

**CABINET**

Minutes of a meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> May, 2018.

Present: Councillor J.W. Thomas (Chairman); Councillor T.H. Jarvie (Vice-Chairman), Councillors J.C. Bird, G.A. Cox, G.C. Kemp, A. Parker and R.A. Penrose.

**C303 MINUTES -**

RESOLVED - T H A T the minutes of the meeting held on 30<sup>th</sup> April, 2018 be approved as a correct record.

**C304 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST -**

No declarations were received.

**C305 NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES AND TRANSPORT - PROPOSED FEES AND CHARGES FOR 2018/2019 (REF) -**

The Cabinet at its meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> March, 2018 (Cabinet Minute No. C272 refers) had referred the matter to the Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee for consideration. The comments of the Scrutiny Committee made at its meeting on 19<sup>th</sup> April, 2018 were as follows:.

“Members queried the costs in relation to the provision of allotments being advised that the service cost £48,000 to run, £11,000 of which was the cost of providing water to the sites with the income from the allotments equating to only £16,500. The Director further advised of his intention to contact all allotment holders to seek their views on forming a co-operative etc. as it was his view that it was becoming more important that communities considered taking on the function of allotment provision, as the Council could not continue to sustain such expenditure. However, the Director reassured Members that it would be his intention to offer as much support as possible to anyone wishing to take on the responsibility.

A number of Members referred to the impact that the removal of concessions in respect of fly tipping costs would have and also queried the costs of the service. The Director stated that service cost £134,000 and the income equated to £38,000 and although there could possibly be some potential issues with regard to the proposals the Council had to make a significant amount of savings particularly in the Visible Services Directorate. In acknowledging that such decisions were not easy to make it was important that savings were to be found. An Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) had also been undertaken and he reassured Members that the impact for the service area would continue to be monitored.

In responding to queries with regard to car parking charges, the Director stated that a further report on a car parking strategy to include options for seasons tickets was

due to be submitted to Cabinet in the next few months and the car parking charges referred to in the report only related to coastal car parks.

Following a query regarding Council expenditure for the provision of allotments, the Director advised that the cost was £5.00 for a 25m<sup>2</sup> perch and that a number of people actually rented more than one perch. A Member also queried the number of allotments within the Vale and as the Director did not have the information available at the meeting it was agreed that the detail be forwarded to Members via e-mail.

In further considering the strategy and cost for allotment provision a Member suggested that, as in the case of Dinas Powys Community Council, a water charge be introduced alongside the cost of the rent based on the square meterage of the site. The Director advised that a further report on allotments would be presented in due course for an in-depth discussion with the Committee.

Having regard to future enforcement issues, Members queried the potential impact on the Council that the Department could face in particular at Barry Island and were informed that on occasions the department did not have enough resources and that as Director he would be speaking to the enforcement group managed by Bridgend County Borough Council regarding extra seasonal involvement during the year should this be required.

Following a query regarding the use of NNPR, (number plate recognition) Committee was advised that was not currently legal for Local Authorities to use this facility unless there were barriers on both sides. An option would be for a pay at exit system to be established, but the infrastructure costs would need to be considered carefully.

In referring specifically to the coastal car parking charges the Director advised that the increases were aimed at visitors and not necessarily residents of the area.

Following discussions around filming charges, Committee was informed that the costs were negotiable depending on the event and the prices had been reduced in order to encourage use.

In recognising the success of the beach huts, Members queried whether there were any proposals to extend the beach huts provision at other sites with the response that further considerations were to be investigated, possibly at the Knap and at Penarth etc. It had been a successful Invest to Save project that had reached international recognition. Members requested that a further report on beach huts expansion be presented to Committee in due course for the Scrutiny Committee's consideration.

The Chairman in conclusion, referred again to his concern in respect of the reduction in concessions for bulky items and the impact on lower income families and suggested that this be reviewed in a year's time to assess the impact. The Director considered this to be an acceptable approach and that further ways of supporting communities could be explored."

The Scrutiny Committee subsequently recommended

- (1) T H A T the information requested by Committee as outlined above be e-mailed to Members in due course.
- (2) T H A T the fees and charges contained within the report, including the amendment for Allotments in Barry / Rhoose, to be £5.00 for the years 2017/18 and £6.00 for years 2018/19 be approved.
- (3) T H A T notwithstanding Recommendation (2) above, Cabinet consider a water levy on allotments provided by the Vale of Glamorgan Council.
- (4) T H A T the Scrutiny Committee reviews the impact of the charges for bulky items and that a report be presented to the Scrutiny Committee in a year's time.
- (5) T H A T Recommendations (2) and (4) be referred to Cabinet for noting and Recommendation (3) for consideration.

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Cabinet, having considered the recommendations of the Scrutiny Committee

RESOLVED -

- (1) T H A T Recommendations (1), (2), (4) and (5) of the Scrutiny Committee be noted.
- (2) T H A T in regard to Recommendation (3) of the Scrutiny Committee that this be the subject of a fees review in time, if deemed appropriate, from the start of the next financial year.

Reason for decision

- (1) In acknowledgement of the Scrutiny Committee's considerations.
- (2) To enable the introduction of a level to be considered further.

**C306 THE PROVISION OF FREE SANITARY PRODUCTS IN SCHOOLS IN THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN (REQUEST FOR CONSIDERATION OF MATTER: COUNCILLOR MRS. J.M. NORMAN) (REF) -**

The Learning and Culture Scrutiny Committee at its meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> April, 2018 considered the above matter with discussion ensuing on the following:

“The Chairman referred to the fact that the Request for Consideration of Matter had been received in November 2017, advised that it had taken time to collate the information required for the report and make arrangement for a speaker to attend the meeting, and she was pleased to receive the item.

The Chairman asked Councillor Mrs. Norman to present her report with Councillor Mrs. Norman commencing by informing the Committee that menstruation affected every woman and they had no choice in the matter. She stated that period poverty did exist, even in the affluent Vale of Glamorgan. To what extent she felt was unclear, because surveys could only provide so much information. The Councillor felt that within many family groups, this topic was never discussed due to cultural or religious reasons. To many young women and girls, admitting that they were even having their period was embarrassing enough, without having to confess that their family could not afford to buy the sanitary protection they needed. This protection allowed them the right to dignity and well-being. Councillor Mrs. Norman noted that this fact was being underpinned every day by the increased requests for sanitary products at food banks, even in the Vale of Glamorgan.

Many secondary schools already had some facilities in place to help alleviate this problem, but Councillor Mrs. Norman noted that this was money spent out of their already very tight budgets. Junior schools on the other hand had to rely heavily on the generosity of staff members or in some cases parents of some of the children, and that facilities available to the pupils for the discreet disposal of any sanitary products in these schools was virtually non-existent.

The Member asked the Committee how much longer young women and girls would have to tolerate the indignity of what should be an automatic right to all. She urged the Scrutiny Committee to follow the example of neighbouring counties, and to consider the request favourably.

A Committee Member thanked Councillor Mrs. Norman for requesting this matter to be considered by the Scrutiny Committee, and was pleased to support this item and verified the truth and importance of the situation. He was delighted to see that neighbouring Councils and Welsh Government were starting to provide support to tackle period poverty, and wished the Vale of Glamorgan Council to progress this matter as soon as possible.

The Chairman thanked Councillor Mrs. Norman for her Request for Consideration of Matter and presented the Committee with the report that had been prepared by officers to provide information on current procedures in respect of provision of sanitary products in schools in the Vale of Glamorgan.

The Democratic and Scrutiny Services Officer in presenting the report referred to the fact that the provision of free sanitary products in schools had recently been highlighted in the press. The local Council of Rhondda Cynon Taff (RCT) had established a working group to consider the availability of hygiene products in RCT schools with recommendations being reported to their Council and subsequently forwarded to their Cabinet for consideration. A copy of the RCT report was provided in a link in the report to the Committee. Welsh Government had also recently announced they would provide £1m to be used to tackle period poverty in communities and schools across Wales. The announcement advised that Local Authorities would receive £440,000 over the next two years to tackle period poverty in their communities where levels of deprivation were highest and £700,000 of capital funding to improve facilities and equipment in schools. The Vale of Glamorgan was notified on 23<sup>rd</sup> March, 2018 that it would receive a capital funding

allocation of £31,512 for the 2017/18 financial year. To complement the capital funding, revenue grant funding of £8,666 for the 2018/19 and 2019/20 financial years was to be made available. The Learning and Skills Directorate would work closely with schools to establish how this funding could be best utilised. The neighbouring Authority of Bridgend County Borough Council had worked with a charitable organisation called Wings Cymru which was an organisation raising funds and collecting donations of menstrual products. Ms. Ceri Reeves, a representative from the organisation, had agreed to attend the Scrutiny Committee meeting to provide an overview of the work of the organisation and to advise of a pilot project initiative that had been established in the Maesteg area of the Authority involving three schools.

The Democratic Services Officer had contacted schools in the Vale of Glamorgan in relation to the current practices and arrangements that were in place for the provision of sanitary products. A breakdown of the information received was shown in the report at paragraph 10. The report stated that from the responses received to date, there were similar procedures in place in all schools with the majority of schools supplying products free of charge purchased out of the school budget. In the comprehensive schools, some of the schools had free supplies from a sanitary produce supplier which usually lasted the year. If not, then purchases were made from the school budget, while some schools had no such arrangements and purchased the products from the school budget directly. The comprehensive schools that had responded had advised that the arrangements worked well. A possible way forward for the Scrutiny Committee was provided in paragraph 14 of the report, which suggested that a small working group be established consisting of Members of the Committee, with the terms of reference to include:

- To investigate further the current approach to promoting and providing and disposing of sanitary products in primary and secondary schools throughout the Vale of Glamorgan;
- To gather evidence from students, staff and health professionals on the current provision;
- To identify areas of good practice with the intention of providing education for all pupils and an understanding of the provision.

