

CABINET

Minutes of a meeting held on 16 December, 2019.

Present: Councillor N. Moore (Chairman); Councillor L. Burnett (Vice-Chairman); Councillors P.G. King, K.F. McCaffer, Mrs. M.R. Wilkinson and E. Williams.

Also Present: Councillor Christine Cave.

C166 APOLOGY FOR ABSENCE –

This was received from Councillor B.T. Gray.

C167 MINUTES –

RESOLVED – T H A T the minutes of the meeting held on 2 December, 2019 be approved as a correct record.

C168 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST –

No declarations were received.

C169 CARDIFF CAPITAL REGION CITY DEAL – REGIONAL CABINET MEETING –

The minutes of the Cardiff Capital Region City Deal Regional Cabinet Meeting held on 12 September, 2019 were submitted.

Cabinet had requested that the agreed minutes from the Cardiff Capital Region Cabinet and Regional Transport Authority public meetings be noted by Cabinet and be available for information to all Members.

Present:

Councillors Garth Collier (Blaenau Gwent), Richard Young (Bridgend), Sean Morgan (Caerphilly), Huw Thomas (Cardiff), Kevin O'Neill (Merthyr Tydfil), Peter Fox (Monmouthshire), Andrew Morgan (Chairman, RCT), Richard Clark (Torfaen) and Neil Moore (Vale of Glamorgan).

Also Present:

Mark Shephard (Bridgend), Christina Harray (Caerphilly), Paul Orders (Cardiff), Will Godfrey (Newport), Chris Bradshaw (RCT), Rob Thomas (Vale of Glamorgan), Hrijinder Singh, Anil Hirani, Gareth Gates, Elizabeth Weale, Jenna Walters and Christopher Lee (Accountable Body), Phil Lewis (VRP Manager – item 6 only), Kellie Beirne, Rhys Thomas, Nicola Somerville and Liz Fitzgerald (City Deal Office),

Frances O'Brien (Monmouthshire), Gareth Nutt (Neath Port Talbot – by telephone for Item 6), Rachel Jowitt (Torfaen), Anne-Marie Harkin and Philip Pugh (Wales Audit Office) and Dr Angharad Penny Evans (Welsh Government).

Apologies for Absence:

Cllr Nigel Daniels & Michelle Morris (Blaenau Gwent), Cllr Huw David (Bridgend), Cllr David Poole (Caerphilly), Gareth Chapman (Merthyr Tydfil), Paul Matthews (Monmouthshire), Cllr Debbie Wilcox (Newport), Cllr Anthony Hunt & Alison Ward (Torfaen).

1. Welcome & Apologies

- (1) Cllr Andrew Morgan opened the meeting and apologies were noted.

2. Declarations of Interest

- (1) Cllr Sean Morgan declared a personal interest in respect of item 9, namely that he was a Director of CSC Foundry having been appointed to that body by his authority, Caerphilly CBC.
- (2) Cllr Clark declared a personal interest in respect of item 9, namely that he was a Director of CSC Foundry having been appointed to that body by his authority, Torfaen CBC.
- (3) Mark Shephard declared a personal interest in respect of item 9, namely that he was a Director of CSC Foundry having been appointed to that body by his authority, Bridgend CBC.
- (4) Cllr Richard Young, in his capacity as a Cabinet Member for Bridgend CBC, noted a potential conflict of interest in item 8 (given the item related to proposed funding to Bridgend CBC) and indicated that he would not exercise his right to vote on this matter.
- (5) Rob Thomas, Christina Harray and Will Godfrey declared their interests as members of the CCR Investment Panel.

In respect of the declarations made above at paragraphs 2 (1) (2) and (3), whilst of the view that such interests were not prejudicial given the item of business falls within one of the exemptions specified in the code (namely paragraph 12.2 (III) –relates to a body to which you have been elected, appointed, or nominated by your authority) the members and officer concerned decided not to take part in the discussion and left the meeting whilst item 9 was considered.

3. Minutes of the meeting held on 15 July 2019

- (1) The minutes of the meeting held on 15 July 2019 were agreed as accurate.

4. Consolidated Statement of Accounts 2018/19 incorporating AGS

- a 2018/19 Audited Statement of Accounts**
Christopher Lee presented his report.

b Audit of 2018/19 Financial Statements Report

- i Anne-Marie Harkin presented the Wales Audit Office, Audit of 2018/19 Financial Statements Report - Cardiff Capital Region City Deal and advised that the WAO were comfortable with the accounts and an unqualified audit opinion had been given in respect of the closure process. Practical issues that needed to be addressed for the following year had been flagged. Anne-Marie thanked Kellie Beirne and the Accountable Body for their support in the process.
- ii Anne-Marie noted an issue that had been flagged where the WAO work had identified an issue in respect of the registration of members interests within one authority and the process and procedure in place to notify the CCRC Director and Accountable Body of those interests. The process in place currently was one of compliance with individual local authority procedures and policies. The WAO would be writing separately to the local authority concerned and also to the Accountable Body and City Deal Office.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Cardiff Capital Region Joint Cabinet authorised:

- i. the Chair of the Joint Committee to sign the Statement of Responsibilities for the Financial Statements on **page 13 of Appendix A**, the Annual Governance Statement on **page 59 of Appendix A** and the Letter of Representation to the Wales Audit Office for 2018/19 (**Appendix C**);
- ii. the Joint Committee Section 151 Officer to sign the Chief Financial Officer's Statement of Responsibilities on **page 14 of Appendix A**;
- iii. the Director to also sign the Annual Governance Statement on **page 59 of Appendix A** and the Letter of Representation to the Wales Audit Office for 2017/18 (**Appendix C**); and iv. the Accountable Body to publish the final, audited Statement of Accounts and to make arrangements for the necessary public notifications as soon as possible.

5. 2019/20 Month 04 Joint Committee Revenue Budget Monitoring Position

- (1) Christopher Lee presented his report.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Cardiff Capital Region Regional Cabinet:

- notes the actual expenditure, income and projected full year outturn position as at 31st July 2019 (Month 04), against its approved 2019/20 Revenue Budget.

6. Valleys Regional Park

Phil Lewis joined the meeting; Gareth Nutt dialled in.

- (1) Mark Shephard introduced the report.
- (2) Phil Lewis provided an update of the Valleys Regional Park's launch

on 11 September.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Cardiff Capital Region Regional Cabinet:

- i. notes the progress to date in establishing the VRP as outlined above;
- ii. agrees to receive further reports on progress at appropriate stages.

Phil Lewis left the meeting; the conference call with Gareth Nutt was closed.

