tasks for the department would be to create new temporary Governing Bodies which would become permanent when the schools were established. Members were advised that there was no intention to dismiss any staff and no new contracts would need to be signed, although the Governing Bodies may provide / consider going out to external advert for the Headteacher and Deputy Headteacher positions if they wish to do so. The Advisory Board had also sought to reassure staff that the new schools would be dependent on current staffing as the Council’s main aim was to encourage continuity. To this end, the Department had met with staff in the schools in consultation sessions to discuss the issues and concerns. Although noting that this was the advice provided by the Department, a Member stated that the new Governing Bodies could decide to do something different, which would be within their remit to do so.

Following a query as to the appointment of Governors to the schools, the Interim Director advised that the positions would be advertised within current procedures and practices and if indeed necessary temporary appointments could be made to parental Governor positions even though the pupils may not, at that stage, be present.

Councillor Burnett, the Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Education, reminded the Committee that the proposals were a second set of proposals referring to the fact that the first set had been rejected as a way forward. Although it was accepted there would be challenges ahead, the Advisory Group would continue to work with the two schools to ensure the best outcomes possible, particularly in terms of catchment etc. The Interim Director further stated that, having considered the data, it had become apparent that the demographic profile of Barry had changed, particularly with the new housing developments that had taken place.

A Member queried the views of Welsh Government in terms of funding for the proposals with the Interim Director responding that Welsh Government was a consultee to the proposals, but no feedback had been received as yet. Estyn, another consultee, would also review the impact of the proposals on pupil attainment as to whether it would improve or stay the same with such comments being influential in any decisions made. Of note was the fact that the Department rarely received a Welsh Government response on any proposals put forward until a business case for funding had been presented.

Following a query in relation to the impact that the reduction of pupil numbers from the Cadoc Ward to Sully area may have on the proposals the Interim Director advised that at this stage she could not give any reassurances in relation to the impact as it was also apparent that a number of Barry pupils went to St. Cyres, Stanwell and St. Richard Gwyn. Although she could confirm that it was apparent that a number of parents had requested mixed sex education in Barry. There being no evidence that most parents would send their children to other schools during the transitional process, the Department would endeavour to limit the impact of the proposals on pupils, particularly those sitting exams in the first year as they would remain in their current year group with the same teaching staff.

With regard to the impact of building work, Members were reassured that the Council was experienced in handling such disruption and good practice and lessons learned from other schemes would be used in executing the proposals. Major building work would also be scheduled to be undertaken during school holidays.

In response to a concern as to the proposals having an adverse impact on pupils' results, no current projections had been made in respect of this. In referring to the proposals for a Centre of Behavioural Excellence, the Head of Service for Achievement for All advised of forthcoming changes to legislation in relation to Pupil Referral Units (PRU) advising that Welsh Government was advocating that such centres would be better run by the schools themselves. The proposals would seek to develop outreach services and concentrate on maintaining placements in

mainstream schools. These issues would be addressed once the direction which Welsh Government wished the Council to take and the options afforded were presented.

The Cabinet Member made reference to the fact that the Council needed to move towards the acceptance that young people have challenges at a number of stages in their lives, with some support only being required for example for short periods i.e. six months. The intention was to move away from the practice of people being sent to a PRU and never coming out again, with the aim to develop a Centre of Excellence with an opportunity to develop good provision for young people. As to its name and how it would work etc., this was a work in progress.

In comparing the current PRU to the new Centre of Excellence, the Head of Service stated that it was similar in size, although the majority of placements currently at the PRU were full time. The aim would be to emphasise the service as an early intervention centre which would be used for teachers to build on their skills. In referring to the overall figure of £32m, it was noted that this included the cost of the PRU.

The Co-Opted Member for the Secondary Sector queried whether the choice of Post 16 subjects at Barry and Bryn Hafren would be down to the staff and whether students would be able to move freely in each school to avoid travelling. The Interim Director stated that students in the schools currently travelled and for the future this would depend upon the subjects they needed to study. Once the Senior Leadership Team and the Governing Bodies were established, further discussion on the subjects to be provided would take place.

The Chairman stated that the proposals referred to investment on both sites and identified new sports facilities with the intention, the Interim Director advised, to encourage all schools to be community focused schools, which the Welsh Government officials had advised they would consider when assessing the proposals for funding.

Members recognised that the proposals seemed less controversial than the previous proposals. The Operational Manager for Strategy and Resources referred to the 174 responses from pupils and members of the community which were 70% in favour of the new proposals. The current feedback to date consisted of concerns in relation to catchment, transition and how the mixed sex schools were going to work in practice. It was apparent that stakeholders had been quite positive and constructive in their feedback.

In conclusion, the Chairman took the opportunity to advise Members of the schools surplus places review that had been undertaken by Members of the Committee sometime previously which had supported a move to mixed sex education in Barry. The Chairman also reminded Members that the consultation period remained open on the proposals presented until 17th October 2016 should they wish to make separate responses.

Having fully considered the report and following responses provided to questions at the meeting it was subsequently

RECOMMENDED – T H A T Cabinet be advised that the Scrutiny Committee concurred with the current option proposed and urge progress in respect of the matter.

Reason for recommendation

In recognition of the discussions at the meeting and the proposals contained within the report.



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

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

Reason for decision

To note the contents of the report.

C3339 REVIEW OF INDIVIDUAL SCHOOL PROGRESS MEETINGS (REF) –

The Scrutiny Committee Learning and Culture on 3 October, 2016 considered the above report of the Managing Director.

The report had been prepared as a result of the Committee's decision in June 2014 to monitor the action plan within 12 months of the review of the arrangements for the School Progress Panel Meetings that were established during 2013.

The Democratic and Scrutiny Services Officer advised that the reports of all Panel findings had been submitted for consideration to the Scrutiny Committee and

subsequently referred to Cabinet for their consideration. In total, Panel meetings had been held within five Secondary schools and two Primary schools, namely

- Barry Comprehensive
- Bryn Hafren Comprehensive
- Llantwit Major Comprehensive
- St. Cyres Comprehensive
- St. Richard Gwyn R/C High School
- Eagleswell Primary School (now defunct)
- Fairfield Primary School.

The Scrutiny Committee (Lifelong Learning) had received an update report at its meeting on 7th December, 2015 which had detailed progress on the implementation of the action plan, along with an evaluation of the impact of the Panels and also an evaluation of responses received to a survey sent to Panel Members, senior officers, Challenge Advisors and the schools' representatives. It was planned that a further survey be undertaken during March 2017.

Attached at Appendix 1 to the report was an update of the action plan and showed the progress that had been made with each individual action for visits held between April 2013 and June 2014. The majority of these that were reported on at the previous update report had been completed, although a number were still ongoing.

Appendix 2 to the report illustrated further improvement actions observed by panel visits conducted over the period July 2014 to September 2015. A summary of progress made to date was contained within the appendices, it being noted that as part of the previous review it had been identified that schools needed to ensure that proper teachers' planning was completed in the correct manner and in the correct format. Another aspect for improvement was noted as the development of shared accountability for those schools which were part of the Schools Challenge Cymru programme. Officers had considered that there needed to be a strengthening around the sharing of information and consultation between the School Challenge Cymru Advisor and the Learning and Skills Directorate.

Members noted that the links established with the School to School initiative had been fairly positive but considered that this should be assessed to ensure that a similar level of support and improvement had been observed across other schools in the Vale.

Since the last update on the action plan, four additional actions had been included as a result of Panel visits to Barry, St. Richard Gwen and Bryn Hafren Secondary

Schools and Fairfield Primary School. These were detailed at Appendix 3 to the report.

Good practice had been identified in relation to raising pupil attendance within Secondary schools and the Panel had recognised the improvements made at Barry and Bryn Hafren. The improvements that would be shared as 'best practice' related specifically to:

- The creation of an "Inclusion Room" to support the learning of excluded pupils;
- Outreach Service set up in local community area to engage with hard to reach parents;
- Schools' attendance policy and individual pupils' attendance are shared with parents and pupils;
- Incentives given to reward high attendance;
- Attendance Panels made up of key staff and Governors set up to consider cases where pupils' attendance is low i.e. below 80%.

