

**CABINET**

Minutes of a meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> November, 2019.

Present: Councillor N. Moore (Chairman); Councillor L. Burnett (Vice-Chairman); Councillors B.T. Gray, P.G. King, K.F. McCaffer and E. Williams.

**C134 APOLOGY FOR ABSENCE –**

This was received from Councillor Mrs. M.R. Wilkinson.

**C135 MINUTES –**

RESOLVED – T H A T the minutes of the meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> November, 2019 be approved as a correct record.

**C136 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST –**

Name of Councillor	Nature of Interest
Councillor L. Burnett	The interest related to Agenda Item 17 - Reshaping Services – Day Time Opportunities for Older People. The nature of the interest was that Councillor Burnett had a close personal friend that would be affected by the proposals. Councillor Burnett withdrew from the meeting while this item was being considered.
Councillor L. Burnett	The interest related to Agenda Items 13 and 21 - Reshaping Services – Catering Project Update. The nature of the interest was that Councillor Burnett was a Local Authority appointed School Governor, and had received dispensation from the Standards Committee to speak and vote on such related matters.
Councillor B.T Gray	The interest related to Agenda Items 13 and 21 - Reshaping Services – Catering Project Update. The nature of the interest was that Councillor Gray was a Local Authority appointed School Governor, and had received dispensation from the Standards Committee to speak and vote on such related matters.
Councillor K.F. McCaffer	The interest related to Agenda Items 13 and 21 - Reshaping Services – Catering Project Update. The nature of the interest

	was that Councillor McCaffer was a Local Authority appointed School Governor, and had received dispensation from the Standards Committee to speak and vote on such related matters.
Councillor E. Williams	The interest related to Agenda Items 13 and 21 - Reshaping Services – Catering Project Update. The nature of the interest was that Councillor Williams was a Local Authority appointed School Governor, and had received dispensation from the Standards Committee to speak and vote on such related matters.

### **C137 CORPORATE PARENTING PANEL –**

The minutes of the Corporate Parenting Panel held on 23<sup>rd</sup> September, 2019 were submitted.

**Present:** Councillor B.T. Gray (Chairman), Dr. I.J. Johnson, K.F. McCaffer and E. Williams; Ms. J. Ballantine (Principal HR Business Partner), L. Carver (Director of Social Services), Mrs. M. Coles (LAC Education Co-ordinator and Lead Professional EAL), Ms. A. Condy (Operational Manager CYPS), Ms. K. Conway (Operational Manager CYPS), M. Dacey (Lead Officer Social Inclusion and Wellbeing), D. Davies (Head of Achievement for All), Mrs. R. Evans (Head of Children and Young People Services), Ms. C. Light (Care Leavers Forum Representative), Mr. M.E. Thomas (Democratic and Scrutiny Services Officer) and Ms. G. Toon (Complex Needs Manager and Principal Educational Psychologist).

**Also Present:** Amanda Gardner (TM, CLA Team - for Fostering Well-being Programme item), Ceri O'Dare, (TM, 15 Plus Team – supporting Chair of Care Leavers Forum), Abbey Durrans (PM, Placements Team – for Fostering Well-being Programme item), Amy McArdle (Marketing and Recruitment Officer, Placements Team – for Fostering Well-being Programme item).

<b>(1)</b>	<b>Apologies for Absence –</b>
	These were received from Councillors Mrs. P. Drake, O. Griffiths, Mrs. R. Nugent-Finn and Ms. M. Hudson (Head of Standards and Provision Learning and Skills).
<b>(2)</b>	<b>Minutes and Matters Arising -</b>
	The minutes of the meeting held on 8 <sup>th</sup> July, 2019 were agreed as an accurate record.  There were no matters arising.

<b>(3)</b>	<b>Presentation: Fostering Wellbeing Programme -</b>
	<p>Colin Turner (CT), from the Fostering Wellbeing Programme, introduced the presentation by saying that the Fostering Wellbeing Programme was an innovative solution funded by Welsh Government and delivered by the Fostering Network. The Programme was run in the Cwm Taf region from 2017 to 2019. It had been formally evaluated by Cardiff University with an overall positive outcome. He went on to say the Programme recognised that in order to improve outcomes, multi-agency working through a partnership framework across Social Services, Health and Education was essential. The Programme had therefore been designed specifically for professionals working with Children Looked After and young people. This Programme would encourage professionals to work together with the focus being on improving wellbeing outcomes and it would create a shared language for multi-agency professionals as well as a shared framework from which to operate and would contribute to workforce development. He then cited the expected outcomes of this Programme, which included for example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Greater recognition that foster carers were a key part of the team alongside teachers and social workers and played an important role as 'first educators';</li> <li>• Increased engagement with foster carers and social workers through integrated activities and the development of a shared approach;</li> <li>• Greater knowledge and confidence displayed by foster carers in advocating for the child and accessing education support services;</li> <li>• Increased access of foster carers to peer support, training and information;</li> <li>• A tested as a sustainable model, ready for further roll out across all regions at the end of the funding period.</li> </ul> <p>He then added that the Programme would operate at regional level and deliver learning as well as bringing people together and sharing best practice across service boundaries in order to embed a shared approach across the region. He emphasised the fact that the Welsh Assembly Government had agreed to fund this project and to implement it within Wales, initially in Cwm Taf as part of the pilot, but then rolled out across the country.</p> <p>CT then ran a short You Tube video about the implementation of the programme in Cwm Taf, which detailed the various stages of the Programme as well as the positive feedback of professionals involved in this Programme so far. After this he went on to say that the Programme would require support and 'buy-in' by the Corporate Parenting Panel in order to get this implemented within Cardiff and the Vale with funding provided by the Welsh Assembly Government in order to set up the project board. However, it was crucial that this get off the ground as soon as possible as the money needed to be spent before the next local elections. Elizabeth Bryan (EB), also from the Fostering Wellbeing Programme stated that educational professionals in the Cardiff and Vale area were keen to get this Programme off the ground and have the training initiated, particularly within the Vale.</p>

CT continued with the presentation and focused around the key aims of the Programme which centred around equipping children and young people who were looked after to fulfil their potential, to provide a shared and consistent approach to meeting the needs of children and young people looked after and to help increase their ambition and help them to find success, also for professionals to become active advocates for the children and young people for whom they have a responsibility for, whether that was in an individual or corporate sense. CT went on to describe the key deliverables of the Programme, which included the delivery of themed masterclasses, recruitment and training of fostering and wellbeing 'pioneers' as well as service support.

CT finally mentioned the master classes which were a key component of the Fostering Wellbeing Programme. This Programme would enable foster carers co-professionals to:

- gain the skills, contents and confidence to help inspire children and young people to fulfil their potential
- build upon knowledge, understanding and skills, confidence and strategies to use in working with each other and the children in their care
- equip participants with theories, practical tools and additional materials that could be used straight away in order to enhance practice.