7. **Regional Transport Authority Delegations**

- (1) Kellie introduced the report.
- (2) Cllr Huw Thomas asked for an update relating to the appendix on the Metro Plus scheme summary as regards two of the items referred to. Kellie said there was an issue with land acquisition in Merthyr Tydfil which was expected to be resolved shortly and that Transport for Wales would be taking forward the feasibility study in respect of the proposed scheme at Abertillery. The current ratings were thus notional and indicated where each of the ten schemes were currently in progress.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Cardiff Capital Region Regional Cabinet:

- 1 notes the updates on the Metro Plus Programme and the 10 projects in scope;
- 2 notes and supports the need for the Regional Transport Authority to finalise and approve the CAF at its November meeting in order to establish the framework against which the requested delegations can apply;
- 3 Amend the Regional Transport Authority's Terms of Reference (under the paragraph headed 'Functions') to include the following additional functions and delegated authority:

[A] Delegate authority to the Regional Transport Authority ('RTA') to make decisions as regards:

- (1) the allocation of City Deal monies to individual Metro Plus projects within the envelop of the approved budget of up to £15m and
- (2) all associated matters required to facilitate the implementation of the Metro Plus Projects within the envelop of the approved budget of up to £15m;

[B] Delegate authority to the City Deal Director in consultation with the Chair of the RTA (or in his absence the Vice Chair of the RTA), the Accountable Body S151 Officer and the local RTA Member to authorise spend on individual approved Metro Plus projects up to the sum approved by the RTA in respect of the Metro Plus project concerned (pursuant to the above delegation) and to deal with all associated matters required to facilitate the implementation of the

Metro Plus Project PROVIDED Always that in exercising any delegated powers all decisions made should:

- i. consider the broader aims and objectives of the Common Assessment framework;
- ii. be made in accordance with the requirements of the Joint working Agreement in relation to the delivery of the Cardiff Capital Region City Deal;
- iii. be within approved budgets and comply with any legal requirement and
- iv. a full record (report) of the exercise of such powers shall be kept by the City Deal Director in respect of each decision taken and update reports provided to the RTA outlining decisions taken.

8. Supporting Local Sustainable Growth – Bridgend

- (1) Kellie presented the report.
- (2) Cllr Young thanked the Committee on behalf of Bridgend CBC for considering this matter and stated he would not take part in any further discussion on this item.
- (3) Cllr Richard Young, in his capacity as a Cabinet Member for Bridgend CBC, had noted a potential conflict of interest in item 8 (given the item related to proposed funding to Bridgend County Borough Council) and indicated that he would not exercise his right to vote on this matter.
- (4) Cllr Huw Thomas asked if the CCR Regional Cabinet would be writing formally to the Minister in respect of the match funding sought; Kellie confirmed that this was in hand but confirmation of match funding was awaited.
- (5) In respect of this issue, Cllr Andrew Morgan noted a lack of substantive contact from Welsh Government and hoped some jointly funded projects could be taken forward in the coming months. It was suggested that a letter be sent to the Economy Minister, Ken Skates, setting out the CCR position and confirming the availability of £50,000 for proposal development.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Cardiff Capital Region Regional Cabinet:

- supports and approves the identification and allocation of £50,000 worth of investment from the Wider Investment Fund Programme Development Support Budget, in 2019/20 in order to develop proposal and business case propositions which can be used as the basis of driving forward place-based economic activity to mitigate and offset the proposed Ford Bridgend closure subject to securing the ‘match’ contribution of £50,000 from Welsh Government.

9. Strength in Places Submission of Full Business Place for CS Connected

Mark Shephard, Cllr Sean Morgan and Cllr Clark having declared personal interests left the room whilst this item was considered.

- (1) Cllr Fox introduced the report and thanked all officers who had been involved in preparing the bid. Cllr Fox reminded members that Appendices 1, 2, 3 and 5 were exempt from publication for the reasons stated on the report and agenda.
- (2) Cllr Andrew Morgan sought clarification that funding would not be drawn down until all dependent funding streams were in place.
- (3) Kellie thanked the consortium of partners who worked on the bid and confirmed the submission date of 18 September.
- (4) Cllr Thomas asked for clarity as regards comments made in respect of the bid being 'Brexit-proof' as Welsh Government had identified the CS sector as the most at risk; Kellie said Welsh Government may be referring to the impact on exchange rates and the cap-ex costs associated with construction such as imports of steel and palladium. The key trading partners and market was not Europe-based but in North America, Canada and South East Asia.
- (5) Cllr Moore queried the ratification process for the bid given it was critical that it received the highest levels of endorsement and what further support could be offered in the interim; Kellie confirmed it would be going to the CCR Investment Panel for review and consideration and a letter of support drafted. Notification of the bid would be received in February or March 2020.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Cardiff Capital Region Regional Cabinet:

- 1) notes and approves the proposed bid/ business plan submission by the CCR Consortium on 18 September 2019 to the SIPF aimed at growing the CS Cluster;
- 2) notes the request for a financial contribution and 'match funding' from CCRCDC of an indicative £3.3m to build the £43.3m investment package. To further note that this proposed contribution will be subject to the due diligence and decision making process under the Investment Framework; the legal position regarding the Development Agreement for Lease (which may require renegotiation with IQE to carve out the CS Connected HQ 'site'); and State Aid considerations, should the bid be successful and compliance with all other relevant legal requirements;
- 3) endorses the commissioning of Yole to the value of £25k (from the approved Projects Development Fund) in order to secure independent data and evidence to supplement the bid and inform the future narrative around targeted regional cluster development;
- 4) approves the principle of exploring options with regards to land acquisition potential (as detailed in the report) and seeking of all

- relevant professional advice. To note that any formal proposal constructed will be subject to the Investment Framework process and full cabinet decision-making and
- 5) notes progress made with WG regarding joint support for the sector and future growth of the cluster.

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RESOLVED – T H A T the minutes of the Cardiff Capital Region City Deal Regional Cabinet meeting held on 12 September, 2019 be noted.

Reason for decision

To note the minutes.

C170 MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN 2019/20 TO 2022/23 (REF) –

Cabinet had considered the report on 7 October, 2019 and had resolved that the Plan be referred to the Corporate Performance and Resources Scrutiny Committee for consideration with any comments made by the Committee to be taken into account as part of the final budget proposals for 2020/21. The purpose of the Medium Term Financial Plan was to link the Council's strategic planning process with the budget process and to ensure consistency between them. It was a mechanism that attempted to match future predicted resources and expenditure, identify potential shortfalls and provide the financial framework for the next three years.

The Section 151 Officer, in presenting the report, advised that there was currently no indication as to what the allocation from Welsh Government was likely to be and as a result of the uncertainty the Plan had been modelled on a range of Welsh Government settlements and Council Tax increases. The matching exercise indicated that if there was a cash neutral or 1% reduction in the settlement from Welsh Government and if there was a 4.9% increase in Council Tax for each year of the Plan, there remained between 10.470m and £14.986m of savings to be identified for the three years of the Plan. If the Council Tax was to be increased to and maintained at the Welsh average, with a cash neutral or 1% reduction in the settlement from Welsh Government, there remained between £3.747m and £8.263m of savings to be identified for the three years of the Plan. It being noted that this was after the Council had already planned for £748k of savings (excluding schools) for the same period.