The Director of Learning and Skills advised the Committee that the revenue grant funding of £8,666 was not specifically targeted at schools and the Corporate Management Team had not yet considered how this funding could be distributed. The Director stated that she had been in discussions with her counterparts in neighbouring Authorities and they had targeted this revenue funding at schools, for example, Bridgend County Borough Council had brought together school representatives to decide how the funding could be best used. In her opinion, the Director felt it best to directly involve school pupils in the decision process. She also noted that this revenue funding was for the 2018/19 and 2019/20 financial years, so there was a sustainability issue for future funding.

Following the presentation of the report, the Chairman subsequently welcomed and asked Ms. Reeves, the representative from the charitable organisation Wings Cymru, to address the Committee.

Ms. Reeves advised the Committee that Wings Cymru had started in June 2017. The organisation had commenced by working with one comprehensive school and two primary schools to provide them with three months of sanitary products. The approach taken by Wings Cymru was that products were provided to an approachable Learning Support Assistant at the school, who provided these products with no restrictions. Ms. Reeves stated that this support was not about providing emergency provision, but about providing girls with no limits to their education and welfare. She noted that the outcome of this service could be measured by the schools' with attendance figures. Collection points had been sought across the entire county, with schools found to be the most convenient distribution site. Any additional donations above that required by schools were gratefully received by food banks. Wings Cymru had prepared packs for schools; with badges for helpers and pupils, posters, stickers for toilet doors, and notes for assemblies to publicise the work of the charity. Ms. Reeves stated that this approach was working well. Positive meetings with pupils were also held in schools where the issue was discussed and suggestions by pupils progressed. For example, some schools had adopted an approach by which certain toilets were designated "Big Girl" toilets and sanitary product disposal bins provided in these.

As a point of information, Ms. Reeves referred to the possibility of providing reusable products which were bought on the request of pupils, however the organisation did ask that research should be carried out by the individual in the first instance as there were additional hidden costs associated with these items. Finally, Ms. Reeves noted that the organisation could provide a variety of products, which was seen as positive, as this allowed girls to have choice in the matter and not to rely on the cheapest brand.

The Committee thanked Ms. Reeves for her presentation and asked her if Bridgend County Borough Council had figures for school absences due to period poverty. In response, Ms. Reeves stated that this information was still to be collected. However, in school governor discussions it was noted that pupils who received free school meals had worse recorded school attendance and it was felt that period poverty was having a similar impact.

Councillor Mrs. M.R. Wilkinson, not a Member of the Committee but with permission to speak, stated that she was disappointed it had taken so long for this matter to come to the Committee. She felt that this was a poverty issue that was hidden, was quiet and affected many people; even girls as young as 8 years old. The Councillor also stated that when working in a food bank she had seen with her own eyes the distress caused by period poverty. The Councillor urged the Committee to consider proposing that support is put in place as soon as possible, and asked the Committee not to wait for the funding from Welsh Government to start the process. She had first-hand experience that food banks had been requesting sanitary products and this was even after hundreds of pounds of stock had been donated. Finally, she requested that the Scrutiny Committee speak directly to pupils on this matter as many were embarrassed and found it a difficult subject to bring up with teachers.

Councillor Mrs. Drake, not a Member of the Committee but with permission to speak, also stated that she fully supported the proposal to provide support to children in schools. She considered that it was not appropriate to have to pay VAT on sanitary

products as they were not luxury items, but products for basic hygiene. The Councillor concluded by stating that period poverty existed in the Vale of Glamorgan.

A Member of the Committee stated that he agreed wholeheartedly with the comments made by his fellow Councillors and in relation to the capital and revenue funding provided, the Member stated that in his experience disposal contracts for sanitary products were usually the greater expense as compared to the cost of the actual product. The Member noted that since Bridgend was a similar size to the Vale of Glamorgan, would Ms. Reeves know how many sanitary disposal bins were required, and the approximate cost for emptying them. In response, Ms. Reeves stated that she presumed schools already had a contract for sanitary waste for staff, so the additional cost to add disposal bins for pupils should not be great. Further, such contracts should already be in place for the pupils of secondary schools. As far as other costs were concerned, Ms. Reeves noted that £100 worth of sanitary products had been donated to secondary schools in Bridgend County Borough Council, and £30 of products donated to primary schools, and after three months Wings Cymru had not had to supply additional stock. Finally, Ms. Reeves commented that modern schools were starting to build unisex toilets which could make the allocation of disposal bins difficult.

A Co-opted Member of the Committee told of her experience where she had discussed the issue with friends of her daughter, who confirmed that many were suffering in silence, and in fact stated she had paid for some school girls' sanitary products as they could not afford them.

A Committee Member raised concern that girls could be missing out on their education due to period poverty and could be embarrassed to raise the issue. The Member also confirmed that local food banks were desperately in need of sanitary products and another Committee Member stated that the cost to the Council to provide these services was not significant compared to other expenditure and felt it important that if a working group was established, it should consider most the effective means of distribution of sanitary products with the suggestion that this group be called a "Delivery Working Group".

The Chairman thanked Members for their input on this matter and advised that as one of four sisters, the provision of sanitary products could be very expensive for some families. The Chairman was glad that the Scrutiny Committee wholeheartedly appeared to be committed to providing this support to girls and women in the Vale of Glamorgan. Based on the discussions, she considered that the Scrutiny Committee should seek more information to help deliver a robust system of support. In conclusion, the Chairman considered that there should be no delay in the support given to pupils.

The Director of Learning and Skills advised the Committee that no exact timescale for the grant from Welsh Government had been given, however she could not see an issue in procuring sanitary products before this funding was received."

The Scrutiny Committee subsequently **RECOMMENDED** -

(1) T H A T a small working group (namely a delivery group) be established consisting of Members of the Committee with the terms of reference to include:

- To investigate further the current approach to promoting and providing and disposing of sanitary products in primary and secondary schools throughout the Vale of Glamorgan;
- To gather evidence from students, staff and health professionals on the current provision;
- To identify areas of good practice with the intention of providing education for all pupils and an understanding of the provision.

(2) T H A T Committee Members interested in sitting on the working group referred to in recommendation 1, above, contact the Democratic Services Officer to make necessary arrangements for the working group to convene.

(3) T H A T the Scrutiny Committee recommends to Cabinet that in the interim, each secondary school in the Vale of Glamorgan be given £100 worth of sanitary products, and each primary school be given £30 worth of sanitary products, while the Scrutiny Committee working group examines this matter in full detail, including the means of distributing remaining and future funding from Welsh Government.

(4) T H A T the report of the working group referred to in recommendation 1, above, be referred to the Learning and Culture Scrutiny Committee and to Cabinet for consideration.

#### Reasons for recommendations

- (1) To implement a working group to investigate this matter in full.
- (2) To confirm the membership of the working group.
- (3) To provide immediate support to female pupils in all schools in the Vale of Glamorgan.
- (4) To consider the findings of the working group.”

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Cabinet, having considered all the issues as raised by the Scrutiny Committee, including its recommendations

RESOLVED - T H A T the recommendations of the Scrutiny Committee be endorsed.

#### Reasons for decisions

In acknowledgement of the Scrutiny Committee’s deliberations.



### **C307 SUMMARY OF SCHOOL INSPECTION REPORTS FOR AUTUMN TERM 2017 (REF) -**

The Learning and Culture Scrutiny Committee at its meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> April, 2018 had considered the following:

“The Lead Officer for School Improvement / Senior Challenge Advisor provided Members of the Committee with an update on the outcomes of school inspections for the Autumn term 2017 and on the outcomes of recent Estyn monitoring activities.

In September 2017, a new Estyn school inspection Common Inspection Framework had been introduced across all schools in Wales and an overview of the Common Inspection Framework was outlined in Appendix 1 attached to the report.

The Lead Officer for School Improvement / Senior Challenge Advisor informed the Committee that schools now received 15 working days’ notice of an inspection rather than 20. Judgements were made under five inspection areas:

- Standards
- Wellbeing and attitudes to learning
- Teaching and learning experiences
- Care, support and guidance
- Leadership and management.

The judgements for each of the five key questions could be one of four options:

- Excellent – very strong, sustained performance and practice
- Good – strong features, although minor aspects may require improvement
- Adequate and needs improvement – strengths outweigh weaknesses, but important aspects require improvement
- Unsatisfactory and needs urgent improvement – important weaknesses outweigh strengths.

Oakfield Primary School, Cadoxton Primary School and All Saints CiW Primary School were inspected during the Autumn term 2017. A summary of the inspection findings for each of the named schools was attached to the report at Appendix 2.

Paragraph 17 of the report detailed the overall judgements achieved by the three schools inspected during the Autumn term 2017. Excellent practice had been identified in Oakfield Primary School, Cadoxton Primary School and All Saints CiW Primary School and they had been invited to prepare written case studies which would be published by Estyn and shared with other schools.

The Lead Officer for School Improvement / Senior Challenge Advisor also advised the Committee that there were three types of follow-up categories, these were:

- Estyn review
- Significant improvement
- Special measures.

The officer stated that as a result of the inspection in May 2017, St. Richard Gwyn R/C High School was identified as requiring Estyn review. It was noted that the Local Authority also had one school requiring significant improvement, which was Bryn Hafren Comprehensive. The officer confirmed that neither school had been re-inspected, however she was confident that improvements were being made. For information, Appendix 3 attached to the report provided an overview summary of Estyn activity for the period September 2017 – December 2017 and a summary of schools in the follow-up category.