Overall, this would help to engender greater wellbeing for children looked after, which was defined as a person's basic needs being met and used the acronym SPECL (S standing for Social, P standing for Physical, E standing for Emotional, C for Cultural and L for Learning) in order to illustrate this. CT mentioned the fostering wellbeing pioneers who would be experienced foster carers that had received specialist training developed by the fostering network such as in peer monitoring and support, counselling skills, recording and reporting as well as emotional coaching.

After the presentation, Councillor Dr. Johnson questioned how the Programme and related Project Board would work, for example how this would operate, how has it worked in Cwm Taf and how would it work in the Vale of Glamorgan.

EB replied that in the early stages they would need to speak to the Vale of Glamorgan how best to do the master classes. Colleagues from Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan would need to be drawn in, such as in the fields of education, health, social services, CAMHS, etc.

RE replied that this was all in the early stages at present but it was necessary to work quickly on this in conjunction with Children's Services in the Vale. She went on to say there was huge potential in this Programme and it was necessary to speak to key people/stakeholders as well as asking colleagues in the fostering network to look at the practicalities and look to get corporate buy-in as soon as possible. As part of this there would need to be a tie-in with Cardiff Authority in order to get this project up and running.

CT also added this all needed to be done under a regional footprint due to the nature of the Welsh Assembly Government funding. He went on to say that

	<p>spreading the master classes across the Vale of Glamorgan and Cardiff, for example, would mean if professionals missed a master class in the Vale they could re-attend another master class in Cardiff. The joint work would be positive in the sense that it would avoid complacency and bring in new ideas.</p> <p>A Member of the CLA team asked if the programme would also be looking at kinship or other non-foster carers to which CT replied that yes, this could be looked at going forward.</p> <p>The Chairman concluded that the Parenting Panel needed to be proactive in this regard and the importance of endorsing this Programme. The Chairman asked the Democratic Services Officer that the relevant links to the Fostering Wellbeing You Tube video be forwarded to Members for their review and understanding of the Fostering Wellbeing Programme.</p>
<b>(4)</b>	<b>The National Youth Advocacy Service (NYAS) –</b>
	<p>This was presented by Francesca Bell (FB) as the Project Co-ordinator for NYAS in the Vale of Glamorgan. The presentation provided an overview of the services currently provided by the organisation and where they were currently at in terms of provision. FB went on to explain the mission statement with their rationale being the support of children, vulnerable adults, parents and carers and to ensure these are heard through the provision of confidential advice, information and representation.</p>
	<p>FB went on to say that this service was now embedded in the Vale of Glamorgan and that children could opt in or out of the NYAS service at any time. The services included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• active offer of advocacy;</li> <li>• issue based advocacy service;</li> <li>• systems advocacy; and</li> <li>• additional NYAS services for children and young persons within the Vale.</li> </ul> <p>NYAS acted as an advocate for children specific issues as per Article 12 of the UNCRC. Contact services provided by NYAS are bespoke and less formal than other agencies that children and young persons may engage with. FB stated that predominantly the services provided by NYAS related to supporting children at meetings with another agency - this formed approximately 40% of the overall services or issues that NYAS dealt with regarding children and young persons. An example of young person's advocacy would be in situations where a child or young person wanted to move from formal social worker support to alternative, less formal arrangements. Using NYAS in that manner meant that sometimes children felt more able to speak and offer their thoughts and feelings about issues as the NYAS advocate would speak on behalf of the child. Such services from NYAS could also be accessed in other counties. FB also mentioned a wider range of other services that NYAS could provide such as mental health and wellbeing, the Unity Project which involved young mothers to be – for example, providing them with support such as receiving</p>

baby boxes and parent advocacy where parents with additional learning needs could also be supported.

The Chairman stated that it was important to have such an advocacy service for children that were looked after.

RE added that sometimes it took a third party to help children resolve issues between them and Social Services and other agencies.

Councillor Dr. Johnson also added that it was important to have an agency that offered children a 'voice' and a say with regard to their care and support. He referred to the figure in the presentation around referrals where there were 91 referrals and asked for clarification whether this was just the Vale of Glamorgan or the wider region. FB went on to say that within the Vale of Glamorgan these figures related to children who had an advocate and also stressed that all children who required advocacy from their service did receive it.

The Chairman referred to the area around active offer referrals and what this exactly meant. FB replied that these figures included children who, once aware they could receive advocacy, had actively used the service. The Chairman stated that going forward such reports would need to look at drilling down on these figures, for example in the quarterly reports.

DD went on to say that FB's referral to parenting advocacy was of particular interest and would be very useful in terms of offering support to parents with learning difficulties.

Councillor Williams mentioned that part of the presentation seemed to suggest that Social Services were not meeting all the needs of children and young persons and wondered if this was a systemic issue. FB replied that children who came to use NYAS were typically those who were not happy with the services currently provided, for example by Social Services and in such cases NYAS would be a mediator between the child or young person and Social Services and would let Social Services know what issues the child or young person had with its provision.

RE went on to say that it was important that her department received complaints in such circumstances in order that they could improve and provide greater support to children and in fact NYAS did not seem to be saying that it was a systemic problem as such.

Councillor Williams went on to say that it was important that when talking about NYAS and any issues that arose from Social Services provision, there was a need to look at the support given to social workers in the tasks they undertook.

The Chairman concluded that by getting regular figures through on these matters it would ensure that the Panel could assess these issues better as well as the wider Vale of Glamorgan Council.

(5)	Children Looked After –
	<p>RE introduced the presentation by saying that the key aim would be to reduce the need for children to enter care but also to balance this by keeping children safe, which was a statutory responsibility and not to keep children out of care at any price. This entailed daily management of risk by Social Services. It was also important to recognise the opportunities as well as addressing the challenges within this area and also how the Vale of Glamorgan was aligned with the Welsh Assembly Government's call for action in this area - although RE noted the Vale of Glamorgan would be carrying out these actions anyway and the alignment was purely coincidental. RE stated the Children Looked After rates per 10,000 population within the Vale were just above the Welsh average with older age ranges of children being prevalent. Part of this could be explained that where you had younger children i.e. within age range 4-6 years, the key aim was looking for permanency within this group for example via adoption rather than fostering. In terms of the breakdown of Children Looked After, RE pointed out that the majority were either in foster care or within kinship or parent care, also of those children placed outside the county or outside of Wales, the majority were placed within foster type placements or within kinship ones, with a smaller number being in residential type accommodation. RE went on to say that in relation to the numbers of those children starting to be looked after and those ending their care, within the last three years the difference between these groups had grown with a higher number being entrants rather than leavers. It was noted that last year this graph was the highest with 40 more children becoming looked after than ceasing to be looked after. RE pointed out that this was due in part to a rise in population and wanted to also say 60% of children who left foster care went back to their families.</p> <p>RE went on to say that the current Corporate Strategy for Children who need Care and Support would be replaced by a new one in the near future and a draft of this new strategy would be going to Scrutiny in October and then on to Cabinet. Two of the key objectives here would be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• support families to stay together; and</li> <li>• to provide support at the 'edge of care'.</li> </ul> <p>The Corporate priority to provide a range of services for preventing escalation would include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• effective operation of our information, advice and assistance service;</li> <li>• recommissioning of Family Support Services;</li> <li>• Families First, FACT, Parenting and Wellbeing services;</li> <li>• Flying Start;</li> <li>• Early Action Together;</li> <li>• ICF investment;</li> <li>• flexible funding.</li> </ul>