In commenting on the report, a Member queried whether the new developments that were taking place across the Vale had been taken into account for Council Tax purposes, with the Head of Service advising that the Council Tax figures were based on current numbers.

Having regard to the discussions in relation to Council Tax, the Head of Service advised that the Department had devised a spreadsheet comparing how a percentage change in Council Tax would impact on the Council Tax due from homes

in different Bands in the Vale. The Chairman requested that copies of the information be emailed to all Members of the Council.

A Member queried how the predicted cost pressures had been arrived at, particularly if a Council Tax increase would not be required to be as high as had been calculated. The Head of Service, in response, advised that the school demographic growth was based on funding levels per pupil and the placement budget for Learning and Skills was looking at the cohort of children going through the system now. Cost pressures were updated on an annual basis. The Member was also concerned about the potential of increasing Council Tax having regard to the significant number of reserves available as the Council Tax rise would increase the pressure on rate payers. It was however noted that all the figures referred to had been discussed by the Scrutiny Committees with all departments having had to justify their cost pressure requests. The Council was also currently looking at all its services and realigning them or restructuring where appropriate. Consideration was being given to non-statutory and statutory services which was undertaken on an annual basis, it being noted that it was not practical to get rid of all non-statutory services due to the knock on effect they had, for example referring to leisure services, although not a statutory service it assisted with the Health and Wellbeing agenda.

The Chairman also considered that the Council should be looking at other investment strategy opportunities, recognising that value for money was important for Council Tax payers and also noting that the demographics were having an effect on the whole of the Vale of Glamorgan. In referring to the Digital Strategy, he queried what progress the Council was currently making, being subsequently advised that Microsoft Office 365 was currently being rolled out within the Council. The Department was also focusing on space with desk occupancy sensors having been purchased to provide data in order that informed decisions could be made. The sensors had been used within the Dock Offices and the data so far received was due to be analysed shortly. The initiative was currently being rolled out on the third floor of the Civic Offices.

Subsequently, it was

RESOLVED – T H A T Cabinet be requested to consider the demographic growth within the Vale of Glamorgan and its impact on resources and to consider further investment opportunities for the future of the Council.

Reason for decision

Having regard to the discussions at the meeting and the contents contained within the report.

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Cabinet, having considered the reference and recommendations of the Scrutiny Committee

RESOLVED - T H A T the contents of the report be noted, and Cabinet would continue to consider the demographic growth within the Vale of Glamorgan and its

impact on resources and would consider further investment opportunities for the future of the Council.

Reason for decision

To note the contents of the report.

C171 RESHAPING SERVICES: TOWN AND COMMUNITY COUNCIL ENGAGEMENT IN OPERATING LOCAL SERVICES AND ASSETS (REF) –

On 24 October, 2019 the Corporate Performance and Resources Scrutiny Committee considered the above matter following referral from Cabinet on 7 October, 2019 (Minute No. C107).

Throughout the Reshaping Services programme the Council had engaged with Town and Community Councils with work to date being primarily focused on developing relationships and an understanding of the capacity, appetite and desire of Town and Community Councils to take a greater role in the provision of localised services and the operation of local assets that may be valued by local residents. However, where the Vale of Glamorgan Council may not be able to, or be the most appropriate body to continue such services in the future, the discussions had continued. As a result, an event was held in July 2019 to consider the issues, which was well attended by Town and Community Councils.

The report to Cabinet set out a series of proposals for consideration that met the aim of the Reshaping Services strategy, which was to protect priority services wherever possible. The proposals concentrated on an initial phase of assets (public conveniences and allotments) and services (grass cutting) as a means of developing pragmatic proposals for the coming financial year.

At the Cabinet meeting on 7 October, the Managing Director and the Director of Environment and Housing Services had stated that it was important that Town and Community Councils knew what the Vale of Glamorgan Council intended to progress around the Reshaping Services agenda with the report being able to provide information so that Town and Community Councils could plan more effectively and set their own budgets accordingly.

In considering the report it was noted that the Community Asset Transfer guidance process was a vehicle to encourage community groups, Town and Community Councils to consider opportunities and set out the process for the submission of Expression of Interest, however it was noted that this was not the only vehicle as long leases or even trial pilots could be considered. Following the Town and Community Council event that had been held in July 2019, a further event would be arranged before the end of the current financial year. It was accepted that as a Council, the information relating to what services it may not be able to provide due to resourcing issues was shared, with discussions to take place of how some services could be continued within communities if Town and Community Councils wished to do so. Other considerations to take into account the Chairman listed for example were TUPE considerations, the transferring of assets by lease or any other way, the

use of the Charter with Town and Community Councils and the Council's own view in relation to what type of strategic assets it would wish to retain.

The Head of Human Resources, who was present at the meeting, advised that any TUPE arrangements would be considered within the TUPE process, also highlighting other considerations like the ACAS service and COT 3.

Having regard to legal advice in relation to the engagement of Town and Community Councils in operating local services and assets, the Head of Legal and Democratic Services advised that One Voice Wales could provide assistance to Town and Community Councils on this matter and condition surveys would accompany any transfer. All these considerations would be made when Town and Community Councils had put forward any suggestions for discussion.

Subsequently, it was

RESOLVED –

(1) T H A T Cabinet be urged to progress discussions with Town and Community Councils.

(2) T H A T TUPE arrangements, the Council's view on strategic arrangements, any legal advice required, setting up a fund to assist with the transfer of assets be considered by Cabinet when discussing matters with Town and Community Councils and that progress on the agenda be urged in view of impending budgetary discussions within the Vale and the Town and Community Councils' budgetary processes themselves.

Reasons for decisions

(1) To ensure that momentum is maintained.

(2) That various aspects outlined above are considered during the process.

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At the Cabinet meeting, it was further noted that there are currently no proposals concerning the transfer of staff.

Cabinet, having considered the reference and recommendations of the Scrutiny Committee

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

Reason for decision

To note the contents of the report.

C172 REVENUE MONITORING FOR THE PERIOD 1ST APRIL TO 31ST AUGUST 2019 (REF) –

On 24 October, 2019 the Corporate Performance and Resources Scrutiny Committee considered the above matter.

In considering the report it was noted that some services were anticipating adverse variances by year end and would not achieve their savings target in the full year. The Learning and Skills Directorate had been requested to look at ways of mitigating a projected overspend of £538k, with this being after a planned draw down from reserves of £136k. Schools' budgets were expected to balance but there was an adverse variance on the Strategy, Culture Community Learning and Resources services of £32k. For Additional Learning Needs and Wellbeing, a net adverse variance of £568k was projected. The key emerging challenge for schools in this area was the increasing number of children and young people who were displaying very complex social, emotional and mental health difficulties.