Recent Panel visits had also shown that an important consideration for schools was to have a programme in place around teacher development. It was therefore recommended that these be shared across the Vale as 'best practice':

- The appointment of a dedicated Teaching and Learning Coach to actively consider and promote teacher development.
- Use of IRIS Connect (or similar) to visually record and share individual lessons considered to be excellent.
- All teachers to have a Personal Development Programme.

The current approach of selecting three Panel Members from 14 Members of the Scrutiny Committee had been considered as a result of the review with the recommendation that this be continued, it being noted that this approach had allowed for a number of Members to be involved in the process, gaining knowledge and experience.

The report noted that it was anticipated that any future visits to Fairfield Primary School would be considered after the school's categorisation and benchmarking positions were known, with further visits to Barry, Bryn Hafren and St. Richard Gwyn being considered following publication of the GCSE results.

In specifically referring to St. Richard Gwyn, the Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Education stated that at a Cabinet meeting that afternoon, the Cabinet had

considered a report on school performance for 2015-16, Foundation Phase and Key Stages 2 to 5. Cabinet having been advised that strong performance improvements in the August 2016 results had allowed the formal warning notice to be removed for the school, had therefore recommended that St. Richard Gwyn be removed from the formal warning process due to the strong performance and improvement. Therefore there would be no need to reconvene a Panel visit to the school. However, the Cabinet had resolved that the Scrutiny Committee be invited to reconvene the individual School Progress Panel for Bryn Hafren Comprehensive School.

The Chairman referred to the role of the Panels and advised that they had been established in order that schools could demonstrate that they had up to date and authoritative improvement plans and that they had in place arrangements to monitor the impact of the plans, to amend them as appropriate and to establish what progress had been made against each action within the plan. The Panels also considered what further progress was required and sought to approve the accountability of schools for pupil attainment.

In response to a query as to how the issues raised by Panels were being communicated to all Governors, it was noted that report and the letters in relation to school Performance Panels were forwarded to the Chair of Governors and the Headteacher with the intention that Governors are informed accordingly.

Mr. Burke, Co-Opted Member, confirmed that when his school St Richard Gwyn had received a Panel visit the letters were sent to all Governors before and after the visits and Governors provided with an update by means of a verbal presentation at the Governors' meeting.

The Democratic and Scrutiny Services Officer advised that the Governors Support Unit received minutes of Governing Body meetings which, although not monitored for such detail, was an avenue that could be checked if necessary. It was also important that the Challenge Advisors raised these issues at Governing Body meetings, with the Chairman advising that he would be prepared to attend Governing Body meetings to provide verbal reports if necessary.

Having fully considered the report, it was subsequently

RECOMMENDED –

(1) T H A T the current approach of selecting Panel Members when appropriate be continued.

- (2) T H A T the contents of the report and the Action Plan at Appendices 1, 2 and 3 detailing the lessons learned to date in respect of the School Progress Panel meetings be accepted.
- (3) T H A T the Action Plan continues to be monitored and reviewed by the Scrutiny Committee in 12 months' time.
- (4) T H A T all reports of School Progress Panel meetings continue to be referred to the Scrutiny Committee for consideration.
- (5) T H A T the report and appendices be referred to the Central South Consortium's Managing Director for consideration.
- (6) T H A T the Chairmen of Progress Panels provide feedback to Governing Body meetings, if invited to do so.
- (7) T H A T the report and the above recommendations be referred to Cabinet for consideration.

Reasons for recommendations

- (1-5) In recognition of the Scrutiny Committee's recommendation in 2013 that a review of the process be undertaken in 12 months.
- (6) In order that the recommendations of the Panel may be presented to the appropriate Governing Bodies.
- (7) To allow Cabinet consideration of the lessons learned to date in respect of the Progress Panel meetings and the views of the Committee.



At the meeting, the Leader noted the extensive work that had been carried out by Individual School Progress Panels, however he would like a review of the Panels to be undertaken and determine how they operated alongside the Central South Consortium.

The Interim Director of Learning and Skills confirmed that a Review Group had been set up to look at the work of School Progress Panels and considered that it would be appropriate for the Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Education to sit on this group.

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

RESOLVED –

- (1) T H A T the contents of the report be noted.
- (2) T H A T Cabinet would request Individual School Progress Panels to convene if they decided it was necessary.
- (3) T H A T the Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Education be nominated to sit on the School Progress Panel Review Group and a progress report be presented to Cabinet at a future meeting.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) To note the contents of the report.
- (2) To determine when a future Individual School Progress Panel visit is appropriate.
- (3) To appoint a Cabinet Member to the School Progress Panel Review Group.

C3340 QUARTER 1 (2016-17) PERFORMANCE REPORT: AN INCLUSIVE AND SAFE VALE (REF) –

The Scrutiny Committee Homes and Safe Communities on 12 October, 2016 considered the above report of the Director of Environment and Housing.

The Director of Environment and Housing presented the report, the purpose of which was to present the performance results for Quarter 1, 1st April to 30th June, 2016 in relation to the Corporate Plan Well-being Outcome 1, “An Inclusive and Safe Vale”.

The Director advised that the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 outlined seven well-being goals which Local Authorities needed to strive to achieve. Therefore, the Council had produced its Corporate Plan which contained four Well-being Outcomes and eight Well-being Objectives. This new approach required significant cross-Directorate working which meant that officers from many different service areas had responsibility for each individual Outcome and Objective.

Section 1 of the performance report related to a summary of performance and highlighted the main developments, achievements and challenges for the Quarter as a whole. The Director advised that for Well-being Outcome 1 there were 16 Corporate Plan actions of which 15 were on track to be delivered and were reporting a green RAG status. A status was not applicable to one action (IS006), as work on aligning activities associated with Families First, Flying Start, Communities First and Supporting People Programmes was scheduled to commence in Quarter 3.

An overall green RAG status had been attributed to Well-being Outcome 1, An Inclusive and Safe Vale, reflecting the positive progress made to date in making a difference to the lives of residents and customers within a highly challenging environment.

The Director advised that an overall amber performance status had been attributed to the quarterly measures reported against this Outcome. In total there were 60 performance measures of which only five were able to be reported on, with performance on or above target for three indicators, while the remaining two were missing target.

The three indicators with a Green status being:

- The number of customers who were satisfied with access to services across all channels
- The total number of subscribers to Vale Connect
- Average number of calendar days taken to deliver a Disabled Facilities Grant

An Amber status had been assigned to the average number of days to let an empty home, while a Red status was shown for the percentage of housing stock where work that meets the WHQS had been completed.

In highlighting some of the key challenges, the Director referred to the vacant post for the Head of Housing and Building Services which was a key strategic position, particularly in relation to providing momentum on the WHQS programme and as also being lead officer on anti-poverty and financial inclusion. The Director advised that the recruitment process for a replacement was still underway.

The Director also highlighted that sickness absence was being well managed within this service area and there were no corporate risks outlined within the performance report. Tenant satisfaction rates had improved, although some concerns had been raised which would be addressed through an action plan. Some other key achievements and challenges included:

- Wi-Fi coverage at Barry Island
- Developments around the Contact Centre (C1V)
- Plans to develop the first Council homes for 17 years
- The approval of 187 new dwellings between 1st April 2016 and 30th June 2016, of which, 55 (29%) were classed as affordable

One aspect of the performance monitoring report that the Director asked the Committee to consider was in relation to the target of the performance measure around the average number of days to let an empty property. At Quarter 1, this currently stood at 39.7 which was below the original target set of 28 days, and was slightly below the 39.96 days reported within the same time period last year. A review had been undertaken of how performance of this indicator was calculated during 2015/16 and it was apparent that the method of calculation was not in accordance with the principles of Housemark. The report advised that Housemark was the leading provider of integrated data an analysis for both Registered Social Landlords and Local Authority housing providers. When collecting and recording of the Council's data on voids was undertaken using Housemark principles, it enabled the data to be benchmarked, not only in Wales, but across the United Kingdom.