	<p>As part of the strategy there needed to be optimum cultural conditions in order to ensure the system worked, for example ensuring that caseloads were at manageable levels, investment in training and motivated staff who knew their children well. A key area would be the recruitment and retention of staff to ensure this could be done. As part of this there needed to be formal and informal supervision supported by management tiers as well as visibility of managers such as in the co-location of frontline teams with Operational Managers based alongside Head of Service within the same building. Finally, RE mentioned the creation of a Service Development Officer post which would have a positive impact on the strategy. This would ultimately help to ensure that proper assessments were in place when it came to children leaving care and going back to their family if suitable to do so. This would be a sustainable model in terms of Children Looked After moving away from care and living within a family unit. RE reiterated the need to upskill staff and the key resource for this was staff in place and also new staff which RE exemplified with the new position of Marketing Officer with the person involved bringing the new skillset to the team. In this way the Council could provide strong emphasis on Children's Services and help to ensure sustainable family arrangements, including working with Courts who considered the Vale of Glamorgan to be a 'sensible' Authority with regard to this. RE also noted that as the Vale of Glamorgan was a small Authority it could also mobilise quite quickly with regard to Children Looked After. RE then asked the Panel if there were any questions on the back of the presentation.</p> <p>The Chairman stated that this was a useful presentation and was the backbone to the conversation that the Local Authority was having with the Welsh Assembly Government. The Welsh Assembly Government had sight of how each Council was dealing with Children Looked After and also had seen the performance of the Vale of Glamorgan Council in respect of this area resulting in them sending a thank you to the Authority for their work.</p> <p>These comments were echoed by Councillor Williams, who said it was an excellent presentation.</p> <p>CL stated that it had been an achievement that the Authority had seen only a limited rise in numbers for Children Looked After. The Chairman added that the presentation had been good in not simply being a review of numbers of children in care but also had offered a view on how children were looked after and their care needs assessed.</p> <p>LC went on to say that the drive to reduce numbers of Children Looked After would not result in a reduction in the cost or quality of the service provided, in fact what would happen would be an increase in support provided and that would lead to a proactive, 'smarter' approach.</p>
<b>(6)</b>	<b>Any Other Business –</b>
	No items were raised.

<b>(7)</b>	<b>Date of Next Meeting –</b>
	Monday, 18 <sup>th</sup> November, 2019 at 4.30 p.m. in the Council Chamber, Civic Offices, Barry.

RESOLVED – T H A T the minutes of the Corporate Parenting Panel meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> September, 2019 be noted.

Reason for decision

To note the minutes.

**C138 INITIAL REVENUE BUDGET PROPOSALS 2020/21 AND REVISED BUDGET 2019/20 (L / PR) (SCRUTINY – CORPORATE PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES) –**

The Executive Leader and Cabinet Member for Corporate Performance and Resources presented the report, which outlined that the 2019/20 budget had been amended for internal transfers and technical adjustments. The report highlighted that the overall total budget for the Authority had not changed from £226.098m.

The Council was required under statute to fix the level of Council Tax for 2020/21 by 11<sup>th</sup> March, 2020 and in order to do so, would have to agree a balanced revenue budget by that date.

The Council's provisional settlement had not yet been announced by Welsh Government and was expected this year in mid-November with the final settlement being received in February 2020. Even though this crucial information had not been received, the budget setting and consultation process had to commence in order to meet statutory deadlines.

The Executive Leader and Cabinet Member for Corporate Performance and Resources commented that there had been a delay to the final budget settlement from Welsh Government.

This was a matter for Executive decision.

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

RESOLVED –

(1) T H A T the amended revenue budget for 2019/20 as set out in Appendix 1 to the report be approved.

- (2) T H A T the initial revenue budget proposals for 2020/21 be approved for consultation with the relevant Scrutiny Committees and other consultees.
- (3) T H A T the recommendations of Scrutiny Committees be passed to Corporate Performance and Resources Scrutiny Committee as the lead Scrutiny Committee in order for their views to be forwarded to Cabinet.
- (4) T H A T a sum of £4m be set aside in the Council Fund, with its use being considered as part of the final budget proposals for 2020/21.
- (5) T H A T a sum of £0.5m be set aside in the Education Pressures reserve to be utilised to offset adverse variances in this area following consultation with the Head of Finance / Section 151 Officer and Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources.
- (6) T H A T a sum of £2m be set aside in the Neighbourhood Services reserve to be utilised to offset adverse variances in this area following consultation with the Head of Finance / Section 151 Officer and Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources.

#### Reasons for decisions

- (1) To incorporate changes to the 2019/20 budget.
- (2) In order to gain the views of Scrutiny Committees and other consultees.
- (3) In order that Cabinet be informed of the recommendations of Scrutiny Committees before making a final proposal on the budget.
- (4) To gain approval to set aside funding in 2019/20.
- (5) To gain approval to set aside funding to mitigate additional costs associated with Education pressures in 2019/20.
- (6) To gain approval to set aside funding to mitigate additional costs associated with Neighbourhood and Transport Services in 2019/20.

### **C139 INITIAL CAPITAL PROGRAMME PROPOSALS 2020/21 TO 2024/25 AND CAPITAL MONITORING 2019/20 (L / PR) (SCRUTINY – CORPORATE PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES) –**

The purpose of the report was to gain approval for the Initial Capital Programme Proposals for the 2020/21 to 2024/25 so that they may be submitted to Scrutiny Committees for consultation.

The report provided an update on the progress of the Capital Programme for the period 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2019 to 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2019. Details by scheme were shown in Appendix 1 to the report.

The report set out any requested changes to the 2019/20 Capital Programme.

This was a matter for Executive decision.

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

RESOLVED –

(1) T H A T the Initial Capital Programme Proposals for 2020/21 to 2024/25 be approved for consultation with the relevant Scrutiny Committees.

(2) T H A T any recommendations of Scrutiny Committees be passed to Corporate Performance and Resources Scrutiny Committee as the lead Scrutiny Committee in order for their views to be forwarded to Cabinet.