The major concern for Social Services in relation to Children and Young People Services was the continuing pressure on the children's placements budget given the complexities of the children currently being supported and the high cost placements some of the children required to meet their needs. Work however continued to ensure that children we placed in the most appropriate and cost effective placements, however in the context of the complexity of need and the national challenges in identifying placements, it was projected that the budget could overspend by around £1.5m in the year.

For Adult Services the pressure on the Community Care Packages budget had been reassessed with a projected net overspend at year end of around £700k. The service continued to be affected by the pressures of continued demographic growth, an increase in the cost of service provision and the Community Care Packages budget would have to achieve further savings in the year.

For Environment and Housing, within the Waste Collection Service it was anticipated that there would be an adverse variance of around £650k as there was still pressure on employee and transport budgets due to downtime involved in travelling to Cardiff to dispose of waste.

The Neighbourhood Services and Transport Service was projecting an adverse variance of £1.520m with plans for saving £932k for 2019/20 already being underway. Due to the popularity of the Barry Island resort there was currently a pressure of around £100k on the staffing budget with additional resources having to be utilised to maintain the expected cleanliness standards of the beach and promenade. Although efforts had been made over previous years to turn a high percentage of street lighting to LED, there had been significant increases to the cost of energy, with a projected adverse variance against the street lighting energy budget.

Under the Directorate of Managing Director and Resources, although the forecast for Countryside, Economic Development and Tourism and Events Functions showed a balanced budget at year end, there remained concern over the long-established

income targets for car parking charges and commercial opportunities within the Countryside Division, as these historic savings targets would be difficult to achieve if charges were not implemented.

The Section 151 Officer advised that all Directorates were working hard to bring their budgets in line in order to balance their budgets, however the Council may have to draw down on its reserves.

In recognising that the issues affecting Social Services were also a national picture, Members suggested that Welsh Government be lobbied by the WLGA and that Cabinet hold discussions with the WLGA in this regard. A Member queried whether, having regard to the cost of out of county placements, some could be brought back into the boundary and schooled at Ysgol y Deri, however the Head of Service stated that many of the complex needs of the out of county placements were higher than what Ysgol y Deri could provide.

Having regard to the savings targets not yet met, in referring to traffic management issues, the Section 151 Officer advised that she would forward the details to all Members for their information.

In recognising the amount of reserves that the Council currently had, Councillor J.W. Thomas, former Leader of the Council, stated that he had in previous years been criticised for increasing the size of the reserves, but considered that to have been a good strategy now when the Council was considering drawing down on its reserves.

The Chairman of the Committee queried what discussions were currently ongoing with health colleagues, in particular having regard to demographics and in relation to children with complex needs. The Section 151 Officer confirmed that ongoing discussions were held with the Health Service with the Council ensuring that the Health Service picked up their share of any costs.

In considering the issues surrounding waste collection, the Chairman also asked whether further efforts could be made with shop owners and companies in order to discuss with manufacturers the production of the amount of plastic in the first instance.

Subsequently, it was

RESOLVED –

- (1) T H A T the position with regard to the 2019/20 revenue budget be noted.
- (2) T H A T Cabinet be requested to discuss with the WLGA further lobbying of Welsh Government regarding funding for Local Authorities.
- (3) T H A T discussions take place with retailers and manufacturers regarding the amount of plastic produced and options for reduction.

Reasons for decisions

(1) Having regard to the contents within the report.

(2&3) Having regard to discussions at the meeting.

 It was noted that Cabinet does lobby Welsh Government regarding funding on a regular basis throughout the year.

It was further noted that although it may be difficult for Councils to achieve recommendation 3 individually, Cabinet agreed with the principle and would continue discussions with retailers and manufacturers regarding the amount of plastic produced and options for reduction in future discussions, wherever possible.

Cabinet, having considered the reference and recommendations of the Scrutiny Committee

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

Reason for decision

To note the contents of the report.

C173 PLAY SUFFICIENCY ASSESSMENT AND ACTION PLAN (REF) –

On 15 October, 2019 the Healthy Living and Social Care Scrutiny Committee considered the above matter.

The Operational Manager for Neighbourhood Services, Healthy Living and transport, presented the report to advise the Committee that the Council had met the duties placed upon it by Welsh Government in relation to undertaken a Play Sufficiency Assessment (PSA) and producing an accompanying Action Plan, in accordance with the Children's and Families (Wales) Measure 2010.

The PSA, Play Action Plan and Executive Summary were attached at Appendix A to the report.

The Assessment highlighted that:

Whilst financial resources were limited, the Local Authority was meeting its duty of providing sufficient play opportunities. There had been progress made in a number of Matter areas since the previous PSA in 2016, which was positively impacting on the provision of quality play opportunities in the Vale of Glamorgan.

There had been a move forward in relation to partnership working with increased pooling of resources. There was improved communication across internal departments and with external partners, and an increased desire and understanding

for the need to work together more. However there were still pockets of developments taking place on their own internally within the Council so there were still further opportunities for joined up working to maximise the limited resources available.

There had been an investment in funding to increase access to fixed play equipment across the Vale, with areas in the rural Vale also benefitting from the funding. These had been welcomed by the communities affected, however it had also caused negative comments to be received from those communities who had not benefited from this funding and who felt their areas were also in need of upgrading.

There had been increased opportunities for disabled children and young people to access play opportunities during school holidays through the Families First Holiday Club and the Teenscheme project, in addition to increased opportunities to access play through the medium of Welsh.

There was a growing passion and understanding of the benefits of play amongst a number of internal and external partners, who were committed to the further development of play opportunities for children and young people. It was essential to ensure that the Council used these individuals as campaigners for play when they were at their various networks and meetings.

There had been increased awareness and interest amongst non-play professionals regarding the indirect impact they had on a child's ability to play e.g. Traffic Management Engineers and Planning professionals.

The area that had seen the most positive change was within "Matter G: Securing and developing the play workforce" with increased access to appropriate play work training.

Where opportunities had emerged to secure additional funding for play, such as the monies allocated from Welsh Government, this funding had been welcomed and appropriately used to positively impact on play.

There had been progress with moving away from the assumption that there was a need for fixed play equipment / play area to be located near every child in order for them to experience quality play. The play survey highlighted that there was an appreciation of the good natural environment in the Vale such as open spaces, woodlands and beaches in enabling children to experience play in its widest form. However it would continue to be a priority to promote the availability of no cost play within the Vale.

In conclusion, the Officer advised that there was a desire to increase opportunities, however a lack of resources meant that there were only limited people available to develop the area of work. The identification of long term funding continued to be an issue for both internal and external partners with limited funding available for developing play opportunities in the Vale. This not only impacted on programme delivery but also on developing staffing infrastructure. This limited strategic planning and continued to prove time consuming.