The Committee was pleased with the inspection results for the three schools, and requested that like letters of congratulations be sent to all three with regards to the results of the inspections. The Chairman also suggested that the Learning and Culture Scrutiny Committee hold future meetings at the three schools, so their written case studies into best practice could be presented to Committee. The Cabinet Member for Learning and Culture also suggested that Cabinet be notified of the inspection results.”

The Scrutiny Committee subsequently RECOMMENDED –

- (1) T H A T the inspection judgements about the schools inspected during the Autumn term be noted and the Committee’s congratulations be extended to each school.
- (2) T H A T the judgements made by Estyn in its monitoring activities regarding the progress of schools in addressing inspection recommendations be noted.
- (3) T H A T the changes to Estyn inspection arrangements be noted.
- (4) T H A T the report be referred to Cabinet for its consideration of the inspection results.

Reason for recommendations

- (1-3) To note the Estyn judgements about local schools.
- (4) To allow Cabinet to consider the inspection results of these schools.”

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Cabinet, having considered the recommendations of the Scrutiny Committee

RESOLVED - T H A T the Cabinet endorses the recommendations of the Scrutiny Committee and extends its own congratulations to Oakfield Primary School, Cadoxton Primary School and All Saints C/W Primary School.

Reason for decision

In acknowledgement of the Scrutiny Committee's deliberations and in acknowledgement of the 3 primary schools' results.

**C308 SUMMARY OF SCHOOL INSPECTION REPORTS FOR SPRING TERM 2018 (REF) -**

The Learning and Culture Scrutiny Committee at its meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> April, 2018 had considered the following:

“Gladstone Primary School, Fairfield Primary School and Colcot Primary School were inspected during the Spring term 2018. A summary of the inspection findings for each of the named schools was attached to the report at Appendix 2.

Paragraph 16 of the report detailed the overall judgements achieved by the three schools inspected during the Spring term 2018. No follow-up work was identified in any of the above inspections.

The officer stated that as a result of the inspection in May 2017, St. Richard Gwyn R/C High School was identified as requiring Estyn review. It was noted that the Local Authority also had one school requiring significant improvement, which was Bryn Hafren Comprehensive.

In November, Estyn reviewed the progress of St. Richard Gwyn RC High School and judged that progress had been made in respect of some of the key issues identified in the inspection, but many of the improvements were still at an early stage of development. As a result, Estyn decided the school should remain in Estyn review and progress would be reviewed in October 2018 to be able to take into account another set of performance data

For information, Appendix 3 attached to the report provided an overview summary of Estyn activity for the period January – March 2018 and a summary of schools in a follow-up category.”

The Scrutiny Committee subsequently

**RECOMMENDED – T H A T** the inspection judgements about the schools inspected during the Spring term be noted and referred to Cabinet for consideration.

Reason for recommendation

To allow Cabinet to consider the Estyn judgements about local schools.”

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Cabinet, having considered the recommendations of the Scrutiny Committee

RESOLVED - T H A T the contents of the Estyn Inspection judgements in respect of Fairfield Primary School, Colcot Primary School and Gladstone Primary School be noted.

Reason for decision

In acknowledgement of the judgements made in regard to the above schools.

**C309 ARTS AND CULTURE STRATEGY: AN ASPIRATIONAL AND CULTURALLY VIBRANT VALE 2018-2022 (REF) -**

The Learning and Culture Scrutiny Committee at its meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> April, 2018 had considered the above matter and considered the following:

“The new Strategy set out a delivery plan for increasing arts activity in the Vale of Glamorgan and developing new opportunities to create a 21<sup>st</sup> century arts programme, centred around the Council’s four well-being outcomes outlined in the Corporate Plan 2016-2020. Leveraging existing and new partnerships formed an important element of the new strategy, which sought to deepen relationships with schools, volunteer sectors, community learning initiatives and arts development partners to enhance provision and facilitate artistic learning, development and expression opportunities through the lifetime of the Vale’s citizens.

A recently undertaken Arts Strategy Survey demonstrated that those who engaged with the arts in the Vale of Glamorgan were broadly satisfied with what was offered and its accessibility. However, the Head of Strategy, Community Learning and Resources noted that the response rate of the survey was low reinforcing the need for additional marketing and a more relevant service offering wider appeal and accessibility, which was reflected in the actions identified in the new Strategy.

The officer stated that the Strategy also set out a number of actions aimed at generating commercial opportunities through the use of the Arts Central space, pending a wider review as outlined in paragraph 12 of the report. He advised the Committee that since the introduction of the fees identified in paragraph 13 of the report, there had actually been a greater uptake in the use of the space.

Finally, the Head of Strategy, Community Learning and Resources advised that many of the actions outlined within the new Strategy would be delivered over a number of years. Specific actions would be included in the Directorate’s service plans, setting out year on year the activities that would be undertaken to achieve and monitor these objectives.

A Member agreed with the officer that the response rate to the Arts Strategy Survey was disappointingly low and asked if more could be done to promote art and culture in the Vale of Glamorgan, with more community engagement including older communities as well as schools. The Head of Strategy, Community Learning and Resources agreed that it was very important to expand community engagement with the arts, and stated that there was a lot the Council could do to target specific potentially interested communities, and leverage existing relationships. One way of

achieving this would be to better integrate the Arts Development department within the Council and work more closely with other departments.

A Member asked how much of the art in the Vale of Glamorgan was available to school children for free. In response, the Culture and Community Learning Manager noted that the Council was involved in regional partnerships to support bids and provide free art to members of the public, but stated that this area was not a funding priority for Welsh Government. The officer stated that bidding in regional partnerships was a collaborative process and this was identified in the Strategy as a key area to improve.

A Member noted that he had been looking at the Vale of Glamorgan Council's website pages on Arts and Culture, and discovered that numerous links on these webpages were no longer functioning. The Member asked officers how the Council could ensure that the information on its website remained up to date and culturally vibrant. In response, the Culture and Community Learning Manager commented that the Arts Development department had recently integrated into the Community and Library Services and this would allow these resources to be kept up to date and improved. The officer noted that when Adult Community Learning had similarly been integrated into the Community and Library Services, their online take-up increased dramatically, and he was confident the Arts Development department would also benefit.

The Committee then discussed publicity for events at Arts Central and best practice for advertising, including free solutions. The Committee also discussed how to engage members of the public who lived in the Vale of Glamorgan but only accessed art through Cardiff. It was also noted that there were artists living in the Vale of Glamorgan who also only displayed works out of county. Members queried if more could be done to co-ordinate local talent to encourage art in the community, including the more rural areas of the Vale of Glamorgan. The Head of Strategy, Community Learning and Resources agreed with these points raised by the Scrutiny Committee, and stated that the Arts and Culture Strategy: An Aspirational and Culturally Vibrant Vale 2018-2022 sought to widen access to all members of the public, and stated that volunteering was a cornerstone in the new Strategy.

The Cabinet Member for Learning and Culture agreed with Members that advertising through a variety of means was important. He felt that Town and Community Councils could help in taking the message of the Vale Arts Strategy forward, as a collective solution was the best way to proceed. He also informed the Scrutiny Committee that an all-schools newspaper was being developed which would be in the form of an online blog run through the Council's Youth Service to help raise awareness amongst schools, including art opportunities. The Cabinet Member stated that pupils in schools in the Vale of Glamorgan were very talented, however schools were measured only by their academic prowess, where they should also be commended for their cultural successes.

The Chairman urged officers and Members to keep an open mind as to the definition of art in the Vale of Glamorgan. For example, she felt that the Barry Island climbing wall and the Eastern Shelter were public pieces of art that tied into the built environment and sense of place work. Regarding generating commercial

opportunities for use of the Arts Central space, the Chairman queried how the department sought to achieve full cost recovery. In response, the Head of Strategy, Community Learning and Resources stated that full cost recovery was the amount spent by the Council for each event to run at Arts Central. He stated that events should not need to be subsidised, and should not leave the Council with unpaid expenses. The officer also confirmed that the scope of art available was important, and it was recognised that the Arts Development department needed to consider better its communication across the Council and as such he recommended that an Art Project Group be established to bridge departments.”

The Scrutiny Committee subsequently RECOMMENDED -

(1) T H A T the Arts and Culture Strategy: An Aspirational and Culturally Vibrant Vale 2018-22 be endorsed.

(2) T H A T notwithstanding the above, the comments of the Learning and Culture Scrutiny Committee as outlined above be referred to Cabinet for their consideration.

Reason for recommendations

(1&2) To endorse the Arts and Culture Strategy: An Aspirational and Culturally Vibrant Vale 2018-22 and ensure Cabinet was informed of the comments of the Learning and Culture Scrutiny Committee as part of the consultation process.”

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Cabinet, having considered the recommendations of the Scrutiny Committee

RESOLVED - T H A T the above recommendations of the Scrutiny Committee be endorsed.

Reason for decision

In acknowledgment of the Scrutiny Committee’s deliberations and to allow the Strategy to be implemented.

**C310            MICROSOFT LICENCE RENEWAL 2018-2020 (L) (SCRUTINY COMMITTEE: CORPORATE PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES) -**

Approval was sought for the use of delegated powers to award a contract for the supply of licences of Microsoft software.

Cabinet had previously granted delegated authority (Minute No. C2787 refers (2015/16)) to award a three-year contract for the supply of Microsoft software. This contract was now due to expire on 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2018 and required to be renewed.