(3) T H A T the following changes to the 2019/20 Capital Programme be approved:

- Flying Start Gibbonsdown Children Centre Soft Play - Include a new scheme of £25k in the 2019/20 Capital Programme to be funded from WG grant;
- Ashpath Footpath Improvements - Remove this £72k scheme from the 2019/20 Capital Programme;
- Bus Stop Upgrades - Vire £10k to the A48 Strategic Corridor and Other Primary Bus Stops scheme in the 2019/20 Capital Programme;
- Replacement Jenner Park Stadium Roof - Increase budget by £12k funded from revenue.

(4) T H A T the use of Delegated Authority to amend the 2019/20 Capital Programme be noted:

- Improvement works to the footpath infrastructure on Old Port Road, Wenvoe - Include a new £138k scheme into the 2019/20 Capital Programme to be funded by S106 Monies.

(5) T H A T the following changes to the 2019/20 and future years Capital Programme be approved:

- Band B 21st Century School Programme - Re-profile as detailed in this report.
- HRA Internal Works - Carry forward £200k into the 2020/21 Capital Programme;
- HRA External Works - Carry forward £580k into the 2020/21 Capital Programme;
- Housing Improvement Programme Common Parts - Carry forward £603k into the 2020/21 Capital Programme;
- Housing Improvement Programme Environmental Works - Carry forward £213k into the 2020/21 Capital Programme;
- Housing Improvement Programme New Build - Carry forward £600k into the 2020/21 Capital Programme;

- Penarth Heights Public Art - Vire £40k from this scheme to the North Penarth Open Space Improvements Scheme in the 2019/20 Capital Programme and carry forward £309k to the 2020/21 Capital Programme;
- Skills Training Centre - Carry forward £118k to the 2020/21 Capital Programme;
- City Deal - Amend the 2019/20 and 2020/21 budgets to £544k and £769k respectively in the Capital Programme;
- Disabled Facility Grants - Carry forward £152k into the 2020/21 Capital Programme.

#### Reasons for decisions

- (1) In order to gain the view of Scrutiny Committees.
- (2) In order that Cabinet be informed of the comments of Scrutiny Committees before making a final proposal on the 2020/21 Capital Programme.
- (3) To make amendments to the 2019/20 Capital Programme.
- (4) To advise Cabinet of the use of Delegated Authority.

#### **C140 INITIAL HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT BUDGET PROPOSALS 2020/21 AND REVISED BUDGET 2019/20 (L / PR) (SCRUTINY – CORPORATE PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES) –**

The report provided an update on the revised Housing Revenue Account Budget for 2019/20 and set out initial Housing Revenue Account budget proposals for 2020/21.

This was a matter for Executive decision.

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

#### **RESOLVED –**

- (1) T H A T the amended Housing Revenue Account budget for 2019/20 as set out in Appendix 1 to the report be approved and submitted to the Homes and Safe Communities Scrutiny Committee for consideration to provide a context for Recommendation (2).
- (2) T H A T the initial Housing Revenue Account budget proposal for 2020/21 be approved for consultation with the Homes and Safe Communities Scrutiny Committee.
- (3) T H A T the recommendations of the Homes and Safe Communities Scrutiny Committee are passed to Corporate Performance and Resources Scrutiny Committee as the lead Scrutiny Committee in order for their views to be forwarded to Cabinet.

(4) T H A T the increase for rent and other services be subject to a future report to Cabinet as soon as the information is available from the Welsh Government.

Reasons for decisions

(1) To facilitate monitoring of the amended Housing Revenue Account budget.

(2) In order to gain the views of Scrutiny Committee regarding the 2020/21 Housing Revenue Account Budget proposals.

(3) In order that Cabinet, be informed of the comments of Scrutiny Committee before making a final proposal on the budget.

(4) In order to meet the statutory deadline to notify tenants of the new charges as required by Statute.

**C141 TREASURY MANAGEMENT MID-YEAR REPORT 2019/20 (L / PR)  
(SCRUTINY – CORPORATE PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES) –**

The Executive Leader and Cabinet Member for Corporate Performance and Resources presented the report which provided an update on the Council's Treasury Management operations for the period 1<sup>st</sup> April to 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2019. All activities were in accordance with the Council's approved strategy on Treasury Management. Total external borrowing as at 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2019 was £155.024m at an average rate of 4.67%. No new external borrowing was undertaken during the first six months of 2019/20. The Council invested with the Debt Management Deposit Facility and Local Authorities. Total investments as at 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2019 stood at £99.8m at an average rate of 0.775%.

The Council had to ensure that the Prudential Code was complied with, which had been developed by CIPFA as a professional code of practice. To demonstrate the Council had fulfilled these objectives, the Code set out prudential indicators that should be used and the factors that needed to be taken into account. The Council fully complied with these prudential indicators during the first six months of 2019/20.

The Council had commenced using a new investment tool, Treasury Bills, as proposed in the 2019/20 Investment Strategy and was currently seeking advice with the Council's legal department with a view to commence investing in Money Market Funds during this financial year.

This was a matter for Executive and Full Council decision.

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

RESOLVED –

(1) T H A T the Treasury Management mid-year report for the period 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2019 to 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2019 be noted.

- (2) T H A T the latest Treasury Management indicators be noted.
- (3) T H A T the report be forwarded to the next Corporate Performance and Resources Scrutiny Committee for consideration.
- (4) T H A T the amended approach to the use of Treasury Bills and proposed use of Money Market Funds as investment tools be approved.
- (5) T H A T approval be given to the Section 151 Officer to sign the set off agreement for Lloyds Bank.
- (6) T H A T the report be forwarded to Council for approval.

#### Reasons for decisions

- (1) To present the Treasury Management mid-year report as required by the CIPFA Treasury Management in the Public Services: Code of Practice.
- (2) To present an update of the Treasury Management indicators which are included in the Treasury Management Strategy.
- (3) To present the report to the Corporate Performance and Resources Scrutiny Committee.
- (4) To ensure Cabinet are aware of current Treasury Management practices.
- (5) To enable the set off agreement to be signed.
- (6) To comply with the Treasury Management Strategy.

#### **C142 Q2 SICKNESS ABSENCE REPORT 2019/2020 (L /PR) (SCRUTINY – CORPORATE PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES) –**

The report set out the sickness absence figures for the six month period 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2019 to 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2019 as part of the agreed performance management arrangements.

There had been a significant increase in absence levels during the first half of 2019/2020 compared with the same period for the previous financial year. The absence rates were set out in paragraph 4.1 of the report and showed an increase from 3.71 days lost per FTE (April to September 2018) to 4.74 days lost per FTE (April to September 2019). The target for Quarter 2 (April to September 2019) was set as 3.71 days lost per FTE.

An analysis of the figures in each Directorate was set out in paragraph 2.7 of the report and an analysis of the reasons for absence was set out in paragraphs 2.13 to 2.25.