A Member then noted that it was pleasing to see the NHS commenting on the health and wellbeing of young people however, there did not seem to be the same level of focus for the older generation. In response, the Operational Manager for Neighbourhood Services, Healthy Living and Transport advised that new services would be in place in the near future for older individuals and that a report on the matter would be brought to Committee in the near future.

The Vice-Chairman then noted that the efforts that members of staff were putting into sourcing available funding seemed to be worthwhile and was generating significant amounts, to which, the Officer added that it was also a significant draw on staff time which could be frustrating for staff members who would much rather dedicate their time to play activity.

The Chairman then referred to paragraph 4.2 of the officer's report which set out that a few years ago the authority allocated £30,000 towards the development of play opportunities and enquired as to how much of the allocated funds remained. In response, the Officer advised that none of the allocated funds remained due to the fact that there was a small timeframe in which the authority had to spend the money and the funds had to be spent on revenue. The Officer then wished to add that the Council had asked Welsh Government if it would be possible to receive funding earlier within the calendar year e.g. April which would significantly help officers to provide the Council's comprehensive summer schemes.

Subsequently, it was

RESOLVED –

- (1) T H A T the Play Sufficiency Assessment, Play Action Plan 2019 and Executive Summary be noted.
- (2) T H A T the Play Sufficiency Assessment and Action Plan be endorsed for formal adoption by Cabinet.

Reason for decisions

(1&2) To ensure that the Council continues to meet its duties as set out by Welsh Government in Section 11 of the Children and Families (Wales) Measure 2010 which places a duty on Local Authorities to assess and secure sufficient play opportunities for children in their area.

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Cabinet, having considered the reference and recommendations of the Scrutiny Committee

RESOLVED - T H A T the contents of the report be noted and the Play Sufficiency Assessment and Action Plan be endorsed for formal adoption by Cabinet.

Reason for decision

To note the contents of the report.

C174 DEVELOPMENT OF A LOCALITY MODEL OF COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH PROVISION ACROSS THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN (REF) –

On 12 November, 2019 the Healthy Living and Social Care Scrutiny Committee considered the above matter.

The Head of Adult Services introduced the report to inform Members of the progress of the Community Service Review of Mental Health Services with specific focus on the Vale Locality Mental Health Team based at Barry Hospital. In support of her presentation, the Officer also introduced the Operational Manager for Adult Services, Linda Woodley, the Cardiff and Vale University Health Board Directorate Operational Manager, Ian Wile, and the Cardiff and Vale University Health Board Programme Manager, Dan Crossland.

The Operational Manager for Adult Services advised that with increasing demands on the service, budgetary pressures and the poor state of some of the Community Mental Health Teams (CMHTs) offices, a focused Community Service Review (CSR) commenced in January 2018 which was sponsored by the Mental Health Clinical Board to consider the future service model for delivering community mental health services and build upon the work already started in 2015. Work streams were established to focus on the following areas:

- Work Stream 1: Organisational Change Process – Locality Model;
- Work Stream 2: Building management and transfer arrangements; and
- Work Stream 3: Service redesign, clinical models and pathways.

Furthermore, in September 2018, following a series of engagement events with people using mental health services, staff consultations and the completion of refurbishment works, the three CMHTs moved into Barry Hospital and became known as the Vale Locality Mental Health Team (VLMHT). The Officer added that there was an Integrated Manager with overall responsibility for the integrated pathway and service user experience from referral to discharge. Supporting the post were two Community Psychiatric Nurse Leads and two Social Work / Approved Mental Health Professional Managers (one of which was a permanent Local Authority funded post and the other a 12-month temporary post funded by the Health Board), three Consultant Psychiatrists, an Occupational Therapy Team Leader and a Consultant Psychologist.

Recruitment to a longstanding Consultant Psychiatrist post, along with the recruitment to Nursing, Social Work and Occupational Therapy vacancies had improved the stability of the team. However, there remained ongoing recruitment challenges for psychologists and Speciality doctors (currently 1.6 full time equivalent [FTE] posts) which compromised the ability to fully implement new ways of working.

The pressure on the Approved Mental Health Professional (AMHPs) Service had been recognised by the Senior Management Team within the Council with measures put in place to support and maintain existing AMHPs and to try and increase the number of social workers undertaking the training. Since 2013 the number of AMHPs in the Vale had reduced from 12.5 (FTE) to the current number of 7 (FTE) which

included the Integrated Manager and Team Managers who had needed to go back on the AMHP rota to ensure service delivery.

The Officer added that it was important to highlight that although the team had faced considerable changes and ongoing challenges, the Health Inspectorate and Care Inspectorate Wales Joint Review carried on 4 and 5 December, 2018, assessed that: 'Overall, we found evidence that the service provided safe and effective care to its service users', with the Inspection Report published on 6 March, 2019 including the following:

What the service did well:

- Service user feedback was generally positive;
- The environment was clean and tidy;
- Robust management of medicines processes in place;
- Provision of a support worker service that evidenced a positive and direct impact on service users;
- Application of Mental Health Act and Mental Health Measure (2010) and legal documentation;
- Identification of a vision for the future of the service supported by a passionate management team;
- Strong integrated leadership model, supported at a senior management level.

Recommendations for service improvement:

- Recruitment into key roles, such as psychiatrists and psychologists;
- Timeliness of transportation for service users to a place of safety and/or hospital;
- Organisation of outpatient and medication clinics;
- Completion of appropriate forms for service user capacity assessment by clinical staff;
- Clarity for staff regarding new processes and procedures following the merger of the three teams.

In conclusion, the Operational Manager summarised that the service was moving in the right direction and staff were utilising the feedback received regarding the new service delivery and it was a pleasure to see the continued commitment of all staff during the transition period.

The Operational Manager then handed over to the Cardiff and Vale University Health Board Programme Manager who was the Lead on the service transformation and advised that the transformation had presented big challenges with staffing in the first 14 months, however, he was pleased to report that the staffing challenges had reduced considerably. The Programme Manager also apprised Members of the improvement in waiting list times and advised that at the start of the transformation the average waiting list time was four months but had now reduced to four weeks. This pattern was also reflected with regards to staffing caseloads which had dropped to 837 individuals from approximately 1,000 plus. The Programme Manager wished to highlight that morale within the team had significantly increased and that new members of staff were operating well within the new structure and individuals were interested in joining the service. The positivity was also reflected in the service user

“My Say” survey whereby 79% of service users stated that the service was at the same quality if not better.