In addition to the above report, there was also a subsequent report to Cabinet at its meeting held in April 2018 (Minute No. C291 refers) which also granted delegated authority to award a tender before the end of April 2018 to mitigate against the

known price rises of between 220% and 350% that Microsoft would impose on their software licences from 1<sup>st</sup> May, 2018.

The tender was run and submissions were received from four software suppliers. Three suppliers' tendered quotations based on the new (higher) pricing model and one supplier tendered their quotation using the pre-increase pricing model.

During the tender process, Microsoft contacted officers to advise that guidance previously received from a Microsoft licensing partner advising that software licences could be procured at pre-increase pricing levels if the new EA was signed before 30th April 2018 (two months before the expiry of the current EA) was incorrect and that the existing EA could not be renewed until after it had expired on 30th June 2018.

Officers were subsequently advised that the quotation tendered by the supplier who tendered at pre-price increase levels was incorrect and that it would be withdrawn by the supplier.

The business case therefore to renew the Microsoft licences like-for-like as per the previous Cabinet decision was no longer valid, due to the price increases from 1st May 2018, than to switch over to other 'cloud' based software solutions such as Microsoft Office 365.

For comparison, the current EA cost £105,382 per annum to licence 2,000 users to use Microsoft software. Post-increase costs like-for like were anticipated to be significantly higher than the current costs.

Microsoft licensing provided a range of options for organisations to license their software requirements. To provide a rounded view of the options and associated costs, it was proposed to tender for a number of different licensing scenarios, and to determine the most functional and economically advantageous option as part of the tender evaluation Microsoft was actively incentivising their customer base to migrate over to their cloud software services, and was offering fairly substantial discounts to do so. There was currently no discounts for any non-cloud products offered by Microsoft.

Indicative costs for renewing the EA to licence Microsoft Office 365 cloud products were set out in paragraph 11 of the report depending on the specification.

“Cloud” functionality would allow some 'Digital Strategy' and 'Reshaping Services' projects to be fast-tracked to implementation, and deliver the associated savings earlier.

Some Microsoft Office 365 products would replace certain existing software applications. These legacy applications would be decommissioned, delivering savings on software licences and support and maintenance costs for those products going forward. These savings would mitigate some of the increase in annual revenue costs by moving to the Office 365 suite of products.

As the software licences covered by an EA were essentially 'off the shelf' items, the cost element of this procurement process would be the predominant factor. However, it was proposed that a quality element would be built into the tender evaluation process as there were potentially a number of value added services that the supplier could include.

This matter was for Executive decision.

RESOLVED -

- (1) T H A T the Head of Finance, in consultation with the Managing Director and the Leader, be granted delegated authority to award the tender to the winning supplier prior to the expiry of the existing Microsoft Enterprise Agreement (EA) on 30th June 2018.
- (2) T H A T the Head of Legal Services in consultation with the Head of Finance be granted delegated authority to execute a contract with the successful tenderer for the provision of Microsoft Licenses.
- (3) T H A T a new contract be awarded on the most economically advantageous terms to the Council based on 80% cost and 20% quality.
- (4) That the Urgent Decision Procedure be approved to implement Resolutions (1) - (3) above.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) To allow the award of the contract.
- (2) To have an appropriate contract in place for the provision of Microsoft Licences
- (3) To have an appropriate contract in place for the cost effective supply of Microsoft Licenses.
- (4) To enable the Council to tender the work and enter into a contract in a timely manner in accordance with Section 14.14 of the Council's Constitution.

**C311 WELSH GOVERNMENT GREEN PAPER CONSULTATION DOCUMENT "STRENGTHENING LOCAL GOVERNMENT: DELIVERING FOR PEOPLE" - COUNCIL RESPONSE (L) (SCRUTINY COMMITTEE: CORPORATE PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES) -**

The views of the Cabinet were sought on the Council's proposed response to the above Green Paper.

The Green Paper details of which were set out at Appendix B to the report was the latest in a series of consultation documents released by Welsh Government in recent years proposing changes to the structure of local government. The Paper in effect



now returned to the Williams Commission recommendations, however, this time proposing 10 new councils.

The thrust of the Green Paper in effect related to the following issues:

- Local authorities should be given more powers to deliver for their communities, and to enable that to happen they should be fewer in number and bigger in scale. A reorganisation is therefore needed through mergers, with 10 Councils the end result. A map of the new Councils was set out, with the Vale of Glamorgan merging with Cardiff. Alignment with other public services, in this case, Health Boards, was a factor determining the boundaries of the new Councils.
- Options are set out for achieving the mergers. Early voluntary mergers could be invited (as long as they are in accordance with the areas in the map); or phased mergers would happen, to be completed by 2026 (with early adopters merging in 2022); or all mergers would happen at the same time, in 2026. Additional powers and flexibilities would be given to early adopters, but not to others, with additional powers and flexibilities being extended to others at a later date.
- Associated transitional arrangements in relation to issues such as workforce, systems, budgets, electoral matters, governance, change management support and the role of Town and Community Councils are addressed.

The Council's detailed response to the questions set out within the Green Paper were set out in Appendix A to the report. In effect, the Council's position remained the same as in previous submissions in response to previous Welsh Government Council merger proposals and were summarised as follows:

- The case had not been made for Council mergers. The Williams Commission report which appears to form the basis for the Green Paper was fundamentally flawed and did not examine in any detail the alleged financial benefits.
- Larger does not mean better. There was no correlation between the size of a Council and its performance and efficiency. The Vale of Glamorgan Council was according to the last three years' Data Unit Wales statistics the best performing Council in Wales, and this should not be jeopardised. The Council was also close to its local communities, which can only be achieved below a certain scale.
- The proposed merger was with Cardiff, which was an area significantly different to the Vale in a number of ways, and the fit would be an uncomfortable one.
- The Council continues to argue, as it had consistently in the past, that regional collaboration should be the way ahead. There had been considerable progress in this respect over recent years which was set to continue, and the threat of Council mergers was a distraction from making further progress. Examples of progress extend across a number of areas including City Deal, health and social care, adoption, education improvement as well as shared services in regulatory services and audit.

The Council's response concluded that the freedoms and flexibilities on offer for the early adopters for mergers should be granted to all Councils immediately.

This matter was for Executive decision.

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

RESOLVED -

- (1) That the issues set out in this report be noted.
- (2) T H A T Cabinet confirms the Council's previous submissions to Welsh Government resisting a forced merger with Cardiff Council and re-emphasises its stance that the Vale of Glamorgan, as a high-performing Council and best placed to represent the interests of its citizens, should continue as a stand-alone authority.
- (3) That the Council's draft response to the questions posed in the Green Paper (Appendix A) are endorsed for submission to Corporate Performance and Resources Scrutiny Committee on 24 May, 2018 for its views, before final consideration by Cabinet on 4 June, 2018.
- (4) That Cabinet notes that the views of all Council Members had been sought in a briefing held on 9 May, 2018 and that those views were reflected where considered appropriate, in the draft response.

#### Reasons for decisions

- (1&2) To enable the Council to respond formally to the Green Paper.
- (3) To enable consideration by Corporate Performance and Resources Scrutiny Committee.
- (4) To allow the views of Members to be included in the response as drafted.

#### **C312 VALE OF GLAMORGAN WELLBEING AND IMPROVEMENT OBJECTIVES (IMPROVEMENT PLAN PART 1) 2018/19 (L) (SCRUTINY COMMITTEE: ALL) -**

Cabinet endorsement was sought in regard to the Improvement Plan Part 1 which included the outlining of the Council's Wellbeing and Improvement Objectives and associated actions for 2018/19.

Appendix 1 contained the Vale of Glamorgan Council's Well-being and Improvement Objectives 1 for the above period.

Pages 8-35 of the Plan provide further details on each Objective including: an identified Sponsoring Director with responsibility for ensuring progress was made in achieving our intended outcomes; a brief rationale for selection of the Objective; the

specific actions we would take during 2018/19 in order to progress our identified priorities; and performance indicators and targets to measure our progress.

Challenging targets had been set for improvement reflecting the Council's commitment to continuously improve the services it provides to citizens of the Vale of Glamorgan, and a desire to aspire to top quartile performance where appropriate. At the same time, the Council was also mindful of significant financial and service demand pressures over the coming year and key targets and milestones for our Well-being and Improvement Objectives have been set within this context. This meant that in some areas for example it would be an achievement to maintain existing levels of performance whilst absorbing reductions in funding, managing increasing service demand or both. Such issues had been taken into account during internal challenge of our Well-being and Improvement Objectives and associated targets and related to the following:

- Under the WCFG Act, the Council was required to review its Well-being Objectives annually to ensure they remain relevant. We continually review the relevance of our Well-being Objectives in the Corporate Plan through our integrated planning processes in order to ensure we continue to reflect the priorities for the Vale of Glamorgan and focus our improvement activity on the areas in need of the most improvement. Going forward into 2018/19, we are assured that the priorities we have set aligned to our Corporate Plan Well-being Objectives continue to be relevant priorities and this had been reinforced by:
- Positive responses from challenge sessions held in January 2018 with Sponsoring Directors and responsible officers on proposed emerging priorities for improvement for 2018/19 as identified through the Council's Annual Self-Assessment process. Mapping our improvement priorities to the PSB's draft Well-being Plan had enabled us to challenge our ways of working and identify synergies between service areas across the Council in terms of how we contribute to the PSB's Well-being Plan objectives. As a consequence of this exercise, we are assured that the priorities we have identified are appropriate and relevant to the priorities in the Well-being Plan and would complement the work of the PSB going forward. It had also enabled us to identify further opportunities for working in partnership to deliver services that better meet and reflect community needs.
- Findings from our budget consultation for 2018/19 which demonstrates positive support from residents for the Council's priorities and Corporate Plan Well-being Outcomes. The initial findings show that residents are sympathetic and supportive of the ways in which the Council was proposing to meet its financial challenges and the priorities we have identified for the future.
- Findings from the Public Opinion Survey carried out between December 2016 and January 2017. Overall satisfaction with Council services had improved to 92% compared with 84% in 2014/15. Over 97% of residents were either very satisfied or satisfied with the Vale of Glamorgan as a place to live. Overall, the consultation also shows that the changes to services that have been made due to the level of savings required have not had a detrimental effect on residents' satisfaction with services.