The increase in absence levels was largely due to the increase in long term absence rates together with an increase in absences within Schools. With Schools having almost 50% of the workforce, any increase in this area was likely to cause an increase Council wide.

There continued to be scrutiny of absence cases which took place on a monthly basis between the HR Business Partnership and Occupational Health teams, particularly reviewing staff with absences over four weeks and those who had regular absences to provide early intervention and support. Absence was discussed at Directorate Management Teams as part of their service-based action plans.

Figures for the comparison for the rest of the Welsh Authorities would not be available until later in the year, but these would be shared when available. The Vale of Glamorgan Council's current annual forecast for 2019/2020 was 11.66 days lost per FTE. This was a significant increase on absence levels for the Council over the past few years. For 2018/2019 the Council's absence figure was 9.12 days lost per FTE as a comparison.

The Council continued to support its staff through a number of initiatives listed in paragraphs 2.27 to 2.29 of the report.

The performance management approach to absence management would continue throughout 2019/20 with further updates provided to Cabinet and Scrutiny as required.

The Executive Leader and Cabinet Member for Corporate Performance and Resources commented that it was important to note that there had been a lot of Stress Related absence which was now recorded as non-work and work related. The other main reason for absence was Musculoskeletal. The Executive Leader stated that long term absence would have to be looked into further.

This was a matter for Executive decision.

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

RESOLVED –

- (1) T H A T the report and the yearly sickness absence figures provided in Appendix A be noted.
- (2) T H A T progress in relation to the Care First Employee Assistance Programme as attached in Appendix B to the report be noted.
- (3) T H A T the report be referred to Corporate Performance and Resources Scrutiny Committee for consideration, with any comments referred back to Cabinet for further consideration.

### Reasons for decisions

- (1) To bring matters to the attention of Members of the Cabinet in line with corporate objectives.
- (2) To inform Members of the Cabinet of the progress in relation to the Employee Assistance Programme.
- (3) To enable the Scrutiny Committee to maintain a continued focus on the management of sickness absence throughout all services of the Council and to make recommendations to Cabinet, as appropriate.

### **C143 WELSH GOVERNMENT'S STRATEGIC EQUALITY OBJECTIVES – DRAFT CONSULTATION RESPONSE (L / PR) (SCRUTINY – LEARNING AND CULTURE) -**

The report brought to Cabinet's attention the Council's draft response to the Welsh Government's draft strategic equality objectives consultation.

Under Wales specific equality duties, the Welsh Government must publish equality objectives that would help it to strengthen its performance of the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) and ensure it was making progress in advancing equality and inclusion for all protected groups. Its equality objectives helped Welsh Government to prioritise areas of inequality requiring urgent action. It must review them every four years and was now consulting on equality objectives for the period April 2020 to March 2024.

The Welsh Government had taken into account the Equality and Human Rights Commission's research in "Is Wales Fairer? 2018" which provided data and evidence on six themes or "domains": education; health; living standards; justice and security; work; and participation. It had also taken into account feedback from earlier engagement with equality organisations, experts, and other key stakeholders.

The Learning and Culture Scrutiny Committee had considered the Council's response at its meeting held 14<sup>th</sup> November 2019. The relevant minute of that meeting was tabled as supplementary information. The Scrutiny Committee had recommended that the equality objectives for 2020-2024 should have greater consideration and reference to mental health as an area of inequality.

Cabinet were subsequently asked to consider an amendment to Question 9 within Appendix B, which was proposed to read:

"As part of the internal engagement undertaken by the Cabinet in order to fully and properly consider the consultation, the issue of equality was raised as a consequence, with the issue of health and wellbeing being raised with particular focus on mental health. Welsh Government are asked to consider the implications of varying health and wellbeing as a factor that contributes to equality and whether this should be included as an Equality Objective".

Cabinet agreed to the amendment to the Council's submission.

This was a matter for Executive decision.

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

RESOLVED –

(1) T H A T the content of the Welsh Government's consultation document (Appendix A to the report), the Council's draft response to the consultation (Appendix B to the report), and the recommendation of the Learning and Culture Scrutiny Committee be noted.

(2) T H A T the draft consultation response be approved for submission to Welsh Government by 19<sup>th</sup> November, as amended to include reference to potential mental health inequality as part of question 9 and to reflect the recommendation received from Learning and Culture Scrutiny Committee.

(3) T H A T the use of Article 14.14.2 (ii) of the Council's Constitution (Urgent Decision Procedure) be authorised in respect of Recommendation (2) above.

#### Reasons for decisions

(1) To enable Cabinet to consider the consultation document and Council's draft response and views of the Scrutiny Committee.

(2) To enable the Council's views to be taken into account in the formulation of strategic equality objectives by the Welsh Government.

(3) To enable the response to be submitted by the Welsh Government deadline following consideration by Cabinet and previously Learning and Culture Scrutiny Committee.

#### **C144 DRAFT VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL STRATEGIC EQUALITY PLAN 2020-24 (L / PR) (SCRUTINY – LEARNING AND CULTURE) –**

The report set out how the Council had developed the draft Strategic Equality Plan 2020-24.

The report set out proposals for consulting on the draft Strategic Equality Plan 2020-24 from 25<sup>th</sup> November, 2019 to 20<sup>th</sup> January, 2020, including the involvement of the Learning and Culture Scrutiny Committee, the Council's partners and the public.

The report set out the timetable for reviewing the consultation findings and the development of a final draft for consideration by the Learning and Culture Scrutiny Committee and Cabinet prior to the publication of the new Strategic Equality Plan by 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2020.

The draft Plan set out the Council's new strategic equality objectives which were a requirement under the Equality Act 2010 and the specific duties for Wales. They would frame how the Council would deliver its vision for “working together for a fairer future” and support the Council’s corporate well-being objectives.

This was a matter for Executive decision.

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

RESOLVED –

- (1) T H A T the draft Plan (contained in Appendix A to the report) for consultation as outlined in this report and equality impact scoping assessment (Appendix B to the report) be approved.
- (2) T H A T the report and appendices be referred to the Learning and Culture Scrutiny Committee for its consideration as part of the consultation process.
- (3) T H A T a further report be received in due course outlining the results of the consultation process that would be used to develop a final draft of the Strategic Equality Plan.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) To ensure the Council has an effective and up to date Strategic Equality Pan which reflects the work being undertaken across the Council to improve equality and fairness in the Vale of Glamorgan and which is informed by consultation.
- (2) To enable the Learning and Culture Scrutiny Committee to formally consider the draft Plan as part of the consultation process.
- (3) To enable Cabinet to consider the results of the consultation and to ensure that the Strategic Equality Plan 2020-2024 is in place for 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2020.