When considering the principles of Housemark and the Council's current position, it was believed that the previous target of 28 days for void properties was too aspirational. It was therefore suggested that this target should be changed to 33 days for 2016/17, which was better than the Housemark median figure of 33.96. In addition, performance would also be recorded cumulatively; therefore improved performance would be needed in Quarters 2 to 4 in order to achieve the suggested new target. For information, Quarter 2 performance and voids using the Housemark principles was 32.76 days, demonstrating that the Council was heading in the right direction to achieve the suggested 33 days target for the full year. The Director also added that a lot more work could be undertaken in 33 days and so properties could be turned around to a better standard which would help maintain good relationships with new tenants.

In explaining further the rationale for the change, the Operational Manager for Public Housing Services stated that the original target had been based on a spot void figure for March 2016, which was in the region of 30 days and so it was considered that the level of 28 days was achievable. The spot figure only accounted for voids that had been let in the month of March and did not account for void properties where works were ongoing. When reviewing progress toward the target however, it was identified that a significant number of these properties had excessive void return times which had not been accounted for. The cumulative void performance in May showed that

the average void period had jumped to around 46 days, which meant that it was extremely unlikely that the Council could achieve a 28 day turnaround time. The Operational Manager for Public Housing Services highlighted that performance was improving and that there were very few refusals based on the quality of premises and that tenants were generally satisfied with the condition of their homes. It was therefore better to have sufficient time in which to refurbish properties that had been vacated and were in a poor state of repair. The Committee, having considered this performance indicator agreed that the target set should be changed to 33 days.

With regard to the commencement of works for new Council houses, the Committee was advised that no specific date had been set although the original plan was for the work to commence during the Christmas period, but it was considered that this was impractical and so the start date had been pushed back to early January.

The Chairman made reference to improvements required around the CCTV operations and was advised that this related primarily to the monitoring of the service and that some performance management issues need to be addressed. A report on the CCTV operations would be presented to the Committee at a future meeting.

It was agreed that further clarification would be provided on the following areas:

- The makeup of the Working Group assessing implementation of the new Performance Management framework
- The role of 'Digital Champions'
- Action – RP/A001, the development a programme of community mapping which had been undertaken in the St. Athan Ward.
- Action – CS/A002, the mapping Services provided by Families First, Flying Start, Communities First and Supporting People

RECOMMENDED –

(1) T H A T the target set for Performance Indicator HA/M005 – The average number of days to let an empty property, be amended from 28 days to 33 days and for this to be referred to Cabinet for its approval.

(2) T H A T the performance results, the targets and remedial actions taken to address areas of underperformance be noted.

(3) T H A T a report on CCTV operations be presented to Committee at a future meeting.

Reasons for recommendations

- (1) In order to amend the performance target set for the average number of days to let an empty property.
- (2) Having considered progress to date in achieving key outcomes in line with the Corporate Plan Well-being Outcome 1 – Citizens of the Vale of Glamorgan have a good quality of life and feel part of the local community.
- (3) For the Committee’s consideration.

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Cabinet having considered the recommendations of the Scrutiny Committee Homes and Safe Communities

RESOLVED – T H A T the contents of the report be noted and considered alongside Agenda Item 9, the Quarter 1 (2016-17) Corporate Plan Performance Report.

Reason for decision

To note the contents of the report.

**C3341 CONSULTATION ON WELSH GOVERNMENT DRAFT STRATEGY:
“A MILLION WELSH SPEAKERS BY 2050” (REF) –**

The Scrutiny Committee Learning and Culture on 17 October, 2016 considered the above report of the Head of Performance and Development.

The Committee was requested to consider a proposed response to Welsh Government’s draft Strategy “A Million Welsh Speakers by 2050” and to refer any comments to Cabinet for consideration.

On 1st August, 2016 Welsh Government had published a consultation document on a draft strategy with the deadline for responses by 31st October, 2016. Appendix B to the report provided a proposed response to the Strategy addressing the questions asked in Welsh Government’s consultation.

During the discussion a Member considered that an awareness-raising and publicity drive should be undertaken to encourage members of the public to send their children to Welsh Medium schools. It was also suggested that the Vale Council

should establish a centre for Welsh language and cultural issues and that the Urdd Eisteddfod should be invited to the Vale.

The Chairman referred to the need for the Council to foster the normalisation of Welsh and to make the necessary changes to encourage people to speak and learn Welsh. He stated that the development of social media in Welsh by the Council was great but that the Council needed to consider further developing the use of Welsh through this means and via education. He considered that the education system and schools needed to promote the Welsh language and suggested examples such as the promotion of a Welsh newspaper, which could be provided on a monthly basis via electronic or paper means. The Council should also consider giving Welsh a higher priority in relation to the workforce by considering more employment positions where Welsh was a requirement. The establishment of an Immersion Centre similar to those that had been set up in Gwynedd and Ceredigion should also be considered for pupils to provide rapid immersion into Welsh speaking. He further considered that welcoming the Urdd Eisteddfod to the Vale of Glamorgan would be an excellent move for pupils in the Vale. The Chairman requested that such issues be recommended to Cabinet for consideration.

However, some Members stated that although they were advocates of the Welsh language, they considered it was not their role to make it a priority for parents to send their children to Welsh Medium schools. It was an aspiration from Welsh Government to have a million Welsh speakers by 2050 but they felt that the Council would need to be careful how it was promoted. A Member stated it was apparent that fewer than 1% of users contacted C1V in Welsh and that Council forms completed in Welsh also equated to less than 1%.

The Head of Performance and Development stated that it was incumbent on the Local Authority to make it possible for people to do things in Welsh where possible and that the Council had to comply with legislation which contained those obligations. Of relevance too, was the fact that the 2011 census had shown the figure of 11% in the Vale of Glamorgan who spoke Welsh, and their needs should be met.

The Interim Director for Learning and Skills advised that as an education department, the Council had developed a Welsh in Education Strategic Plan and had established two new seed schools to encourage growth in the number of children being educated through the medium of Welsh. The Operational Manager for Strategy and Resources further advised that a revised version of the Strategic Plan was currently in the process of being drafted, which would be reported to the Scrutiny Committee for further consideration in due course.

Councillor S.T. Wiliam, not a Member of the Committee, with permission to speak, stated that the Council should be involved in creating a demand for Welsh and should therefore be promoting Welsh Medium education. He stated that if the Council was serious about substantially increasing the number of Welsh speakers by 2050, it had to promote Welsh, and the establishment of an immersion centre similar to the one in Cardiff would be an excellent way forward for pupils and one which would assist in providing parents with more choice.

Although supporting the ambitions of Welsh Government, some Members stated that in their view it was up to parents as to whether or not they sent their children to Welsh Medium schools and that the Council should not be in the business of encouraging parents to do that. This, they considered, could become an equality issue with regard to English medium education.

Following the discussion, the Chairman recommended that his suggestions as outlined above, be forwarded to Cabinet however, upon being put to a vote, the motion was not carried and the Committee subsequently

RECOMMENDED – T H A T the proposed response attached at Appendix B to the report be accepted and referred to Cabinet for consideration together with the comments made at the meeting.

Reason for recommendation

In light of the comments made at the meeting and the timescale of 31st October, 2016 to respond to Welsh Government consultation.

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

RESOLVED –

- (1) T H A T the contents of the report be noted.
- (2) T H A T the proposed response to Welsh Government’s draft Strategy “A Million Welsh Speakers by 2050” attached at Appendix B to the report be approved and referred to Welsh Government.

Reasons for decisions

(1-2) To approve the proposed response to Welsh Government's draft Strategy "A Million Welsh Speakers by 2050" attached at Appendix B to the report.

C3342 QUARTER 1 (2016-17) CORPORATE PLAN PERFORMANCE REPORT (L) (SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - CORPORATE PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES) –

Cabinet was presented with the performance results for quarter 1, 1 April-30 June, 2016-17 for the Council's Corporate Plan Well-being Outcomes and Corporate Health.

The quarter one performance report was important to ensure the Council clearly demonstrated progress being made towards achieving its Corporate Plan Well-being Outcomes aimed at making a positive difference to the lives of Vale of Glamorgan citizens.

The Council's Performance Management Framework was the mechanism through which the Council's key priorities and targets were monitored and realised in order to secure continuous improvement.