The Vice-Chairman thanked all officers for their presentation of the report and wished to begin by referencing paragraph 2.6 of the officer’s report which stated that the number of Mental Health Act (MHA) assessments continued to increase and that from 1 January, 2017 to 31 December, 2017 there were 120 MHA assessments which had increased to 185 from 1 January, 2018 to 31 December, 2018. The Member then raised concerns with regards to the waiting times incurred between an MHA being carried out and the patient being transferred to a secure hospital environment, meaning that the AMHP was left alone with the patient once the doctor had left the scene which put the AMHP at significant risk. Therefore, the Member asked after the cause of transport delays and a solution to ensure the safety of Local Authority employees.

In response, the Operational Manager for Adult Services echoed the Member’s concerns and advised that the scenario as described did put off individuals applying for AMHP positions and therefore the Local Authority currently relied greatly on the current cohort of AMHPs working in partnership and support of one another. The Officer acknowledged the Member’s further comment in that ambulance demand was high and therefore MHA transport cases were not as high a priority as other cases, however advised that transport was the responsibility of the Health Board and assured Members that the Health Board was looking at alternative solutions as appropriate but they would not be in a position to guarantee transport waiting periods.

The Officer also wished to add that the Local Authority had written a draft Conveyancing Policy in partnership with South Wales Police which would shortly be circulated to the Health Board for its input but acknowledged that the work would not negate the Local Authority’s inability to appoint AMHPs in the short term.

The Chairman then referred to the new ways of working within the VLMHT as contained in paragraph 2.1 of the officer’s report and enquired whether the end of day multi-disciplinary meetings were actively taking place, to which the Cardiff and Vale University Health Board Programme Manager advised that the multi-disciplinary meetings provided staff with the opportunity to discuss and reflect on complex cases and to have ample time to make rational decisions. Therefore, the meetings were actively taking place and would continue to be used when required.

The Chairman thanked all officers and guests for attending the meeting and congratulated officers on the positive findings of the report which far outweighed the recommendations for improvement following the Community Service Review.

Subsequently, it was

RESOLVED –

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

(2) T H A T the Committee's significant concern over the vulnerability of the current seven AMHPs in employment with the Vale of Glamorgan Council due to transport delays following Mental Health Act Assessments be referred to Cabinet.

Reasons for decisions

(1) To update Scrutiny Committee on developments in community services for adults with mental health problems in the Vale of Glamorgan and to provide Scrutiny Committee the opportunity to comment on the future direction and delivery of mental health services within the Vale of Glamorgan

(2) To ensure Cabinet is aware of the vulnerable situations that AMHP Vale employees find themselves in in order that Cabinet may take the matter forward with the Health Board.

Cabinet were assured that AMHP Vale employees were trained to deal with being in vulnerable situations (as detailed in Paragraph 2.4 of the report).

Cabinet also recognised the pressures on the service, and it was agreed that the Leader and Cabinet Member for Social Care and Health would write to the Health Board to express the concerns of both Cabinet and Healthy Living and Social Care Scrutiny over the issue and the need for adequate resources to be put in place by the Health Board to mitigate risk to Vale of Glamorgan Council staff.

Cabinet, having considered the reference and recommendations of the Scrutiny Committee

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

Reason for decision

To note the contents of the report.

**C175 COMMUNITY ASSET TRANSFER GUIDANCE 2019 – 2023 (L / PR)
(SCRUTINY – CORPORATE PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES) –**

The Executive Leader and Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources presented the report to seek approval for the new Community Asset Transfer Guidance to be adopted.

The Council's Community Asset Transfer guidance was established in 2010 with its last iteration adopted in 2016.

There had been a need to review the functionality of the guidance in the light of lessons learned from projects both within the Vale of Glamorgan and elsewhere. The new proposed guidance had been updated to reflect these specific cases together with new guidance recently published by Welsh Government / Ystadau Cymru (formerly known as the National Assets Working Group).

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 Cabinet considered the contents of the report and formally adopted the new Community Asset Transfer Guidance 2019-2023 as detailed in this report and appendices.

(2) T H A T Cabinet delegated authority to the Head of Finance, in consultation with the Leader, to make any future amendments required to update the guidance that do not affect the overall substance of the document.

Reasons for decisions

(1) In order that the guidance can be formally adopted.

(2) To ensure that appropriate amendments can be made to the guidance as and when required.

C176 USE OF THE MANAGING DIRECTOR'S EMERGENCY POWERS (L / PR) (SCRUTINY COMMITTEES – ALL) –

The Executive Leader and Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources presented the report to notify Cabinet of the exercising of Emergency Powers by the Managing Director since the last report on 9 September, 2019.

The Council's Constitution at page 270 (delegated powers) states:

“MANAGING DIRECTOR OR, IN HIS ABSENCE, THE NOMINATED DEPUTY

1. Power to act, after consulting the appropriate Cabinet Member and, in the case only of matters involving the Council in financial commitments, the Leader, Section 151 Officer and the appropriate Chief Officer, in respect of any matter which, in his opinion:

(a) requires immediate action; and

(b) does not justify holding a special meeting of the body which would ordinarily consider the matter or is of such urgency or emergency as not to allow time for such a meeting; use of such delegated powers to be subsequently reported back to the Cabinet or Council as appropriate.”

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 use of the Managing Director’s Emergency Powers be noted.

Reason for decision

To inform Cabinet. In view of the contents of the report.

C177 VALE OF GLAMORGAN RESPONSE TO WELSH GOVERNMENT’S CONSULTATION ON ELECTIVE HOME EDUCATION (ER) (SCRUTINY – LEARNING AND CULTURE) –

The Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Education and Regeneration presented the report to inform Cabinet Members of the proposed changes to Elective Home Education and provide a position statement in relation to our current situation.

Welsh Government has undertaken a consultation in relation to proposed changes to Elective Home Education. Two proposed key changes to the current non-statutory guidance are:

- the requirement for Local Authorities to maintain a database for children who are home educated,
- a proposal that Local Authorities should assess the suitability of the education received by home educated children.

Although the Council remained the third lowest in Wales, the number of children who were home educated had risen over time. In the Vale of Glamorgan, the figure had more than doubled in five years and continued to increase. These two changes, if introduced, would incur significant costs for the Vale of Glamorgan Council. The Council currently had a part time officer who supported and liaised with families as part of her role. However, it was considered that anyone who was required to assess the suitability of education should be a qualified teacher. In addition, the requirement to maintain a database would amount to an additional administrative requirement.

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 Vale of Glamorgan’s response (Appendix 1 to the report) to the consultation (Appendix 2 to the report) be endorsed.

(2) T H A T the increase in the number of pupils who are electively home educated be noted.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) In order that Members are aware of any possible impact when and if changes are implemented by Welsh Government.
- (2) In order that Members are aware of the increase in number of pupils who are electively home educated in relation to the national trend.