In line with the Council's Performance Management Framework, the Council's Improvement Plan priorities for 2018/19 had been reflected in Service Plans for 2018-22 which Members have recently endorsed. Progress against these priorities would be monitored via quarterly performance reports to the relevant Scrutiny Committees as aligned with the Corporate Plan Well-being Outcomes, supplemented with an overall summary report to Cabinet.

The Council was required to publically communicate its Well-being and Improvement Objectives to all key stakeholders including Vale residents and partners. Following approval by Cabinet, publication of the Improvement Plan Part 1 would take place via a variety of media (including social media) which would ensure the Council complied with this requirement. Hard copies have been made available at the Council's main reception areas and libraries. A public summary set out in Appendix 2 to the report was also available on the Council's website and main reception areas.

In order to meet the statutory timescales to publish our Well-being and Improvement Objectives at the start of the financial year, the views from all Scrutiny Committees (16th -30th April) have been incorporated within this report and are now being presented to Cabinet for consideration and approval.

The Healthy Living & Social Care Scrutiny Committee (16th April, 2018), recommended that the Corporate Plan Well-being and Improvement Objectives and associated priority actions for 2018/19 as outlined in Appendix 1 attached to the report, be endorsed and the views of the Scrutiny Committee be included in the summary report sent to Cabinet relating to the following matters:

- “A Member highlighted paragraph 8 of the report, which stated that challenge sessions had been held in January 2018 with sponsoring Directors and responsible officers. The Committee Member queried if service users could be included in these challenge sessions, as a solely corporate perspective in the service might not be challenged without an outside perspective. In response, the Director of Social Services stated that no service users had been present as far as he was aware as the challenge sessions had been corporate led. The Director of Social Services agreed that service user input could be valuable, and noted that page 7 of Appendix 1 attached to the report contained details of how members of the public could get involved in decision making in the Council. Finally, the Director of Social Services added that Elected Members had been involved in the process.
- A Committee Member highlighted Improvement Objective 7 as detailed on page 27 of Appendix A attached to the report, which discussed encouraging and promoting active and healthy lifestyles. The Committee Member queried if providing lighting to active travel routes could benefit this Well-being Outcome. In response, the Operational Manager, Neighbourhood Services, Healthy Living and Performance, commented that the benefits of Active Travel were well understood, however, it was difficult to find funding to light all routes. As such, only Active Travel routes where there were health and safety concerns had been lit.
- There then followed a discussion amongst the Scrutiny Committee regarding leisure centres in the Vale of Glamorgan and outstanding maintenance and tender issues. Following visits by a Sub-Group of the Healthy Living and

Social Care Scrutiny Committee, the conditions of Cowbridge and Llantwit Major Leisure Centres were noted. The Operational Manager, Neighbourhood Services, Healthy Living and Performance also provided an update on tenders for Penarth Leisure Centre. The Committee noted that following tender invitations to six companies, only one had been submitted. The work for Penarth Leisure Centre would therefore be re-tendered on the Sell2Wales website to a wider group of companies. While officers were disappointed in the previous round of tenders, there was an expectation that future tenders would be more satisfactory.”

The Homes and Safe Communities Scrutiny Committee (18th April, 2018), recommended that the Corporate Plan Well-being and Improvement Objectives and associated priority actions for 2018/19 as outlined in Appendix 1 attached to the report, be endorsed and the views of the Scrutiny Committee be included in the summary report sent to Cabinet relating to the following matters:

- “A Member referred to page 2 of Appendix 1 which introduced the document and provided context for Councillors and members of the public. The Committee Member stated he was pleased with the Council’s mission statement being included, however, felt this should be better labelled as so. Also, he commented that the diagram at the bottom of the page depicted the Corporate Plan being carried out through a top down approach whereas he felt the process was more holistic and required everybody to contribute. The Officer stated that this formatting comment could be fed back to Cabinet and the Performance and Development Department.
- The Committee then discussed the Improvement Objectives for 2018/19, as outlined in the Council’s Corporate Plan, and which of these would be the hardest to achieve and how progress might be measured. A Member commented that paragraph 7 of the report stated that challenging targets had been set for improvement reflecting the Council’s commitment to continuously improve the services it provided to the public, and the Member queried if this was truly reflected in the targets set for performance indicators. One example provided by the Member was indicator CPM/104 listed on page 9 of Appendix 1, which detailed the percentage of Flying Start children achieving at least the expected outcomes for the Foundation Phase, and the target was set to rise from 85% to 88%, which he felt could be more challenging. The Member then discussed the key performance indicator CPM/100 listed on page 9 of Appendix 1 which listed the percentage of those taking up the Digital Champion service who reported feeling more confident in using ICT on a day to day basis. The Member sought more information on this indicator, querying how it had been measured. The Officer indicated he would seek clarification for the Member on how indicator CPM/100 had been measured.
- A Member noted that on page 13 of Appendix 1, indicator CPM/124, the percentage of domestic abuse victims that reported that they felt safer as a result of target hardening, had gone down from 2016/17 to 2017/18 and queried why this was the case. It was noted by the Committee that the outcomes for this indicator, and the way it had been measured, had changed to be more prevention focused. As such, the measurement was not like for like. It was requested that the issue of target hardening for domestic abuse victims form the basis of a future presentation to the Committee. Finally, it

was confirmed for a Tenant Working Group representative that domestic abuse victims in this indicator could include both men and women.

- The Committee discussed the measured progress on the indicators listed on page 14 of Appendix 1 which had information left blank for indicator CPM/064, did not specify what was being met by the “required standard” in indicator CPM/234, and whether the properties listed under indicator CPM/235 were in the public or private sector. In response, the Operational Manager – Building Services stated that the blank information indicator CPM/064 related to benchmarks which were being reported for the first time, as such there was insufficient data for a baseline to be made and these could be compared in full next year. The Officer also noted that indicator CPM/234 referred to the Welsh Housing Quality Standards and indicator CMP/235 referred specifically to voids in Council housing.
- In response to the recommendations of the report, a Committee Member requested that the Vale of Glamorgan Well-being and Improvement Objectives (Improvement Plan Part 1) 2018/19 be noted but not endorsed. Consequently, the Committee voted to endorse the Vale of Glamorgan Well-being and Improvement Objectives (Improvement Plan Part 1) 2018/19 with consideration being given to the comments raised at the meeting, which passed.
- Councillor M.R. Wilson requested that it be recorded that he voted against this motion.”

The Environment & Regeneration Scrutiny Committee (19th April, 2018) recommended that the Corporate Plan Well-being and Improvement Objectives and associated priority actions for 2018/19 as outlined in Appendix 1 attached to the report, be endorsed.

The Learning & Culture Scrutiny Committee (23rd April, 2018) recommended that the Corporate Plan Well-being and Improvement Objectives and associated priority actions for 2018/19 as outlined in Appendix 1 attached to the report, be endorsed and the views of the Scrutiny Committee be included in the summary report sent to Cabinet relating to the following matters:

“A Committee Member noted that in paragraph 7 of the report it was stated that challenging targets had been set for improvement reflecting the Council’s commitment to continuously improve the services it provided to citizens of the Vale of Glamorgan, and the desire to aspire to top quartile performance where appropriate. Referring to Appendix 2, the Committee Member queried if this challenge was reflected in the targets for next year. The Committee Member also queried why, compared to other Improvement Objectives, targets for 2018/19 had not been set in Improvement Objective 5 – raising overall standards of achievement.

In response, the Director of Learning and Skills advised the Committee that as the Well-being and Improvement Objectives (Improvement Plan Part 1) 2018/19 was reported in line with the financial year, it would therefore be out of synch with the academic year, which had not yet finished. As such, targets for the 2018/19 academic year could not yet be set.

The Chairman noted that on page 25 of Appendix 1, which related to Improvement Objective 6 – valuing culture and diversity, the Council recognised the importance of promoting equality of opportunity. The Chairman queried if this was correct, given that schools were moving towards equality of outcome as compared to equality of opportunity. In response, the Director of Learning and Skills commented that this particular objective referred to wider communities in the Vale of Glamorgan and not just schools.

A Committee Member highlighted page 23 of the Appendix, which detailed performance indicators related to the percentage of young people leaving Years 11, 12 and 13 who were not in education, employment or training. The Committee Member noted that these figures were listed as percentages, and asked if the officers knew the exact numbers. In response, the Head of Achievement for All informed the Committee that he did not have the exact figures to hand, however would send them to the Member via email after the meeting.

A Committee Member noted that the Improvement Plan Part 1 made reference to identifying a site for gypsies and travellers in the Vale of Glamorgan and asked if officers had more information on this matter. To provide more information to the Committee, the Chairman invited the Operational Manager for Planning and Building Control to speak. The Operational Manager informed Members that a Council question had recently been asked on this matter. A Gypsy and Traveller Project Board had been set up and were meeting regularly. She advised the Committee that the main delay the Project Board was facing related to maintaining regular dialogue with existing gypsy and traveller groups in the Vale of Glamorgan. The Council had engaged the services of Gypsy and Traveller Wales to remedy this issue and progress the matter further. The Operational Manager advised the Committee to expect a Cabinet report moving progress on this matter before the recess.