As part of the review of its Performance Management Framework, the Council had this year adopted a new Corporate Plan (2016-20) which reflected the requirements of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 that identified 4 Well-being Outcomes and 8 Objectives for the Council.

In order to ensure a more cross-cutting approach to scrutinising the Well-being Outcomes in the Corporate Plan and to reduce potential for duplication, the remits of Scrutiny Committees had been re-aligned with the Well-being Outcomes contained in the Corporate Plan with performance reporting being revised to reflect the arrangements.

For 2016/17, Service Plans had been completed at Head of Service level and focused on the contribution made by those areas to the Council's Well-being Outcomes and Objectives.

The Corporate Plan was being monitored on a quarterly basis by an overall Corporate Health Performance Report reported to the Corporate Performance & Resources Scrutiny Committee. This was being supplemented by specific quarterly performance reports for each of the four Well-being Outcomes.

The draft quarterly Well-being Outcome report template and the proposed basket of measures was approved by both the Member Working Group and Cabinet 16th June and 25th July respectively as the basis for preparing quarterly performance monitoring reports for 2016-17. Following consideration of the quarterly reports by Scrutiny Committees and Cabinet, feedback on the format of the reports would be considered by Officers and the Member Working Group as part of the on-going development of the Council's performance management arrangements.

The 5 quarterly performance reports were structured as follows:

Section 1: Outcomes Summary - Provided an overall summary of performance and highlighted the main developments, achievements and challenges for the quarter for each of our four Well-being Outcomes and Corporate Health priorities.

Section 2: Performance Snapshot - Provided an overview of the progress at Q1 in delivering each of the Corporate Plan Well-being Outcomes and Corporate Health priorities.

Section 3: Key Achievements and Challenges - Highlighted the key achievements and challenges to date in relation to each of the four Well-being Outcomes and Corporate Health priorities.

Section 4: Corporate Health: Use of Resources and Impact on Improvement - Provided a summary of the key issues relating to the use of resources and the impact on delivering improvement during the quarter.

Overall the report highlighted that good progress had been made at Q1 towards delivering the key outcomes as outlined in the Corporate Plan 2016-17, giving an overall Red, Amber, Green status of AMBER.

3 out of 4 of the Corporate Plan Well-being Outcomes were attributed an overall Red, Amber, Green status of GREEN and the 4th reporting an AMBER performance status.

An overall AMBER Red, Amber, Green status had been attributed to Corporate Health reflecting the positive progress made to date in integrating our planning arrangements which had enabled the Council to focus on maximising its use of resources to deliver Well-being Outcomes. These had contributed to the achievements reported at Q1 against all our Corporate Plan Well-being Outcomes and in the long term to the well-being of Vale of Glamorgan citizens.

The Council's performance against the four Corporate Plan Well-being Outcomes and Corporate Health priorities including key achievements and challenges, had been reported to the relevant Scrutiny Committees for their consideration. The table below provided an overview of progress for each of the Corporate Plan Well-being Outcomes and Corporate Health at Q1. The Red, Amber, Green performance status attributed to the four Well-being Outcomes and our Corporate Health priorities allowed an overall conclusion to be drawn on progress in relation to the delivery of year one priorities (2016-17) as outlined in the Corporate Plan.

	 AN INCLUSIVE SAFE VALE PROSPERITY AND WELLBEING	 AN ENVIRONMENTALLY RESPONSIBLE PROSPEROUS VALE	 AN ASPIRATIONAL AND CULTURALLY VIBRANT VALE	 AN ACTIVE AND HEALTHY VALE	 STRONG COMMUNITIES WITH A BRIGHT FUTURE
	Well-being Outcome 1	Well-being Outcome 2	Well-being Outcome 3	Well-being Outcome 4	Corporate Health
Overall RAG Status	GREEN	GREEN	GREEN	AMBER	AMBER
Objective RAG Status	1: GREEN 2: AMBER	3: GREEN 4: GREEN	5: GREEN 6: GREEN	7: AMBER 8: AMBER	N/A N/A
Overall Delivery: Year 1 Corporate Plan Outcomes		AMBER			

A detailed report outlining the progress at quarter 1 towards achieving our Corporate Plan Well-being Outcomes and Corporate Health priorities was provided at Appendix 1 that could be viewed on the Council's website at the following link:
[www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/Documents/ Committee%20Reports/Cabinet/2016/16-10-31/Appendices/Quarter-1-2016-17-Corporate-Plan-Performance-Report-Appendix-1.pdf](http://www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/Documents/Committee%20Reports/Cabinet/2016/16-10-31/Appendices/Quarter-1-2016-17-Corporate-Plan-Performance-Report-Appendix-1.pdf)

A hard copy was also made available in the Members room for information.

After presenting this item, the Leader highlighted paragraphs 75 and 76 of the report which stated that Scrutiny Committee members indicated that the new layout was more user friendly than the previous one and a more meaningful report than the previous approach.

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 progress during quarter one in achieving key outcomes in line with the Council's Corporate Plan Well-being Outcomes and Corporate Health be noted.
- (2) T H A T the performance results and remedial actions to be taken to address areas of underperformance and to tackle the key challenges identified be noted.
- (3) T H A T the recommendations from Scrutiny Committees following their appraisal of quarter 1 performance of the Corporate Plan Well-being Outcomes and Corporate Health be noted.
- (4) T H A T recommendation one from the Scrutiny Committee Homes and Safe Communities, as outlined in Appendix 2 to the report, be agreed and the target set for Performance Indicator HA/M005 – The average number of days to let an empty property, be amended from 28 days to 33 days.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) To ensure the Council clearly demonstrated the progress being made towards achieving its Corporate Plan Well-being Outcomes aimed at making a positive difference to the lives of Vale of Glamorgan citizens.
- (2) To ensure the Council was effectively assessing its performance in line with the requirement to secure continuous improvement outlined in the Local Government Measure (Wales) 2009 and reflecting the requirement of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act that it maximised its contribution to achieving the well-being goals for Wales.
- (3) To ensure the Council effectively monitored performance against its Well-being priorities in order to drive improvement.
- (4) To amend the performance target set for the average number of days to let an empty property.

C3343 STRATEGIC COLLABORATIVE WORKING INITIATIVES UPDATE (L) (SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - CORPORATE PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES) –

Cabinet was provided with an update on the Council's strategic collaborative working initiatives.

The report provided Cabinet with an overview of the strategic collaborative working initiatives that were currently underway. These initiatives were regularly reported to the Council's Corporate Management Team to ensure that maximum value was derived from the work.

Appendix A attached to the report provided a compendium although not an exhaustive list of collaborative work that was underway within the Council. Many operational level collaborative efforts supported both projects and "business as usual" activity and these were monitored and managed within individual service areas.

Details of the partner organisations, governance arrangements and scrutiny details were provided for information, together with a progress update for each initiative. The compendium also identified whether the initiative was part of a local, regional or national arrangement. This recognised that some collaborative working activity had been locally developed and some related to regional or pan-Wales developments.

Collaborative working initiatives contributed to the Council's Well-being Outcomes which were contained in the Council's Corporate Plan. The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act indicated that collaboration was one of the key ways of working to support sustainable development and met the Council's duty under the Act. Collaboration was also one of the alternative models of service delivery considered as part of the Reshaping Services programme and it was envisaged that this approach would play a key role in the way services were delivered in the future.

As evidenced by the content of the compendium this was something that the Council had a good track record of achieving. As the agenda developed, further reports would be brought to Cabinet for consideration.

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 strategic collaborative working initiatives that are in place to support the delivery and development of Council services be noted.
- (2) T H A T the report be circulated by e-mail to all elected members and members of the Public Services Board.

- (3) T H A T further update reports be presented to Cabinet.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) To note the strategic collaborative working initiatives that were in place to support the delivery and development of Council services.
- (2) To provide elected members and strategic partners with an overview of strategic collaborative working initiatives.
- (3) To provide regular updates for Cabinet.

C3344 RESHAPING SERVICES PROGRAMME - GRANTS TO COMMUNITY AND VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS (L) (SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - CORPORATE PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES) –

Cabinet was provided with an update on the position with regard to the Small Community Grants Scheme and Voluntary Action Scheme.