**C145 WESTERN VALE PRIMARIES – ACCEPTANCE OF TENDER (DL / ER) (SCRUTINY – LEARNING AND CULTURE) –**

The Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Education and Regeneration presented the report which outlined that on 15<sup>th</sup> July, 2019, Cabinet approved the revised Band B 21st Century Schools Programme which included three primary schemes in the Western Vale: St. David's CIW Primary School, St. Nicholas CIW Primary School and Primary Provision in the Western Vale (Cabinet Minute C39).

Tenders were recently sought using the South East Wales Schools and Capital Funding (SEWSCAP) contractor framework under Lot 9.

These had subsequently been evaluated by Vale of Glamorgan Council and AECOM (Multi-disciplinary Consultancy) in accordance with the criteria stated in the tender documentation.

Further details of AECOM's tender evaluation were outlined in the Part II item on the agenda.

This was a matter for Executive decision.

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

RESOLVED – T H A T the report and recommendations be noted and considered with the Part II report later in the agenda

Reason for decision

To allow the Part I and II reports to be considered together.

**C146            RESHAPING SERVICES – CATERING PROJECT UPDATE (DL / ER)  
(SCRUTINY – LEARNING AND CULTURE) –**

The Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Education and Regeneration introduced the report which outlined that in April 2017, Cabinet agreed the proposal and implementation of the Vale of Glamorgan's first Local Authority Trading Company (Minute C3547). Delegated authority was granted to the Director of Learning and Skills, in conjunction with the Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Education to:

- Undertake the necessary consultation and engagement activity as described in the report;
- Respond as appropriate to any points raised as part of the engagement and consultation process;
- Report back to Cabinet any material changes to the proposals resulting from the consultation process; and
- Progress the implementation of the proposals following conclusion of all necessary consultation and engagement activity.

The report and associated appendices provided the final update prior to the creation of "The Big Fresh Catering Company" from 1<sup>st</sup> January, 2020 aimed at transforming the way services were delivered to meet increasing financial pressures following years of austerity.

As the Council's first Local Authority Trading Company (LATC), The Big Fresh Catering Company would provide delicious, innovative food services for schools, business and events. All profits generated would be invested straight back into schools which used the service.

Following a reduction in budget of £460k since 2015, as an LATC, The Big Fresh Catering Company would become self-sustaining, removing the requirement for the

remaining subsidy of £150k from the Council, while simultaneously establishing new income streams ensuring sustainability of the service and its staff, and enhancing the offer available to the Council's schools and pupils.

The Big Fresh Catering Company would operate a service delivery model based on 4 key areas: Free School Meal Entitlement, School Meals (paid for meals), Miscellaneous Income (grants and awards) and Traded Income.

In addition to enhancing services to schools, the establishment of The Big Fresh Catering Company would enable the service to become self-sustaining, thus removing the Council's existing liability of the services revenue budget of £150k per annum, further contributing to the Reshaping Services programme.

The financial appraisal could be found in the relevant section of the report and was outlined in the appended Commercial Business Plan in greater detail and highlighted a reduction of the Council's subsidy from £150k to £48,548 in 2019/20, and then generating a profit of (£13,762) in 20/21 and (£138,138) in 2021/22, eliminating any future subsidy from the Council.

This was a matter for Executive and Full Council decision.

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

RESOLVED –

- (1) T H A T the contents of the report and appendices which provide an update on the Reshaping Services Catering Project be noted.
- (2) T H A T the report be considered in connection with the Commercial Business Plan included with the associated Part II report later in the agenda.
- (3) T H A T subject to Recommendation (2) above, Cabinet agree to proceed with the transfer of services to a Local Authority Trading Company (LATC), wholly owned by the Council, and to begin operation from 1<sup>st</sup> January, 2020.
- (4) T H A T subject to Recommendation (2) above, the establishment of a Shareholder Committee comprising the Council's Managing Director in his capacity as Director of Resources and the Cabinet Member for Education and Regeneration who will represent the Council as the shareholder of the company and who will be advised by a Shareholder Advisory Panel, consisting Council Officers, be noted.
- (5) T H A T subject to Recommendation (2) above, Cabinet agree that the Council should provide indemnities pursuant to the Local Authorities (Indemnities for Members and Officers) Order 2004 in relation to any financial / other liabilities arising for Councillors and Officers as follows:
  - Councillors and senior officers acting in good faith, working outside the Council as an authorised representative of the Council in respect of the wholly owned LATC in respect of acts or defaults covered by the Order;

- Councillors' and Officers' liabilities and legal costs in defending any claim brought against them for acting in good faith but outside the powers of the Council in relation to the wholly owned LATC will be indemnified in appropriate circumstances which will be considered on a case by case basis should the liability arise.

(6) T H A T subject to Recommendation (2) above, Cabinet agree that all indemnities be subject to the following provisions:

- The indemnity will apply retrospectively to any act or failure to act which may have occurred before the date the indemnity was approved and shall continue to apply after the Councillor, officer or other Member has ceased to be a Councillor, officer or other Member of the Council as well as during his / her membership of or employment by the Council;
- The indemnity shall only extend to actual loss and expense incurred. The indemnity does not cover any loss or expense for which the Councillor, officer or other Member can obtain re-imburement from any other source, including insurance whether taken out by the Council, Councillor or officer, or by any other person or organisation;
- Any application for an indemnity received from a Member or officer should be processed in accordance with the Council's procedures.

(7) T H A T subject to Recommendation (2) above, the Director of Learning and Skills be authorised, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, the Cabinet Member with portfolio responsibility for Education and Regeneration, the Council's Monitoring Officer and the Section 151 Officer, to approve:

- the Articles of Association (Appendix 1) for the LATC, and the size and composition of its Board of Directors;
- the Catering Services Agreement (Appendix 2) between the Vale of Glamorgan Council and the LATC; and
- such other documents as may be necessary to govern the LATC and to manage the relationship between the Council and the LATC.

(8) T H A T subject to Recommendation (2) above, delegated authority be granted to the Council's Section 151 / Head of Finance, in consultation with the Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Resources, the Council's Monitoring Officer and the Director of Learning and Skills, to authorise future provision to the LATC compliant with state aid.

(9) T H A T subject to Recommendation (2) above, the report be referred to Council to make the necessary constitutional changes to establish the role of the Shareholder Committee.

### Reasons for decisions

(1) To ensure that Cabinet are satisfied that all necessary work has been undertaken to enable the Local Authority Trading Company to begin trading for the provision of Catering Services.

(2) To ensure approval from Cabinet of the Commercial Business Plan in compliance with the Local Government (Best Value Authorities) (Power to Trade) Order 2009, and to allow the Part I and II reports to be considered together.

Subject to Recommendation/Reason 2:

(3) To ensure Cabinet are satisfied with the updates provided prior to the transfer of services to an LATC for the delivery of the Council's catering services from 1<sup>st</sup> January, 2020.

(4) To ensure appropriate governance arrangements are established.