The Chairman asked the Committee as there were no specific recommendations to Cabinet if they were happy to move the recommendations in the report. A Committee Member commented that on page 23 of Appendix 1, reference was made to a restructure of the Council's Youth Services and noted that the Committee was waiting for a report on this matter. The Member queried that if the Scrutiny Committee were to endorse this report, would they also therefore be endorsing proposals for the restructure of the Youth Services. In response, the Chairman advised that endorsing the Vale of Glamorgan Council's Well-being Objectives and Improvement Plan Part 1 meant endorsing the contained Improvement Objectives and Corporate Plan priorities, rather than a specific proposal that the Scrutiny Committee felt was contrary to these aims."

Subsequently, it was therefore recommended that the Corporate Plan Well-being and Improvement Objectives and associated priority actions for 2018/19 as outlined in Appendix 1 attached to the report, be endorsed and the views of the Scrutiny Committee be included in the summary report sent to Cabinet.

The Corporate Performance & Resources Scrutiny Committee (30th April, 2018) recommended endorsed the Corporate Plan Well-being and Improvement Objectives and associated priority actions for 2018/19 as outlined in Appendix 1 attached to the

report be endorsed and the views of the Scrutiny Committee be included in the summary report sent to Cabinet relating to the following matters:

“A Member queried whether there was a typographical error on page 28 of Appendix 1 in regard to the targets set for Green Flag Awards at key urban parks throughout the Vale of Glamorgan. Following a discussion, the officer confirmed that the Appendix was correct and the target related to maintaining the Council’s existing seven Green Flags with nine awards as a future target. The officer (Operational Manager Performance and Policy) stated that he would however confirm this for all Members via e-mail.

Another Member advised the Committee that he had received a number of queries from residents regarding their concerns about street lighting, dog fouling, recycling and pot holes, and suggested whether the Council’s work to tackle these issues should be highlighted in greater detail in the document. In response, the Operational Manager for Performance and Policy noted that these Corporate Plan priorities were detailed on page 19 of Appendix 1, however, they were presented in the order set out in Service Plans and were therefore not necessarily presented in order of possible ‘public’ priority. The officer commented that the public summary of the Improvement Objectives 2018/19 attached at Appendix 2 to the report was more resident focused and provided an overview to members of the public of the work undertaken to address the issues identified by the Councillor.

Following a request for more information on the work undertaken to prevent and tackle instances of anti-social behaviour and including implementing restorative justice approaches for young people, as detailed on page 11 of Appendix 1, the Operational Manager (Performance and Policy) stated he would request the details from the relevant department and forward them via email to all Members of the Committee. In conclusion, another Member sought clarification on the performance figures for the percentage of staff appraisals completed and the timescales for reporting this indicator, with it being noted that the percentage for appraisals undertaken for the year had been 97.4% and the target was 95%.”

It was subsequently recommended that the Corporate Plan Well-being and Improvement Objectives and associated priority actions for 2018/19 as outlined in Appendix 1 attached to the report, be endorsed and the views of the Scrutiny Committee be included in the summary report sent to Cabinet.

### **Response to Scrutiny Committees views - Improvement Plan 2018/19:**

#### Healthy Living and Social Care

“There was a query from a Member of the Healthy Living and Social Services Scrutiny Committee to consider incorporating in future Challenge sessions, service user perspective in order to strengthen the Council's approach to reviewing its Well-being Objectives.

We continually look to improve and develop the Council's approach to self-assessment year on year and the above comment from the Healthy Living Scrutiny committee would be taken on board in reviewing our process for 2019/20. This year



the emphasis had been on embedding the existing process and further strengthening the alignment with the requirements of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act.

Under the Act, the Council was required to review its Well-being Objectives annually to ensure they remain relevant. In order to strengthen and evidence our integrated approach both internally and with our partners, this year as part of the Council's Annual Self-Assessment, we incorporated challenge sessions with Sponsoring Directors and key contributors for each of the Corporate Plan Well-being Outcomes and Objectives. Whilst these challenge sessions did not include service users per se, we have ensured that as key stakeholders, their views have been fully incorporated throughout the annual Council self-assessment process, comprehensive engagement undertaken to identify the priorities that informed our Corporate Plan Well-being Objectives and more recently the draft Public Services Board (PSB) Well-being Objectives published in October 2017.

As a result of the self-assessment process and the emerging improvement priorities we have reviewed the relevance of our Well-being priorities outlined in the Corporate Plan to ensure that we continue to reflect the most pertinent priorities for the Vale of Glamorgan and have also used the current draft of the PSB's Well-being Plan as an opportunity to ensure that our improvement priorities also align to the Well-being Plan."

#### Homes and Safe Communities

"A Member stated that, whilst pleased with the Council's mission statement being included in the Plan (Appendix 1, page 2), he felt this should be better labelled as so. He also made reference to the diagram at the bottom of the page which he felt depicted the Corporate Plan being carried out through a top down approach whereas he considered the process to be more holistic and required everybody to contribute.

- The diagram referred to titled 'how it all fits together', represents a high level overview of the Council's Performance Management Framework and shows the hierarchy of plans aligned to the Corporate Plan which outlines our vision and Well-being Objectives. Employees at all levels within the organisation play a key role in developing these plans and in delivering them and the process is indeed both top down and bottom up. In response to the comment, the diagram would be updated prior to publication to further emphasise our inclusive approach.

Comments were made in relation to a number of Corporate Performance Measures (CPMs) by the Homes and Safe Communities Scrutiny Committee (Appendix 1, pages 9, 13, 14) aligned to Well-being Outcome 1. These related to performance indicator descriptions (CPM/234 and CPM/235) and the rationale for some performance targets for 2018/19 (CPM/124 and CPM/104).

- The performance indicator descriptions relating to CPM124 and CPM125 which also form part of the national performance framework of Public Accountability Measures had recently been reviewed and guidance reissued by the Local Government Data Unit. The new descriptions for these indicators

would be updated in the Improvement Plan making it clearer what service areas the measures specifically relate to. Full technical definitions for the Corporate Performance Framework of Measures and other national measures are also available on the Council's website for further information.

- In line with the Council's performance management timetable, proposed improvement targets, deletions and amendments for 2018/19 as aligned to Well-being Outcome 1, were reported to the Homes and Safe Communities Scrutiny Committee on 14th March 2018 for challenge prior to being reported to Cabinet for final endorsement on 3rd April. All proposals were endorsed by the Committee via recommendation to Cabinet with the exception of the proposed deletion of CPM/120, 'The percentage of all domestic violence incidents which are repeat offences'. This measure had been included in the Corporate Framework of Measures for 2018/19 following endorsement by Cabinet. No issues were raised in relation to proposed improvement targets for CPM/124 and CPM/125 by the Committee at the time."

This matter was for Executive decision.

Cabinet, having considered the report and all the issues and implications contained therein including the comments of the Scrutiny Committees

RESOLVED -

(1) T H A T the following amendments be made the the Improvement Plan:

- The diagram titled 'how it all fits together' was amended prior to publication to reflect the holistic approach taken by the Council in developing and delivering its key strategic plans as outlined in its Performance Management Framework.
- Performance descriptions for all Public Accountability Measures are updated prior to publication in the Improvement Plan to reflect the 2018/19 guidance recently issued by the Local Government Data Unit.
- Update the quarter 3 performance data reported in the section 'how would we measure progress' in the Improvement Plan with end of year data for 2017/18 to ensure up to date information was presented where available.

(2) T H A T, subject to Resolution (1), the Vale of Glamorgan Council's Improvement Plan Part 1 for 2018/19 (Appendix 1) as amended be endorsed for publication.

### Reasons for decisions

(1&2) To ensure the Council fully discharges its statutory duty to set and publish its Improvement Plan Part 1, outlining how it proposed to meet its Wellbeing and Improvement Objectives for 2018/19.

**C313 LAND ADJACENT TO NO. 1 THE COTTAGES, PEN-Y-TURNPIKE ROAD, DINAS POWYS - DISPOSAL OF COUNCIL LAND (NST) (SCRUTINY COMMITTEE: CORPORATE PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES) -**

Approval was sought to dispose of a small parcel of land adjacent to the above property, subject to agreeing a suitable sale value together with related terms and conditions. The area of land subject of the report was set out in Appendix A to the report and given that the parcel of land had no specific use for the Council and would be difficult to maintain there was no objection to the disposal of the same subject to an appropriate agreement and appropriate terms and conditions.

The Leader clarified that the parcel of land identified within the Appendix to the report was with the bold line delineation and outlined in red on the electronic version of the same.

This matter was for Executive decision.

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

**RESOLVED -**

(1) T H A T the land identified within the red boundary line at Appendix 'A' be declared surplus to the Council's requirements and sold to the adjacent property owner, the registered proprietors of No. 1 The Cottages Pen-Y-Turnpike Road, at market rate, subject to covenants restricting future development on the land being included in the terms of sale.

(2) T H A T delegated authority be granted to the Head of Finance to appoint an external valuer to provide a market valuation report for the land within the red boundary line in Appendix 'A'.

(3) T H A T delegated authority is given to the Head of Finance, in consultation with the Head of Neighbourhood Services and Transport, to agree Heads of Terms for the sale of the land.