The Council's Reshaping Services Programme included a project relating to "Effectiveness of Spend". This project was established to consider the way in which the Council's grant funding was approved, administered and spent in order to ensure that maximum value was derived. Consideration was also being given to the way that grant funding could be coordinated with other sources in order to make best use of available funding within the context of decreasing Council finances.

The report highlighted the two current grant schemes that were available;

Small Community Grants Scheme - Prior to 2015/16, local groups and voluntary organisations were invited to apply for funding under this scheme

Voluntary Action Scheme Grants - The Voluntary Action Scheme had been in place for a number of years with the arrangements and priorities for funding being proposed by the Voluntary Sector Joint Liaison Committee and agreed by Cabinet.

The report highlighted that the Council needed to consider options for the delivery of a new Community grants scheme and would benefit from the input of external partners in this work.

Potential future operating models could take a number of different formats. These could include working with a third sector grant body to assist with match funding and

co-ordination of grant funding, for example, the Waterloo Foundation. Approaching Glamorgan Voluntary Services (GVS) to assist with and input into the grant funding assessment process was also a potential option as the organisation already played an active role in supporting the local Voluntary Sector and signposting organisations to potential sources of funding.

The Chief Executive of GVS was a member of the Reshaping Services programme board and was therefore aware of the challenges the Council was seeking to address and contributed to the Reshaping Services Town & Community Councils and Voluntary Sector project team.

Options for how the scheme could operate would need to be evaluated against their ability to meet the criteria for the Reshaping Services effectiveness of spend project.

It was proposed that options be developed for the operation of the Community Grants Scheme through consultation and further research. Further research would be undertaken by Officers to inform the development of the options above for how a Community Grants scheme could operate, including eligibility, assessment and administration processes.

Once this research, consultation and consideration had been undertaken, a further report would be brought to Cabinet. The report would include recommendations for the future organisation of the Community Grants scheme with a view to this operating during the 2017/18 financial year. This would include the setting of criteria to ensure that any applications were assessed having regard to the Council's Corporate Priorities and the Reshaping Services agenda.

After presenting this item, the Leader highlighted Paragraphs 3, 4 and 5 of the report which covered the changes made to Community Action Self Help grants, developing community facilities through Section 106 agreements and expanding the Creative Rural Communities Model.

The Managing Director commented that these schemes provided a variety of sources of income that could support many communities. He further commented that schemes would need to be evaluated against their ability to meet the objectives of the Corporate Plan and the Council's Reshaping Services programme. These criteria were detailed in paragraph 13 of 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 Small Community Grants Scheme and Voluntary Action Scheme and associated budgets be replaced with a new Community Grants Scheme from 2017/18 and that this scheme be used as the basis for consultation and further development.
- (2) T H A T the proposals for the operation of the Voluntary Action Scheme and Small Community Grants Scheme for the remainder of 2016/17 be approved.
- (3) T H A T subject to resolution one above, the report be referred to the Voluntary Sector Joint Liaison Committee for that Committee to consider approaches to the operation of a Community Grants scheme.
- (4) T H A T a further report be brought to Cabinet in due course for consideration.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) To provide a basis for developing proposals.
- (2) To enable the grant schemes to operate for the remainder of the financial year.
- (3) To support the development of a Community Grants Scheme by engaging with relevant organisations to elicit their views.
- (4) To enable informed consideration by Cabinet.

C3345 TOWN CENTRES FRAMEWORK - IMPLEMENTATION UPDATE (RE) (SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - ENVIRONMENT AND REGENERATION) –

Cabinet was provided with an up-to-date position on the progress of the Town Centre Framework and associated action plan.

The Town Centre Framework was commissioned by the Council in 2012 and contained a comprehensive Implementation Plan that was attached at Appendix 1 to the report.

Considerable progress had already been made in respect of most actions. Appendix 1 addressed cross cutting actions and then, in turn, those relating to specific retail centres. Implementation of the actions required a corporate approach involving many areas of the Council, and was often closely linked with other strategic documents such as the Unitary Development Plan and the Draft Local Development Plan.

Progress in the Barry Centres was supported by the Welsh Government's Vibrant and Viable Places grant funding programme, which was currently in its last year.

Implementation of the Town Centre Framework fell to a wide range of stakeholders, in Cowbridge and Llantwit Major, the Council's rural regeneration partnership, Creative Rural Communities were important in driving forward further new initiatives, working with the community. Events were also key in these centres, and the Council had set aside funds to encourage new events to be established.

In Penarth, future action was likely to focus on gateway improvements and the Esplanade, after a recent focus on events with the Council's support of the Penarth Picnic, for example.

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 updated Implementation Plan attached at Appendix 1 to the report be agreed and the progress that has been made to date in implementing the framework be noted.
- (2) T H A T the updated implementation plan be forwarded to the Scrutiny Committee Environment and Regeneration for consideration.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) To agree the updated Implementation Plan attached at Appendix 1 to the report, and to note the progress that had been made to date in implementing the framework.

- (2) To allow the Scrutiny Committee Environment and Regeneration to consider progress against the Framework.

C3346 EAGLESWELL (YSGOL Y DDRAIG) SITE - MARKETING AND DISPOSAL (RE) (SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - LEARNING AND CULTURE) –

Authority was sought to market and dispose of the Eagleswell Road school site (Ysgol Y Ddraig) shown in Appendix A attached to the report for residential or mixed use residential and small scale local retail store development.

The Eagleswell Road school site, Ysgol Y Ddraig (previously Eagleswell Primary School), measured approximately 2.4 hectares (6 Acres). In accordance with Cabinet Minute C2616(1) the site was formally declared as a surplus site following the Cabinet meeting of 26 January, 2015. The school was due to close in the autumn 2016 following the relocation of the staff and pupils to Llantwit Learning Community.

It was now proposed to market the surplus Eagleswell Road school site as a development opportunity either solely for residential use or for a mixed use residential and small scale local retail development. The report noted that as part of work undertaken in the development of the emerging Local Development Plan (LDP) it had become clear that there was a very small amount of convenience floorspace headroom in Llantwit Major. Therefore it was anticipated that any retail development at the site other than a small scale local retail store would be contrary to planning policy and likely to be refused.

In terms of progress, in accordance with Cabinet Minute C2616(3) consultant marketing agents had been appointed. Various surveys had also recently been completed (e.g. ground condition, topographic etc.) in readiness for the pending marketing exercise.

The site would be disposed as a cleared site, i.e. with the school buildings demolished. The Property Section was in the process of preparing to tender the appointment of contractors to demolish the school buildings following the staff and pupils relocating to Llantwit Learning Community (Cabinet Minute C2616(5) refers).

At the meeting, the Cabinet Member for Visible, Leisure and Regulatory Services highlighted paragraph 4 of the report which discussed potential development opportunities for the surplus site, commenting that he would like to see the option of Community Facilities being considered for part of the site such as a new medical facility and as part of a mixed use scheme, alongside residential development. The

Cabinet Member further commented that while Llantwit Major was the 3rd largest town in the Vale of Glamorgan and more developments were planned for the area, the two local medical facilities shared with St. Athan were at, or near to, capacity.

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 marketing and disposal of the Eagleswell Road school site (Ysgol Y Ddraig) shown in Appendix A attached to the report for residential development or a mixed use of residential, small scale local retail store development and also a potentially suitable community facility (subject to the advice of marketing agents and planning guidance) as a mixed development site, be authorised and delegated to the Head of Regeneration and Planning in consultation with the Leader and the Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Education.
- (2) T H A T the Head of Legal Services be authorised to prepare, complete and execute the appropriate legal documentation required to dispose of the site.
- (3) T H A T authorisation be granted for the capital receipt from the land disposal to be ring-fenced for the Schools Investment Programme.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) To authorise the marketing and disposing of the Eagleswell Road school site (Ysgol Y Ddraig) shown in Appendix A attached to the report for residential or mixed use residential and small scale local retail development or a mixed use residential and suitable community facility (subject to the advice of marketing agents and planning guidance).
- (2) To enable the disposal of the land.
- (3) To ring-fence the capital receipt from the land disposal for the Schools Investment Programme.