**C178 HOUSING AND PROPERTY ACQUISITIONS STRATEGY 2020
(HBS) (SCRUTINY – HOMES AND SAFE COMMUNITIES) –**

The Cabinet Member for Housing and Building Services presented a report concerning the Housing and Property Acquisitions Strategy for consultation prior to approval.

The Housing and Property Acquisition Policy 2019 established the process by which the Council would be able to acquire housing or property to supplement the number of new social housing units it had committed to deliver.

The Policy discussed the principles by which housing or property should be acquired, having regard to financial viability, housing need and strategic priorities.

The Policy established the governance and approval process under which housing and property could be acquired.

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 Housing and Property Acquisitions Strategy be formally adopted.
- (2) T H A T delegated authority be granted to the Head of Finance/Section 151 Officer, in consultation with the Director of Environment and Housing Services and the Cabinet Member for Housing and Building Services, to negotiate the individual terms and conditions for the purchase of housing and property.
- (3) T H A T delegated authority be granted to the Monitoring Officer / Head of Legal and Democratic Services, to finalise the individual terms and conditions for the purchase of housing and or property.
- (4) T H A T delegated authority be granted to the Monitoring Officer / Head of Legal and Democratic Services, to execute the associated contracts and all legal documentation on behalf of the Council.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) To formally adopt the Strategy having confidence that there were no changes recommended by the Homes and Safer Communities Scrutiny Committee at their meeting on the 16 October, 2019.
- (2) To ensure that land and property purchases decisions can be taken promptly.
- (3) To allow the terms and conditions of the acquisition of housing and property to be finalised.
- (4) To grant authority to execute all legal documentation.

C179 ADOPTION OF CARDIFF AIRPORT AND GATEWAY DEVELOPMENT ZONE SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING GUIDANCE (LRPS) (SCRUTINY – ENVIRONMENT AND REGENERATION) –

The Cabinet Member for Legal, Regulatory and Planning Services presented the report to advise Cabinet of the results of the public consultation on the draft Cardiff Airport and Gateway Development Zone Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) and to seek approval to adopt it for development management purposes.

The report outlined the consultation responses received on the Council's draft Cardiff Airport and Gateway Development Zone SPG. The new SPG had been prepared to provide support and additional detail to the relevant policies in the adopted Local Development Plan (LDP).

The report also sought Cabinet's endorsement of the proposed changes to the draft SPG as a result of the comments received (Appendix 1 to the report) and the approval of the amended SPG (Appendix 2 to the report) for immediate use in development management decisions.

13 representations had been received during the six-week public consultation period which took place between 19 August, 2019 and 1 October, 2019. The main points raised were summarised in section 2 of the Cabinet report.

It was further noted that there had been no response to the consultation by local Ward Members.

Also, Cabinet noted the paragraphs were re-numbered in Appendix 2 to account for a new section included (Executive Summary) and a number of new paragraphs added throughout the document which amended the original paragraph numbering in the consultation draft, for clarity when the report is referred to Planning Committee.

This was a matter for Executive decision.

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

RESOLVED –

- (1) T H A T the contents of the report be noted and the responses to the representations received on the draft Supplementary Planning Guidance attached at Appendix 1 to the report be endorsed.
- (2) T H A T, subject to the provisions of Recommendation (1), the amended Supplementary Planning Guidance attached to the report at Appendix 2 be approved for use in development management decisions alongside the adopted Vale of Glamorgan Local Development Plan.
- (3) T H A T the Head of Regeneration and Planning be authorised to agree the final format of and any necessary typographical changes and minor amendments to the Supplementary Planning Guidance prior to its publication, and thereafter update it with any factual updates in response to policy or legislative changes as appropriate.
- (4) T H A T the Planning Committee be advised of the outcome of the public consultation and the adoption of the Supplementary Planning Guidance for development management purposes.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) To provide a summary of the public consultation undertaken on the Cardiff Airport and Gateway Development Zone Supplementary Planning Guidance and to seek Cabinet's endorsement of the responses and changes to the finalised Supplementary Planning Guidance.
- (2) To ensure the effective consideration of planning applications following the adoption of the Local Development Plan and to provide decision makers, applicants and developers access to the Council's most up to date guidance relating to Cardiff Airport and the Gateway Development Zone.
- (3) To accommodate any necessary changes and / or amendments resulting from revised national policy and guidance and to enable the correction of any typographical or minor errors found within the new Supplementary Planning Guidance.
- (4) To inform Planning Committee of the adoption of the new Supplementary Planning Guidance as a material consideration in the determination of future planning applications.

**C180 THE RENTING HOMES (FEES ETC.) (WALES) ACT 2019;
IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN
COUNCIL AND RENT SMART WALES (LRPS) (SCRUTINY – CORPORATE
PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES) –**

The Cabinet Member for Legal, Regulatory and Planning Services presented the report concerning the Renting Homes (Fees etc.) (Wales) Act 2019 (the Act);

implementation arrangements for the Vale of Glamorgan Council and Rent Smart Wales.

The Act would make it an offence to require a tenant, or contract-holder to make any payment that was not specified as a 'permitted payment' in the legislation. This included the administration involved in creating or renewing an occupation-contract, check out fees, conducting property viewings and reference checks.

An enforcement authority would have the power to issue Fixed Penalty Notices. Local Authorities would have the ability to enforce the requirements of the Act, along with Rent Smart Wales. This legislation was currently outside the scope of the existing delegation from the Vale of Glamorgan Council to the Shared Regulatory Service Joint Committee. Cabinet was asked to note the implementation of the new legislation, namely the Renting Homes (Fees etc.) (Wales) Act 2019 and to amend the Scheme of Delegation and allocate these functions to the Shared Regulatory Service and also to authorise Rent Smart Wales to enforce the provisions of the Act.

It was further noted that an additional 'Reason for Decision' was required to detail Recommendation 5, and this would be added to the 'Reasons for Decisions'.

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 Head of the Shared Regulatory Service be given delegated authority so as to authorise relevant officers to exercise as and when required, the carrying out of those statutory enforcement powers under the Renting Homes (Fees etc.) (Wales) Act 2019.

(2) T H A T an amendment to the Shared Regulatory Scheme of Delegation of Functions as set out in the Joint Working Agreement be approved.

(3) T H A T Rent Smart Wales be given permission to take appropriate action on behalf of the Vale of Glamorgan Council for enforcing the provisions of the Renting Homes (Fees etc.) (Wales) Act 2019 on its behalf.

(4) T H A T the Monitoring Officer / Head of Legal and Democratic Services be given delegated authority to approve, finalise and execute the terms of the Deed of Variation to the Joint Working Agreement referred to in Recommendation (2) above.

(5) T H A T the report be referred to Council to make any necessary amendments to the scheme of delegation within the Council's Constitution in respect of the Joint Working Agreement dated between the Vale of Glamorgan (24 April, 2017), Bridgend (29 March, 2017) and Cardiff (20 July, 2017).