(4) T H A T the Head of Legal Services be authorised to complete all necessary legal documentation required to dispose of the land.

**Reasons for decisions**

(1) To allow a parcel of land to be transferred to the occupier of the neighbouring property.

(2&3) To ensure the Council's fiduciary and statutory obligations are met within the transaction.

(4) To ensure legal procedures are followed.

**C314 TRANSPORT GRANT AWARDS 2018/19 (NST) (SCRUTINY COMMITTEE: ENVIRONMENT AND REGENERATION) -**

Cabinet was advised of the funding awarded in respect of the Transport Grant for the period 2018/19 which related to the following matters:

WG offered an indicative allocation for Road Safety Revenue Funding of £67,800 for 2018/19 and schemes must include kerbcraft, Pass Plus Cymru, National Standards cycle training and motorbike interventions. The funding awarded was £63,160 which was less than the indicative allocation. This was due to the funding for the Motorbike Course being withheld until such a time that the specific scheme was evaluated which was currently underway.

Within the Active Travel indicative allocation of £214,000, 100% funding had been awarded for scheme design, including investigating environmental constraints on the following routes:

Biglis Roundabout to Dinas Powys (Vale-Prop-DP-C060)

Scheme feasibility on the following routes that have been identified within the Active Travel Integrated Network Map and which are all within the Dinas Powys village:

Dinas Powys Vale-Prop-DP-C020 The Square Dinas Powys to Cardiff Road via Elmgrove Road

Dinas Powys Vale-Prop-DP-C030 The Square Dinas Powys to Turnpike Close

Dinas Powys Vale-Prop-DP-C050 Eastbrook Train Station to the Merrie Harrier.

Dinas Powys Vale-Prop-DP-C080 Dinas Powys County Infant School to Garage

Dinas Powys Vale-Prop-DP-C090 Eastbrook Train Station to Raglan Close via Murch

Dinas Powys Vale-Prop-DP-C100 Murch Road to Redlands Road alongside Railway.

Dinas Powys Vale-Prop-DP-C120 Dinas Powys Primary School to Sully Road via Murch Road

Of the three schemes submitted for funding through the LTF Grant process, the Cardiff - Vale Coastal Transport Network had been funded at 100%, to the value of £600,000.

Local Transport Network Funding of £145k for 2018/19 and an indicative allocation of £105k for 2019/20 had been awarded. This had been 90% funded with match funding of £30k been approved from the Culverhouse Cross residential development. The funding had been allocated to provide improvements to bus stops along the A48 corridor and identified bus stops within key locations within Barry, Llantwit Major and Penarth.

No funding had been offered to further progress the Junction 34 to A48 and Weycock Cross to Cardiff Airport Corridor WelTAG Stage 3 Appraisal works and the Dinas Powys Transport Network WelTAG Stage 2 works at this time, although correspondence had been issued to the Cabinet Secretary for Economy and Transport ascertaining why these funding applications were unsuccessful and to seek assurance that funding could be obtained from other Welsh Government sources.

No funding had been offered in relation to SRiC or Road Safety Capital Grant.

The terms and conditions of the Grants meant that the works identified for the year would need to be completed by 31st March 2019.

This matter was for Executive decision.

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

RESOLVED -

(1) T H A T the transport schemes that have been awarded funding for 2018/19 are approved.

(2) T H A T Cabinet notes that the Head of Neighbourhood Services & Transport used delegated powers to accept the funding awarded by the deadline of 1st May 2018 in order for the award not to be withdrawn.

(3) T H A T Cabinet notes that an Emergency Power had been approved to include the Capital grant funding of £959,000 and s106 funding of £30k into the 2018/19 Capital Programme.

Reasons for decisions

(1) To advise Cabinet of the procedures, terms and conditions of the grant funding.

(2) To endorse the acceptance of the funding.

(3) To enable schemes to be started as early as possible in the new financial year.

**C315 HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE CONTRACTS 2018/2019 (NST)  
(SCRUTINY COMMITTEE: ENVIRONMENT AND REGENERATION) -**

Delegated authority was sought to award a number of highway maintenance contracts and to determine and progress the new contracts for this service.

The overall capital budget available in 2018/19 for priority highway improvement works identified through the Council's Highway Resurfacing 3 Year Plan was £2,436,000. This included £1,136,000 Welsh Government highway refurbishment funding provided as a one off contribution this financial year with the remainder allocated from internal capital funding.

The existing Carriageway Microasphalt Resurfacing, Carriageway Surface Dressing and Highways Weed Control contracts 2015/16 had successfully run for the last 3 years and based on the terms for the contract with extensions agreed in 2016/17 and

2017/18 in accordance with contract terms. The contracts terminated on 31st March 2017.

Tenderers for each of the contracts to be tendered would be selected from 'Construction-Line' and contacted to confirm that they wished to tender for the new contracts in 2018/19. The tenders would be posted via the Sell2Wales website.

Submitted tenders would be evaluated on the basis of a quality/price model with a 30/70 split respectively as identified within each tender package. The most economically advantageous tender received for the Carriageway Microasphalt Resurfacing, Carriageway Surface Dressing and Highways Weed Control determined via the evaluation process would be awarded the contract for 2018/19.

The total cost of works procured in the first year of each contract was estimated to be £500k for Carriageway Microasphalt Resurfacing; £300k for Carriageway Surface Dressing; and £70k for Highways Weed Control based on works carried out in previous years and the overall capital budget available in 2018/19.

Tenders for these new contract would be let on the same basis as previous contract, that, was for one year with extensions of one year plus one year (3 year maximum). This ensures that the service can be re-tendered promptly if there are changes in the market, repair technology or other factors that could reduce costs or improve service quality.

Delegated authority was requested for the acceptance of tenders for the new contracts and for the execution of the said contracts to save time in implementing the new contract arrangements and ensure the necessary highway works could be progressed in a timely manner to achieve appropriate budget spend.

This matter was for Executive decision.

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

RESOLVED -

(1) T H A T delegated authority be granted to the Director of Environment and Housing Services in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Neighbourhood Services and Transport and the Head of Finance, to accept the most economically advantageous tender for the Carriageway Microasphalt Resurfacing, Carriageway Surface Dressing and Highways Weed Control contracts 2018/19, on a one year plus one year plus one year basis (3 years in total).

(2) T H A T delegated authority be granted to the Head of Legal Service to draft and execute the said contracts.

#### Reasons for decisions

(1) To agree a new contracts for Carriageway Microasphalt Resurfacing, Carriageway Surface Dressing and Highways Weed Control in the most timely

manner and ensure compliance with the Council's Contract Standing Orders and Financial Regulations.

(2) To ensure that the necessary legal documentation was in place for the contract.

**C316 DEVELOPING A THERAPEUTIC FOSTERING SERVICE IN PARTNERSHIP WITH CARDIFF AND THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN UNIVERSITY HEALTH BOARD (SCHL) (SCRUTINY - HEALTHY LIVING AND SOCIAL CARE) -**

The Service aimed to provide support to children and young people looked after and their carers by promoting placement stability, preventing placement breakdown and support for children looked after to achieve their potential.

As part of its Corporate Strategy for Children who need Care and Support 2016 - 2019, the Council recognised the need to give children looked after clearly planned journeys through care and to provide a range of high quality placements. Both these objectives linked with the importance of the Council being able to promote placement stability for children looked after.

Children looked after have complex and varied needs. Having determined the need for a child to become looked after, the Authority had a responsibility to seek to provide them with suitable and consistent care for the period they were looked after. The first choice would always be placement within a child's family, and following that with the Authority's own foster carers. To achieve and maintain these placements, the child and carer would require support and in many instances would benefit from support to be parented and to parent therapeutically.

The Authority had piloted on a small scale the commissioning of a psychologist together with two support staff. This small scale pilot very quickly established the benefits of therapeutic parenting, but was unsustainable due to difficulties in maintaining the services of the psychologist on a temporary arrangement.

This resulted in the Council in liaison with the Cardiff and Vale University Health Board, exploring an opportunity to expand the small dedicated developmental trauma service they currently provided for children looked after with monies invested by Welsh Government in Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS), to develop a therapeutic fostering service for children looked after and their carers in the Vale of Glamorgan.

Building on an existing service with a current partner was considered the best and most appropriate way to move such a service forward. As a partner organisation, Cardiff and Vale University Health Board had worked with the Council in developing the developmental trauma service and were committed to supporting the Council through the employment of additional psychology staff.

This partnership would maintain the existing Health funded element and add additional funds which would enhance the service offered within the County. Staff would be employed by Cardiff and Vale University Health Board, who would provide

the necessary clinical oversight and permanence that was lacking in our pilot scheme.

The staffing proposal would build on the existing Vale of Glamorgan allocation within the development trauma service with the service specification including, provision for both direct therapeutic work, and consultation for social workers, carers and multi-agency groups. The service would be delivered flexibly at home, at school or in the community depending on what was most appropriate for the child and the carer.

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 approval be granted to allow the Council to enter into a formal partnership agreement with the Cardiff and Vale University Health Board.
- (2) T H A T the Contract Procedure Rules be waived to enable the Council to enter into a partnership with the Cardiff and Vale University Health Board for the provision of a bespoke service.
- (3) T H A T the Head of Legal Services be authorised to agree the terms of a partnership agreement with the Cardiff and Vale University Health Board on the basis of a two year fixed contract.

Reasons for decisions

- (1&2) To enable the provision in the Vale of Glamorgan of a therapeutic fostering service.
- (3) To comply with the Council's Contract Procedure Rules and Financial Regulations.