C3347 RATIONALISATION OF COUNCIL ASSETS IN LLANTWIT MAJOR (RE) (SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - LEARNING AND CULTURE) –

Cabinet was presented with a proposal for the future of Llantwit Major Youth Centre and the Western Vale Integrated Children's Centre.

The Council owned two buildings close to the Railway Station in Llantwit Major, namely Llantwit Major Youth Centre (LMYC), Station Road and the Western Vale Integrated Children's Centre (WVICC) also at Station Road, Llantwit Major.

WVICC was until September 2015 occupied under a short term lease by the Trustees of Llandaff Diocese. The Diocese staff managed the facility and also provided the St Illtyd Day Nursery. The Diocese closed the day nursery in July 2015 and relinquished their interest and occupation of the building from 30 September, 2015. As a result the Council had considered options for providing a continuation of both the Council and community services that were offered at WVICC for the local community.

A project team had been set up comprising of representatives from Learning and Skills, Social Services, Property and Business Improvement to investigate potential future options for the two sites and the findings were outlined in the report.

Seven options were considered and evaluated against the objectives and the full options appraisal could be found in Appendix A attached to the report. The outcome of the options appraisal was that one option (option four) was preferable, due to it meeting all three objectives of the review and it being the most economically advantageous option for the Council. This option proposed that the Council worked in partnership with a community or voluntary partner to develop and define a strategy for the future of WVICC to include operating youth and community Services from the WVICC building along with any existing services that operated from the premises.

In summary the strategy sought to:

- Develop a sustainable plan for WVICC and associated services in partnership with a voluntary or community organisation and the local community based on the premises accommodating Youth and Community Services.
- Lease the nursery rooms in WVICC to a commercial nursery provider in order to maximise the short term use of the site, meet local demand and provide an income stream.

- Market and sell LMYC to generate a capital receipt for the Council and realise revenue savings resulting from the running costs of the building.
- Undertake a Community Asset Transfer (CAT) of the WVICC site to a voluntary or community partner to include the transfer of the lease between the Council and a commercial nursery provider as an income stream.

is the report proposed that the integrated centre would meet the needs of families, groups, individuals and the voluntary sector in Llantwit Major. This would include young people's groups, hobbies and pastime clubs, self interest groups and support groups for all members of the local community. However, specific priority would be given to children, young people and family groups.

The report proposed that the Council entered into a partnership arrangement with a voluntary or community group for a minimum of three years and together, the partnership should agree the extent of building works required to the WVICC site to accommodate the partner, Vale Youth Services and the Major Music Studio that was located in LMYC.

The report was proposed that following the development of further plans for the future of the WVICC site that Cabinet receive a further report related to the Community Asset Transfer following the advertising of that building and associated services in line with the Council's Community Asset Transfer guidance.

After this item had been presented, the Cabinet Member for Visible, Leisure and Regulatory Services commented that the WVICC building was sound, however the size of rooms needed expanding to suitably house a number of youth activities before they were transferred from the Llantwit Major Youth Centre.

In agreement with her colleague, the Cabinet Member Housing and Social Care & Health commented that this was a sensible proposal that made the most efficient use of suitable buildings.

The Managing Director noted that the comments of the Cabinet Member for Visible, Leisure and Regulatory Services were reflected in the stepped approach outlined through the recommendations of 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 development of a strategy for the future of the Western Vale Integrated Children's Centre (WVICC) (and associated services to be operated out of that facility), in partnership with a community or voluntary group (to include consideration of a Community Asset Transfer) based on the premises accommodating Youth and Community Services within the WVICC building be approved.
- (2) T H A T an initial proposal to lease part of WVICC to a third party nursery provider in order to maximise the short term use of the site and meet local demand be approved and that Cabinet delegate authority to the Managing Director, Section 151 Officer and the Interim Director of Learning and Skills to market the opportunity and agree appropriate terms and conditions for the lease.
- (3) T H A T subject to resolution one above, it be approved that Youth and Community Services that currently operate from Llantwit Major Youth Centre move into the WVICC building in due course.
- (4) T H A T subject to resolutions one and three above, Llantwit Major Youth Centre be declared as surplus to Council requirements.
- (5) T H A T subject to resolutions one, three and four above, the marketing and disposal of the vacated Llantwit Major Youth Centre site be approved and delegated authority be given to agree the terms and conditions of the disposal to the Managing Director, in consultation with the Leader, Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Education and Section 151 Officer.
- (6) T H A T subject to resolutions one, three, four and five above delegated authority be granted to the Section 151 Officer to appoint Property Agents/Consultants to assist with the marketing and disposal of the Youth Centre site.
- (7) T H A T delegated authority be granted to the Head of Legal Services to prepare, complete and execute the appropriate legal documentation required to lease part of WVICC to a nursery provider and dispose of the Youth Centre site.

- (8) T H A T subject to resolution one above, Cabinet receives a further report in due course relating to the Community Asset Transfer (CAT) of the WVICC site following the advertising of that building, associated services and the project as a whole.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) To ensure a sustainable future for the Western Vale Integrated Children's Centre by creating a community hub and to minimise building running costs for the Council, whilst maximising voluntary sector presence within Llantwit Major.
- (2) To maximise the short term use of the WVICC site and meet local demand for a nursery provision in Llantwit Major.
- (3) To maintain the existing Youth and Community learning provision within Llantwit Major.
- (4,5,6) To enable the sale of Llantwit Major Youth Centre, generate a capital receipt for the Council and realise revenue savings resulting from the running costs of the building.
- (7) In order to complete the disposal of Llantwit Major Youth Centre.
- (8) To ensure that the Council's CAT guidance is followed and that Cabinet are kept updated as the project progresses.

C3348 PROPOSAL TO CHANGE THE CHARACTER OF FAIRFIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL TO A 3 - 11 YEARS SCHOOL, BY CREATING A NURSERY UNIT WITHIN THE SCHOOL (RE) (SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - LEARNING AND CULTURE) –

Approval was sought to consult stakeholders on a proposal to open a nursery unit at Fairfield Primary School from January 2018.

The Council had a duty to review the number and type of schools in the area and to make the best use of resources to raise standards in schools.

Fairfield Primary School was last inspected by Estyn in November 2010. The school's current performance and prospects for improvement were both judged as good. In November 2015 during a monitoring visit of the Council, Estyn identified

Fairfield Primary School as one in which the Council should have taken a more direct approach to challenging performance.

Cabinet requested that the Lifelong Learning Scrutiny Committee hold an individual school progress panel at Fairfield Primary School. A panel meeting was held with the school on 22 June, 2016. At the panel meeting, the Headteacher highlighted that Fairfield Primary School did not have its own nursery class and that children transferred from a number of different nurseries into the reception class of the school. This meant that the school was not always fully aware of the numbers due to come into the reception class and pupil transition was a challenge. A number of children came into reception from other areas and in some instances the level of social skills was very low. The starting point for children varied with children possessing different degrees of social skills and mobility.

Significant progress had been made by the school. A recent report of the Joint Education Service stated that pupils made good progress at Fairfield. Outcomes in the Foundation Phase were generally strong, although performance in language, literacy and communication was less so. There was no doubt that the school's leaders were in a strong position to be able to introduce a nursery provision in the school and ensure it provided a high quality learning experience for all children. The school's track record of raising achievement of most pupils would undoubtedly be enhanced. A consistent approach to teaching and planning pupils' learning for continuity and progression, would certainly contribute to raising standards across the school.

The Welsh Government issued a School Organisation Code in 2013 that came into effect from 1 October, 2013. The local authority had to "act in accordance with the Code" as determined by the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013. Section 48 of the 2013 Act required that before school organisation proposals were published they had to first be subject to consultation. A consultation document had to be published and provided to prescribed consultees and Welsh Ministers.

The consultation document had to be provided to all interested parties allowing a minimum of six weeks to respond, the consultation period had to include a minimum of 20 school days. Meetings would be held during the consultation period to provide additional information as requested and would include meetings with parents, pupil representatives, governing bodies and staff of the school and playgroup. Appendix A as attached to the report set out the anticipated timescale for this process if approved by Cabinet.