(5) In exercise of the Local Authorities powers to grant indemnities (subject to restrictions set out in Regulations) to cover the potential liability of Councillors and Officers involved in the LATC.

(6) To ensure that in exercising the Local Authorities powers to grant indemnities that restrictions set out in legal Regulations are adhered to.

(7) To progress the establishment of the LATC and associated service level agreements and such other agreements necessary to govern the LATC.

(8) To authorise the Council's Section 151 Officer / Head of Finance, in consultation with the Leader and Cabinet Member for Resources, the Monitoring Officer, and the Director of Learning and Skills, to make future provision to the LATC which is state aid compliant and which is subject to the prior written consent of the Controlling Shareholder.

(9) To amend the Council's Constitution to reflect the establishment of the role and terms of reference of the Shareholder Committee.

**C147 REVIEW OF POLLING DISTRICTS, POLLING PLACES AND POLLING STATIONS – ELECTORAL REGISTRATION OFFICER'S FINAL PROPOSALS (LRPS) (SCRUTINY – CORPORATE PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES) –**

The Council needed to designate a polling place for each polling district, unless the size or other circumstances of a polling district were such that the situation of the polling place did not materially affect the convenience of the electors. The Council also had to seek to ensure that all electors in a constituency in its area had such reasonable facilities for voting as were practicable in the circumstances unless there were special circumstances.

Aligned to the above was a statutory duty for a Local Authority to review the polling districts, places and stations within its Parliamentary Constituency and Local Authority area every five years.

The report detailed the programme for the review and the final proposals of the Electoral Registration Officer.

Appendix 1 to the report detailed the current list of polling districts, places and stations for the whole of the Vale of Glamorgan and the Electoral Registration Officer's final proposals having taken the 1983 Act and the Electoral Commission's guidance into account. Where a change to the polling station had been identified, the proposed alternative polling station details were listed supported by the Electoral Registration Officer's comments for change. Representations received were shown in Appendix 2 through to Appendix 12 and where relevant were cross referenced within Appendix 1.

Whilst assessing the current arrangements, consideration had been given to location, size, availability and accessibility. All schools used as polling stations were reviewed in detail to reduce the number of schools needing to close in the area. In addition, consideration had been given to a number of concerns and complaints received at the European Parliamentary Election in May 2019 regarding the locations and sizes of temporary portacabins. It had therefore been recognised that portacabins required significant adaptation to assist with access.

This was a matter for Executive and Full Council decision.

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

RESOLVED –

(1) T H A T the Electoral Registration Officer's final proposals set out in Appendix 1 of the report for the Polling Districts, Places and Stations Review for the Vale of Glamorgan Council Area and Parliamentary Constituency be agreed.

(2) T H A T the report be referred to Council on 9<sup>th</sup> December, 2019 for consideration of the final proposals and, if appropriate, to approve the recommended changes to take effect on 2<sup>nd</sup> January, 2020.

Reason for decisions

(1&2) In line with the Council's statutory obligations under the Representation of the People Act 1983.

**C148 PENARTH LEISURE CENTRE, ACCEPTANCE OF TENDER FOR ELECTRICAL REWIRE (LAC) (SCRUTINY – CORPORATE PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES) –**

The Cabinet Member for Leisure, Arts and Culture presented the report which highlighted that funding for the re-wire of Barry and Penarth Leisure Centres was included within the current financial year's Capital Programme. Following a competitive tendering process tenders had been received for these works.

Cabinet approval was being requested to accept the lowest tender and enter into a Joint Contracts Tribunal (JCT) Minor works contract to undertake the electrical rewire of Penarth Leisure Centre.

This was a matter for Executive decision.

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

RESOLVED – T H A T the contents of the report be noted, with a view to taking decisions on the award of the JCT Minor works contract detailed within the Part II report later on this agenda.

Reason for decision

To advise Cabinet of the proposed contract award arrangements for the electrical rewire of Penarth Leisure Centre.

**C149 CORPORATE STRATEGY FOR CHILDREN WHO NEED CARE AND SUPPORT 2019-23 (SCH) (SCRUTINY – HEALTHY LIVING AND SOCIAL CARE) –**

The Strategy attached at Appendix 1 to the report was the second Vale of Glamorgan Corporate Strategy for Children Who Need Care and Support.

First endorsed by Cabinet in October 2016, the initial three year Strategy marked a significant change in recognising the responsibilities of the whole Council in enabling children in need of care and support to receive the right help at the right time to improve their well-being and protect them from harm, and in aligning the roles of each Directorate in delivering the associated Action Plan.

The Strategy had provided a shared direction over the last three years and the work achieved had helped to inform the direction going forward. The four year Strategy had been developed in partnership with the Council's external partners in Health and the Third Sector and very positively reflected those relationships in the structure of the Strategy itself and the actions that supported it.

The Strategy identified how the needs of children, young people and their families would be met within the resources available to the Council and its partners during the period 2019 to 2023 utilising an integrated model of services to children and young people.

The Strategy had been subject to extensive consultation with stakeholders and had been considered by the Healthy Living and Social Care Committee before being presented to Cabinet.

This was a matter for Executive decision.

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

RESOLVED – That a new four year Corporate Strategy and Action Plan for Children who need Care and Support be endorsed to replace the current Corporate Strategy.

Reason for decision

To support the collaborative delivery of services to meet the assessed needs of children who need care and support.

**C150            RESHAPING SERVICES – DAY TIME OPPORTUNITIES FOR OLDER PEOPLE (SCH) (SCRUTINY – HEALTHY LIVING AND SOCIAL CARE) –**

The Cabinet Member for Social Care and Health presented the report, which advised that further to the decision of Cabinet on 29<sup>th</sup> July 2019 a comprehensive engagement and consultation exercise had taken place with current service users of the Rondel House and St. John’s Day Centres, their carer’s, staff employed in the Day Centres and wider stakeholders.

The reconfiguration of Day Service provision for older people in the Vale of Glamorgan had been identified as one of the Council’s Reshaping Services Projects and as part of that reconfiguration a target of £40,000 was included in the Council’s revenue budget savings proposals for 2019/20.

A Project Group had been set up to explore the best way to maintain a quality service while making the efficiency savings.

The Cabinet Member for Social Care and Health stated that it was important that sufficient time had been given for responses to be submitted, which was why consultation had not ended until October. In addition, the Cabinet Member stated that implementation of Option E had been endorsed by the Healthy Living and Social Care Scrutiny Committee at its meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> November, 2019, which he had attended. The Cabinet Member stated that the Scrutiny Committee had not made any other comments, although there were queries relating to Catering and Human Resources. These would be considered as part of the implementation phase. The Cabinet Member further advised that there were issues relating to where staff would be based, as some staff would be transferred from St. John’s to Rondel House.

This was a matter for Executive decision.