**C317 PROVIDING A SUPPORTED LIVING SERVICE (SCHL) (SCRUTINY COMMITTEE: HEALTHY LIVING AND SOCIAL CARE) -**

The Welsh Assembly Government's Statement on Policy and Practice for Adults with A Learning Disability set out the elements that need to be considered when supporting people with a learning disability. One element related to arrangements for community living.

Arrangements were also required to meet the spirit of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 namely:

- Being part of the community
- Having a good home



As part of their individual care and support plan, adults with a learning disabilities and/or physical disability, can be provided with supported accommodation that enables them to live as full members of the community and reduces the need for residential care.

There are currently 28 properties, housing 77 people with a learning disability and/or physical disability included in the supported living contract. It was envisaged that a further two properties, each supporting 3 service users, would be added to the contract within the next 6 months.

As at 2017, there were 2,400 people aged 18+ with a mild, moderate or severe learning disability within the Vale of Glamorgan. This was set to rise to 2,450 by 2025, an increase of 2.1%. In the Vale there was a decrease in the 18-24 and 45-54 age groups but an increase of 36% in the 75-84 age group and a 35% increase in the 85+ category.

In years 2018 and 2019, there were a total of 9 young people leaving residential college with an additional 10 people currently living with families in the Vale who had approached the Council requesting to be considered for accommodation when available. Following assessment some of these people would have needs that could be met through Adult Placement, but some with learning disabilities would require supported accommodation as close to home as possible. The Cardiff and Vale Closer to Home project was a multi-disciplinary group who considered the needs of all adults with a learning disability who were currently placed out of county and whether appropriate accommodation could be sourced locally. In 2017, 2 people returned to live in supported accommodation in the Vale with transition discussions in place for 3 individuals to return to the Vale in 2018.

The aim of the Closer to Home group was detailed in paragraph 8 of the report:

The current Service contract period expired in October 2017 and permission was sought to take up the option to extend the contract by a period of up to an additional two years.

On both occasions, the contracts were jointly commissioned with the Supporting People team based in the Housing Directorate. However, in order to ensure compliance with the Welsh Government's updated Supporting People Programme Grant (SPPG) terms and conditions, the housing related support service would be retendered separately from social care when these existing contracts end on 31st March, 2019. This would ensure that it can be clearly evidenced that only the housing related support functions based on the clients' needs are funded by the SPPG needs. As a consequence the decision had been made to request that the contract be re-commissioned with a start date of 1st April 2019.

The Council's project management methodology would be utilised to support the project throughout its various stages from initiation to contract award and management.

The contract period would be for 5 years with an option to extend for a further 2 years. The tender would be advertised on Sell2Wales portal and on the Official Journal of the European Union.

Arrangements in respect of Pre-Qualification Questionnaire, the submission of providers pricing for each of the service model group(s) was detailed in paragraphs 18 and 20 of the report. The quality element of the tender submissions would be weighed in terms of importance based on quality questions included in the ITT document.

The PQQ and ITT submissions would be assessed by an internal evaluation team constituted on arrangements set out in paragraph 22 of the report.

Following evaluation of the overall quality, the scores would be combined with the bidders' financial score per group in order to identify the preferred provider for each group. The price/quality percentage split for evaluation purposes will be 40/60. At this point, and if applicable, the multi-group price will be applied with successful provider to ensure that the Council achieves the most cost advantageous solution.

RESOLVED - T H A T the report in relation to commencing tendering procedures for the above service be noted.

#### Reason for decision

The contract procedure matters would be considered under Part II of the agenda.

### **C318 HOME OFFICE PROGRAMME TO SUPPORT THE RESETTLEMENT OF VULNERABLE REFUGEES FROM SYRIA, THROUGH THE COMMUNITY SPONSORSHIP SCHEME (HBS) (SCRUTINY COMMITTEE: HOMES AND SAFE COMMUNITIES) -**

On 21st September 2015, Cabinet supported proposals to adopt a regional approach, and for the Vale of Glamorgan Council to participate in the VPRS in partnership with the City of Cardiff Council (Cabinet minute C2920 refers). The Authorities pledged to jointly resettle up to sixty refugees ("beneficiaries") in the first year, of which, four families were to be accommodated in the Vale and six in Cardiff. It was anticipated that this commitment would be repeated annually for the lifespan of the programme.

A Collaboration Agreement (between the Vale of Glamorgan Council (VOGC) and the City of Cardiff Council (CCC)), was signed on 17th May 2016 for an initial twelve month period.

The Council successfully resettled four families in the first year and subsequently resettled two families in the second year, with plans to receive an additional two families in June 2018.

In July 2016, the Community Sponsorship Scheme was launched, which enabled community groups (sponsors) to become directly involved in refugee resettlement. The Home Office intended to resettle one hundred and twenty families under this scheme.

Unlike the Local Authority-led scheme, the Community Sponsorship Scheme were responsible for the provision of integration support for a family for at least the first 12 months of their refugees time in the UK, and accommodation for the first two years.

Each prospective Community Group must apply to the Home Office (HO) to sponsor a family. The HO was responsible for assessing and approving each application on a case-by-case basis, and separate approval was required for each family sponsored.

Sponsors were encouraged to liaise with Local Authorities early in the process to help build a positive working relationship and to cultivate links with relevant service areas and internal/external partners. Authorities had a formal role in the application process, and are involved at steps 2, 5 and 8 of the HO mandatory 10 step process for becoming a sponsor.

Cabinet were apprised that Citizens Cymru, acting as the Lead Sponsor submitted an application pack to the Council in January 2018, and requested consent to the application.

The Council and Cardiff City Council were working in partnership under the Vulnerable Persons Resettlement Scheme (VPRS), determined that a regional approach would be the most appropriate way to respond to the application, along with another application relating to Cardiff in order to promote consistency across the region.

The Guidance, issued separately to potential sponsors and LA's established the HO as the agency responsible for assessing applications and managing the community sponsorship process. The Guidance specified that LA's would not be asked to assess any applications; assess the group's ability to deliver refugee resettlement; or consider if the group had suitably trained or vetted volunteers. Details of the Guidance including grounds on which a local authority might object, were set out in Appendices 1 and 2 of the report.

Since neither Councils had been directly involved in the development of the Resettlement plans, both determined that full consultation must take place with relevant internal and external stakeholders, including statutory service providers.

Stakeholders were asked to review the Resettlement application pack, and to identify specific concerns or operational challenges. The findings were consolidated and shared with the community sponsors ahead of a Regional Panel meeting, which took place on Friday 20th April, 2018.

The Panel considered each application consecutively and the community sponsors were given the opportunity to provide additional supporting evidence and to respond to any unresolved issues raised in the stakeholder reports.

During lengthy discussions, the Sponsors were able to provide satisfactory responses regarding the planning and implementation of the Resettlement Plan, and were able to mitigate all concerns raised by the Panel. Appendix 3 sets out the areas identified by the stakeholders, and the responses received from the Sponsors.

The Croeso Penarth Community Group who had made an application, were advised that the Panel recommendations would be submitted to the Council's Cabinet at the earliest opportunity and the decision communicated to them.

Cabinet endorsement was now sought in so far as the community sponsorship application from the above Group which was considered to provide reasonable assurance that, with Local Authority support, would be able to meet the long term needs of a refugee family, and that the impact on community cohesion and resources was acceptable.

The Leader drew the Cabinet's attention to two tabled items relating to Local Ward Member consultation responses received from Councillors N. Thomas and Ms. S. Sivagnanam, both of whom supported the application. In referring to Councillor Thomas' comments the Leader refuted the assertion that the Council had contributed to any delays in the process. The Leader indicated that it was a shame that Councillor Thomas had chosen to politicise the issue and indeed Council Officers had made every effort to progress the matter as quickly as possible and thanked them for their efforts.

Councillor Parker echoed the comments of the Leader.

This was a matter for Executive decision.

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

**RESOLVED -**

- (1) T H A T Cabinet endorse the approval of the Croeso Penarth Community Group Sponsorship application.
- (2) T H A T in pursuance and consideration of Resolution (1) above, the Cabinet recognises both the benefits and risks associated with participation in the Scheme.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) Approval demonstrated the Council's commitment to providing assistance to vulnerable refugees from Syria as a result of the humanitarian crisis, through the extended Home Office scheme.
- (2) In acknowledgement of statutory services Lead Officer recommendations based on the contents of the Resettlement Plan, Home Office (draft) Application, the Safeguarding Policy and other key documents, including the consequences of hosting a community sponsorship scheme, the impact on local resources and the

implications for the Council in the event that the Sponsor was unable to fulfil its obligation.

**C319 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 items of business on the grounds that they involve 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.

**C320 PROVIDING A SUPPORTED LIVING SERVICE (SCHL) (EXEMPT INFORMATION - PARAGRAPHS 12 AND 14) (SCRUTINY COMMITTEE: HEALTHY LIVING AND SOCIAL CARE) -**

Authority was sought to retender the contracts relating to the above Service for people with a learning disability and/or physical disability.

The initial contract period would be for five years, with an option to extend for up to a further two years.

This matter was for Executive decision.

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

RESOLVED -

(1) T H A T the Director of Social Services and the Managing Director (in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Social Care, Health and Leisure and the Leader) be authorised to commence tendering procedures for the service outlined within the report and accept and award contracts for this service in accordance with the Council's Contract Standing Orders.

(2) T H A T the Head of Legal Services be authorised to execute the contract(s).

Reasons for decision

(1) To ensure that the Council provided a Supported Living Service in a cost effective way and meets the assessed needs of service users and fulfilled the responsibilities set out in the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014;

(2) To ensure that the appropriate Contract documentation was in place.