At the meeting, the Interim Director of Learning and Skills noted that the number of children at suitable nursery age in Penarth was increasing, therefore there was a sustainable and growing demand for Nursery spaces in the area.

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 consultation from 3 January, 2017 for a period of six weeks on a proposal to create a 48 part time place nursery class at Fairfield Primary School be authorised.
- (2) T H A T the report be referred to the Scrutiny Committee Learning and Culture as part of the consultation to be undertaken on the proposal in the New Year.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) To enable the Council to consult on the proposal to create a new 48 part time place nursery unit at the school and extend the age range of the school to a 3 to 11 age primary school from January 2018.
- (2) To ensure that the Scrutiny Committee Learning and Culture is aware of progress with school reorganisation and is consulted on proposals in due course and at the appropriate time.

**C3349 INDIVIDUAL SCHOOLS PROGRESS PANEL - HIGH STREET
PRIMARY SCHOOL (RE) (SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - LEARNING AND CULTURE)**

–

Individual school progress meetings in respect of High Street Primary School were considered.

At its meeting of 7 March 2016, Cabinet considered a referral from the Lifelong Learning Scrutiny Committee of the report 'National Categorisation - outcomes for Vale schools'. The referral included a recommendation 'that a progress panel meeting at High Street Primary School be conducted' and 'that a programme of work in respect of this recommendation (and one other) be presented for consideration by the Committee'. On 25 April, Cabinet requested that the Scrutiny Committee

(Lifelong Learning) conduct an individual school progress panel at High Street Primary School.

While much work remained in High Street in order to improve outcomes for pupils, the following actions had been implemented, all of which were considered appropriate to improving standards and the improvement capacity of the school:

- An acting headteacher was appointed to the school from 1 September. She had communicated a clear vision for improvement and all staff had worked with her in agreeing a new mission statement for the school.
- All staff had been made aware of the concerns surrounding the school's performance and ability to bring about improvement, and had welcomed the changes proposed by the acting headteacher.
- A new school improvement plan (SIP) had been drafted in consultation with the school's Challenge Adviser.
- An annual monitoring cycle had been introduced and welcomed by all staff.
- A calendar of professional development opportunities had been compiled.
- Staff had been given opportunities to visit other schools to observe best practice.
- The school had been linked with a pathfinder primary school in Bridgend in order to support the Foundation Phase which was in need of significant improvement and also to develop leadership capacity among middle leaders.
- The governing body had agreed to refurbish all classrooms in order to provide a learning environment that was fit for purpose.
- A new marking policy had been introduced and was followed by all staff.
- Lesson observations and book scrutiny exercises had been undertaken.
- While the national categorisation had not yet been published, the school had provisionally been placed in a red support category. This would result in half termly progress meetings where the acting headteacher and school leaders, along with the Chair of Governors and Challenge Adviser, would report on progress against the SIP to the Lead Officer for School Improvement and other local authority officers.

As a consequence of all the above, it was considered that conducting a School Progress Panel Visit at this time was inappropriate. The report therefore recommended that in view of the actions undertaken, as noted above, the school continued to be afforded the opportunity to make improvement.

After this item had been presented, the Interim Director of Learning and Skills commented that a new Acting Headteacher had been appointed at High Street Primary School and was implementing a programme of improvement measures,

therefore for Cabinet to request an individual school progress panel for High Street Primary School would be premature at this stage.

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 an individual school progress panel for High Street Primary School is no longer required.

Reason for decision

To allow the school the opportunity to continue making improvement without the necessity for individual school progress panel meetings with the Scrutiny Committee.

C3350 LIBRARY STRATEGY - ESTABLISHING COMMUNITY LIBRARIES – RHOOSE (RE) (SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - LEARNING AND CULTURE) –

Cabinet was apprised of the outcome of the hearing of the claim for Judicial Review of the Cabinet's decision taken on 8 February, 2016 in respect of the library at Rhoose.

At the Cabinet meeting held on 25 July, 2016 (minute C3268 refers) Members were updated on the progress made to establish community libraries and with the exception of Rhoose resolved that the deadline of 31 May, 2016 for establishing community libraries be revised and delegated authority be granted to the Director of Learning and Skills, or the Head of Strategy, Community Learning & Resources, in consultation with the Managing Director, the Leader and the Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Education to specify the revised deadline for establishing the community libraries at Dinas Powys, Sully, Wenvoe and St Athan.

In respect of Rhoose, Cabinet resolved that a further report would be submitted to Cabinet regarding the library at Rhoose to take account of the Order to be made by the Court in the Judicial Review proceedings listed for 28 and 29 July, 2016 concerning the library.

A claim for judicial review of the decision taken by Cabinet on 8 February was issued on the 6 May, 2016. On 3 June, 2016 permission was granted to bring the claim for judicial review and His Honour Judge Jarman QC granted the Claimant an interlocutory injunction prohibiting the Respondent Council from entering into any

legal argument for the establishment of a community library at Rhoose pending the outcome of their application. The claim was heard in the High Court on 28 and 29 July, 2016.

The grounds on which the Claimant sought to challenge the defendant Council were rejected by the Court: Mr Justice Lewis's full judgement was provided in Appendix A which was available to view in the Members Room and on the Council's website via the following link:

www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/Documents/_Committee%20Reports/Cabinet/2016/16-10-31/Appendices/Library-Strategy-Establishing-Community-Libraries-Rhoose-Appendix-A.PDF

On 4 October, 2016, the Claimant notified the Council that it had filed a notice of appeal at the Court of Appeal. In addition, the Claimant had applied for an order prohibiting the defendant Council from entering into any legal agreement for the establishment of a community library at Rhoose pending the outcome of this appeal unless any such agreement made sufficient provision for the possibility that the appeal was successful.

When this matter was considered by Cabinet on 8 February 2016, the Claimant had been given permission to appeal part of the judgment of Mrs Justice Elizabeth Laing of 5 November, 2015 following a hearing in respect of the Claimant's first claim for Judicial Review of the Cabinet's decision of 9 March, 2015 which was heard in the High Court on 13 and 14 October, 2015. This appeal was listed to be heard in the Court of Appeal on 21 February, 2017.

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 judgment of Mr Justice Lewis in respect of a claim for judicial review (heard on 28 and 29 July) of its decision of 8 February, 2016 to establish a community library at Rhoose be noted.

Reason for decision

To update Members in relation to the library at Rhoose following receipt of the judgment of Mr Justice Lewis on 13 September.

C3351 CIVIL PARKING ENFORCEMENT AND TOWN CENTRE CAR PARKING UPDATE (VLRS) (SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - ENVIRONMENT AND REGENERATION) –

Cabinet was updated on Civil Parking Enforcement activities in the Vale of Glamorgan for 2013/14, 2014/15 and 2015/16 and on the current position related to car parking charging in town centres.

On 1 April, 2013 Bridgend County Borough Council and the Vale of Glamorgan Council were made responsible for the enforcement of the majority of on-street and off-street parking regulations under a scheme called Civil Parking Enforcement (CPE). The two neighbouring Councils operated a shared service arrangement which was led by Bridgend County Borough Council and governed by a Joint Service Agreement.

Any illegally or irresponsibly parked vehicles were given a parking ticket known as a Penalty Charge Notice (PCN). PCNs were only issued where vehicles were parked in contravention of the parking restrictions. PCNs were administered by the Wales Penalty Processing Partnership (WPPP) based in North Wales. They also processed and collected penalty charges on behalf of other Local Authorities. There were no targets for the number of PCN's that a Civil Enforcement Officer had to issue. All Officers underwent comprehensive training and only issued a PCN if they believed a contravention had occurred.

In the Vale of Glamorgan there were five dedicated Civil Enforcement Officers based at the Alps Depot in Wenvoe. Further, since Summer 2016, an additional seasonal officer had been employed to monitor car parking activities at the Council's coastal car parks.

At the Cabinet meetings of 27 July, 2015 and 21 September, 2015 (Minute No. C2911 refers) consideration was given to appointing additional officers to manage off street town centre car parking where charges for parking were being considered. However following extensive consultation with local traders and businesses it was not planned to charge for off-street town centre car parking, consequently further officers were not required. Therefore during 2017 / 2018 it was planned to again employ one, seasonal enforcement officer to patrol coastal car parks.