Reasons for decisions

- (1&2) To ensure that the relevant statutory enforcement powers under the Act are used appropriately;
- (3) To ensure that the necessary permissions exist to permit Rent Smart Wales to take any appropriate enforcement action on behalf of the Local Authority.
- (4) To approve, finalise and execute the terms of the Deed of Variation in accordance with the requirements of the Joint Working Agreement.
- (5) To refer the report to Council to make any necessary amendments to the scheme of delegation within the Council's Constitution in respect of the Joint Working Agreement dated between the Vale of Glamorgan (24 April, 2017), Bridgend (29 March, 2017) and Cardiff (20 July, 2017).

C181 LEISURE MANAGEMENT CONTRACT EXTENSION (LAC) (SCRUTINY – HEALTHY LIVING AND SOCIAL CARE) –

The Cabinet Member for Leisure, Arts and Culture presented the report to advise on progress being undertaken to extend the Leisure Management Contract between Parkwood Leisure and the Council for a further five years. The report also sought an in principle Cabinet Approval for a loan to Parkwood Leisure, subject to agreement on the contract extension. Upon agreement of a contract extension, a report would be taken to Council to increase the Capital Programme.

Negotiations for the extension of the Leisure Management Contract were continuing and whilst a previous minute provided authority for officers to progress matters, a new proposal had been received from Parkwood Leisure, via its sub-contractor Legacy Leisure, that was outside the scope of this minute. Legacy Leisure had requested a loan from the Council which would be used for Capital works in Council Leisure Centres. The works proposed included creating a dance studio in Barry Leisure Centre and refurbishment of both Penarth and Llantwit Leisure Centres. These works would be to the benefit of Leisure Centre users and would assist in sustaining the future of the Council's Leisure Offer.

This was a matter for Council decision.

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

RESOLVED –

- (1) T H A T the current position with regard to the negotiations of the Leisure Centre contract extension, as resolved previously by Cabinet (Minute C434 refers) be noted and it be noted that the delegation in respect of the same now requires consultation with the Cabinet Member for Leisure, Arts and Culture alongside the Managing Director and Leader.

(2) T H A T the principle of a £600,000 loan being made available to Parkwood Leisure Limited, financed by Prudential Borrowing, to permit improvements to the Council's Leisure Centres be noted.

(3) T H A T Recommendation (2) be subject to the successful conclusion of contract negotiations to extend the current leisure contract for five years until 2027 (Minutes C434 refers).

(4) T H A T Council be requested to increase the Council's Capital Programme by £600,000 subject to the successful conclusion of contract negotiations as referred to in Recommendation (3).

Reasons for decisions

(1) To note the progress on the Leisure Centre Contract extension, as previously resolved by Cabinet (C434 refers) and to reflect changes in portfolio leads since October 2018.

(2) To obtain the agreement of Cabinet in principle to provision of a loan.

(3) To ensure that payment of the loan is conditioned to the extension of the current contract.

(4) To obtain the agreement of Council to the increase in the Council's Capital Programme.

C182 WITHDRAWAL OF DISCRETIONARY FUNDING FOR FARE PAYING SCHOOL TRANSPORT SERVICES (WHICH DO NOT CATER FOR PUPILS WHO QUALIFY FOR FREE SCHOOL TRANSPORT) (NST) (SCRUTINY – ENVIRONMENT AND REGENERATION) –

The Cabinet Member for Neighbourhood Services and Transport presented the report to advise Cabinet of the results of a Consultation undertaken on the proposed withdrawal of funding for fare paying school transport services and sought endorsement for the withdrawal of that funding from September 2020. The Consultation was undertaken on Fare Paying School Transport services between 2 April, 2019 and 28 May, 2019.

After due consideration of the consultation responses received, the report sought Cabinet approval for the withdrawal of funding of Council supported fare paying school bus services with effect from 1 September, 2020. This would assist in meeting the savings that the Neighbourhood Services and Transport Department was expected to make and help to support the Council in funding statutory free school transport for pupils who qualified by virtue of distance from school and availability of walking routes.

The report had no implications with regard to the provision of free home to school transport for entitled children, which would be maintained as existing. Those pupils

who already have free home to school transport would not be affected; the report considered a change to the discretionary fare paying school bus service to provide consistency of service.

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 proposal to withdraw funding for fare paying school bus services with effect from 1 September, 2020 be noted and the report be referred to Scrutiny Committees Environment and Regeneration and Corporate Performance and Resources for further consideration.

(2) T H A T any comments and recommendations from Scrutiny Committees Environment and Regeneration and Corporate Performance and Resources be considered by Cabinet prior to reaching a final decision.

Reason for decisions

(1&2) To ensure that Cabinet is aware of the outcome of the public consultation exercise and the details of the proposals and to ensure the views of the relevant Scrutiny Committees are considered prior to a final decision being taken by Cabinet on the future of fare paying school transport services.

C183 OBJECTION REPORT: ROUTE B4268, LLYSWORNEY – NASH CORNER (B4270) TO PENTRE MEYRICK (A48), PROPOSED 7.5 TONNE WEIGHT RESTRICTION ORDER (NST) (SCRUTINY – ENVIRONMENT AND REGENERATION) –

The Cabinet Member for Neighbourhood Services and Transport presented the report to advise Cabinet of objections received and to propose an appropriate way forward.

As part of the planning consent granted for the construction of a link road connecting Cowbridge bypass with Llantwit Major associated with the construction of 475 dwellings on land known as Clare Garden Village, Cowbridge, a number of highway improvements were conditioned. This included but was not limited to a directional signing scheme to re-direct traffic away from Llysworney village and along the new link road.

To augment the directional signing scheme, a weight restriction was being proposed, which was intended to further deter any goods vehicle, with a maximum gross weight exceeding 7.5 tonnes, from travelling through the village of Llysworney. This would require all vehicles greater than 7.5 tonnes to be directed along the B4270 at Nash Corner, where they would re-join the A48 at the new roundabout, which would be accessible via the new link road (Llanfrynach Drive). A similar signing scheme would

be in place on the A48 at the Pentre Meyrick junction, which would direct traffic to the new roundabout and hence along the B4270.

Statutory consultation began on 10 October, 2019 and concluded on 1 November, 2019; during that period of time, 101 responses were received, three of which were formal objections to the proposal. Cabinet approval was required to consider the objections and to consider, in light of those objections, whether the Council implements the proposed 7.5 tonne weight restriction.

It was further noted that the local ward Members were in agreement with the recommendations of the report.

This was a matter for Executive decision.

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

RESOLVED –

- (1) T H A T the objections to the proposal be rejected for the reasons contained in the report and the 7.5 tonne weight restriction be implemented.
- (2) That the objectors be advised of this decision.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) To enable the Order to be made.
- (2) To confirm the Council's position.