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

RESOLVED –

(1)    T H A T the content of the report and outcome of the consultation and engagement exercise be endorsed.

(2) T H A T, the Director of Social Services be authorised, with the Project Group to implement Option E (Appendix 1 to the report) and make the changes set out in the report to facilitate the required savings.

(3) T H A T the Monitoring Officer / Head of Legal and Democratic Services, Head of Human Resources and Organisation Development, and Head of Finance / Section 151 Officer be authorised to conclude any appropriate arrangements to facilitate the operation of the service from Rondel House.

(4) T H A T the Monitoring Officer / Head of Legal and Democratic Services be granted delegated authority to agree terms and conditions on behalf of the Council and execute the contract with Carers Trust in line with Option E as referred to in the report.

#### Reasons for decisions

(1) To inform Cabinet of the outcome of the consultation and engagement exercise.

(2) To allow the proposals for the improvement of day-time opportunities for older people and people living with dementia in the Vale of Glamorgan to be implemented.

(3) To ensure that there are confirmed arrangements in place to allow for a service to be provided in partnership with South East Carers Trust operating from Rondel House

(4) To ensure that appropriate contractual arrangements are in place.

#### **C151 CORPORATE SAFEGUARDING SUMMARY REPORT – NOVEMBER 2019 (SCH) (SCRUTINY – ALL) –**

The mid-term summary provided an overview of the priorities of the Corporate Safeguarding Group work plan and work plan updates.

There was Corporate responsibility to ensure that there were effective arrangements in place for safeguarding children and adults who required specific Council services.

This was a matter for Executive decision.

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

**RESOLVED –**

(1) T H A T the work that has been undertaken to improve corporate arrangements for safeguarding and protecting children and adults be noted.

(2) T H A T Cabinet continues to receive six monthly reports on work carried out to improve Corporate Safeguarding arrangements and the effectiveness of relevant Policies.

(3) T H A T the report be referred to Healthy Living and Social Care, Learning and Culture, Home and Safe Communities, Corporate Performance and Resources and Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny Committees for consideration.

#### Reasons for decisions

(1) To ensure that Cabinet is aware of recent developments in corporate arrangements for safeguarding.

(2) To allow Cabinet to exercise effective oversight of this key area of corporate working.

(3) To respond to requests that each Scrutiny Committee is provided with update reports.

#### **C152 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.

#### **C153 WESTERN VALE PRIMARIES – ACCEPTANCE OF TENDER (DL / ER) (SCRUTINY – LEARNING AND CULTURE) (EXEMPT INFORMATION – PARAGRAPH 14) –**

On 15<sup>th</sup> July, 2019, Cabinet approved the revised Band B 21st Century Schools Programme which included three primary schemes in the Western Vale: St. David's CIW Primary School, St. Nicholas CIW Primary School and Primary Provision in the Western Vale (Cabinet minute C39).

Tenders were recently sought using the South East Wales Schools and Capital Funding (SEWSCAP) contractor framework under Lot 9.

Four tenders were received and opened on 4<sup>th</sup> October, 2019. These had subsequently been evaluated by Vale of Glamorgan Council and AECOM (Multi-disciplinary Consultancy) based on the criteria stated in the tender documentation.

It was recommended that the tender from ISG Construction Ltd be accepted.

This was a matter for Executive decision.

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

RESOLVED –

- (1) T H A T the appointment of ISG Construction Ltd to undertake pre-construction design and procurement services for the proposed new build works at three primary schools across the Western Vale be approved.
- (2) T H A T the Monitoring Officer / Head of Legal and Democratic Services be authorised to execute the Professional Services Contract with ISG Construction Ltd for the pre-construction design and procurement services.
- (3) T H A T Cabinet receives a further report when the full cost of the works has been determined to enter into the NEC4 Option A (Lump Sum with Activity Schedule) Contract.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) To ensure the required works are completed for the new build at the three Western Vale Primaries.
- (2) To permit execution of formal contracts between the Council and ISG Construction Ltd.
- (3) To ensure the full cost of the scheme is determined before the NEC4 Option A (Lump Sum with Activity Schedule) Contract is entered into

**C154 RESHAPING SERVICES – CATERING PROJECT UPDATE (DL / ER) (SCRUTINY – LEARNING AND CULTURE) (EXEMPT INFORMATION – PARAGRAPHS 13 AND 14) –**

The report was read in conjunction with the related Part I report. A copy of the Commercial Business Plan for The Big Fresh Catering Company was attached at Appendix 1 to the report which contained detailed information about the company set up, including financial details which were commercially sensitive.

It being noted that an update report would be submitted to the Scrutiny Committee following a period of months after the Company has started traded.

This was a matter for Executive decision.

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

RESOLVED –

- (1) T H A T the content and recommendations contained in the related Part I report relating to this agenda item be noted and agreed.

(2) T H A T, subject to Recommendation (1) and after consideration of The Big Fresh Catering Company's Business Plan attached in Appendix 1 to the Part II report, the creation of the Council's first Local Authority Trading Company from 1<sup>st</sup> January, 2020 be agreed.

Reasons for decisions

(1) To ensure that Cabinet are satisfied that all necessary work has been undertaken to allow The Big Fresh Catering Company to begin trading for the provision of Catering Services from 1<sup>st</sup> January, 2020 and to agree Recommendations (3)-(9) as set out in the Part 1 report on this matter earlier on the agenda.

(2) To provide Cabinet with all relevant, commercially sensitive information relating to the business plan for The Big Fresh Catering Company and to approve the transfer of services to the Local Authority Trading Company.

**C155 PENARTH LEISURE CENTRE, ACCEPTANCE OF TENDER FOR ELECTRICAL REWIRE (LAC) (SCRUTINY – CORPORATE PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES) (EXEMPT INFORMATION – PARAGRAPHS 12a, 13 AND 14) –**

Funding for the re-wire of Barry and Penarth Leisure Centres was included within this year's Capital Programme. Following a competitive tendering process tenders had been received for these works, insofar as they related to Penarth Leisure Centre. Cabinet noted that the work had already been undertaken in relation to Barry Leisure Centre.

Cabinet approval was being requested to accept the lowest tender and enter into a Joint Contracts Tribunal (JCT) Minor works contract to undertake the electrical rewire of Penarth Leisure Centre.

This was a matter for Executive decision.

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

**RESOLVED –**

(1) T H A T the award of the Penarth Leisure Centre electrical rewire JCT Minor works contract to Woodland Electrical Barry Limited be approved.

(2) T H A T delegated authority be granted to the Monitoring Officer / Head of Legal and Democratic Services, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Leisure, Arts and Culture, to prepare and execute a contract with the successful contractor.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) To comply with the Council's Contract Standing Orders, which require contracts with a value in excess of £300,000 to be agreed by Cabinet.
- (2) To enable the contract documentation to be finalised.