The total number of Parking Charge Notices issued for 2013/14, 2014/15, 2015/16 were shown below. Since inception to 31 March, 2016 there had been 22,578 notices issued.

Year	Total Number of Contravention Notices Issued	Formal Appeals	Successful Appeals
2013/14	8547	130	67
2014/15	7128	97	33
2015/16	6903	74	28
Total	22578	301	128

Appendix A attached to the report showed the top three streets receiving PCN's for each year were as follows:

- 2013/14
- (1) Holton Road, Barry - 1295
 - (2) Paget Road, Barry - 579
 - (3) Rivermouth Car Park, Ogmore by Sea - 437
- 2014/15
- (1) Holton Road, Barry - 1066
 - (2) Windsor Road, Penarth - 636
 - (3) High Street, Cowbridge - 462
- 2015/16
- (1) Holton Road, Barry - 875
 - (2) Windsor Road, Penarth - 489
 - (3) Paget Road, Barry – 419

As mentioned above, following Traders meetings for Holton Road Barry (4 November, 2015) and for Cowbridge (9 November, 2015) It was not proposed to proceed with off street town centre car parking charges.

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 contents of the report be noted.
- (2) T H A T the report be referred to the Scrutiny Committee Environment and Regeneration for consideration.

- (3) T H A T a further Civil Parking Enforcement report be received by Cabinet in Summer 2017 outlining the activities undertaken for 2016/17.
- (4) T H A T the position with reference to town centre car parking be noted and off street town centre car park charging be not progressed.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) To update Members on the work of Civil Enforcement Officers for 2013/14, 2014/15 and 2015/16.
- (2) To seek the views of the relevant Committee.
- (3) To ensure Cabinet receive a further report outlining the Civil Parking Enforcement activities undertaken during 2016/17.
- (4) To clarify the position with regards to off street town centre car park charging.

C3352 HOUSING COMPLIANCE POLICIES (BSHT) (SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - HOMES AND SAFE COMMUNITIES) –

Agreement was sought to progress a number of Housing Compliance Policies related to the Council's duties as a public Housing landlord.

The Council, as a Landlord, had a number of legal obligations it must satisfy to ensure the Health, Safety and Welfare of its tenants. These obligations formed part of an ongoing cyclical inspection and maintenance regime to ensure key elements in the home did not pose undue risk. As a social housing landlord the Council had a statutory duty to satisfy the requirements of the legislation above. The policies attached as Appendix 1, 2, 3 and 4 to the report set the policy framework under which the duties contained within the statutory instruments were discharged.

The Council Housing Fire Risk Management Strategy aimed to define the Vale of Glamorgan Council's approach to fire safety and management in its Council Housing stock, including communal areas as required under fire regulations.

The Council Housing Legionella Management Plan and Policy applied to all premises where hot and cold water systems were directly managed by Housing and Building Services. The document also provided guidance, to leaseholders, partners, etc. who had responsibility for managing water systems in Council's Housing owned premises.

The Council Housing Electrical Compliance Policy provided specific guidelines which enabled the Vale of Glamorgan Council to be assured it was fully compliant with its legislative responsibilities in relation to the safety of all its fixed electrical installations. All fixed electrical installations within the Council's Housing and Building Services property portfolio, were subject to regular inspection and testing with a few exceptions listed within the policy. In addition, the policy aimed to ensure all portable equipment was inspected and tested regularly.

The Council Housing Gas, Oil, and Solid Fuel - Safety and Servicing Policy set out the Council's statutory obligations as a landlord for carbon fuel heating appliances to the Council's housing stock and housing premises. The policy identified the arrangements the Council had put in place to ensure the completion of annual safety inspections. The servicing contract for all heating appliances also included the annual inspection of smoke, heat & carbon monoxide detectors installed in the Council's Housing stock.

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 following draft policies be endorsed:
 - a. Council Housing Fire Risk Management Strategy
 - b. Council Housing Legionella Management Plan and Policy
 - c. Council Housing Electrical Compliance Policy
 - d. Council Housing Gas, Oil, and Solid Fuel - Safety and Servicing Policy
- (2) T H A T the draft policies be referred to the Scrutiny Committee Homes and Safe Communities for consideration.
- (3) T H A T a further report be bought to Cabinet to endorse the final policies.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) To accept the policies and management plans in draft prior to referral to the Homes and Safe Communities Scrutiny Committee for consideration.
- (2) To provide appropriate consideration of the implication of the policies.

- (3) To endorse the final policies after consideration by the Scrutiny Committee Homes and Safe Communities.

C3353 BOVERTON FLOOD ALLEVIATION SCHEME (VLRS) (SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - ENVIRONMENT AND REGENERATION) –

Cabinet was informed of the progress in delivering the Boverton Flood Alleviation Scheme and its agreement was sought to waive Contract Procedure Rules and obtain the necessary approvals to construct the scheme.

Following a history of flooding of the watercourse comprising Boverton Brook and the River Hoddnant (which is designated main river) in the village of Boverton, the Council had collaborated with Natural Resources Wales (NRW) as the body having jurisdiction to carry out and manage flood defence and drainage works on main rivers to develop a flood alleviation scheme. The purpose of the scheme was to reduce the risk of flooding to several residential and business properties in the area and adjacent to the river corridor. The scheme comprised the replacement of the existing culvert, (part of which was within the highway), using specialist piling techniques and widening / realignment to the downstream channel to provide 1 in 100 year level of flood protection for majority of properties affected.

The cost of the scheme had been estimated at £2.25M (including 42% optimism bias) and Welsh Government had announced that they would contribute the majority (85%) of the funding. A condition of this grant funding was that as much as possible of the funding had to be committed this financial year, 2016-17. The scheme was identified in the Council's capital programme.

The Council sought to enter into an agreement with NRW to essentially transfer NRW's powers under section 165 of the Water Resources Act 1991 to the Council to enable it to progress the scheme on the main river. The Council's consultant on the scheme had developed and prepared contract documentation for a design and build type contract which was tendered in August 2016 via the Sell2Wales website following expressions of interest from six suitable contracting companies. The tender process commenced on 10 August, 2016 with a return date of 12 September, 2016.

Subject to appropriate authorisation, the report proposed to award to the single compliant tenderer at the earliest opportunity in order to commence the detailed design phase of the scheme works, which was shown on the tenderer's preliminary programme to take 8 weeks. The construction period of 31 weeks, could commence 4 weeks later, running concurrently with the remaining 4 weeks of the design period

commencing at the beginning of January 2017 with substantial completion for the whole works anticipated at the end of June 2017 subject to appointment, weather implications and no unforeseen conditions through the construction phase.

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 contents of the report be noted and the matter be considered alongside the Part II report later on the agenda.

Reason for decision

To consider the report alongside the Part II Report.

C3354 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC -

RESOLVED - T H A T under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 4 of Schedule 12A (as amended) of the Act, the relevant paragraphs of the Schedule being referred to in brackets after the minute heading.

C3355 BOVERTON FLOOD ALLEVIATION SCHEME (VLRS) (EXEMPT INFORMATION – PARAGRAPH 14 & 12A) (SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - ENVIRONMENT AND REGENERATION) –

Cabinet was informed of the progress in delivering the Boverton Flood Alleviation Scheme and its agreement was sought to waive Contract Procedure Rules and obtain the necessary approvals to construct the scheme.

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 appointment of Alun Griffiths (Contractors) Limited as the contractor for the design and construction element of the scheme in the sum of £1,157,343.00 be approved.
- (2) T H A T the Council be authorised to enter into an agreement under section 165(5) of the Water Resources Act 1991 with Natural Resources Wales in relation to the works on the main river.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) To enable the Council to enter into an appropriate contract with the most suitable contractor for the design and construction of the Boverton Flood Alleviation Scheme and ensure compliance with the Council's Financial Regulations and Contract Procedure Rules.
- (2) To enable the scheme works to be progressed in respect of Boverton Brook and the River Hoddnant which is main river.